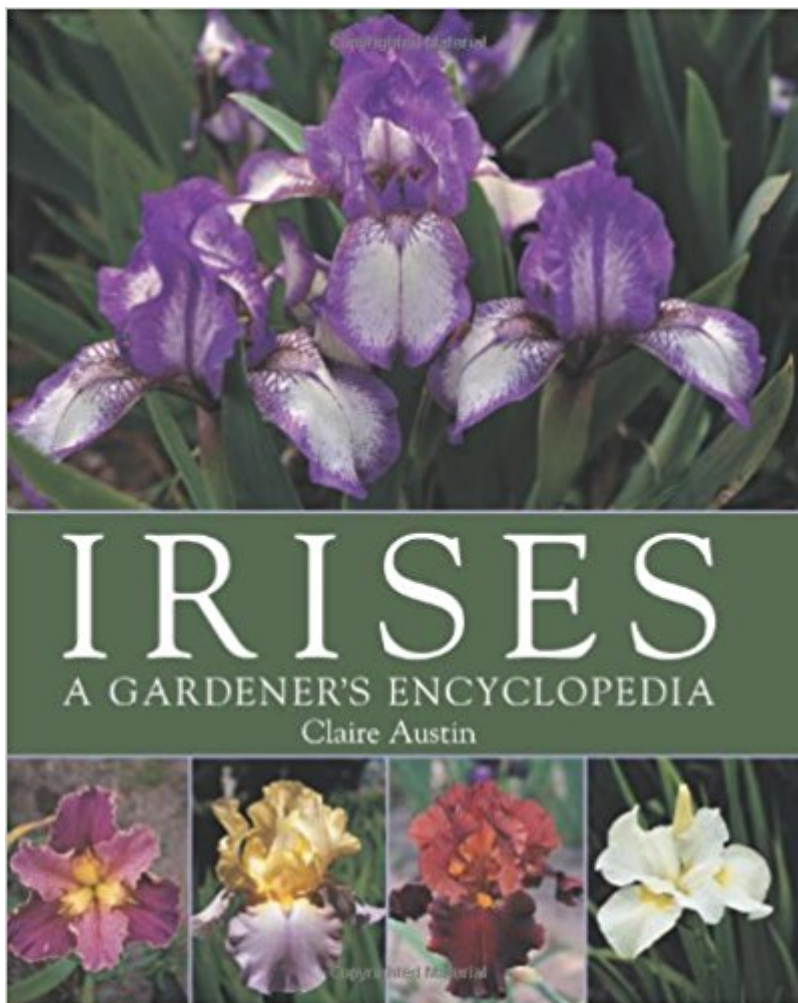




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# Irises: A Gardener's Encyclopedia



## Synopsis

The most comprehensive and up-to-date encyclopedia of irises available. Irises are beloved by enthusiasts who garden in a wide variety of zones, including hot and dry, temperate, and even cold northern climates. Irises bloom in every imaginable color-revealed here in more than 1100 captivating photographs-from deepest purples, blues, and reds through strong pinks, yellows, and oranges to pastels in every shade. This wide-ranging collection illustrates the diversity of this beautiful genus and includes irises with striking foliage, reblooming capability, and scents. It features both historic and modern irises of all sizes from miniature and dwarf varieties to the stately tall bearded. Also included is cultivation advice, information about the plants' breeding history, and ideas for combination plantings in rock gardens, containers, and perennial beds. An indispensable reference for iris fanciers everywhere as well as any gardener who appreciates their beauty and versatility.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Her many photographs will please devoted irisarians, especially members of iris societies. -- W. George Walters Pacific Horticulture 20060501 The more than 1,100 color photographs, most taken by [Austin], in this book entice even readers with a casual interest in her subject. -- Julianne L. Wood American Reference Books Annual 20060301 The close-up pictures of iris flowers would be invaluable to anyone trying to identify a particular cultivar or species, or for anyone wanting to include irises in a garden design. The book includes sections on all the main species, sections and

