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December 2013

Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Monthly Web Magazine

Annual bookshelf edition .pg9

Happy Holidays

Published by The Wild Garden: Hansen's Northwest Native Plant Database

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Northwest Native Plant Database

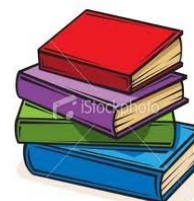
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About this Journal

This Journal was created under the direction of Wally Hansen – a dedicated Grower, Aficionado and Passionate Lover of Northwest Native Plants.

This Journal is not 'commercial.' Our goals are:

A — To generate interest, even passion, concerning the magnificent Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest.

B — To help you create your own Native Plant Gardens, large or small, for home or work.

C — To help you propagate and "grow on" those species that interest you the most.

D — To inform both Home Gardeners and interested Professionals of many disciplines concerning trends and news items from my little corner of the world.

E — To help the reader enjoy native plants more by understanding the historical and cultural role of native plants (i.e.—use by Native Americans, pioneers, early botanists, etc.).



On the Cover:

**“A pine cone
on a pine tree”**

Photo by Arjun

*“I never saw a
discontented tree. They
grip the ground as
though they liked it,
and though fast rooted
they travel about as far
as we do. They go
wandering forth in all
directions with every
wind, going and
coming like ourselves,
traveling with us
around the sun two
million miles a day, and
through space heaven
knows how fast and
far! “*

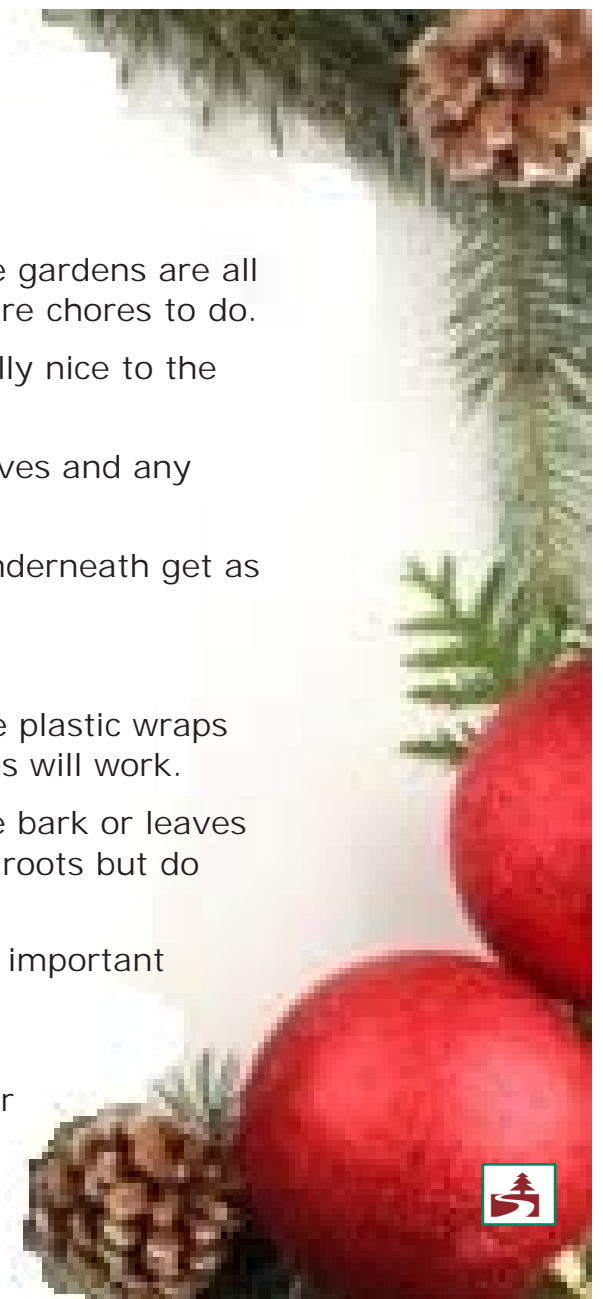
~John Muir



December in the native garden

Pearly bits of wisdom and just plain common sense

- 1 –** As I write today, the chilly weather outside tells me it's time to make sure the gardens are all ready for winter. Although native plants are far more carefree than aliens, there are chores to do.
- 2 –** If you have just established native plantings in the last two years, be especially nice to the young garden.
- 3 –** Do a thorough job of cleaning up around the new plantings--remove dead leaves and any trash, at least 5 feet around the plants.
- 4 –** Overhead growth such as fir branches should be pruned back so the plants underneath get as much winter sunshine as possible and to minimize any falling branches or debris.
- 5 –** Any diseased branches on your plants should be pruned away.
- 6 –** Those plants subject to strong north winds should have some protection, have plastic wraps or other coverings on "standby" for unusual cold. Even old blankets or drapes will work.
- 7 –** Use plenty of mulch to further protect roots. This could be bark or leaves or straw or compost. Many natives will tolerate frozen roots but do not count on that.
- 8 –** These tasks are good for all gardens, but very important until your plants are fully settled in.
- 9 –** One last thing: Drain water from outdoor hoses, put them away along with sprinklers or squirters or anything else used in watering. Nature has taken over that chore for us. Then put a protective wrap on outdoor faucets.



Mystery plant puzzle



Found this in our photo library. It looks like an evergreen, probably a shrub. That's all I have. Hope someone can put a name to it. Send me an email--nwplants@gmail.com

Test your native plant knowledge--identify this plant. The reward is simple but very satisfying: You will be included in our list of Official Plant Detectives.

Send me an email (nwplants@gmail.com) with the correct botanical name of this plant.

Good luck!

P.S. Do you have a plant you'd like to identify?
Email it to us and we'll show it here on our **Mystery Plant Puzzle** page.

Official Plant Detectives

Jerry Murray
Sabrina Kis
Carol Hiler
Mike Burns
Nancy Whitehead
Pat Opdyke
Luke Kishpaugh
Dave Whitehead
Elaine Sawyer
Jacki
Skip Cadman
Claudia @ the
gardener's choice



Wildlife Corner

Out back with the animals

Seems like the colder the weather, the more the winged and furry friends visit our feeders, shallow bird baths and shrubs and trees in the garden.

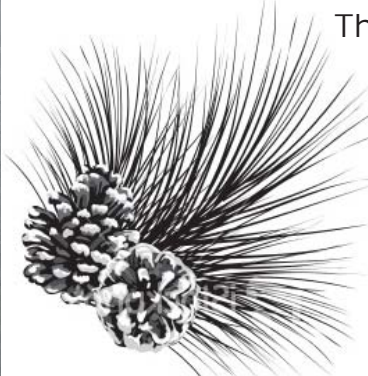
It is such a delight to watch them at their natural behaviours, their interactions with one another. The squirrels and birds live in harmony, taking food from the feeders, moving leaves and other debris about while uncovering tasty insect snacks.

Sometimes they are quite vocal. At other times they focus on filling their bellies quietly, allowing the earth to fill the silence with breezes among the branches of the evergreen rhododendrons.

Their antics never fail to amuse. A pair of Scrub Jays are daily visitors, lively in movements and vocal tones. They look for peanuts first. They will grab one and fly to the rhodies, only to return seconds later for a refill. If the peanuts are gone, their second choice is dried corn. These are plucked from the cob and scattered about where they are joined by many smaller birds and the squirrels racing to see who can get one first.

The ebb and flow of wildlife blends with plant life and weather phenomenon, always active and always harmoniously sharing the bounty in natural peace.

White Crowned Sparrow in Douglas Fir by
Richard Bateman



Native Plant Cutting Garden

A new twist on an old favorite

Careful planning can yield an easy care, plant once-harvest yearly bounty of bouquet worthy native plants. A combination of perennials, ferns, shrubs, trees and even some water plants. will provide as much material and beauty as cutting gardens developed in victorian times.

In February 2014 a very special book by Miriam Goldberger, the "Founder & Visionary of Wildflower Farm, one of Canada's oldest and largest wildflower seed companies," will become available.

"Taming Wildflowers is a seductive celebration of wildflowers overflowing with lush photos from the author's 100 acre flower farm.

