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The Southern Gardener's Book Of Lists: The Best Plants For All Your Needs, Wants, And Whims



Synopsis

The Southern Gardener's Book of Lists, a sourcebook and workbook in one, has all the answers. With more than 200 lists of plants grouped by their horticultural characteristics and uses in the garden, this is the one-of-a-kind guide to spending less time and money on your garden. Veteran gardener and best-selling author Lois Trigg Chaplin recommends hundreds of plants for hundreds of uses, noting the specific Southern regions they grow in and sharing helpful hints and insights. Other special features include the tips, suggestions, and anecdotes of gardeners, nurserymen, designers, and horticulturists from across the South.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The author, a well-known gardening writer who served as gardening editor for Southern Living for 13 years, has compiled a useful and entertaining book of lists for Southern gardeners. It's helpful when catalogs group together plants that do well in sun or shade and code other horticultural characteristics, but Chaplin goes further, offering lists of annuals that withstand heavy rain, roses that provide fragrance, perennials suited to heavy clay soil, and, this reviewer's favorite, vines feared for their vigor. Noted experts have assisted in compiling the lists. Altogether, there are more than 200 lists in nine categories, with appropriateness for upper South, middle South, lower South, and coastal areas indicated. Recommended for public libraries in the South. (Index not seen.)-Carol Cubberley, Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Chaplin's recommendations for trees, perennials, azaleas, roses, and other plants are aimed at gardeners who live in the country's southern regions, including those living the farthest south, who find it most difficult to gather dependable data. More than 1,000 plant varieties are listed with Latin and common names and notations as to appropriate areas for greatest planting success. The survey of trees alone includes 50 lists that span cultivation requirements, design uses, and practical considerations ("weak wood or structural problems"), with other lists citing tree choices for topiary or windbreaks, fast-growing types, etc. Black-and-white illustrations and line drawings will accompany the text. Alice Joyce

Any serious southern gardener needs this book. Ms. Chaplin has gone to great lengths to cover every conceivable situation in your yard and list plants, shrubs, and trees that are suitable for them. I have many gardening books, but I have to say this is by far the most practical, most useful one in my collection.

not nearly as good as Southern Living Gardening book

I was really excited when I bought this book. I could envision exactly how it would help me. I read through the lists - most of them are useful. I could just see carrying it in the car, always. I stop at a nursery and find a plant that I absolutely love, but where do I put it? Sun? Shade? I can look up the plant and find all the different lists that it fits. All I have to do is turn to the index and - wait - WHAT INDEX? This book has what may be the most pitiful excuse for an index I have ever seen. It might as well not have one at all. As for the complaints about no photos, I can understand that. It is, after all, a book of 'Lists', not a book of plants. I believe that one could still find the plant that fits a particular location or need based on the list, and then go to another reference to learn about the plant itself. This I can still do even though I cannot use the book as I had hoped. For this reason I give the book 2 stars instead of 1. It makes the book less helpful but not totally useless. So yes, the book has potential, but unless a new edition comes out with a MUCH improved index, I can't recommend it to anyone.

This 186 page book is exactly as the name implies, a book of more than 200 lists. Whether you are looking for annuals that bloom from spring to frost or perennials that attract butterflies there's a list of appropriate plants with botanical names and relative southern region. Each list includes a short narrative describing the list and its application. This book is about finding plants that meet certain

requirements, not about how to care for plants. It is excellent for its intended purpose.

If you are a gardener you must purchase this book immediately. It is 20 years old but so chock full of information about which plants grow best where and with what other plants. I was so glad for another Master Gardener friend to show me hers and even more delighted to find it on .

The only thing better than the paperback is the Kindle version of this useful book! I've given many copies as gifts and it's always been a big success.

Bought this as a gift for my gardening Mom. She carries it around like it's her bible. She says it's her best gardening book.

This book has become my "bible" for planning everything in my garden. I love the way it lists plants by the conditions and environments that best suit that plant. I used it in planning my landscape and was able to buy shrubbery and plants to fit my dry shady yard. It is a must have for serious gardeners. Will save you much trial and error as well as money when purchasing plants for your particular region. LOVED IT!

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