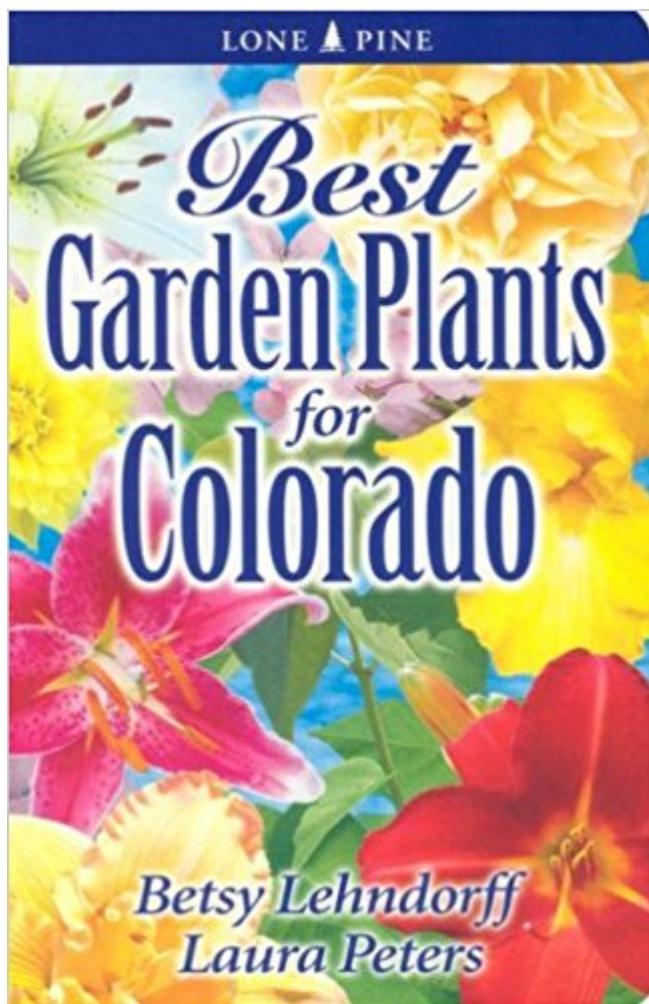


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# Best Garden Plants For Colorado



## **Synopsis**

This book selects the best varieties of perennials, annuals, trees, shrubs, vines, climbers, roses, bulbs and herbs for the varied growing conditions of Colorado. Gardeners can take the guesswork out of their next trip to the greenhouse or garden center with this handy guide. Each account features color photographs and useful information.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

BETSY LEHDORFF is a master gardener and a columnist for the Rocky Mountain News in Denver. She writes homes and garden features for the newspaper as well as a column Common Ground. LAURA PETERS is a certified Master Gardener with 27 gardening books to her credit. She has gained valuable experience in every aspect of the horticultural industry in a career that has spanned more than 16 years. Laura especially enjoys sharing her practical knowledge of organic gardening, plant varieties and gardening products with fellow gardeners.

As a native Coloradan with 40 years gardening experience, I wasn't sure this would be a good reference to have. I was pleasantly surprised to find information and ideas I could use. The book is written by two experienced Colorado Master Gardeners, and each plant has a color photo taken in a Colorado garden. Over 350 "plants" are discussed, separated into 8 groups: annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs, roses, vines, bulbs, corms and tubers, herbs, and ferns, grasses and groundcovers. Each plant was selected because it is "virtually guaranteed to grow in Colorado".

Each is discussed on one page with an excellent photograph of the plant and a close-up. On the page is concise information on how to grow the plant -- sun or shade, soil recommendations, and watering requirements. What I found of special interest to me and probably other readers were the "Tips" listed, which give ideas on how the plant can be used and where it could be placed in the garden. Another excellent feature is the "Recommendations", which list good cultivars and varieties for each plant, which one usually can find in Colorado garden centers. In each section the plants are listed alphabetically by their common names with the botanical name underneath so the reader doesn't have to look somewhere else for the plant's common name (another place on the page lists "also known as.."). At the bottom of each page are concisely listed features, height, spread and hardiness zones. The zones themselves are illustrated on a "Hardiness Zones Map" at the beginning of the book. Since the map itself doesn't show counties, rivers or other land features, the reader has to guess the location of his/her gardening town on the swirls of color, illustrating average annual minimum temperature. The legend and the map make it hard to discriminate the pastel-colored zones. Marking rivers and some land features would make it a little easier to find one's own zone. Also, only ten Front Range cities are marked on the map. I think the authors should have indicated some major cities on each quadrant of the map. Coloradans don't all live along I-25! The authors include a one-page glossary at the end of the book, from "acidic soil" to "variety", to help new gardeners understand the terms used in the book. The index is well-done, with featured plants indicated in bold print, botanical names in italic, and varieties in plain print. All in all, this book proved to be a good reference even for an experienced Colorado gardener. I think newcomers to Colorado and beginning gardeners in the state will also find it a valuable and easy-to-use reference book on gardening in Colorado.

Every plant has a good representative color photo and all the info you need about planting, pruning, etc. Usually they list multiple varieties and which do the absolute best in CO.

This is an easy to use guide to the best plants for the area. It has been very helpful as we plan our first garden here.

No veggies here.

This book doesn't cover every single plant that can survive in Colorado, so is not comprehensive. But it goes into much greater depth on a given plant than does a Sunset plant book. And you know

that the plants in this book will likely do well here. The Sunset Western Gardening guide has palm trees! I've seen one Palmetto in Denver (it was very dead). Best of all, this book contains photos of every plant. How do I know I want a plant if I can't see what it looks like?

Very helpful

great book

Quite pleased with my purchase. Things are tricky in Colorado--short growing season and all. Got lots of valuable information and ideas.

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