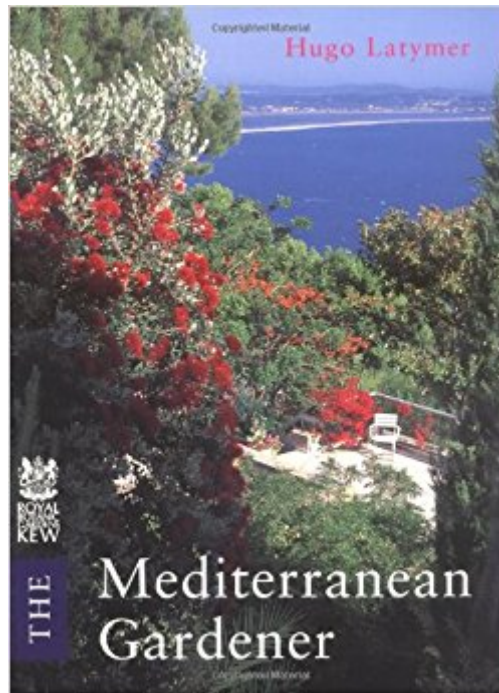




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The Mediterranean Gardener



Synopsis

Hugo Latymer reveals the rich diversity of trees, shrubs, flowering plants and cacti that flourish in regions where summers are hot and dry, winters mild and wet. His knowledge and enthusiasm are communicated in descriptions of more than 300 plants, most of them readily obtainable: Chinaberry trees with fragrant lilac flowers in spring, dark green twisted carobs, beautiful red-flowered climbing lilies. Many of the subjects are illustrated in superb color photographs. Coded information at the head of each entry enables gardeners to make the best choices when confronted with the bewildering array of plants on offer. Whether your garden is a patio of a few square metres or several hectares on a terraced hillside, you will find a wealth of ideas for colorful and interesting plants and a variety of garden designs. The author draws on 20 years' experience of gardening on the island of Mallorca.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Covers the problems encountered on sun-drenched sites and suggests design ideas that meet them, while providing an illustrated encyclopaedia of appropriate plants.' Fred Whitsey, Daily Telegraph; 'Proponents of global warming theory can relish the delights that may be in store for gardeners in England.' The Independent"

Hugo Latymer was an authority on plant cultivation and garden design in Mediterranean regions. He spent many years living and gardening on Majorca and became an acknowledged authority on designing and cultivating gardens suited to the dry, hot climate there. He died in 2003.

This book is an absolute delight, as much for the prose as for the glorious photographs. As well as recommendations for planting in various Mediterranean conditions, the author gives splendid professional advice on local problems such as water shortage, salt air damage and so on. If you have had failures in your ex-pat. garden through trying to acclimatise plants which only thrive in more northerly regions, this book will help you never again to make those mistakes. No-one should be without it; I have two of them. Yvonne Gregson.

While South Central Texas (San Antonio) isn't a coastal area (and isn't exactly a "moderate" climate, either), Latymer's book has proven to be a good resource for our area. The pictures helped me to visualize what could be, and the plant lists have been invaluable for choosing plants. While I've always loved "digging in the dirt," no one ever would have accused me of being an accomplished gardener. But that didn't stop me. Thanks to the inspiration I found in Latymer's book, I've been working steadily at replacing my grassy front yard with a Mediterranean-style water-wise garden. And now, many of my neighbors are interested in doing the same. They think my yard is gorgeous. And so do I.

A really good read, informative although not especially useful afterwards. I'm sure some of his practices have made an impact on my water consumption. He is well-respected amongst those who really know a lot about Mediterranean gardening and that's good enough for me. Well worth buying if you have a Med location.

The Mediterranean Gardener is an older publication but is still a great reference book for a gardener in a Mediterranean climate. Invaluable practical information on how to achieve different styles, and choosing the right plants.

Fine book for those who enjoy the luxury of and the challenges of a Mediterranean climate.

The book gives an excellent overview of plants that fit into the mediterranean climate, but I am still looking for more descriptions of maintenance of the different sorts, like trimming when and how, watering etc.

This book is a good reference for moderate coastal areas (we are on the Palos Verdes Peninsula in

So. Cal.) The reference area (2/3 of the book) is well organized with lots of photos. Latymer has divided Mediterranean plants into sections on trees, palms, shrubs, etc. The reader can look at a choice of plants for a particular application, which are grouped together.

The most valuable thing about this book for me was the extensive plant list which contained good information about size, growing speed, minimum temperatures, water need and descriptions of the plant itself sometimes including information about propagation. The list is divided in different chapters for trees, shrubs, climbers, palms, cacti and succulents, perennials and annuals which made it very easy to use while planning a garden. The information chapters are mainly oriented on style and design though even some chapters about soil and water are included which contain valuable knowledge.

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