

Favorite Garden Reading II

Greenhouse Gardener's Companion: Growing Food and Flowers in Your Greenhouse or Sunspace, by Shane Smith, Illustrations by Marjorie C. Leggitt. 2000: Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, Colorado, ISBN 1-55591-450-0. [Reviewed by Emily Chase]

This is an excellent resource book for those people who have a greenhouse, whether large or small. The book contains chapters that discuss the greenhouse environment, interior design, seasons and microclimates, plant selection and propagation, pollination, and has an excellent chapter on "When Things Go Wrong". Very nicely illustrated throughout.

If you have a greenhouse, or are considering getting one, this is the book to guide you.

Available from \$13.50 to \$22.00 in paperback.

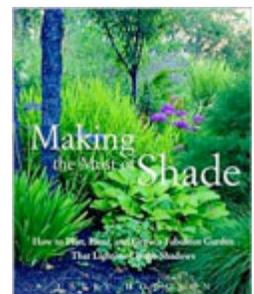
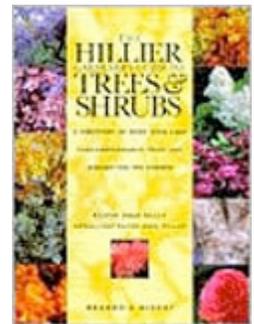
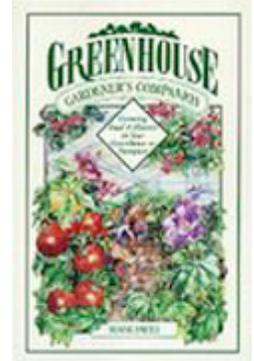
The Hillier's Gardener's Guide to Trees & Shrubs, by John Kelly. 1997: Putnam Pub Group, ISBN 0-89577-973-0. [Reviewed by D.J. Miles]

This large hardbound book of 460 pages, and well over 1800 full color photographs, is a fabulous resource for any gardener or landscape designer. A user guide and glossary of terms are located at the beginning of the book, followed by hardiness zone maps, a care and maintenance chapter, one on propagation, and pests and diseases. But the meat of the book (500 pages) are devoted to trees and shrubs from Abelia to Zenobia. Botanical names are used throughout, but if you are unfamiliar with them, don't panic, the index section in the back has a common name cross reference. The descriptions of plants are concise with additional comments on ornamental value. One last offered help to the gardener is the Award of Garden Merit which is symbolized with a drawing of a small trophy and placed next to plants that have been recognized as outstanding specimens in the landscape. It helps highlight exceptional plants among the tens of thousands currently offered in horticultural trade.

Sells for \$50.00.

Making the Most of Shade; How to Plan, Plant, and Grow a Fabulous Garden That Lightens Up the Shadows, by Larry Hodgson. 2005: Rodale Inc., ISBN 13-978-1-57954-966-4. [Reviewed by Micki Stauffer]

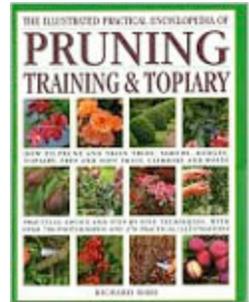
This book provides an astonishing amount of helpful information for both beginning and advanced gardeners faced with the challenge of shade in the garden. Hodgson's practical advice on everything from planning the garden to problem solving is not only educational



but fun to read. His philosophy is that by "accepting shade as a friend and not an enemy, I could accomplish wonderful things." He is full of little tidbits of knowledge that are indicative of experience with the practical aspects of planning and maintaining a shady landscape. Part I: Creating a Showcase of Shade gives advice and know-how information on planning your garden. Part II: The Best of the Best for Shade lists a variety of plants for shade, including a full two page spread on each one, with growing tips and recommended varieties, as well as Larry's Garden Notes on each one with history and interesting information. If you have shade in your yard, this is the book for you!

From \$15.95 for paperback to \$31.95 hardback.

The American Horticultural Society Pruning and Training, by Christopher Brickell and David Joyce. 1996: DK Publishing, Inc., New York, NY. ISBN 1-56458-331-7. [Reviewed by Susie Bjordahl]



Whether you are planning a new garden, wondering how to bring back a neglected tree or shrub, or want to develop areas of special interest, Pruning and Training contains all the techniques you need in easy-to-follow, step-by-step explanations.

It is the unrivaled practical handbook to the correct pruning and training of ornamental trees, climbing plants, shrubs, roses, tree fruits, and soft fruits.

