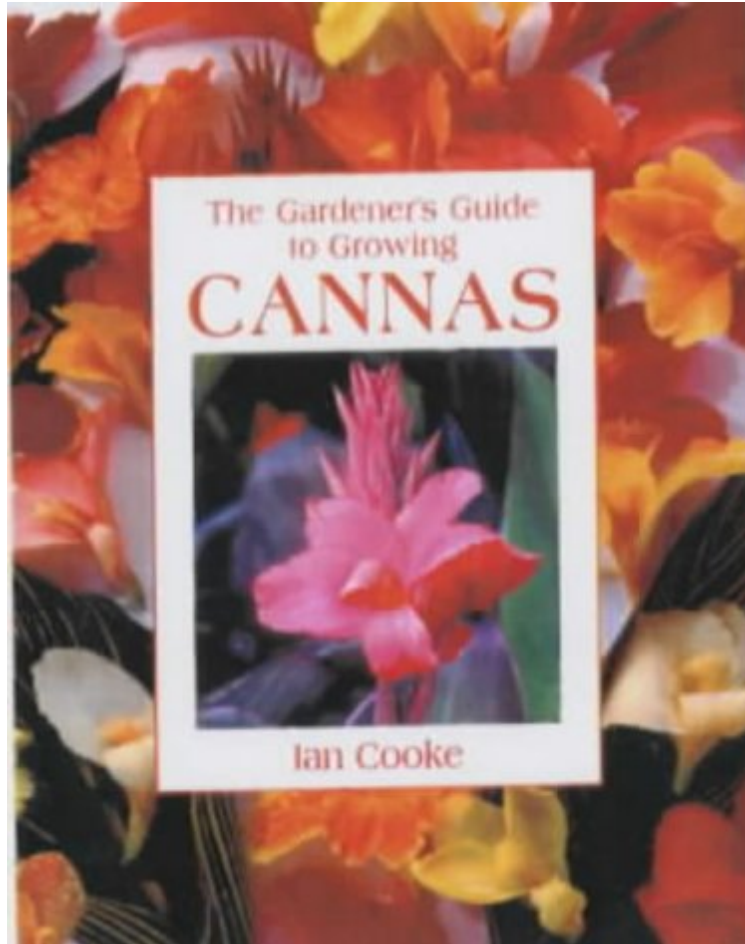


(Download free pdf) The Gardener's Guide to Growing Cannas

The Gardener's Guide to Growing Cannas

Ian Cooke

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#3058136 in Books 2001-08-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 #File Name: 071531131X160 pages | File size: 29.Mb

Ian Cooke : The Gardener's Guide to Growing Cannas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gardener's Guide to Growing Cannas:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book About CannasBy S. J. NorthripWe received the book promptly through , and our interest and knowledge about Cannas was increased. The book gives an all inclusive coverage about Cannas. Ian Cook has a definite commitment to Cannas and gives a very detailed account of varieties and planting basics.The graphics are fantastic, and we bought both the hard cover and soft cover editions, one which we plan to give to a good friend, we found both in excellent condition though they were purchased as "used like new." They appeared brand new. We are pleased with these and several other books that we have bought from .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent product, excellent serviceBy CustomerExcellent product, excellent service0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One StarBy Lisa ZahinaIt's a used library book. Stamps and all. Pissed.

This guide to cannas provides information on aspects of cultivation, propagation and controlling pests and diseases. It also includes an insight into the botany and history of cannas, and advice on the best use of the plants in garden setting.

From Booklist Bold and brazen, lush and lurid, cannas are in-your-face plants, which might make their garden use limited. Cooke, however, thinks otherwise and has compiled an encyclopedia of canna culture, background, and species identification to prove it. Although the typical canna may be large and flashy, more suitable as dynamic focal points or creating a tropical atmosphere, there are smaller, more demure versions that can fit into other garden settings. Indigenous to the tropics, cannas are mistakenly assumed to be difficult to grow in cooler climates; however, thanks to extensive hybridization, ornamental cannas can withstand a wide range of conditions and make excellent and easy additions to almost any garden. Cooke carefully explains the cultural requirements, from siting and soil conditions to propagation and pests. An extensive list of all the generally available forms offers canna fans a definitive reference and introduces canna cowards to the variety, versatility, and value of these garden gems. Carol Haggas Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved The subject of the latest in the excellent series "Gardener's Guide to Growing" is Cannas, bringing the series to the forefront of fashion with today's current trend for exoticism in the garden. Written by one of the current holders of the National Collection of Cannas, Ian Cooke, this is probably the first comprehensive look at the genus since B.C. Ravenscroft's 1903 book "The Canna and How to Grow It". Cannas last had their heyday during the golden age of gardening in the mid 19th century when they were newly introduced to this country and widely used in the extravagant Victorian bedding schemes. Hailing from the West Indies and South America, they are both flamboyant and colourful with flowers ranging from red through pink, orange through to the palest yellow and with leaves from green to deepest purple to gaudy stripes. They combine well with their distant relatives the bananas and hedychiums and sit happily either in a conservatory with other tropical plants or as part of a traditional herbaceous border. Having similar cultural requirements to that of the ever-popular favourite, the dahlia, (albeit rhizomatous rather than tuberous) the canna has found favour with those gardeners looking for something a little different to enliven their summer displays. From general cultivation, propagation and hybridization, there is something for both the newcomer to gardening and the professional. An A-Z list of cultivars, hybrids and species is included together with a list of gardens where they can be seen in cultivation, both in the UK and abroad. The addition of canna-related website addresses brings this series right uptodate with today's Internet revolution. As the book is also aimed at the American market, the information includes nurseries and gardens throughout the USA for the benefit of American gardeners and those visiting the country. From the Back Cover Cannas are among nature's exhibitionists. Their large, lush leaves are accompanied by flamboyant blooms for a long period over summer. To the gardener in cooler countries, the plants look impossibly exotic, as if they would wilt at the merest hint of a fresh breeze. However, cannas are capable of flowering prolifically in temperate climates and, although usually lifted for frost-free winter storage, will even survive outside all year round in mild areas. Their strong forms and eye-catching colors make them perfect for planting in small numbers as focal points or in bigger groups to create a subtropical ambience. Best known for their brighter hues, there are also plenty of cannas in subtle tones for a more refined effect. In *The Gardener's Guide to Growing Cannas*, Ian Cooke describes just how easy it is to grow and propagate these plants. He provides information on the history of the genus, as well as its botanical makeup, its role and versatility in the garden, and its popularity worldwide. A key feature of the book is its comprehensive A-Z of plants. The list concentrates on the hybrid forms for which the genus is famous, but there is also a selection of species, many of which are worth growing and all of which are interesting in that they have provided the genetic material for the wealth of flower and leaf colors available today. For those keen to experiment, Ian Cooke also details how hybridization is carried out and provides an insight into the world of modern canna breeders. Illustrated with gorgeous photographs and specially commissioned botanical drawings, this is an informative and fascinating book for both established canna growers and newcomers alike.