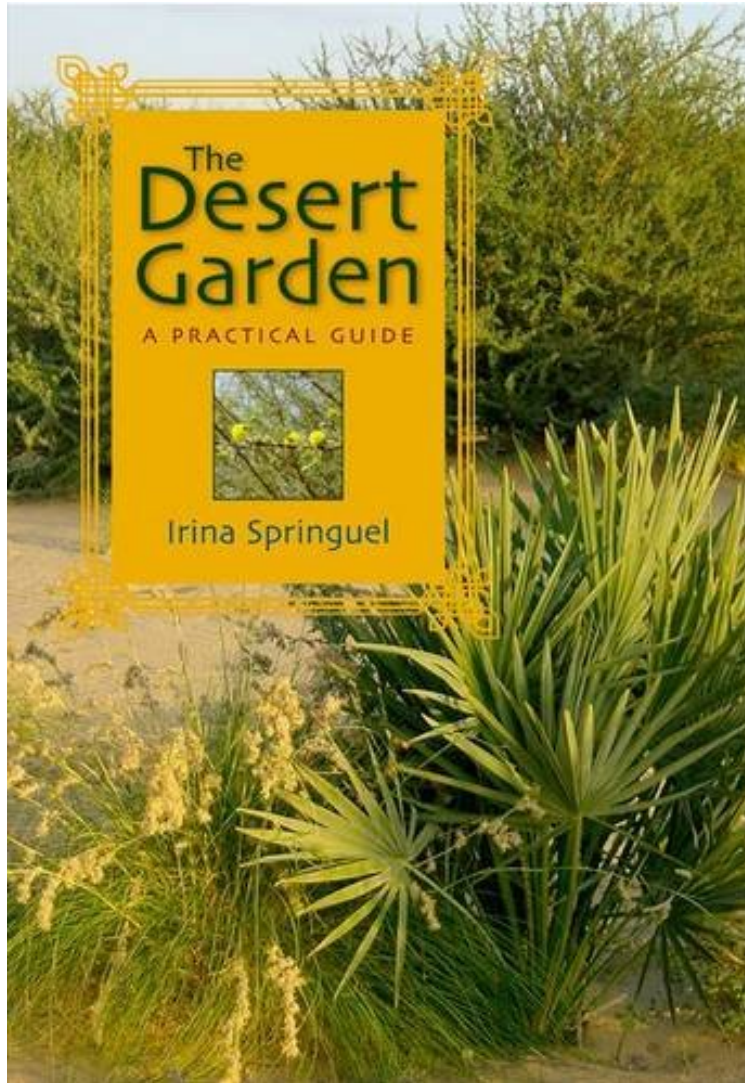


(Download ebook) The Desert Garden: A Practical Guide

The Desert Garden: A Practical Guide

Irina Springuel

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Irina Springuel : The Desert Garden: A Practical Guide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Desert Garden: A Practical Guide:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The title says almost allBy CustomerThe word omitted from the title (as least for American readers) is Egyptian. This is a standard garden guide in a form familiar to U.S. low desert gardeners. It may be the first such guide for Egypt. Nice line drawings and decent color photos.Abridged table of contents:1. The Egyptians Deserts and Oases2. The Nile Valley around Aswan3. Ecology of Desert Plants and Adaptation to Aridity4. Types of Desert Gardens5. Gardens for Education and Research6. Collection and Propagation of Desert Plants7. Irrigation Techniques8. Plant DescriptionsSome of the plants included are also well-known to

Sonoran Desert gardeners, especially those with older gardens in their vicinity. Plants often grown here in Phoenix that are also important in Egyptian gardens include acacia, olive, tamarisk, date palm, oleander, castor oil plant (Americans call it castor bean), senna, datura (an American native), and giant reed.

Despite their dry climates, Egypt's deserts sustain a rich variety of plant life, from towering doum palm trees to the tamarisk shrub and flowering acacias. With this practical guide, noted ecologist Irina Springuel explains the best techniques for cultivating gardens using species indigenous to Egypt. *The Desert Garden* outlines Egypt's natural vegetation and describes the habitats where its most popular plants can be found in the wild. She provides guidance on where to obtain the plant material for propagation and cultivation, drawing on her decades of experience in growing local desert plants, and offers advice on the most effective methods of watering plants, from subsurface irrigation to buried clay pots filled with wateran efficient technique that has been used since pharaonic times. Springuel focuses on thirty-eight of the most popular species of desert flora, illustrating each with color photographs and black and white drawings. For each, she provides useful information on its ecology and uses, with historical details about its uses in ancient Egyptian medicine and culture, where available, as well as archaeological plant material. Included here is material for beginners who want a small and simple private garden as well as for anyone planning extensive landscaping around a hotel or historic monument. Presented in straightforward language for the lay reader, while offering accurate scientific detail for professionals and scientists, *The Desert Garden* is an ideal companion for anyone interested in growing desert plants, both in Egypt and in similar desert environments elsewhere in the world.

About the Author IRINA SPRINGUEL, a professor of plant ecology, graduated from Leningrad State University and continued her postgraduate studies in Egypt. Her PhD research work on the First Cataract Islands near Aswan led to their declaration as a protectorate in 1986, conserving these unique habitats. The author of numerous published works, she has worked in Upper Egypt for almost thirty years on diverse ecological and environmental research topics and in promoting environmental education.