cultivars, together with chapters on cultivation, pests and diseases, hybridising and growing from seed. -- Sue Tasker Professional Gardener 20060401 As a reference book, Irises should be invaluable to horticulturalists and iris breeders, but even amateur gardeners will enjoy browsing through its pages. -- David Papayanopoulos Long Island Horticultural Society Journal 20060401 Page after page of color closeups will enchant both the casual browser and careful collector. There's a wealth of information here. -- Karen Preuss Northwest Garden News 20060501 Few books that call themselves encyclopedias live up to that term. This one does. It is a book for the layperson and is filled with 1,100 color pictures to make your mouth water. ... I defy you to read this book without making an extensive wish list to order from the catalogs in the back. This a real gem from Timber Press. -- Cheryl B. Wilson Daily Hampshire Gazette 20060331 The contents comprise 22 chapters written in good down-to-earth language and profusely illustrated with high-quality photographs covering the genus Iris. Iris Society Yearbook 20051201 An extraordinary work, [Irises] presents an excellent overview of the genus Iris. ... [Austin] provides brief, very readable descriptions of hundreds of irises, and accompanies almost all of the descriptions with excellent photographs of the plant's flower. -- Tom Karwin Monterey County Herald 20060805

A gorgeous encyclopedia with bearded and beardless irises suitable for gardens through a wide variety of zones including hot and dry, temperate and even cold northern climates. Includes irises with particularly striking foliage, scent, patterned falls, and ruffled edges. 1000 color photographs throughout.

I've read three iris books back to back looking for specific information: I want to know about hybridizing bearded irises and this book gives a very good general overview. Better than the other books, but still fairly general in cross-making information. I also used it to look for answers to some weird occurrences in my Irises this year and found no description of the symptoms in the pests/diseases part. The other books didn't have the problem either so I am frustrated, but perhaps shouldn't blame this book for not providing the answer. This IS ABSOLUTELY the best book on the market on the subject though, better, fuller, glossier, and more comprehensive than the rest I've seen. I was a little surprised to see it is mostly a listing of irises in cultivation which is an ambitious undertaking. I would caution against using any book to identify unknown Irises as there are just too many cultivars to be sure you've got the right name. However, I absolutely would (and did) use it to verify the identities of named Irises with a few nametags that got mixed up. I would've given it 5 stars if there had been a little more information on the aforementioned items. I perhaps owe it 5 stars

simply for the amazing job they did on the species Irises which no other book comes close to matching.

Claire Austin's book *A Gardener's Encyclopedia of Iris* is a great book. It was sent promptly by betterworldbooks and, although more expensive than some, it is great on many types of iris and very modern. I think I will be using it as a reference for some time. The photographs are magnificent!

Like all botanical Encyclopedias, this can't possibly contain all the varieties available, but almost all are represented in some form. This book is responsible for spurring my obsession with Irises so I can't vouch for its significance to the experienced gardener, but I haven't found anything that compares. The text is very brief and concise, but provides a good overview of each Iris family (I didn't know there were so many!). If you are an Iris enthusiasts or want to become one, this is the book to own!

This was a fantastic pictorial book/encyclopedia - certainly the best I've come across to date. Not so much information on hybridising as I would have liked, but it has covered the subject at least briefly, and all other areas are covered in great detail. Highly recommended for iris lovers wanting a comprehensive reference book with clear accurate photos of many of the arguably best varieties.

For a new iris gardener, this is a fantastic book to have. The pictures give you the 'true' colors of the flowers and tell you the type they are, the blooming span, the height of them, etc. Everything you might want to know all in a book you can have right at your fingertips. I keep it on my coffee table for friends to browse through just because it gets them interested in an iris for their own gardens.

Breathtaking!!!

Beautiful book. Loads of information and photographs.

Book has just arrived this morning. Beautifully illustrated and informative. Has information on every type of iris including Bearded, Japanese, Louisiana, bulbous and more. Heaps on cultivation and pests. Will help hugely with my iris gardens.

This is truly the best book I have seen on Iris the photos are beautiful and I recognized quite a few

we have, it tell you how to hybridize and also explains things throughly

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