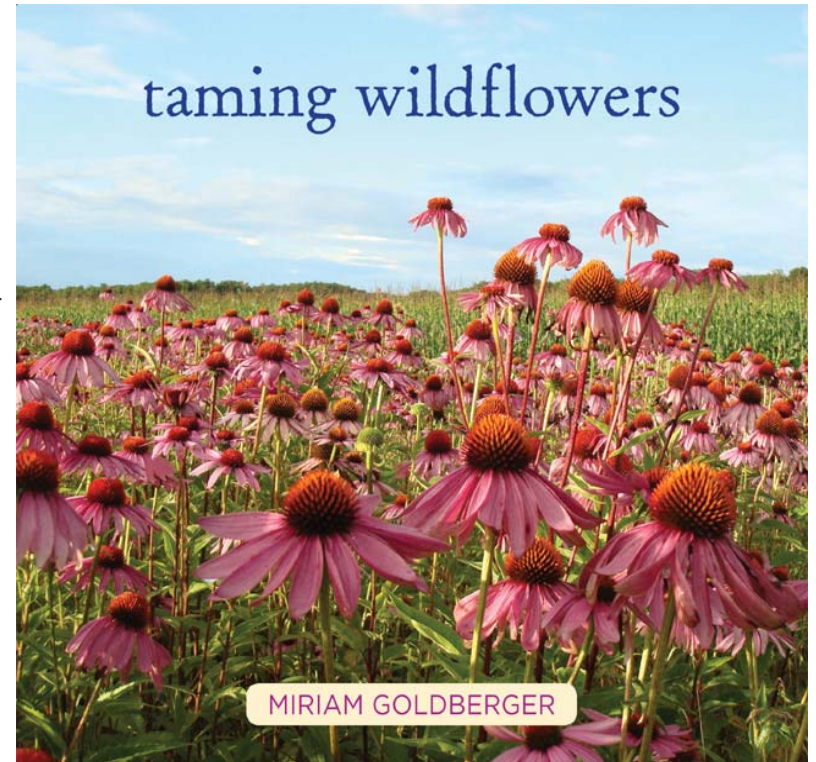
"The ultimate DIY book on wildflower gardening, Taming Wildflowers is jam packed with practical information: How-to grow wildflowers from seed, identify wildflower seedlings, build a wildflower cutting garden, harvest fresh wildflowers, dry flowers, design wildflower floral arrangements and create a magical wildflower wedding. Author, Miriam Goldberger takes

her readers on a wildflower ride! From wildflower tattoos to wildflower weddings you will love this visually stunning and utterly practical book."



My love affair with flowers began around age 4. It has never waned. This book will, I hope, help me to create a cutting garden of my dreams. Imagine: wildflowers right outside my cottage door! This must be heaven. Find information here:

www.tamingwildflowers.com/Home.html



The well-dressed book shelf

In my library

As old man winter rolls in, fellow gardeners love to snuggle up with a good book. My personal library has a nice variety of subjects, I think. There are books about landscaping, about treating the earth well, about species of native plants and about garden planning. There are books of nature stories and Indian lore, books describing ways to use plants for medicine and household cleaning and even shampoo.

In years past I've made a list of books that might make perfect gifts for the plant lovers in your life. This year I thought you might enjoy seeing what is in my own gardening library. Some of my books were ordered online from retail stores (two of my favorites are Powell's in Portland--<http://www.powells.com/>--and amazon.com). Some of my books came from thrift stores or garage sales, a very economical way to shop by the way. And some were gifts from loved ones.

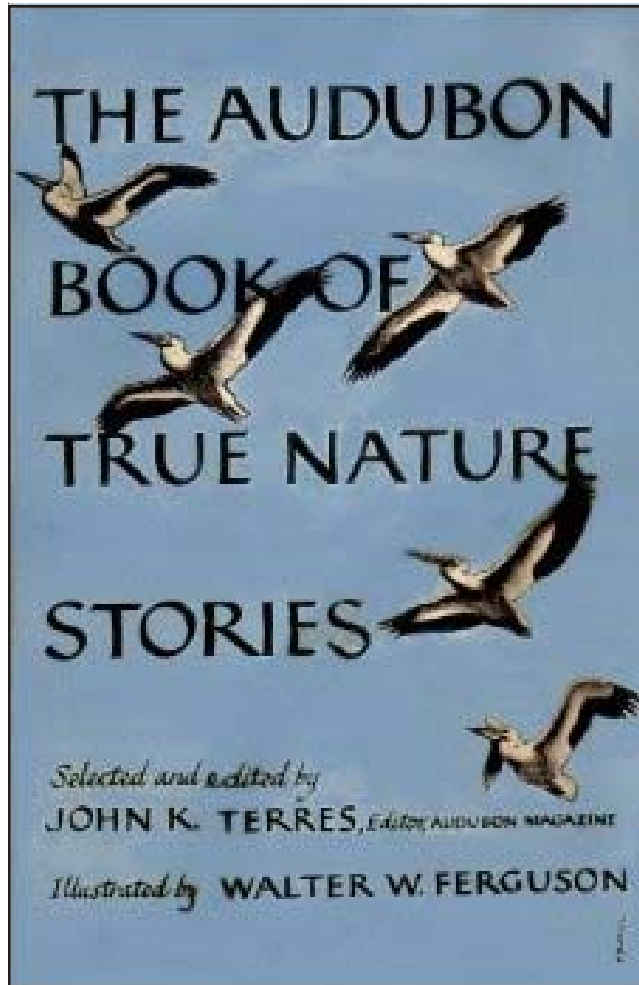
I put my books to good use when researching for an article or finding answers to questions from web site visitors. Sometimes, as happened yesterday, I crack open book and get lost for hours in the narratives and photographs within the pages.

Even if your recipient is not a gardener, the history, romance and mystery of northwest native plants may give much enjoyment.

Note: the descriptions included are, for the most part, from various internet sources.

