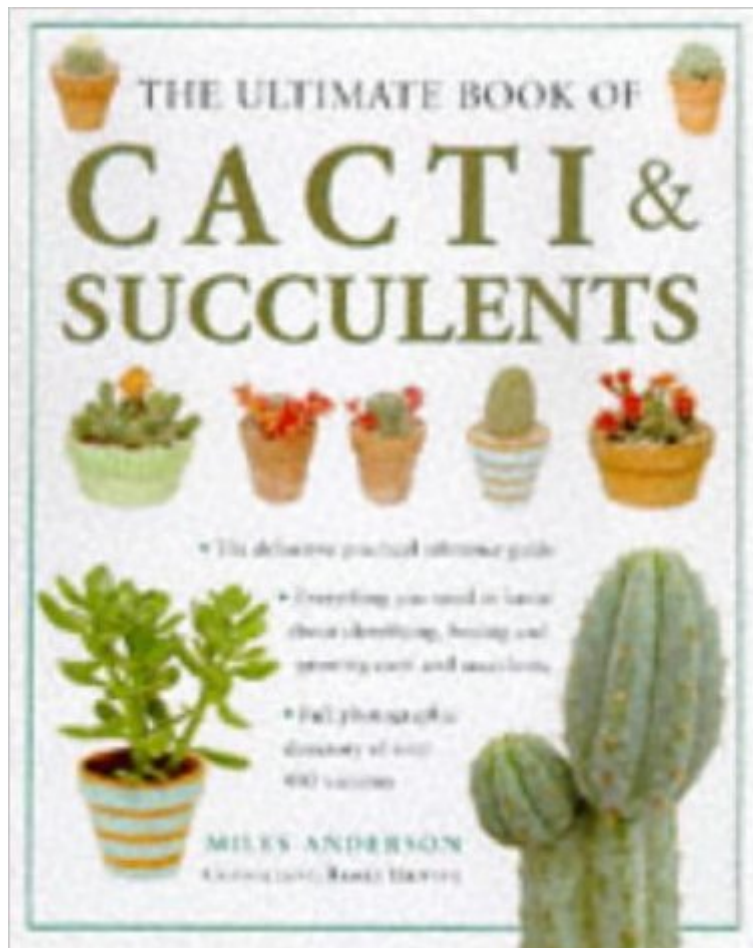


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The Ultimate Book Of Cacti & Succulents



Synopsis

This is the perfect reference book to help the reader identify and understand cacti and succulents, and cultivate them with ease.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Lorenz/ Select Books (October 1, 1998)

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Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,835,410 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Cacti & Succulents](#) #1338 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Reference](#) #43209 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology](#)

Customer Reviews

A very succinct listing of many common and some rare cacti and succulents. The best thing about this book is the vibrant and beautiful pictures that accompany the sometimes sparse text. The author gives a good general background on cacti and succulent origins, makeup, and care. One of the better books that I have come across in this genre.

For many years my students heard me say that when I bought my own house, I would kill my lawn and plant a cactus garden. Three years ago, I bought my very own California bungalow here in Whittier and began to convert the front yard into a cactus garden. One of the most helpful references in the process has been *The Ultimate Book Of Cacti And Succulents* by Miles Anderson. This book is not an encyclopedia nor is it meant to be. This book is a comprehensive introduction to cacti and succulents. It covers subjects such as planting and care and it also covers a selection of representative plants. The style of the book is similar to all the great books put out by DK. The garden is still a work in progress, but if you saw it you'd know how much this great book has helped.

To give this book the title "Ultimate" is stretching the point a little. The subject of cacti is far too vast

for any book on the subject to call itself ultimate. OK they had to call it something. On the serious side the book is excellently produced, well laid out and informative. The author knows his subject and presents it in an enjoyable and easily readable format. For those cactophiles who like their photographs, the ones in this book are hard to beat. The genera that are described in the book are described in some depth (not one species from each genus, a style I personally hate). There are symbols to tell you whether the plants are suitable for outdoors, greenhouse or windowsill. Each description of a species gives the natural habitat for the plant, average size the plant may attain and flower colour. The Cacti and Succulents have separate sections (good idea), and there are chapters on grafting (excellent photographs); pests and diseases; seed sowing and soil mixtures etc. Because the book covers both Cacti and Succulents, only the more popular species are catered for, but there are many specialist books on single genera for those who need them. After all a book is similar to a dog, a friend for life, and you can't have too many of those. This book contains all the information any hobbyist would need to grow cacti successfully and to keep them looking healthy for many years to come. It's in my collection. P.S. This book has appeared under several titles, so check before you buy, you may find you already own it.

Entitling a book as the "ultimate" is a daring move. While this is a great book on succulents (I ignored the cacti section), it is quickly obvious that many, many species are absent. The author has photographed his favorites -- and they are very good photos -- but lesser species, not quite as exciting as the rare forms featured, are missing. Even a basic key of the flora is absent. You can page through the alphabetical listing in hopes of finding a species you would like to identify, but that is tedious. I realize that a truly ultimate book on succulents would be as large as the Jepson Manual, but I was hoping for something a bit more encompassing than this one. Now don't get me wrong, this is a nice book. It will whet your appetite for more exotic plants than you own. I was looking for more technicality than photography.

I knew what I was getting with a used book. It is used. But to my surprise I found a disturbing picture that was put inside the book. Not sure where it came from but someone printed a disturbing image that had nothing to do with the book and put it in the book. I am not sure if Goodwill Denver ever checks the books they receive but in my case it was not a nice surprise. It was placed right in after you open the book. Whoever put it there wanted it to be found fast. As far as the book goes, it is a nice book if you are interested in learning about cacti and succulents.

Awesome book and great seller ships quick and item was exactly as described

this is a good informative publication for cacti enthusiasts. I received a signed by the author copy making extra special to me. I also had the opportunity to meet the author when in Tucson. you can purchase many varieties of cacti from him at miles2go.com

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