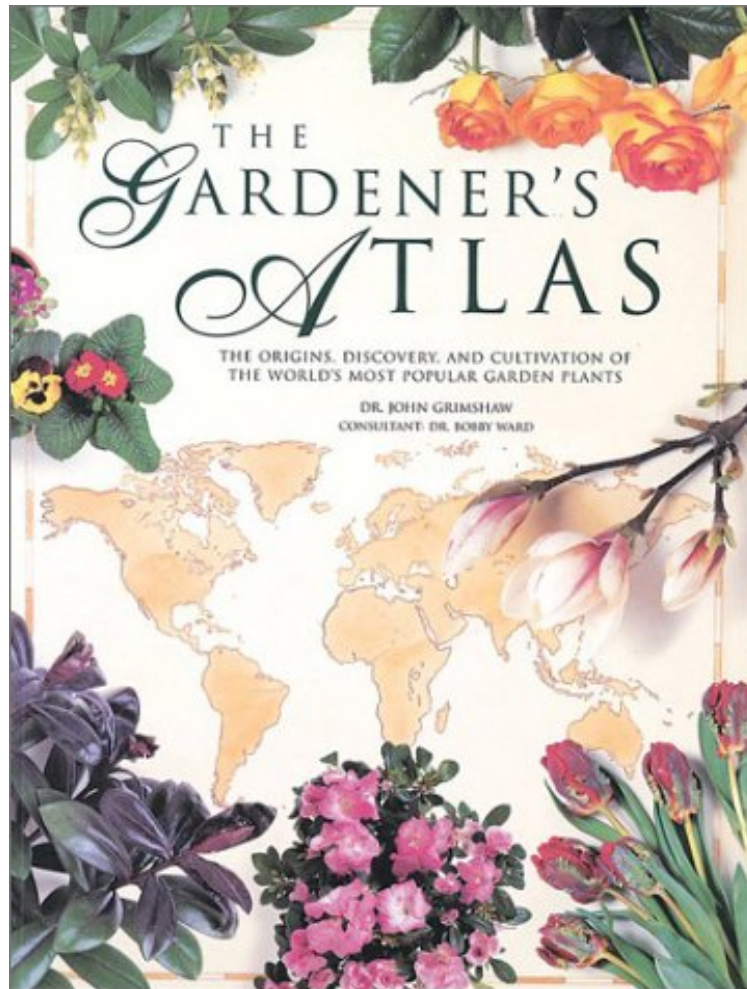


(Mobile book) The Gardener's Atlas: The Origins, Discovery and Cultivation of the World's Most Popular Garden Plants

The Gardener's Atlas: The Origins, Discovery and Cultivation of the World's Most Popular Garden Plants

John Grimshaw

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John Grimshaw : The Gardener's Atlas: The Origins, Discovery and Cultivation of the World's Most Popular Garden Plants before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gardener's Atlas: The Origins, Discovery and Cultivation of the World's Most Popular Garden Plants:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. A great botanical history By Linda LeBoutillier This is a great botanical history. I was impressed with the little vignettes of the great plant finders, many of whom lost their lives trying to find great new plants. I happened to be reading the book while driving through the Smokey Mountains and seeing the *Lobelia cardinalis* at the same time I was reading how the Queen of Spain named it because it was such a brilliant red it reminded her of a Cardinal's robe. If you love plants, you will love this book. The book is organized

roughly by plant family, which is fine. I was a bit annoyed that there were pictures of period gardens stuck everywhere throughout the book (in the middle of the plant family organization). Rather than being in the middle of the chapters, I think these wonderful pieces could have been between the chapters. Actually I was so interested in what I was reading, I didn't appreciate the also wonderful interruption. By the way, I passed by a whole hillside of Tradescantia in the Smokey Mountains while reading about the Tradescants (father and son) who brought that great plant to Europe. The only thing I would caution is that the book is great reading, but for history, not how to grow the plant in your garden, especially if you are in the US, since the author is from England and cultural requirements are not his strong point. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Exactly what I wanted...and was shipped quickly by seller. A+ 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Provides a survey of the history of world flowers By Midwest Book Review Dr. John Grimshaw's Gardener's Atlas isn't your usual gardening guide: it provides a survey of the history of world flowers and foliage, charting where 20 plant families originated, how they spread around the world, and how they flourish today. With maps, botanical color prints and photos, and sidebars of information useful to plant breeders and avid gardeners alike, this is packed with information simply not seen elsewhere.

The flowering plants in your garden, and their variety of color and form, are the result of hundreds of years of tradition, science, skill and intrepid exploration. They may be native plants carefully selected to provide larger blooms or a greater color range, exotic species with origins in far-distant lands, or cultivars which have been painstakingly bred to conform to an ideal of shape and form. The Gardener's Atlas explores the histories of many of the world's most popular cultivated plants and reveals how and where they grew in the wild. It relates extraordinary and uplifting tales of their discovery in some of the remotest regions on earth -- tales of determination and perseverance, of barter and exchange, and of international friendship struck up between enthusiastic horticulturists from the 1500s onward. There are insights into how plants that are now simply decorative were once used for medicinal or cosmetic purposes, for food or ritual, and into how they earned their common or Latin names. This is a book which cannot fail to enrich your gardening experience.

From Library Journal Grimshaw, a botanist and plant collector, describes the discovery of popular garden plants in their native habitats and their introduction to horticulture. Chapters focus on one or more plant families, such as lilies, poppies and peonies, buttercups and waterlilies, etc. Each chapter typically provides a map pinpointing the origin of selected species, botanical information, interesting stories about how the plants were discovered, and the breeding or hybridization carried out to improve them for horticulture. Additional essays profile botanical gardens or garden styles around the world, and a chapter on "Plantsman's Choice" highlights especially garden-worthy plants from each plant family. While this book is not a crucial purchase, many gardeners will relish the beautiful photographs and the stories about their favorite plants. For general gardening collections in public and academic libraries. Beth Clewis Crim, Prince William P.L., VA Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. A wealth of information and enjoyment. (Marty Figley Rochester Eccentric 2004-07-01) A good garden reference book. This portable, paperback atlas is a fascinating reference for almost anything that grows in your garden. It provides tales of intrigue and adventure behind plants you might merely think of as pretty -- and gives great conversation fodder the next time you host a garden party. ... Each one of the Atlas' 217 pages is rife with such stories. Even though it's a reference book, avid gardeners might find themselves reading it cover to cover. (Jennifer Sergent HGTV.com 2004-03-05) The format and presentation makes an interesting and visually beautiful way to learn about plants and botany! (American Herb Association Quarterly) Grimshaw has put together one of the most interesting and adventurous books I've seen about our popular plants and their origins ... It's a delightful and informative reference book to own. (Stuart Robinson Montreal Gazette 2000-01-06) Reads like the great adventures of plant hunters... a truly unique publication.... All true plant lovers should have this volume added to their reference library. (John Bagnasco Garden Compass 2004-11-01) A fascinating reference... tales of intrigue and adventure... avid gardeners might find themselves reading it cover to cover. (Oklahoma City Oklahoman 2004-03-04) A fascinating reference for almost anything that grows in your garden. (Jennifer Sergent Scripps Howard Service 2004-02-28) About the Author Dr. John Grimshaw has contributed to a number of prestigious horticultural magazines and books. He is a committee member of the U.S., U.K., and Scottish Rock Garden Societies. Dr. Bobby Ward is co-editor of A Garden of One's Own, a collection of the garden writings of Elizabeth Lawrence and co-author of A Contemplation Upon Flowers: Garden Plants in Myth and Literatures.