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Lilies: A Guide For Growers And Collectors



Synopsis

Admired for elegant blossoms and graceful foliage, the lily commands a featured place in any garden. This book discusses the biology of the lily plant, its propagation, and its cultivation. McRae also documents wild lily species and the creation of spectacular contemporary garden lilies. The author developed many new hybrids; his book is unique in providing up-to-date practical techniques for lily hybridizing, along with his views on current and future developments.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Like many Timber Press books, this one is geared to experienced gardeners, horticulturists, and botanists. McRae provides techniques for hybridizing and explains the biology of the lily plant. He discusses propagation, cultivation, diseases, and pests, and explains how lilies can be used in the garden. A chapter on exhibiting lilies is followed by one on growing them around the world and one on commercial bulb production. A large portion of the book (175 pages) is a list of various species and hybrids with a detailed description of each. The author, who has developed many hybrids himself, also gives brief sketches of some prominent lily hybridizers. The text is augmented by 108 color photographs and eight botanical prints. George Cohen

In short, Mr. McRae has presented us with a fine work, the essence of his life with lilies. This book is well written, well illustrated and, well, I recommend it highly. -- Charles Hardman "Herbertia" (02/01/1998)

Good useful reference, but was scraping to get that 4th star, but 3 was a bit too harsh.

This book should be your bible for your lilies. From how and where to grow. What to grow. Make your own crosses. Its in there. Plus some history on the lily. Including Frieman, Griesbach, many others

Great Book!!

Excellent book, the best of the five I have on lillies.

This guide answers almost all questions one can develop on this beautiful plants. From a basic introduction into the genus along propagation and cultivation up to a comprehensive taxonomic guide on species (almost complete) and hybrids and finally professional topics as exhibitions, hybridizing and commercial production, this book covers it all. And what I liked most: though it has more than 100 pictures, it doesn't suffer of the "coffee-table"-syndrome (large, non-detailed pictures) as so many plant books regrettably do. Absolutely recommended. It's an exceptional work and it will last long for you to reach a point where this book can't be of use anymore.

This book is an incredible resource for those wishing to try their hand at lily hybridization. A word of warning though, it really is not written for the layperson. While you do not have to have a Ph.d. in botany to understand the contents, those with a fair amount of horticultural experience will benefit the most. The book is clearly and concisely written, and is also organized nicely. The photos are beautiful and the line drawings are very helpful. It is the most in-depth discussion of lilies I have ever encountered, written by one of the world's experts in the field. I hope others will enjoy it as much as I have.

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LILIES A guide for growers and collectors An authoritative guide with extensive information on propagation and hybridisation. Features species lilies and current hybrids. Written by Edward Austin McRae of Oregon Bulb Farms fame. Not too 'heavy', very readable and very concise, I thoroughly enjoyed it! ISBN 0 88192-410-5 \$34.95 / Timber Press

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