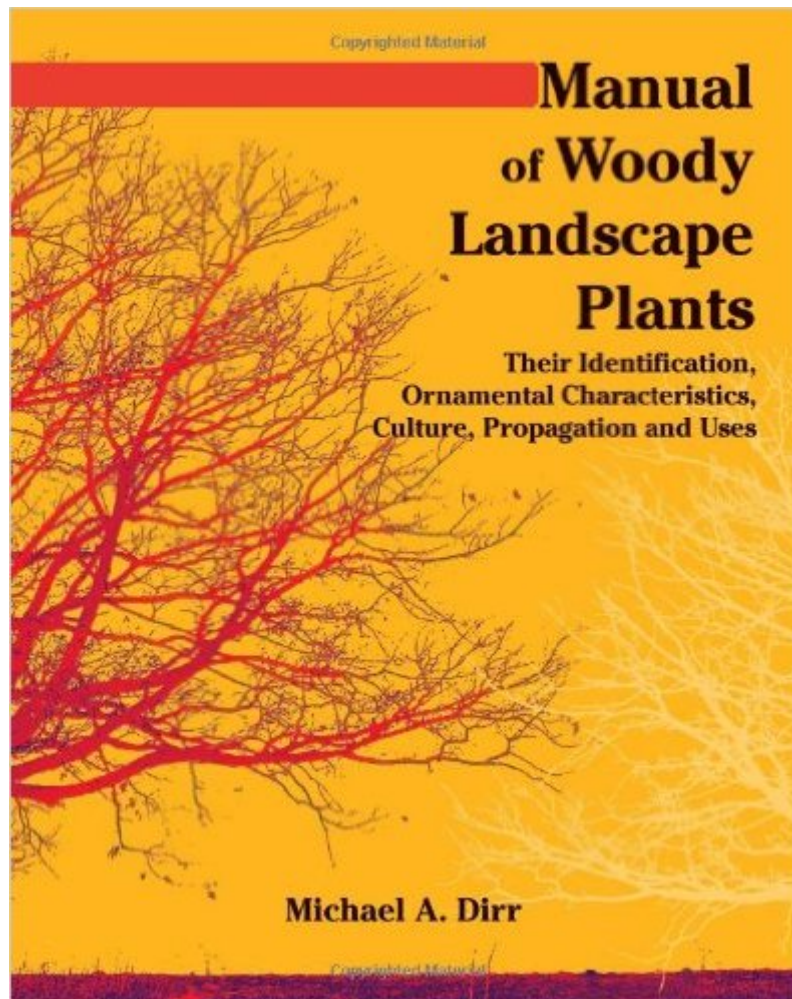


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Manual Of Woody Landscape Plants Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation And Uses



Synopsis

Their identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a Master Gardener, and Certified Michigan Nurseryman, We (At our place of business) use this book as a reference manual for 90% of information in regards to trees and shrubs suitability for whatever the customers needs. It is very informative and a good investment.

I have every edition of this book, including the 6th edition, which I got today at the IL. Landscaping & Contractor Association (ILAC). Dr. Dirr was the main speaker and I got it signed by him as well. Did pay one third of the price is selling it for. Anyway, if you are serious about horticulture, this is "the" book to have. I used it in the 80's in grad school and it helped me tremendously in learning the details about many plants species. Every nursery I have worked at either had the book or I had the boss buy it. I use this as my main reference guide. Detailed enough to get to know a particular species of plants. This book is excellent for the home owner who wants to know more about plants and for the expert plant user who needs detailed information of a species. I like the way Dr. Dirr describes what he likes about certain plants. He has his own opinion. So to all you people that work with plants..... best book you will ever buy, worth every penny. Marc. B. Meijer Nursery Manager

The Manual of Woody Landscape Plants is the most complete book I now own. Some of the most

important characteristics are the inclusion of the root type (tap root, fibrous root, etc...) and the conditions they grow in, the bark habit when young and when mature. These are important characteristics when telling someone about a tree to go in their yard. The flower, and culture are also important when seeking information about unknown trees or unknown parents to hybrids. These are a few things that some books don't have. I readily use it for root type classification so I know if the tree can be used in tight places (concrete, pavers, etc), or if it can be grown in a lawn area.

I should have bought the hardbound *Dirr's Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, because wherever it has been opened, the pages of my new paperback *Dirr's* are loose and falling out. Now, after only having been gently used only twice, it's just a pile of loose pages instead of a book. This (otherwise excellent) 1,325 page reference book was put together like a throwaway item. The binding is so flimsy that it is impossible to leaf through the pages. The publisher (Stipes Publishing, LLC) failed to do justice to a reference book that ought to stand up to years of frequent use.

This book is invaluable for researching woody plants and also for woody plant ID. It details virtually every woody plant along with the various cultivars of each. Each entry describes various plant parts such as leaves, bark, flowers, fruit, size, hardiness, diseases and insects, propagation, (and more) in an easy to read format, and then *Dirr* gives his opinion on the landscape value of each plant and any other thoughts or experiences he has had with that plant. There are also sketches (B&W) of most plants, usually the leaf and bud. This book is infinitely useful and definitely worth the money. I can't even imagine how much work went into the writing of this text; it's incredible. *Dirr's* knowledge of woody plants is unbelievable.

This book must be on the bookshelves of serious gardeners. It kept me alive during the long winter as I read about my trees and enjoyed Michael *Dirr's* editorial comments about the woody plants. His expertise is astounding and I enjoyed learning about his opinions, as they are very relevant to gardeners who want to have lovely and healthy landscape plants.

A definite must for every plants person. The manual, however, does not have in-depth sections dealing with plants that have extensive cultivars and varieties, such as *Malus*, azaleas, rhododendrons, etc. If that is your interest, then you would need something very specific for such plant groups.

I purchased this as a donation to our local Master Gardener Garden HelpLine. This book is THE standard for information about trees and shrubs for the U.S -- it is one of the main references we use to advise people in the community about tree and shrub identification and care. A new one was needed not just as an update, but because we just plain wore the previous edition out. If Master Gardeners use a book like this you know it has to be authoritative -- there's nothing else like it.

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