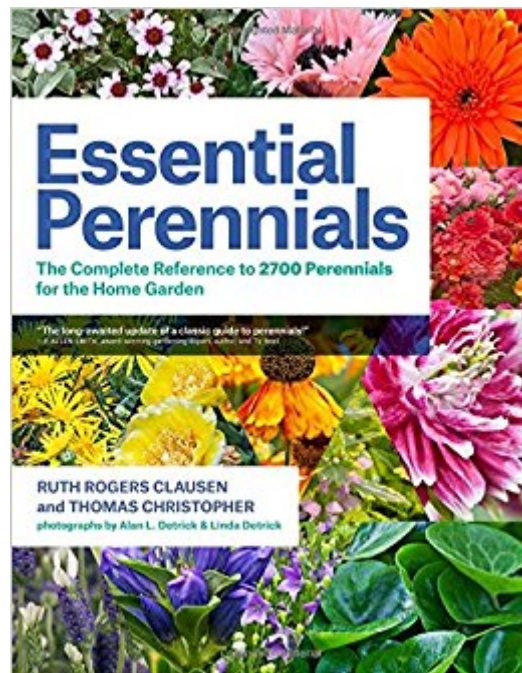


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# Essential Perennials: The Complete Reference To 2700 Perennials For The Home Garden



## Synopsis

Essential Perennials focuses on what every gardener needs to know to choose from the thousands of perennials available, and care for the ones you already have. This A-to-Z guide is packed with more than 2,700 plants, with each entry listing flower color, bloom time, foliage characteristics, size, and light and temperature requirements. Each profile is supported by stunning color photography that showcases the flower and foliage that make each plant unique.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The book is well written and a good quick reference for gardeners. However its not the best in ebook format, buy it in hardcover. Plants are presented in alphabetical order, but on the electronic version there is no way to go to a specific plant without flipping through page after page. It would be nice to have an index where you could select the plant and then be taken to that spot. Another reason to buy it in hardcover is for the pictures.

We all need reference books on perennials and we now have a new volume which brings us up to date with the name changes, especially North American asters to symphyotrichum and the split of the dicentras to lamprocapnos, It is also nice to see aconogonon in its own section and not lumped with persicaria. American perennials are well represented as essential perennials. A few of our favourites here in New Zealand are missing like Symphyotrichum 'Little Carlow', Anthemis 'Sauce Hollandaise', Helenium 'Waltraut', Crocosmia 'Star of the East', Farfugium japonicum 'Giganteum',

Aconitum x cammarum 'Grandiflorum Album'. No mention of stemmacantha. I still find the best perennial reference book to be the RHS Perennials book edited by Graham Rice 2006. The large number of photos helps one to identify the plants referred to in this new book. The authors give their thoughts on the plants which I find extremely helpful. Nice to delve into.

Book is very descriptive and pictures are good and helpful. Wish more common names were used in the descriptive narrative. Instead of alphabetical order, would have helped to categorize the plants like, Ground Covers, Low, medium and tall growing plants, Shade plants and Full sun plants.

I have several books on perennials. I am not as knowledgeable as the above reviewer, but I find this volume to be extremely good. It is the first book on the subject that I have seen that is not just stating the facts concerning each plant, but also gives very helpful gardening information concerning companion plantings, both native and non. Suggestions for where to use the plant within the your landscape, what insects/animals are attracted to or resistant to the plant, and how to expect it to perform are, frankly, unexpected and very welcome additions. Under the Lamprocapnos spectabilis, Bleeding Heart, suggestions that the plant will go dormant in late spring and that companion plants should be employed to fill the gap also include just WHAT plants to have at the ready to fill that gap. This is the kind of hand-holding information I appreciate.

Pleasant lists to comb through in winter for ideas. Specific cultivars named. Not enough pictures. Information on soil, zones, how to propagate and more. Height ranges are a bit broad. Useful for my library.

I live in zone 5 rocky mountain west. This guide doesn't specifically consider this area and as such, this is a good overview of perennials but doesn't really offer any special information for this climate and similar readers would be better off with a regional guide.

It is very informative and answers all the questions I had. Great detail and helped with all the flowers I have and want to add to my garden.

Excellent information on common and new perennials, but is missing information on care, planting, deadheading, division, etc.

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