Plants For A Future Species Database Bibliography

Comprehensive listing of species and how to grow them. Somewhat outdated, it has been replaced in 1992 by a new dictionary (see [200]).

Lots of entries, quite a lot of information in most entries and references.

A very readable book with information on about 100 species that can be grown in Britain (some in greenhouses) and details on how to grow and use them.

Not so modern (1930's?) but lots of information, mainly temperate plants.

Edible wild plants found in Britain. Fairly comprehensive, very few pictures and rather optimistic on the desirability of some of the plants.

Details on some of the useful wild plants of Britain. Poor on pictures but otherwise very good.

Covers plants growing in Europe. Also gives other interesting information on the plants. Good photographs.

Edible wild plants in Britain. Small booklet, nothing special.

Covers plants in Europe. A drawing of each plant, quite a bit of interesting information.

A small book, reasonable but not very detailed.

A classic with a wealth of information on the plants, but poor on pictures.

A handy pocket guide.

Very interesting reading, giving some details of plant uses and quite a lot of folk-lore.

A good herbal.

A small book with interesting ideas for edible plants in the ornamental garden.

A good guide to growing vegetables in temperate areas, not entirely organic.

A very comprehensive flora, the standard reference book but it has no pictures.

Details of beneficial and antagonistic relationships between neighbouring plants.

Not very comprehensive, but easy reading.

Fairly good.

Lots of information tightly crammed into a fairly small book.

Not very comprehensive, it seems more or less like a copy of earlier writings with little added.

Not that complete but very readable and well illustrated.

Fairly good with lots of ideas about creating wildlife areas in the garden.

Fairly comprehensive, it was once the standard work but is now rather dated. Deals with species hardy in Britain, giving cultivation details and some uses.

A small booklet giving a fairly comprehensive guide to the uses of comfrey.

A reprint of a nineteenth century classic, giving details of vegetable varieties. Not really that informative though.

A small but informative booklet listing plants that can be grown in shady positions with a few cultivation details.

A small but informative booklet giving details of all the hedging plants being grown in the R.H.S. gardens at Wisley in Surrey.

An excellent book on Lepidoptera, it also lists their favourite food plants.

Excellent little booklet dealing with how to make compost by using herbs to activate the heap. Gives full details of the herbs that are used.
[33] Organ. J. Rare Vegetables for Garden and Table. Faber 1960
Unusual vegetables that can be grown outdoors in Britain. A good guide.
Good drawings of some of the more common food plants from around the world. Not much information though.
A very interesting article on the stinging nettle, Urtica dioica, giving a lot of information on its uses. Also details on Tanacetum partheniifoilium and Melaleuca alternifolium.
Excellent general but extensive guide to gardening practices in the 19th century. A very good section on fruits and vegetables with many little known species.
A good guide to some of the cultivars of temperate fruits. It covers quite a wide range of fruits.
A general book on growing fruit in Britain, it does give some descriptions of little known cultivars.
A nursery catalogue giving descriptions of the wide range of trees and shrubs they grow, including a good range of apples.
Very dated now, it lists a good range of fruit trees and shrubs with brief descriptions of most of them and details of where they can be obtained.
Rather dated now, but an immense work on bulbs for temperate zones and how to grow them. Three large volumes.
A bit dated but good and concise flora of the eastern part of N. America.
The standard work, in 3 volumes though only the first two are of interest to the plant project. Very good on habitats.
A good pocket flora, it also lists quite a few plant uses.
An excellent and very comprehensive guide but it only gives very short descriptions of the uses without any details of how to utilize the plants. Not for the casual reader.
A lovely and very readable book dealing with the cultivation of the genus Lilium.
Merely a list of names and the occasional elaboration.
Trees and shrubs that grow well in Cornwall and other mild areas of Britain. Fairly good, a standard reference book.
An immense work in 6 volumes (including the index). The standard reference flora for Europe, it is very terse though and with very little extra information. Not for the casual reader.
A very readable and good pocket guide (if you have a very large pocket!) to many of the wild plants in the Himalayas. Gives many examples of plant uses.
[52] Larkcom. J. Salads all the Year Round. Hamlyn 1980
A good and comprehensive guide to temperate salad plants, with full organic details of cultivation.
Interesting reading.
Interesting reading.
Interesting reading.
Deals with a wide range of plants for temperate areas (and indoor aquaria) with quite a lot of information on cultivation techniques.
[57] Schery. R. W. Plants for Man.
Fairly readable but not very comprehensive. Deals with plants from around the world.
The standard work. Brilliant, but not for the casual reader.
[59] Thurston. Trees and Shrubs in Cornwall.
Trees and shrubs that succeed in Cornwall based on the authors own observations. Good but rather dated.
A standard flora for Western N. America with lots of information on habitat etc. Five large volumes, it is not for the casual reader.