⇒ More ⇨

Book shelf, continued



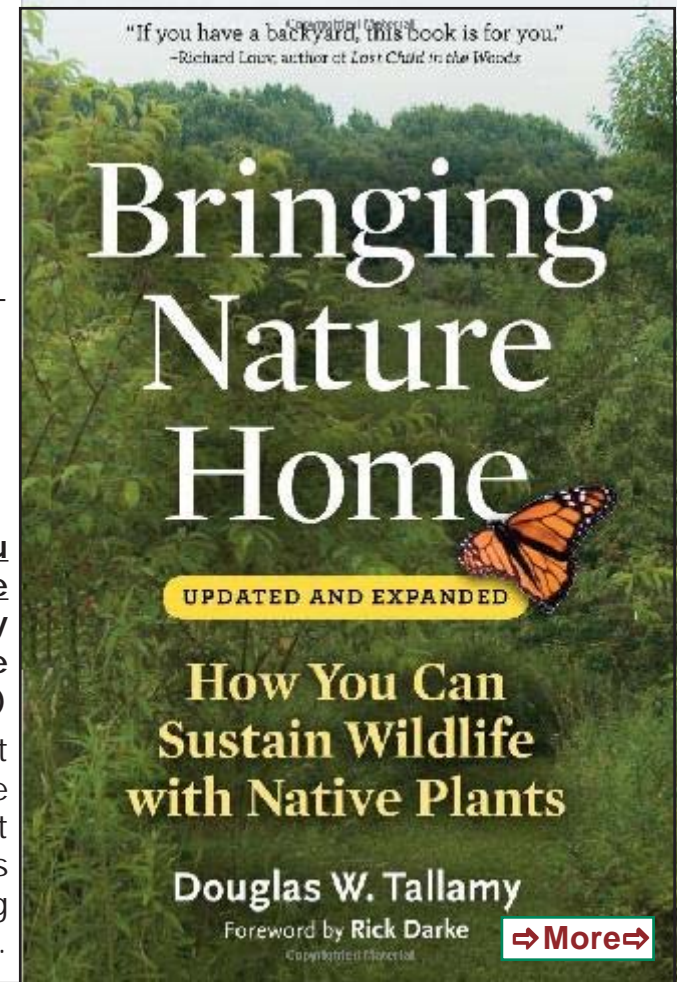
The Audubon Book of True Nature Stories

by John K. Terres

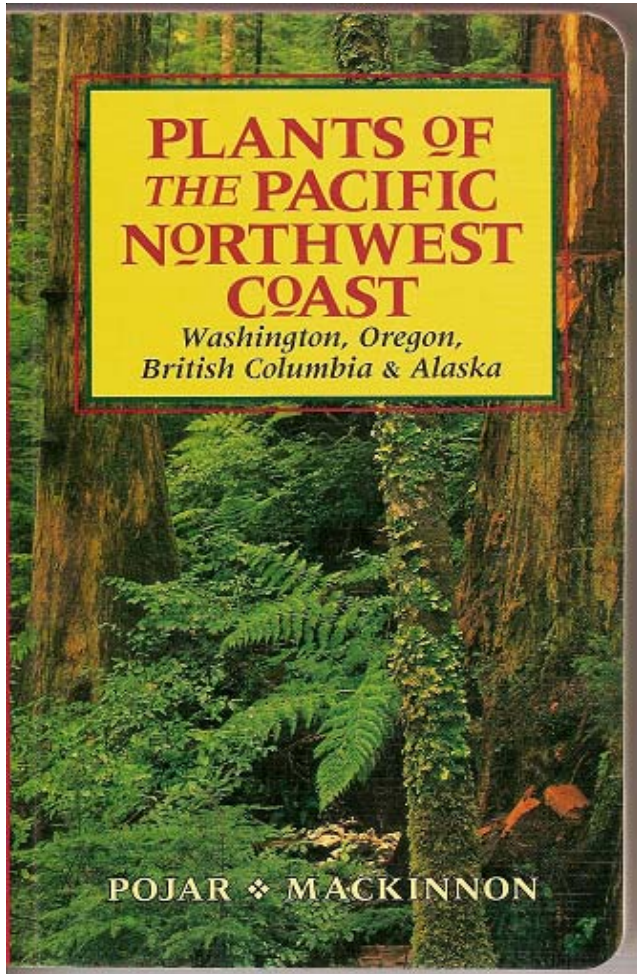
John James Audubon (Jean-Jacques Audubon) (April 26, 17 January 27, 1851) was a French-American ornithologist, naturalist, and painter. He was notable for his expansive studies to document all types of American birds and for his detailed illustrations that depicted the birds in their natural habitats. His major work, a color-plate book entitled *The Birds of America* (1827-1839), is considered one of the finest ornithological works ever completed. Audubon identified 25 new species and a number of new sub-species.

Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants by Douglas W. Tallamy (Author) Rick Darke (Contributor)

As development and subsequent habitat destruction accelerate, there are increasing pressures on wildlife populations. But there is an important and simple step toward reversing this alarming trend: Everyone with access to a patch of earth can make a significant contribution toward sustaining biodiversity.



Book shelf, continued



Plants Of The Pacific Northwest Coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia & Alaska by Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon

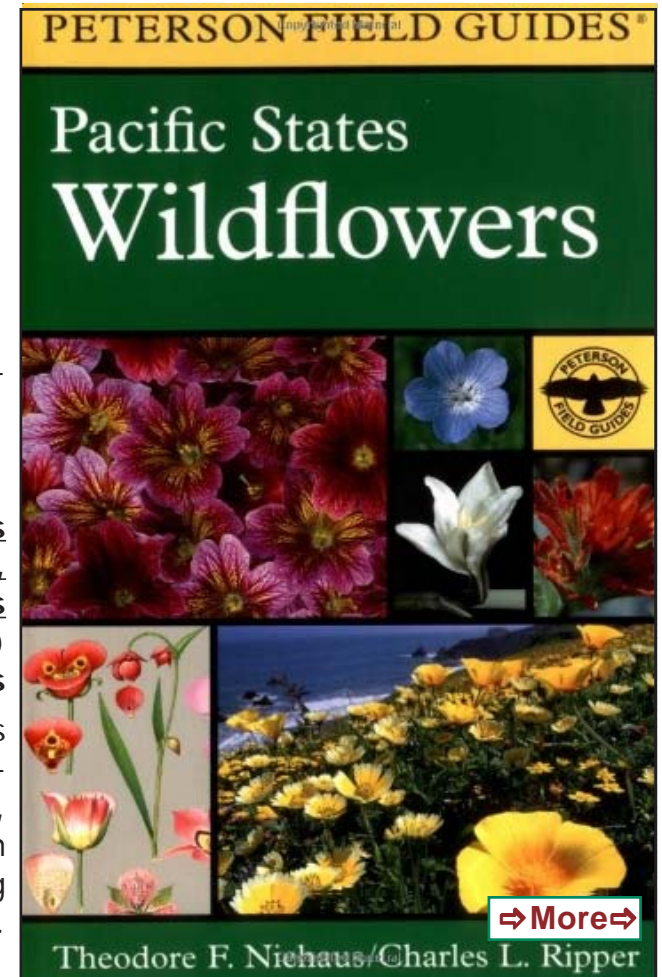
This easy-to-use field guide features 794 species of plants commonly found along the Pacific coast from Oregon to Alaska, including trees, shrubs, wildflowers, aquatic plants, grasses, ferns, mosses and lichens.

Rich and engaging notes on each species describe aboriginal and other local uses of plants for food, medicine and implements, along with unique characteristics of the plants and the origins of their names. For both amateurs and professionals, this is the best, most accessible, most up-to-date guide of its kind.

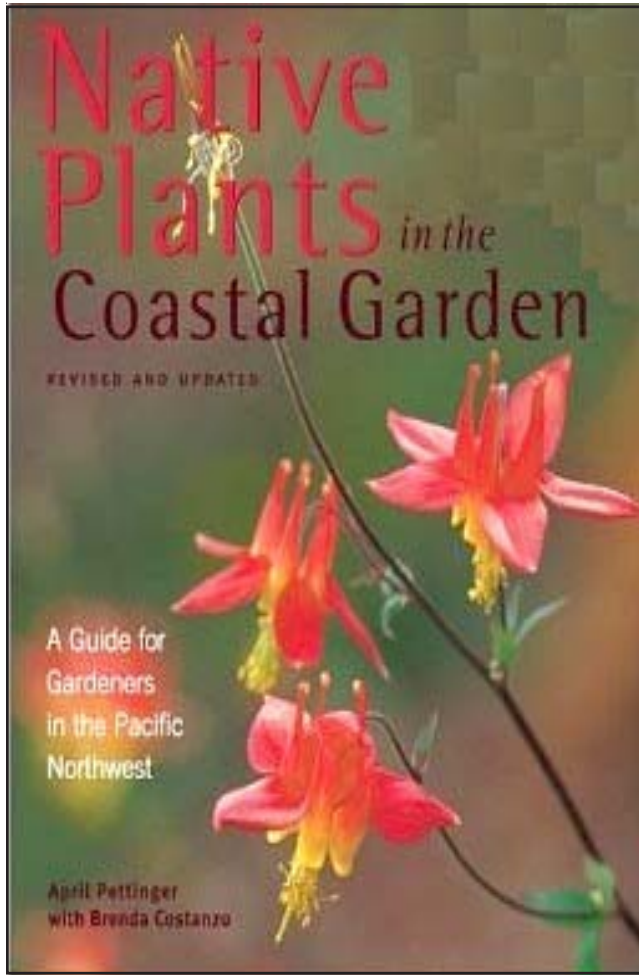
A Field Guide to Pacific States Wildflowers: Washington, Oregon, California and adjacent areas (Peterson Field Guides) by Theodore F. Niehaus

Here are descriptions and illustrations of 1,492 species from 77 families -

virtually all of the wildflowers found from British Columbia to Baja California, from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. Grouped by color, each species description includes field marks, size, habitat, range, flowering season, and common and scientific names.



