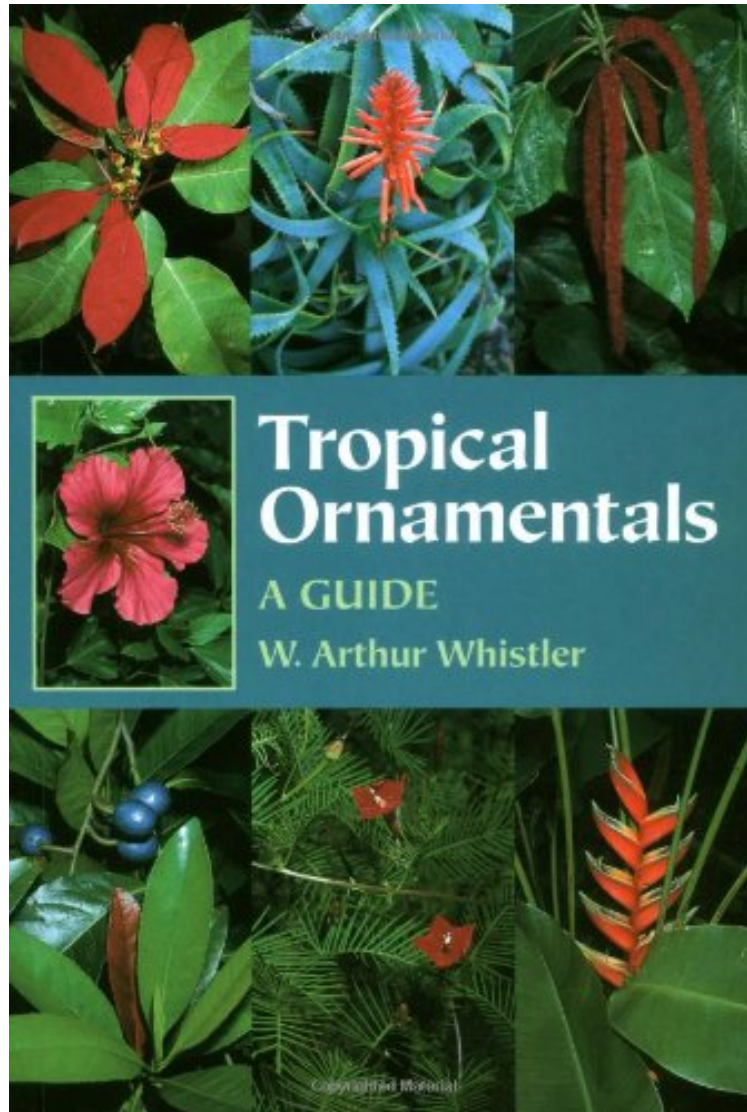


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Tropical Ornamentals : A Guide

W. Arthur Whistler

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people found the following review helpful. A basic reference text for tropical plants By Linda's books This is a basic reference text for admirers of tropical plants, and was the inspiration for my Ornamental Plants Flowers of Tropical Mexico. Limited to plants grown for their appearance rather than utility, and primarily grown in the tropical regions of the world, this reference guide includes more than 400 ornamentals. Photographs of many of the included plants provide detail, supplementing the informative text, which gives identifying descriptions of leaves, flowers, and fruit, if any, as well as basic cultivation and propagation advice. The book's usefulness for identifying plants would be enhanced, however, with full-size photos, in addition to the flower close-up shots. The utility of the book is greatly aided by the index, which cross-references common names, scientific names, and alternative names for these lovely plants.

This guide covers more than 400 of the most commonly cultivated ornamental plants found in the tropics, identified and beautifully photographed by an expert in tropical botany. The color photographs and accurate descriptions make this book ideal for identifying plants grown in the tropics or cultivated in greenhouses in temperate climates. The characteristics of habit, leaves, flowers, and fruit useful for distinguishing one plant from another are emphasized in the descriptions, which also include discussions of plant relationships, the correct scientific and common names, geographical ranges, any poisonous properties, and other useful and interesting information about each plant. In addition, each description includes information on propagation methods and ideal growing conditions, making it useful for gardeners in determining how and where to cultivate the plants.

Oh, there are books out there, and I probably have most of them, but Tropical Ornamentals: A Guide seemed like manna from heaven ... Add this book to your gardening library. -- Jan Kalanikai Hawaii Horticulture 20000918 What a bargain: succinct information on hundreds of plants cultivated as ornamentals in the Tropics, with more than 450 full-color close-up photographs showing flowers and foliage! HortIdeas 20000918 This book would find a welcome home on any gardener's bookshelves and make a perfect gift to a newcomer to South Florida. -- Susan Knorr Garden Views 20000905 This book should be on the shelf of all who love tropical plants. -- John E. Bryan Gardening Newsletter 20000905 Lavishly illustrated. -- Stephanie Kendrick Honolulu Star-Bulletin 20001020 This is a place to find some of the most attractive plants we are likely to see in the tropical environment, as well as some of the biggest pests. -- Jan TenBruggencate Honolulu Advertiser 20000925 Fascinating reading. -- John Van de Water Newark Star-Ledger 20001105 No other book comes close to filling the niche that this book fills. -- Clear Englebert FungShway.com 20001107 On nearly every page there is a photograph with information about the genus and species to aid in identifying these plants. National Gardener 20001128 Whistler, an adjunct associate professor at the Lyon Arboretum in Honolulu, has worked with tropical plants for more than 30 years and his experience shows in this book. -- January Adams American Reference Books Annual 20010424 The photos are splendid ... This is an excellent reference on tropical plants in cultivation. -- Barney Lipscomb Sida, Contributions to Botany 20000426 "It is useful aid for those who wish to transform conservatory, sun-room or glazed porch into a conversation piece decorated with a collection of living holiday souvenirs." Hull Daily Mail 20010519 Extremely useful for identifying the plants most often found in tropical gardens. Florida Gardening 20011013 For more spice, Tropical Ornamentals covers unusual, as well as common, summer bloomers. -- Donna Williamson HortResources Newsletter 20040122 From the Publisher The two main sources of tropical plants are the islands and mainland of southeastern Asia and tropical America between Mexico and Brazil. Whatever their origin, tropicals tend to be distributed widely, and many of the same plants will be seen from the Caribbean to Singapore. This guide features more than 400 of the most common ornamentals and should allow the reader to identify the majority of ornamental trees, shrubs, and herbs to be encountered in the tropics worldwide. Many of the species covered may also be found in the warm temperate regions, or may be grown as greenhouse plants in colder climates. From the Author W. Arthur Whistler is an adjunct associate professor at the Lyon Arboretum in Honolulu.