Forget the sexist title, this is one of the best books on the subject. Lists a very extensive range of useful plants from around the world with very brief details of the uses. Not for the casual reader.

Very readable.

Rather old but still a masterpiece. Has sections on tropical and temperate plants with edible nuts plus a section on nut plants in Britain. Very readable.

[64] Howes, F. N. Vegetable Gums and Resins. Faber
A very good book dealing with the subject in a readable way.

Brilliant. Goes into technical details but in a very readable way. The best work on the subject that I've come across so far.

Very readable, giving details on plant uses based on the authors own experiences.

Not for the casual reader, it lists all the known species in these two genera together with botanic descriptions and other relevant details for the botanist.

Excellent photographs, it also gives details of habitats and edibility.

Standard work for this part of S. America. Excellent details of habitat and a few notes on plant uses.

A small but interesting book for the casual reader and the enthusiast.

An excellent flora but no pictures. Not for the casual reader.

Getting rather dated now, it covers Southeastern N. America. No pictures, it is not for the casual reader.

A good flora but rather short on details of habitat. Not for the casual reader.

An immense (25 or more large volumes) and not yet completed translation of the Russian flora. Full of information on plant uses and habitats but heavy going for casual readers.

A small booklet packed with information on trees and shrubs for hedging and shelterbelts in exposed maritime areas.

It has sections on tropical and temperate plants with edible nuts plus a section on nut plants in Britain. Very readable.

A very readable book (in two volumes) on the many species of Eucalyptus trees in Australia.

A bit dated but a good book on propagation techniques with specific details for a wide range of plants.

[79] Innes. C. The World of Iridaceae
Deals with many of the plants in the iris family giving brief details of habitat and notes on cultivation. Well illustrated.

Does not deal with many species but it is very comprehensive on those that it does cover. Not for casual reading.

Deals with conifers that can be grown outdoors in Britain. Good notes on cultivation and a few bits about plant uses.

Two volumes, a comprehensive listing of N. American trees though a bit out of date now. Good details on habitats, some details on plant uses. Not really for the casual reader.

Deals with the genus Sedum. Fairly easy reading, it gives cultivation details and some notes on habitats.

A very readable pocket flora with good illustrations, it gives quite a few plant uses.

A superb book. Very readable, it gives the results of the authors experiments with native edible plants.

[86] Organ. J. Gourds. Faber 1963
Deals with squashes and their relatives. Interesting and readable, it gives cultivation techniques and some details of plant uses.

Green manure crops for temperate areas. Quite a lot of information on a number of species.
Snippets of information from the magazine of the RHS. In particular, there are articles on plants that are resistant to honey fungus, oriental vegetables, Cimicifuga spp, Passiflora species and Cucurbits.

A very readable pocket flora that is well illustrated. Gives some information on plant uses.

Superbly illustrated, it gives brief details on cultivation and native habitat.


A nice readable book.

Not for the casual reader, this is an immense work in many volumes. Some details of plant uses and habitats.

Useful wild plants in Western N. America. A pocket guide.

Useful wild plants of America. A pocket guide.

Covers seaweeds of Britain. A good coverage of when and what to eat plus some other uses.

A very interesting book covering quite a lot of information on plant uses in S. America although many of the plants are not suitable for temperate areas.

Useful wild plants of America. A pocket guide.

Another guide to the wild foods of America.

Very readable and well illustrated, it lists plants by families giving the basic diagnostic features and some details of plant uses.

A very readable guide to some wild foods of Canada.

Another guide to the edible plants I've come across. Only the briefest entry for each species, though, and some of the entries are more than a little dubious. Not for the casual reader.

The most comprehensive guide to edible plants I've come across. Only the briefest entry for each species, though, and some of the entries are more than a little dubious. Not for the casual reader.

Interesting reading but short on detail.

A Forestry commission booklet giving details of the more common Eucalyptus species grown in Britain. Good identification guide.