Book shelf, continued



Native Plants in the Coastal Garden: A Guide for Gardeners in the Pacific Northwest by April Pettinger, Brenda Costanzo

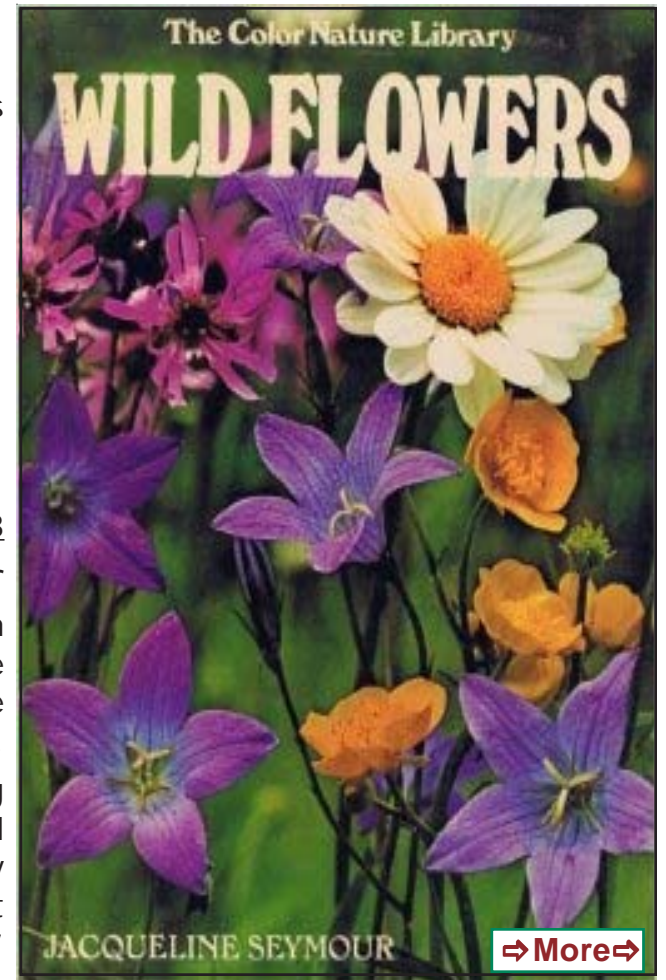
This regional classic has been completely revised, updated, and expanded to include many more facets of the joys and challenges of gardening in the maritime Pacific Northwest. Find new plant discoveries and info on container gardening, design trends, community education and stewardship, and shoreline habitats. Comprehensive details for using native plants to transform any garden into a low-maintenance, water-wise paradise utilizing the beauty of native plants and creates habitats for wildlife.

Wildflowers – January 1, 1978

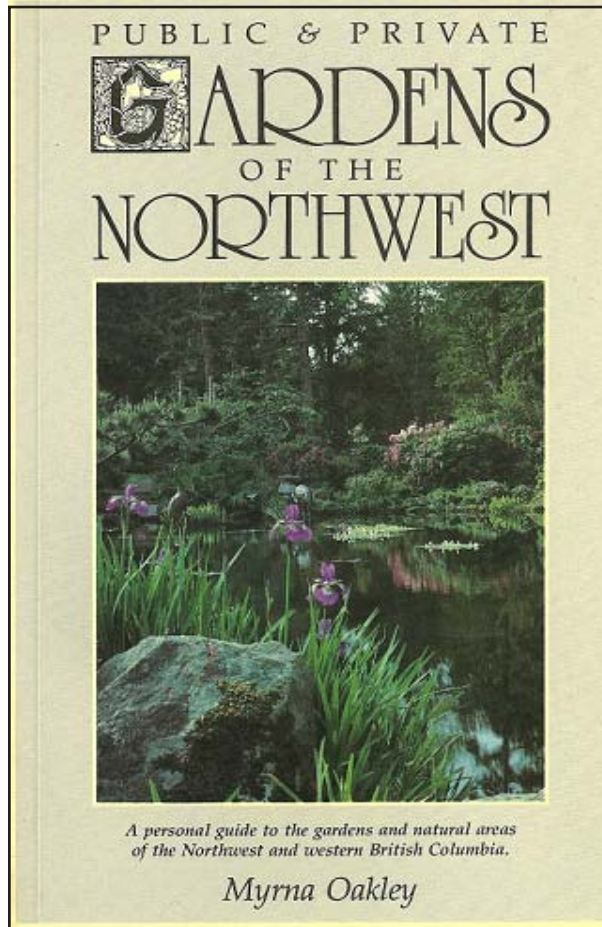
by Jacqueline Seymour

"The ancestors of all our garden varieties were wild flowers, so the subject is of special interest to the gardener and botanist alike.

"This book shows the intriguing variations in colour and design that flowers have developed to effect sexual reproduction. Examples are taken from all over the world and the top quality photographs have captured the beauty and fascination of many very different kinds of flowers of every possible shade."



Book shelf, continued

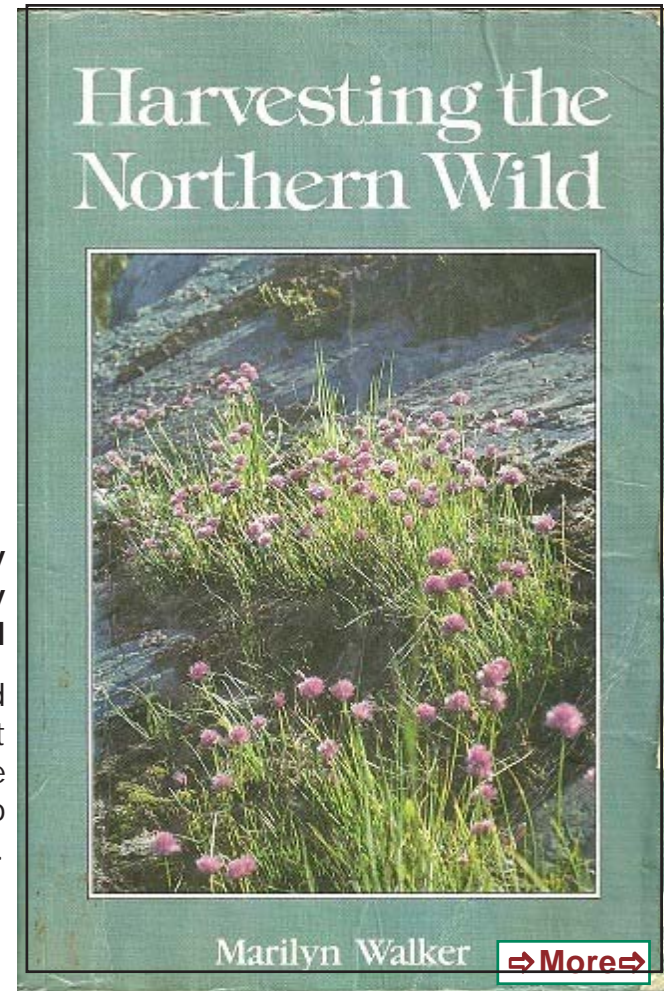


Public & Private Gardens of the Northwest: A Personal Guide to the Gardens and Natural Areas of the Northwest and Western British Columbia by Myrna Oakley

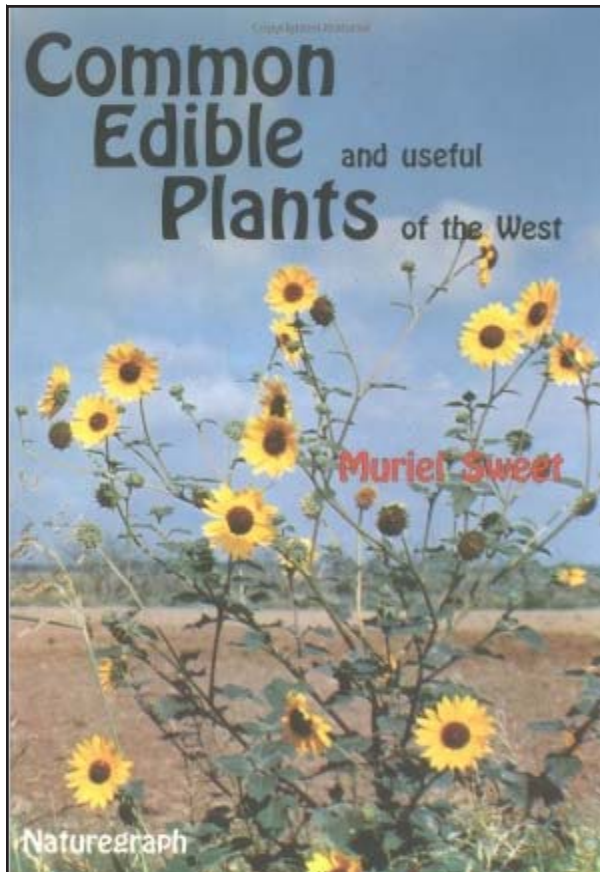
From redwood forests to natural preserves, from botanic and commercial gardens to the historic gardens and grounds of vintage homes and inns, from oriental and test gardens to special herb and display gardens, Myrna Oakley has compiled a valuable guide to the splendid outdoors of the Northwest and western British Columbia.

