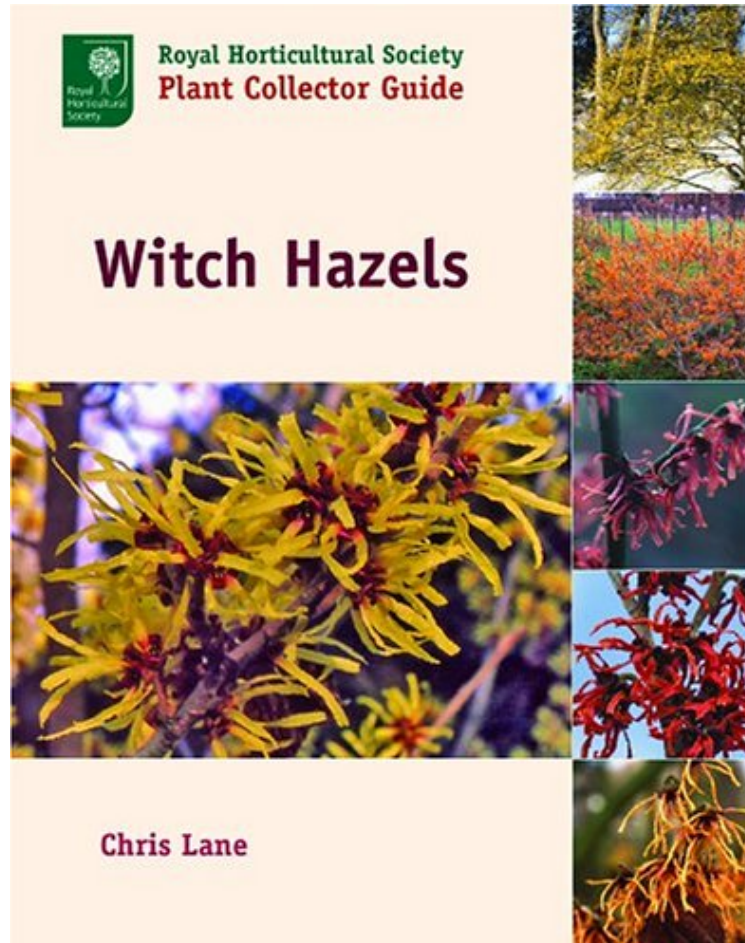


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Witch Hazels (Royal Horticultural Society Plant Collector Guide)

Christopher Lane

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Christopher Lane : Witch Hazels (Royal Horticultural Society Plant Collector Guide) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Witch Hazels (Royal Horticultural Society Plant Collector Guide):

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive Guide for Collectors, less helpful for non-professionals By Amy E. Menzer Three stars seems too harsh, four seems a bit too generous... This book is great as an encyclopedic listing of the numerous cultivars of witch hazel. He addresses the history of various cultivars and propagation techniques, and has a brief section on pruning (where he mentions keeping them to smaller size or training to a wall or fence for smaller gardens) which is very helpful. But unless you plan on developing a collection of several plants, this book might be better borrowed from the library (IF they have it...), because for example for my needs (one specimen to possibly 3) this book feels like a little more than I need, yet also less: he shows all the hybrids' flowers close-up, but he doesn't have many photos at all showing fall color or summer habit-- issues that are important

considerations for me with a typical moderate-size suburban lot where I want to gauge placement (does summer habit preclude a prominent spot?) and get the most multi-season bang for the space it takes up. I feel a little guilty for buying this one. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Witch Hazels was what I was looking for! I ...By Michael R. Pontti Witch Hazels was what I was looking for! I think it will prove to be valuable in future plantings and selections... 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Jane Delo Very nice! Very thorough! Lot of color photos.

Once discovered, witch hazels capture the hearts of gardeners who rank them among the best of all winter-flowering shrubs. Shrugging off several degrees of frost and a heavy weight of snow, their distinctive flowers held on bare branches cannot fail to light up a garden in the depths of winter. Yet, despite their attributes, only a small number are widely grown outside the gardens of enthusiasts. This book promises to change all that by turning the spotlight on these magical shrubs, highlighting their diversity and providing practical, comparative information that will thrill enthusiast and newcomer alike. The book starts with an introduction to the genus followed by detailed descriptions of the four species and their hybrids. These will be of immense value to gardeners as they consider distinguishing features and work out which will perform best for them. The book further aids identification by noting how local conditions can significantly affect plant characteristics including rate of growth, size of plant, leaf retention, and flower color. Cultural requirements and hardiness tolerance are clearly outlined, further ensuring success in the garden. This is the first attempt to authenticate and describe all known selections, varieties, and species in one text. It will be an invaluable resource for gardeners and collectors for years to come.

From Booklist Witch hazels are one of the hardiest of winter-flowering shrubs. Lane begins with an introduction to the genus and then gives detailed descriptions of the four species and their hybrids. In each entry--and there are hundreds--Lane describes growth habit, foliage, and flowers, There are chapters discussing the development of hybrids, their propagation and cultivation, and companion plants. The book--with 144 delightful color illustrations, 2 line drawings, and 5 maps--will stimulate gardeners' interest in growing these colorful shrubs. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved The latest and most extensive reference. . . If anyone can coerce a gardener to think outside the season, its Lane. The books gorgeous photographs offer a close-up of flowers that often are passed by or go unnoticed.