The title says it all.

Details of the plants collected by the plant collector E. H. Wilson on his travels in China. Gives some habitats. Not for the casual reader.

A fairly wide range of perennial plants that can be grown in Britain and how to grow them.

A technical paper covering the many uses of the genus Asclepias.

A very detailed book on propagating trees. Not for the casual reader.

It is surprising how many of these plants can be grown in Britain. A very readable book on the useful plants of Iraq.

Written about a hundred years ago, but still a very good guide to the useful plants of Britain.
A small booklet packed with information.

A very readable and comprehensive guide. Well illustrated.

A small book, it is a good guide to useful plants in Western N. America.

Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants including Billardiera spp, Calochortus spp, Drimys spp.

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Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants. A good article on the flowering of bamboos.

It contains a few things of interest to the plant project.

Snippets of information from the magazine of the RHS, including details on Podophyllum, Canna and Protea species.

Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants including Actinidia and Wisteria species.

Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants including Distylium racemosum and some perennial members of the family Berberidaceae.

Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants including Actinidia and Wisteria species.

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Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants including Distylium racemosum and some perennial members of the family Berberidaceae.

Very readable magazine with lots of information on propagation.

Some suggested alternative commercial crops for Britain. Readable. Produced by a University study group.

Lovely pictures, a very readable book.

Very readable magazine with lots of information on propagation.

Very readable magazine with lots of information on propagation. An interesting article on Ensete ventricosum.

An old flora of New Zealand in a readable style. Some details of plant uses.

An interesting article on growing wild rice, Zizania aquatica and Z. latifolia.

Excerpts from the periodical giving cultivation details and other notes on some of the useful plants including Carya spp and Crocus sativus.

Very readable magazine with lots of information on propagation.

[139] ? Flora of Chile. (in Spanish)
Some information about the useful plants of Chile.

[140] Laing. and Blackwell. Plants of New Zealand. Whitcombe and Tombs Ltd 1907
An old flora of New Zealand in a readable style. Some details of plant uses.

Some suggested alternative commercial crops for Britain. Readable. Produced by a University study group.

Readable but not very comprehensive.

A classic, but dated. Deals with the genus Lilium.

A very good pocket guide.

A good flora of the western Himalayas but poorly illustrated. Some information on plant uses.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>146</td>
<td>Gamble, J. S.</td>
<td>A Manual of Indian Timbers</td>
<td>Bishen Singh Mahendra Pal Singh 1972</td>
<td></td>
<td>Written last century, but still a classic, giving a lot of information on the uses and habitats of Indian trees. Not for the casual reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>Watson, W. C. R.</td>
<td>Handbook of the Rubi of Great Britain and Ireland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>There are hundreds of slightly differing species of the common blackberry growing in Britain. This is a book for the dedicated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>151</td>
<td>Wilson, E. H. and Trollope, M. N.</td>
<td>Corean Flora</td>
<td>Royal Asiatic Society 1918</td>
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<td>A very small handbook, it does give a little bit of information on Korean plants.</td>
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<td>A very small handbook, it does give a little bit of information on Korean plants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>155</td>
<td>Lassak, E. V. and McCarthy, T.</td>
<td>Australian Medicinal Plants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A very good and readable guide to the subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156</td>
<td>Ewart, A. J.</td>
<td>Flora of Victoria</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A flora of eastern Australia, it is rather short on information that is useful to the plant project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>157</td>
<td>Armerber, L. P.</td>
<td>Flowers of the Southwest Mountains</td>
<td>Southwestern Monuments Ass. 1968</td>
<td></td>
<td>A lovely little pocket guide to wild plants in the southern Rockies of America.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>Natural Food Institute</td>
<td>Wonder Crops</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fascinating reading, this is an annual publication. Some reports do seem somewhat exaggerated though.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>163</td>
<td>RHS Lily Group</td>
<td>Lilies and Related Plants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lots of interesting snippets about plants in the family Liliaceae (in the old, broad sense)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>164</td>
<td>Bird, R. (Editor)</td>
<td>Growing from Seed</td>
<td>Volume 4. Thompson and Morgan. 1990</td>
<td></td>
<td>Very readable magazine with lots of information on propagation. A good article on Yuccas, one on Sagebrush (Artemesia spp) and another on Chaerophyllum bulbosum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>165</td>
<td>Mills, S. Y.</td>
<td>The Dictionary of Modern Herbalism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>An excellent small herbal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>166</td>
<td>Taylor, J.</td>
<td>The Milder Garden</td>
<td>Dent 1990</td>
<td></td>
<td>A good book on plants that you didn't know could be grown outdoors in Britain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171</td>
<td>Buchanan, R. A.</td>
<td>Weavers Garden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Covers all aspects of growing your own clothes, from fibre plants to dyes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>172</td>
<td>Dremann, C. G.</td>
<td>Ground Cherries, Husk Tomatoes and Tomatilloes</td>
<td>Redwood City Seed Co 1985 ISBN 0-933421-03-6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Only a small booklet but it covers the various species in some depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>173</td>
<td>Hill, A. F.</td>
<td>Economic Botany</td>
<td>The Maple Press 1952</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not very comprehensive, but it is quite readable and goes into some a bit of detail about the plants it does cover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>174</td>
<td>Schofield, J. J.</td>
<td>Discovering Wild Plants - Alaska, W. Canada and the Northwest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A nice guide to some useful plants in that area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>177</td>
<td>Bird, R. (Editor)</td>
<td>Focus on Plants</td>
<td>Volume 5. (formerly 'Growing from seed') Thompson and Morgan. 1991</td>
<td></td>
<td>Very readable magazine with lots of information on propagation. A good article on Cordyalis spp.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An excellent book for the dedicated. A comprehensive listing of Latin names with a brief list of edible parts.