Harvesting the Northern Wild by Marilyn Walker, illustrations by Linda Fairfield

A guide to traditional and contemporary uses of edible forest plants of the northwest territories. A fully illustrated field guide to edible vascular plants, lichens and poisonous plants. Also includes over 50 recipes.



Book shelf, continued



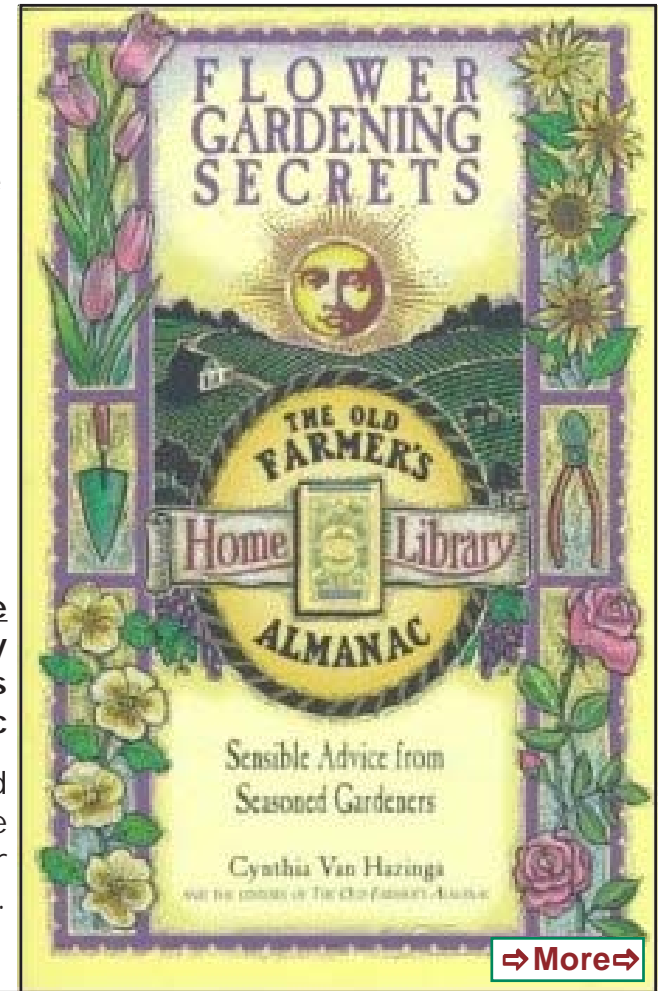
Common Edible and Useful Plants of the West by Muriel Sweet

Learn how Indians, pioneers, and early Spanish-Americans used many of the common wild plants for food, building shelters, or making artifacts. Remedies are included.

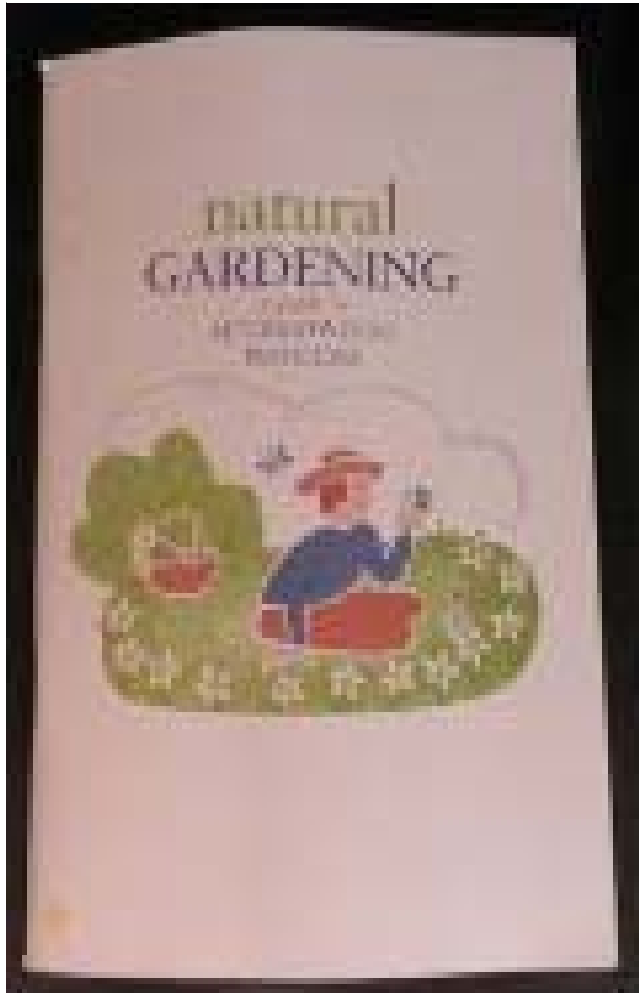
"It is my hope that this small volume may prove to be of use to many who are interested in a short history, in non-technical language, of some western plants, and of their uses by the Indians and others as food as well as medicine. To describe all the useful and edible plants of the west would take a volume many times this size, but described here are those I consider most important or interesting and certainly these would be those, in most cases, most often encountered."

Flower Gardening Secrets: Sensible Advice from Seasoned Gardeners by Cynthia Van Hazinga, Old Farmer's Almanac

The Old Farmer's Almanac has entertained and educated its readers with tried-and-true gardening tips for more than 200 years. Flower Gardening Secrets brings together the best of that material for backyard gardeners.



Book shelf, continued



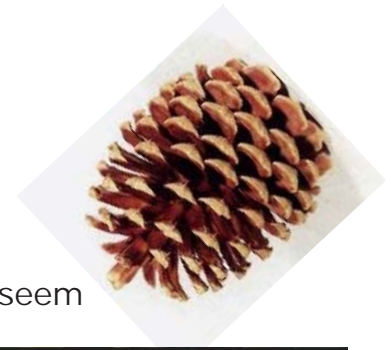
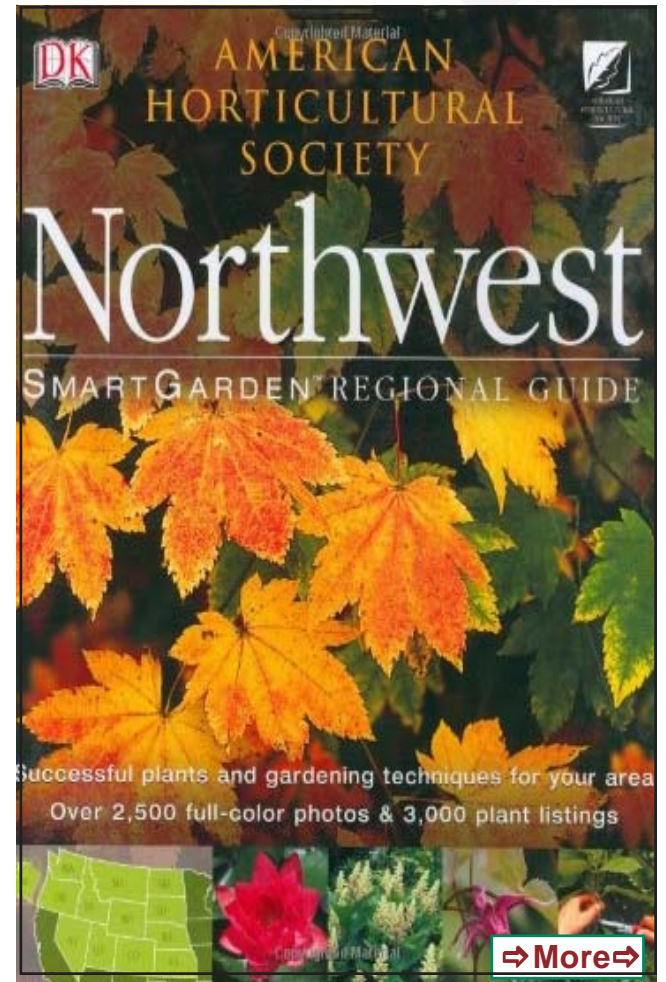
Natural Gardening...A Guide to Alternatives to Pesticides by Metro Regional Services

"While the environmental problems of the world may seem beyond your control, you can make a difference right in your own backyard. Begin by learning good gardening strategies, many of which will result in fewer pest problems. Then learn how to use less harmful methods for managing insect pests, weeds and diseases in your yard before reaching for chemical controls."

