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## 2009 GARDEN BOOK AWARDS ANNOUNCED BY THE AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Alexandria, VA (March 10, 2009). Each year, the American Horticultural Society recognizes outstanding gardening books published in North America with its annual Book Award. Books are judged by the AHS Book Award Committee on qualities such as writing style, authority, originality, accuracy, and design quality. This year's four recipients, published in 2008, are:

- *Hardy Succulents* by Gwen Moore Kelaidis (Storey Publishing)
- *The Heirloom Tomato* by Amy Goldman (Bloomsbury USA)
- *Native Ferns, Moss & Grasses* by William Cullina (Houghton Mifflin)
- *Plant-Driven Design* by Scott Ogden and Lauren Springer Ogden (Timber Press)

The AHS Book Award is typically given to publishers for a single, original title published in a specific year. This year the Book Award Committee also chose to recognize updated editions of two garden reference books that have made significant contributions to horticultural literature over time. An AHS Citation of Special Merit is being awarded to:

- *The Garden Primer* (Second Edition) by Barbara Damrosch (Workman Publishing)
- *Herbaceous Perennial Plants* (Third Edition) by Allan M. Armitage (Stipes Publishing)

The 2009 Book Award Committee was chaired by Marty Ross, a regional contributor for *Better Homes & Gardens* and writer for Universal Press Syndicate who lives in Kansas City, Missouri, and in Hayes, Virginia. Other committee members were Scott Calhoun, a garden designer and author based in Tucson, Arizona; Thomas Cooper of Watertown, Massachusetts, former editor of *Horticulture* and *The Gardener* magazine; Jane Glasby, associate librarian for the Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture in San Francisco, California; Doug Green, a garden writer and online media entrepreneur based in Stella, Ontario; Doreen Howard of Roscoe, Illinois, a former garden editor for *Woman's Day* who writes for various garden publications; and Irene Virag, a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer for *Newsday* who lives in Fort Salonga, New York.

The 2009 AHS Book Awards will be presented to the publishers of the winning books during the Great American Gardeners Awards Ceremony and Banquet, held on June 4, 2009 at the AHS's national headquarters at River Farm in Alexandria, Virginia.

For more information about the AHS's Book Award Program, please contact Viveka Neveln at (703) 768-5700 ext. 120, or [vneveln@ahs.org](mailto:vneveln@ahs.org).

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The American Horticultural Society (AHS), founded in 1922, is an educational, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that recognizes and promotes excellence in American horticulture. One of the oldest and most prestigious gardening organizations, AHS is dedicated to **making America a nation of gardeners, a land of gardens**. Its mission is to open the eyes of all Americans to the vital connection between people and plants, to inspire all Americans to become responsible caretakers of the Earth, to celebrate America's diversity through the art and science of horticulture; and to lead this effort by sharing the Society's unique national resources with all Americans.