A translation of an ancient Chinese herbal. Fascinating.


A monograph of the genus Actinidia.


A handy little booklet from the R.H.S.


A monograph of the genus Actinidia.


A monograph of the genus Actinidia.


A very readable book on the genus.


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A very readable book on the genus.


A very readable book on the genus.
Well written and very informative.

A nice read, lots of information on plant uses.

An excellent detailed book on the subject, very comprehensive.

Details the 38 remedies plus how and where to prescribe them.

An excellent little pocket guide. Very concise.

[211] Coventry. B. O. Wild Flowers of Kashmir Raithby, Lawrence and Co. 1923
A nice little pocket guide to 50 wildflowers of Kashmir. This is part one of three, we have not seen the other two volumes

Excellent little pocket guide to the area, covering 590 species and often giving details of their uses.

A nice book to read though it is difficult to look up individual plants since the book is divided into separate sections dealing with the different medicinal uses plus a section on edible plants. Common names are used instead of botanical.

A quarterly magazine, it has articles on Himalayacalamus hookerianus, hardy Euphorbias and an excellent article on Hippophae spp.

A report on the Natural History radio 4 programme about the value of Japanese knot weed to British wildlife.

A very good guide the the plant uses of the N. American Hopi Indians.

A lovely little book about some wild salads in France. Written in French.

Details of over 1,200 medicinal plants of China and brief details of their uses. Often includes an analysis, or at least a list of constituents. Heavy going if you are not into the subject.

A nice little book about plants for growing against walls and a small section on plants that can grow in walls.

An excellent little booklet that looks in some detail at the native bamboos of Nepal, including looking at their uses.

A comprehensive treatment of the genus.

A concise book dealing with almost 500 species. A line drawing of each plant is included plus colour photographs of about 100 species. Very good as a field guide, it only gives brief details about the plants medicinal properties.

A fairly detailed treatise on the major sources of vegetable tannins.

[224] Bartram. T. Agnus Castus -
A leaflet that summarizes the medicinal virtues of Vitex agnus-castus.

A quarterly magazine, it has articles on Coprosma species,

Very good on identification for non-experts, the book also has a lot of information on plant uses.

A readable guide to the area, it contains descriptions of the plants and their habitats with quite a bit of information on plant uses.

A useful source of habitats.

A very good concise guide. Gives habitats, good descriptions, maps showing distribution and a few of the uses. It also includes the many shrubs that occasionally reach tree proportions.

An excellent book looking at the orchids that can be grown outdoors in temperate climates and giving lots of information on how to grow them. Very little information on their uses.

An excellent little booklet on the subject, though it does not mention many plant uses.

A concise beginner's guide to the subject. Very readable.

A concise guide to a wide range of perennials. Lots of cultivation guides, very little on plant uses.
An article on the potential of Coriandrum sativum as an oil crop.

Reprint of a 1913 Flora, but still a very useful book.