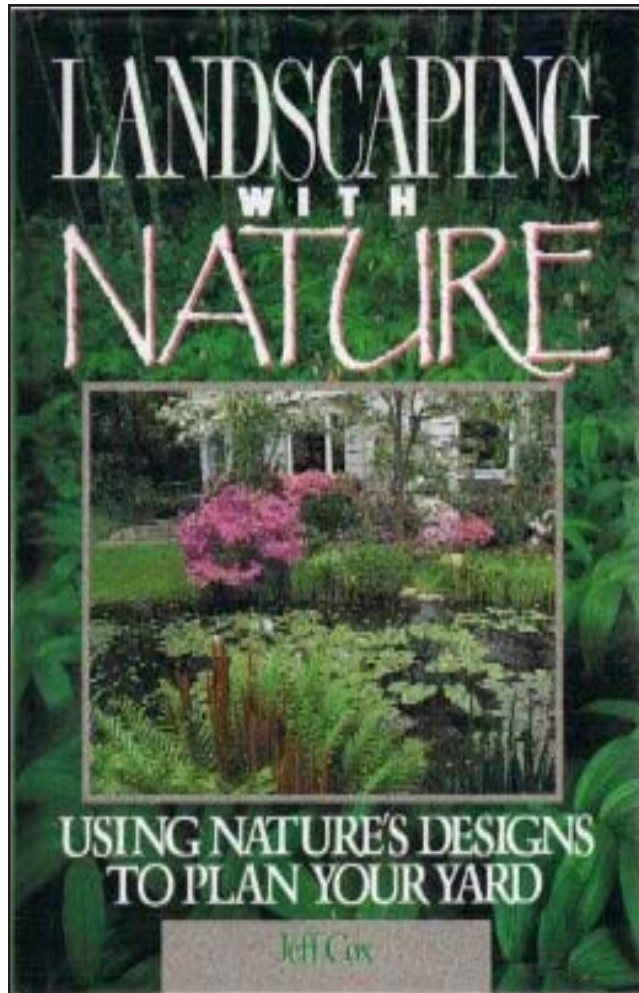
Northwest (SmartGarden Regional Guides)

by Rita Pelczar, Peter Punzi

Presenting a new way to think about gardening, the American Horticultural Society's "smart gardening" program teaches gardeners how to their own preferences and time availability, assess the possibilities of a location, and then create a garden that is in tune with the environment. A coding system, assigned to each plant, uses hardiness and heat zones, sun/shade, water needs, and plant size to help determine the perfect plants for any site.



Book shelf, continued



Landscaping With Nature: Using Nature's Designs to Plan Your Yard by Jeff Cox and Marilyn Cox

A complete workbook for garden transformation with ways for readers to change their landscape from sterile and boring to lush and vividly alive. Includes detailed instructions on doing everything from making a natural path, garden pool or wildwood meadow to custom-coloring concrete and aging wood. 80 full-color photos; 75 illustrations.

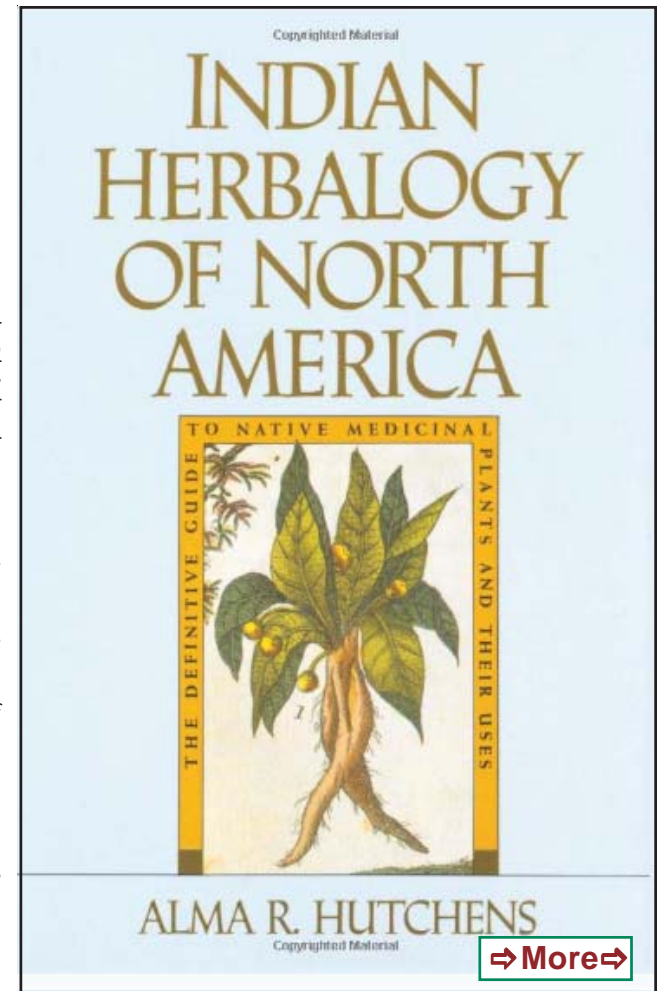
Indian Herbalogy of North America: The Definitive Guide to Native Medicinal Plants and Their Uses

by Alma R. Hutchens

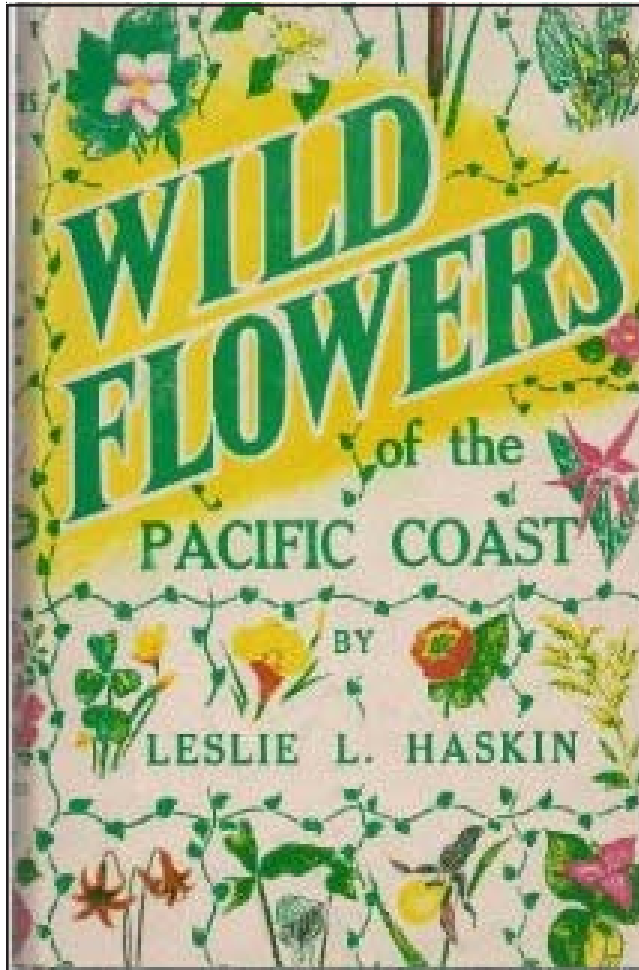
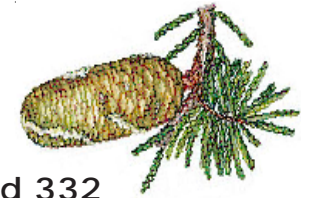
For more than twenty years this pioneering work has served as a bible for herbalists throughout the world. It is an illustrated encyclopedic guide to more than 200 plants found in North America, with descriptions of each plant's appearance and uses, and directions for methods of use and dosage. Native American traditions

are compared with traditional uses of the same plants among other cultures where the science of herbs has flourished, particularly in Russia and China.

