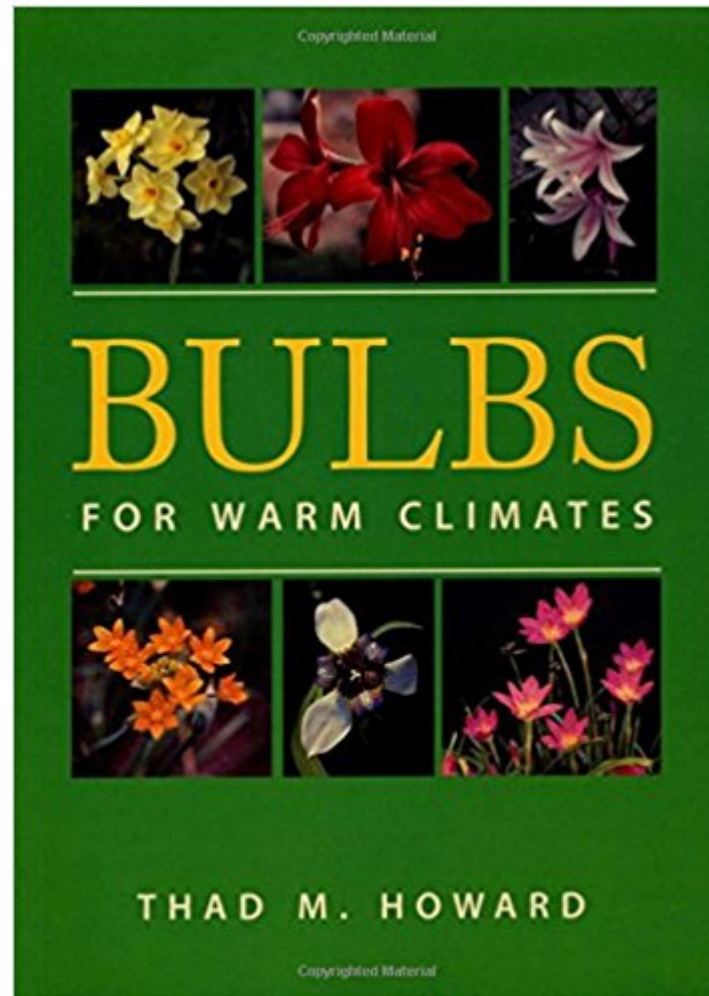




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Bulbs For Warm Climates



Synopsis

Bulb gardening in the southwestern and southern United States presents challenges unknown in cooler climates. Bulbs that turn Holland into a kaleidoscope of color droop and fade in our mild winters, hot summers, and uncertain rainfall. Yet hundreds of native and naturalized species of bulbs thrive in these same conditions and offer as many colors, shapes, and fragrances as even the most demanding gardener desires. These are the bulbs that Thad Howard describes in this comprehensive guide to bulbs that will grow in USDA gardening zones 8 and 9. Writing from more than forty-five years' experience in collecting and cultivating bulbs, Howard offers expert advice about hundreds of little-known, hybrid, and common species and varieties that grow well in warm climates. His species accounts, which are grouped by family, describe each plant and its growing requirements and often include interesting stories from his collecting expeditions. Lovely color photos illustrate many of the species. Howard also gives reliable information about refrigerating bulbs, using them in the landscape and in containers, choosing scented ones, making potpourri, buying, collecting, cultivating, and hybridizing bulbs, and dealing with pests and diseases. He concludes with lists of plant societies and suppliers and a helpful glossary and bibliography.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: University of Texas Press; 1 edition (June 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0292731264

ISBN-13: 978-0292731264

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.8 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,739,922 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #89 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers > Bulbs #118 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > Southwest #248 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > South

Customer Reviews

There is a shortage of books on bulb gardening for Southern gardeners, however this book does little to remedy that shortage. Thad Howard's book reads like a textbook and is not user friendly for the recreational gardener. Basic information such as planting time and depth, soil preference, bloom

time, and light needs is missing or scattered in the text. Howard focuses too much on bulb classifications and history and not enough on giving readers advice on how to pick bulbs that will be successful in their garden. Academics and those in the bulb business may enjoy this book, the average gardener will be dissatisfied. If Howard wishes to sell more books he should at the least add a legend for each major bulb with basic information the gardener needs.

Wonderful for discovering a lot of Bulb species. Re rainlilies, Zephyranthes and Habranthus being my main interest, there are gaps in info on quite a few of them. Ones which do not get a mention at all. Also it is not written in a easy to read fashion.

The book was more of a run down of genus/species of bulbs, corms, rhizomes, etc that the author had found grew well in the Texas climate and geared very much toward an academic audience. I found little of value in it...and was surprised that some of the native species (liatris for example) weren't mentioned anywhere in the book.

This and Nr. 1 are the best books for the plants, I want to try here in Germany.good stuff!

Knew Dr. Howard many years ago, became quite an expert on bulbs he had collected from central texas, south and west texas, and many locatons in mexico.

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