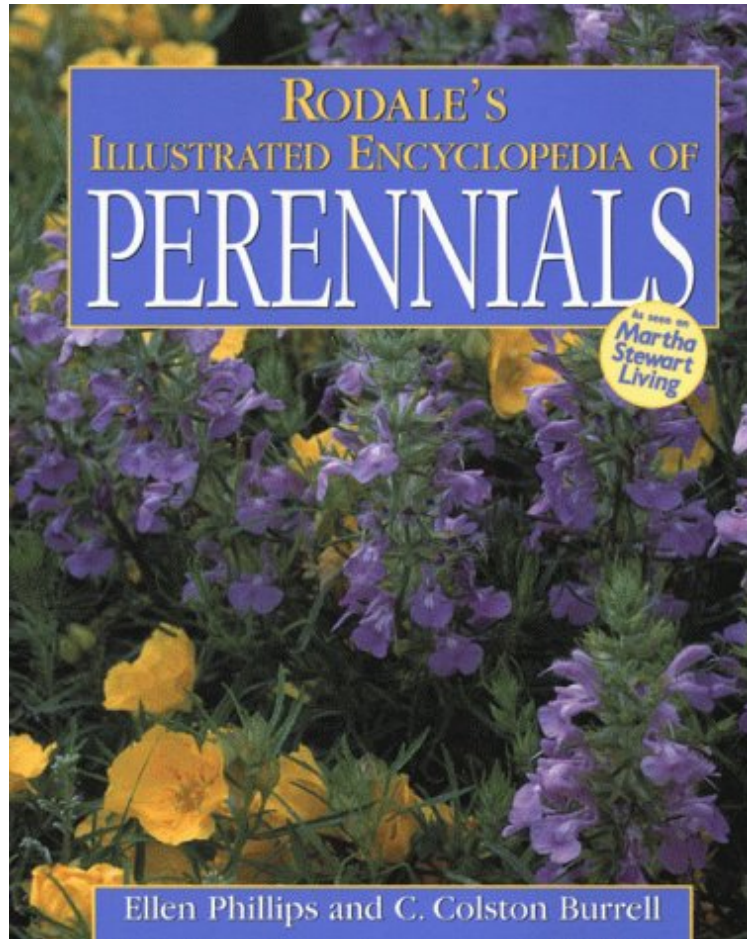


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## Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials

*Ellen Phillips, C. Colston Burrell*  
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**Ellen Phillips, C. Colston Burrell : Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Need ecological information By Linda Kerth After reading a few pages of descriptions, they all started sounding alike. I would have appreciated a little more in-depth information. Are plants edible? Are they poisonous, say, to chickens? Do they provide a wild-life food or shelter source? Are the seeds, fruits, nuts, etc. of any use to humans or animals? Some are listed as poisonous, but none give really useful information about the plant's benefits (food, nesting materials, security to pets such as rabbits or chickens or goats or various species of wildlife. Do the plants supply nutrients to the soil, or strip them from the soil? This would have been very useful information that I found lacking in this book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Satisfied customer. By Ann M. Haas Great book. Great pictures. Great information. Prompt shipping. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative By Billy C. Morris This book is really good shows and names most plants.

Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials is the definitive guide to: \* Creating beautiful combinations\* Growing lush, healthy gardens\* Using hundreds of versatile perennials!

.com Perennials are the most challenging and rewarding of all garden plants, and most gardeners need all the help they can get to grow them well. Perennials emerge from the ground in early spring, grow to full height, bloom, bear fruit, and then disappear with the first frost, only to do the same thing the following year and again the next. Add this to the fact that for the first year or two, perennials don't do much above the ground (they are growing their root structure), but after that they burst forth with amazingly vigorous growth, and you get an idea of the pleasures and tribulations of perennial gardening. The rewards, however, are rich: a wide array of flower forms and colors, structure and leaf, an ever-changing mid-level tapestry in the garden, plus a celebration of seasonal change. Few gardeners can resist perennials, but how to grow them better and more effortlessly? Readers can count on Rodale books to be practical and detailed and to advocate organic gardening. While Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials does give information, as you would expect from Rodale, on soil building, climate, propagation and nontoxic pest and disease control, its emphasis is on design. The advice is down-to-earth, as in a sidebar entitled "Evergreen Perennials: Myth or Reality?" that points out that although some perennials are touted as evergreen, and do keep their leaves through the winter (such as Epimedium, Ajuga, and Bergenia), they are often so tattered by winter storms that they shouldn't be counted on to beautify the garden off-season. Though packed with all sorts of useful information, the meat of the book is the encyclopedia of perennials. From acanthus to yucca, each comes with a color photo, cultural and cultivar information, as well as suggestions on use. Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials is an invaluable reference for anyone interested in these rewarding, though somewhat demanding, plants. --Valerie Easton "Congratulations on your latest, most impressive effort. Rodale's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Perennials is an excellent reference book for all gardeners, from the novice to the expert. It will definitely be on my bookshelf."--Dr. Allan M. Armitage, Author of Herbaceous Perennial Plants and Allan Armitage on Perennials "A great deal of expertise and thorough research has gone into the making of this encyclopedia, and it shows on every page. What's more, the book takes a positive and cheerful attitude to all that can make perennials more enjoyable. No gardener could help feeling happier for consulting this work."--Christopher Lloyd, Author of The Well-Tempered Garden and The Adventurous Gardener