Included is an annotated bibliography of pertinent books and periodicals.



Book shelf, continued



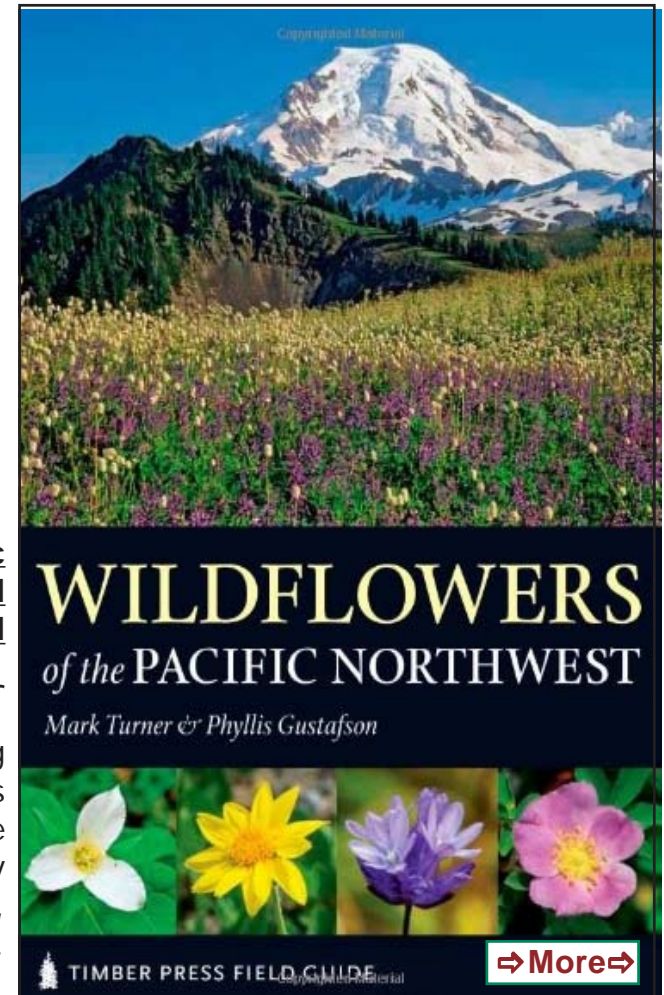
Wild flowers of the Pacific coast: In which is described 332 flowers and shrubs of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, central and northern California and Alaska by Leslie L Haskin

1959 Hardcover Printing of the 1934 original, published by Bindfords & Mort, in Portland, Oregon. Gives you all you need to identify 332 flowers and flowering shrubs of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Central and Northern California, and Alaska. Botanical information—color, size, shape and condition of significant structures, habitat, blooming period—and general commentary (Indian uses, name, history, etc.). 182 plates.

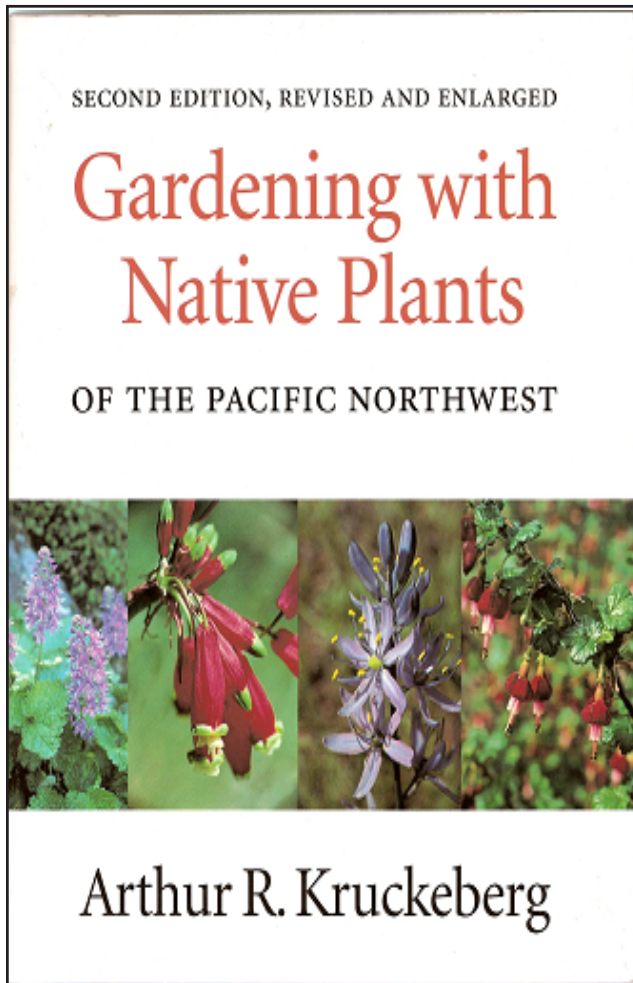
Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest (Timber Press Field Guide) Turtleback – Illustrated

by Phyllis Gustafson, Mark Turner

Featuring more than 1240 stunning color photographs, this comprehensive field guide will remain a trusted, authoritative trailside reference for years to come. It describes and illustrates 1220 commonly encountered species, both native and nonnative, including perennials, annuals, and shrubs.



Book shelf, continued



catalogued have never been seen in publication before (and may not be seen again). Each species is catalogued according to family, botanical and common name, with text, photo and map for each plant.



Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest: Second Edition by Arthur R. Kruckeberg

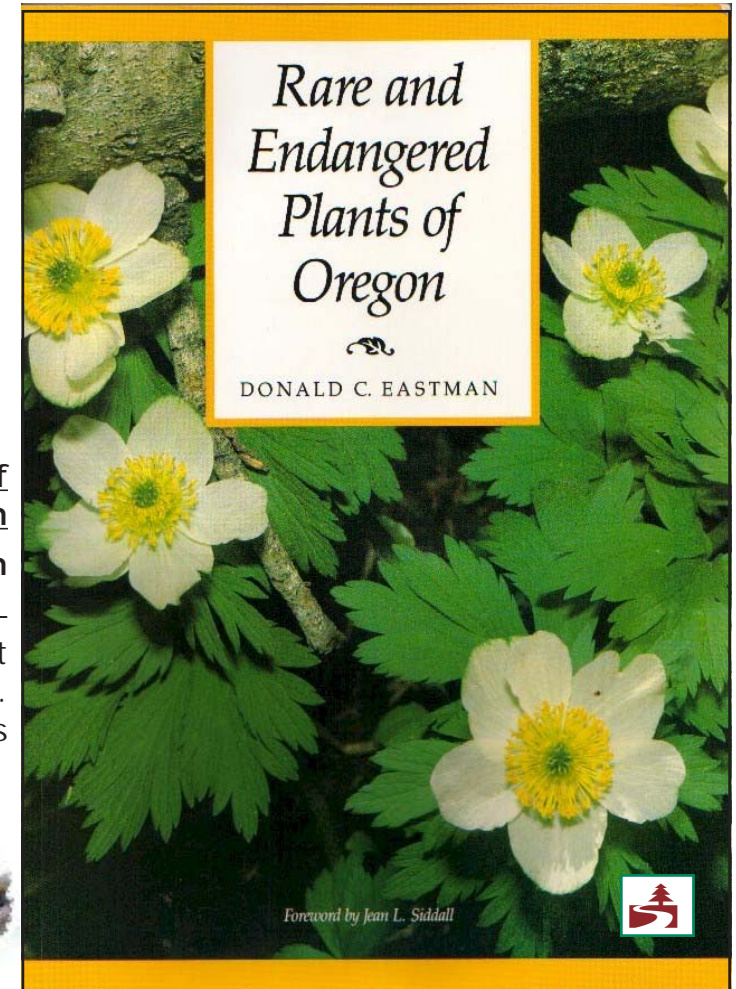
"Few parts of America have as many native plants that excel in the garden as the Pacific Northwest. But until this year, there wasn't a comprehensive book on the subject. The main body of the book is divided into encyclopedic sections on trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials, including information about where they grow in the wild, propagation, and how they fit into home gardens. This book should become a standard guidebook for anyone who gardens with Northwest natives."
-Sunset