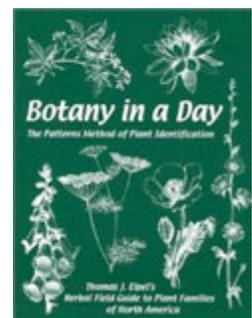
More than 800 plants are grouped and listed alphabetically, with detailed information on the general pruning principles for each group and the growth habits and particular needs of individual plants.

More than 1,500 detailed illustrations and close-up photographs show you exactly where and how to make pruning cuts to bring out the best in garden plants.

Features special techniques and unusual effects, with fully explained traditional practices including coppicing, topiary, pleaching, and pinch-pruning.

All the pruning and training skills you need for more impressive flowers, foliage, and crops of fruit and berries are brought together in one comprehensive volume.

Botany in a Day: Thomas J. Elpel's Herbal Field Guide to Plant Families, by Thomas J. Elpel. 2000: HOPS Press, LLC; 4th edition, ISBN: 1-892784-07-6. [Reviewed by Sally Greenlee]



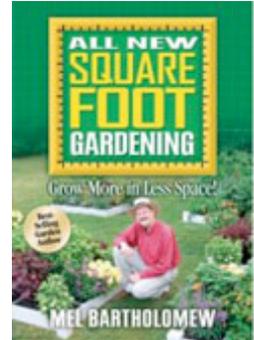
The author is associated with the Hollowtop Outdoor Primitive School in Pony, Montana. He is a self-taught botanist and herbologist who uses his study of Montana plants to illustrate patterns among plant families. The first 26 pages introduce the basic botanical terms, nomenclature and classification, the evolution of plants and describe how to use the "Keys". The information is presented in a fairly non-technical manner with many drawings.

Glossaries of flower and leaf terms are handily presented inside the front and back cover. Spending some time learning flower and leaf parts, along with the information presented in the first three sections will greatly improve the usefulness of this book and can truly be accomplished in a day. Being an herbologist, Elpel includes information regarding a plant's edible and/or medicinal use and includes a whole section on "The Properties of

Plants." For anyone who scrupulously avoided studying anything with an "-ology" attached, this book was a useful tiptoe into the world of botany.

This edition is available at Amazon.com for \$24.90. A newer 5th edition (January 2005) is also available at Amazon for \$16.50.

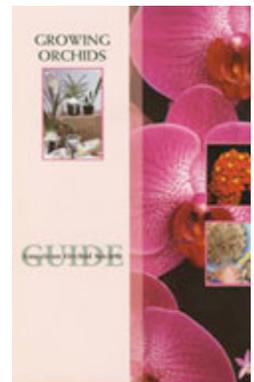
Square Foot Gardening, by Mel Bartholomew. 1981: Rodale Press, Emmaus, PA, ISBN: 0-87857-341-0. [Reviewed by Sally Greenlee]



For anyone interested in small space vegetable gardening with a minimum of effort, this book is an invaluable resource. It explains how to plant just the right amount; gives examples of garden layouts; notes space and care requirements; and gives plans for building structures to grow up or extend the season. The book contains a wealth of sound gardening techniques presented in a humorous and easy to read style. To see some specific examples of the type of information addressed in this book see the Garden Mastery Tips Archives for May, 2007 "Planning the Small Space Vegetable Garden" and August, 2007 "Vertical Gardening".

Amazon.com offers several newer versions of this classic at prices ranging from \$13.00 to \$14.00. The newer versions appear to have improved soil recipes and techniques especially useful in raised beds.

Growing Orchids, Revised 2002, Edited by: J.B. Watson. 2002: American Orchid Society, ISBN 0- 923096-05-1. [Reviewed by Arlene Beesing-Sparks]



Growing orchids was written by experts on cultivation of popular orchid genera. Topics include; orchid names and intergeneric hybrids, growing orchids in the home, under lights and in the greenhouse. Also discussed are; growing areas, repotting, pests, diseases, nomenclature and more. Information for growing the most popular orchids, include; Angraecum, Cattleya, Cymbidium, Dendrobium, Oncidium and Paphiopedilum. An encyclopedia of less-common orchids describes 16 genera, from Anguloa to Zygopetalum. Color photographs illustrate specific hybrids, species and growing techniques. The book concludes with a Month-by-Month Checklist along with suggested sources for continuing education.

Price: \$8.95

For more great book picks check out the Garden Mastery Tips Archives for November, 2005, [Favorite Garden Reading](#).