A nice and comprehensive flora, though a bit dated. Good line drawings of each plant, plus a brief idea of the habitat and a few notes on plant uses. Not for the casual reader.

Looks in detail at the medicinal virtues and also mentions some of the plants other uses. The information on traditional Chinese use and modern herbal use of the plant is backed up by an extensive bibliography.

A very well presented and informative book on herbs from around the globe. Plenty in it for both the casual reader and the serious student. Just one main quibble is the silly way of having two separate entries for each plant.

A nice readable book, giving details of habitats and cultural needs of all the members of this genus, with brief notes on other members of the family.

Very terse details of medicinal uses of plants with a wide range of references and details of research into the plants chemistry. Not for the casual reader.

A nice little pocket guide to the subject with photographs of 95 species and brief details on their uses.

[242] Davies. P. Correspondence from Allium NCCPG collection 1997
Letter dated 21/01/97, giving additional information on Allium species.

Terse details of the medicinal properties of Nepalese plants, including cultivated species and a few imported herbs.

Deals with all types of herbs including medicinal, culinary, scented and dye plants. Excellent photographs with quite good information on each plant.

An excellent, comprehensive book on scented plants giving a few other plant uses and brief cultivation details. There are no illustrations.

[246] Radio 4 AM - 1997
A news item on the Radio 4 morning news programme 'AM', 15/10/97.

A few articles of interest, especially Berberdopsis corallina and Tropaeolum species.

A short item on a couple of soil reclamation plants, Atropa belladonna and Solanum nigrum

Excellent information and photographs of this genus with a little bit about their uses.

A nice little book on the genus, giving information on their cultivation and a little info on plant uses.

Excellent cover of the genus, though it concentrates mainly on the cultivars and does not go much into plant uses.

An interesting article on the use of halophytes as commercial food crops in desert areas near the sea. Unfortuantely lacking in detail of species used and also judges the plant's value as livestock feed rather than direct human food.

Articles on Fuchsia species, cultivars of Blackberries.

An excellent guide to over 500 of the more well known medicinal herbs from around the world.

An excellent guide to the potential of Coriandrum sativum as an oil crop.

An excellent little handbook about the native food plants of Western Canada. Good descriptions of the plants and their uses with colour photos of most plants.

Very terse details of medicinal uses of plants with a wide range of references and details of research into the plants chemistry. Not for the casual reader.

The monthly newsletter of the RHS, contains articles on Erythroniums.

Excellent guide to pollution in the home and those plants that can help to remove the problem. Most of the plants are not hardy outdoors in the temperate zone, though a number of species can be grown outside.
Excellent photos of over 1,100 species and cultivars with habits and cultivation details plus a few plant uses. Many species are too tender for outdoors in Britain though there are many that can be grown outside.
For the academic only, a list of species growing in N. Eurasia with terse details on habitat, range, uses etc.
An excellent book on passion flowers, giving information on hardy species and how to grow the less hardy in greenhouses etc. A bit lacking at times on specific information on hardiness. Excellent photographs.
[263] Raintree Nutrition Inc. Maca.htm 1999
Web site giving lots of info on Lepidium meyenii.
Excellent and easily read book with good information and an excellent collection of photos of vegetables from around the world, including many unusual species.
Concise flora with little beyond an extensive key, species descriptions, very brief habitat description.
[266] Flora of China 1994
On-line version of the Flora - an excellent resource giving basic info on habitat and some uses.
Excellent little booklet about the bamboos growing wild and cultivated for food, raw materials etc in Bhutan. Very good guide to identification.
Excellent herbal with good concise information on over 400 herbs.
Published only on the Internet, excellent information on a wide range of plants.
[270] Flora of N. America 0
An on-line version of the flora with an excellent description of the plant including a brief mention of plant uses.

This bibliography complements the Plants For A Future Species Database, a database comprising 7500 species edible and useful plants, details are available on our Database Leaflet.

Plants For A Future is a resource and information centre for useful plants, promoting ecologically sustainable vegan-organic horticulture and agriculture with an emphasis on tree, shrub and other perennial species. For Details of our services and publications please see our Introduction leaflet, or for publications only our leaflet list.

We are always grateful for any donations, investments and legacies (however small or large). Supporters are invited to join Friends Of Plants For A Future. Please see our Financial Investment Pack – How you Can Help us financially.

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