Rare and endangered plants of Oregon

by Donald C Eastman

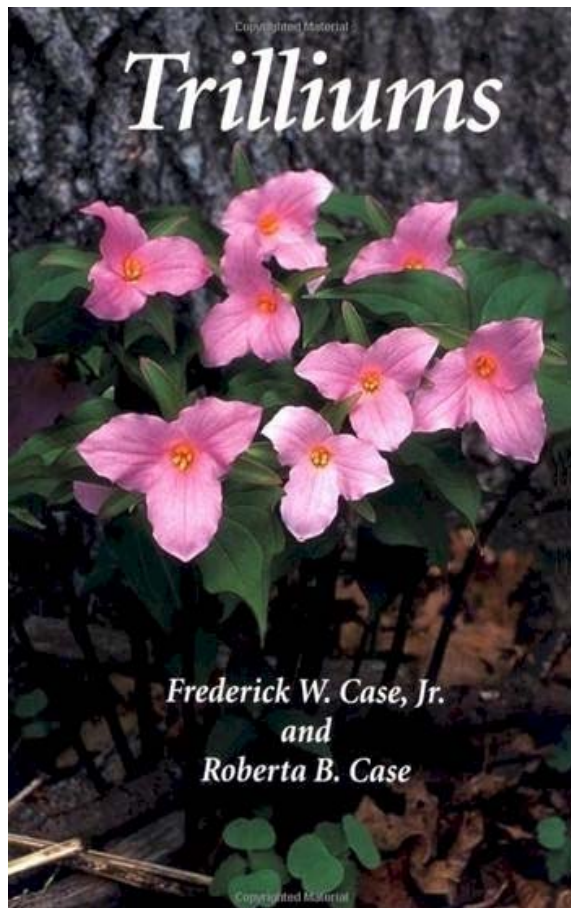
An important project—documenting Oregon plants that are on the verge of extinction.

Many of the 308 plants photographed (in color) and



Wish list

Looking forward to adding these to my collection



Trilliums by Frederick W. Case Jr., Roberta B. Case

Both field guide and gardener's handbook, this book covers all 45 species of trilliums worldwide. The authors trekked all over North America to photograph the 38 American species in the wild.

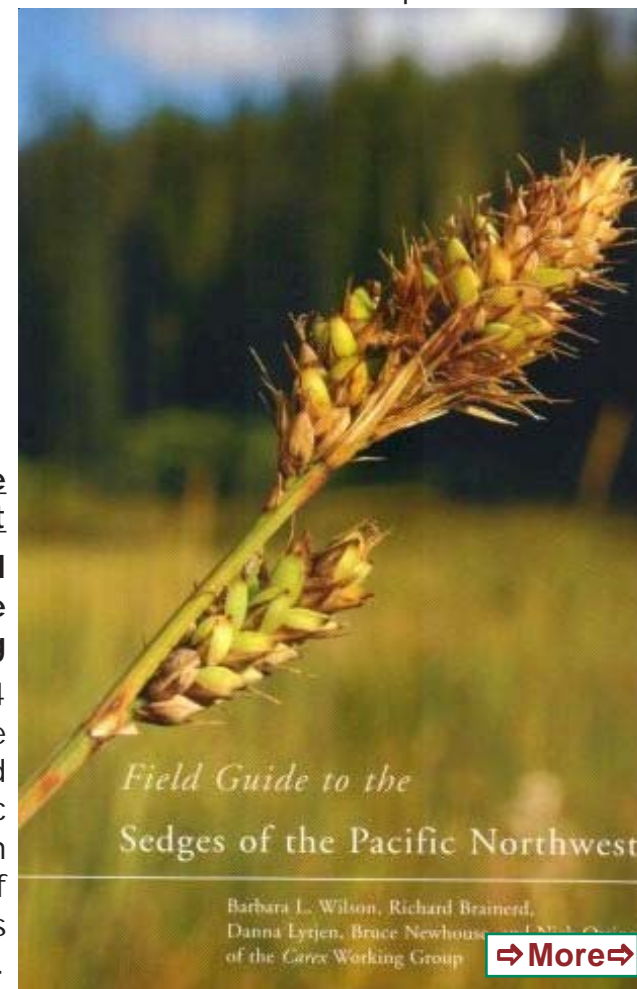
A customer shared: "A classic! The writing is genius! Informative, timely, and absolutely fascinating. Every detail you could imagine is revealed. Whether your interest is as a botanist, horticulturalist, conservationist, or perennial gardener, you will find the information to be complete and exceptionally well written."

Field Guide to the Sedges of the Pacific Northwest

by Barbara L. Wilson, Richard Brainerd, Danna Lytjen, Bruce Newhouse, Nick Otting

The first illustrated guide to all 164 species, subspecies, and varieties in the genus *Carex* that occur in Oregon and Washington and throughout the Pacific

Northwest. Sedges can be challenging to identify with differences between species based on small, technical characters. After nearly fifteen years of research, Oregon botanists of the *Carex* Working Group have written this comprehensive guide.



Wish list, continued



Helena Rutherford Ely

Lastly, may I suggest three books by Helena Rutherford Ely that will charm gardeners as well as history buffs. Only the first title is on my shelf (so far). Though they are out of print, copies in varying degrees of perfection may be found at several book stores around the country. I have had good luck with Powell's in Portland and online with amazon.com.

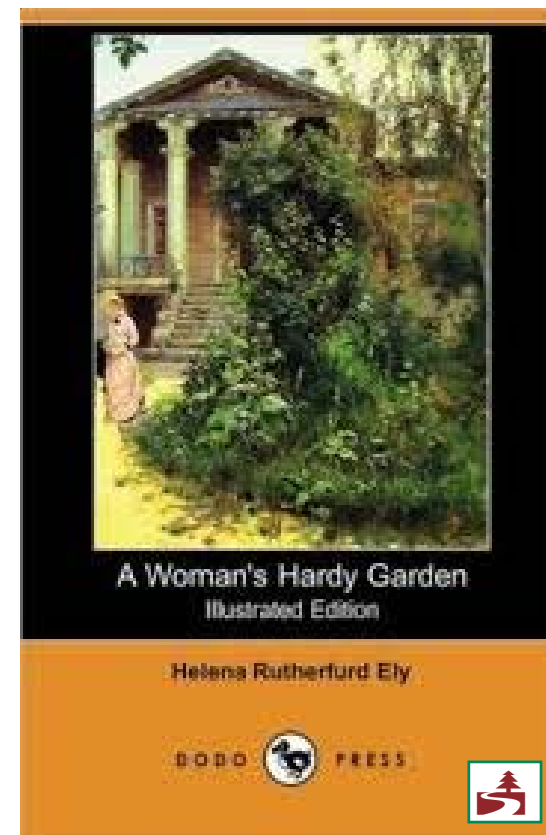
Mrs. Ely (born Helena Rutherford: 28 September 1858 - 18 May 1920), an American author/amateur gardener, was a founding member of the Garden Club of America. Her three books influenced American and British gardeners to avoid Victorian formal gardens in favor of plantings that embodied an "informal and sensual style." She focused on "hardy perennials found in the agricultural landscape."

She and husband Alfred Ely owned a 350-acre country estate, Meadowburn Farm, in Vernon Township, New Jersey. Part of Meadowburn was given to Helena by her mother as a wedding gift. Here she created formal and cottage gardens on five acres of the estate's grounds which served as the basis for a series of three books on gardening in which she favored perennials. Her first book, **A**

Woman's Hardy Garden (1903) sold 40,000 copies and was reprinted 16 times before going out of print in 1930. She received fan mail and queries from fellow gardeners 20 years after her death on 18 May 1920.

Two more classic works followed: **Another Hardy Garden Book (1905)** and **The Practical Flower Garden (1911)**. In all three books, she gives detailed advice on everything from soil preparation to garden design, all imparted with a charming style that's at once assertive and self-deprecating - a style that is the hallmark of the true expert.

On 9 August 1993, Meadowburn Farm was placed on the National Register of Historic Places to recognize Helena Rutherford Ely's contributions to gardening.



This & That

Notes from Jennifer

Share with me a poem from years gone by:

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening Robert Frost (1923)

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Until next time, good luck and
good gardening!

Jennifer





Peace on earth,
good will to men

