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## Essential Reference Gives All Gardeners the Skills to Grow

### AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GARDENING TECHNIQUES THE INDISPENSABLE ILLUSTRATED PRACTICAL GUIDE

**Alexandria, VA (November 2, 2009)** – With more than 75 acclaimed reference books to its credit, the American Horticultural Society is one of the most respected names in the world of American gardening publishing. To meet the needs of a new generation of gardeners, the organization has produced a new, lavishly-illustrated volume that offers a comprehensive guide to modern, best-practice gardening techniques for a new generation of gardeners. Compiled by a team of North America's leading gardening experts, the *American Horticultural Society New Encyclopedia of Gardening Techniques* (November 2009; Mitchell Beazley/Octopus Books USA; Hardcover; \$45) is sure to become an essential and treasured reference.

Using more than 2,000 easy-to-follow, step-by-step color illustrations and 200 full-color photographs, this encyclopedia clearly outlines the key skills and concepts that every gardener needs to be successful, no matter where in North America they live. From vegetable and herb gardens and glorious flower beds to wildlife, greenhouse, and container gardening, this book shows gardeners at all levels how to accomplish their goal using earth-friendly techniques in great detail. Discover how to plant, prune, propagate, and nurture plants of all kinds, from fruits and vegetables to annuals, bulbs, ornamental grasses, shrubs, trees, and vines. Mixing equal parts inspiration and information, this book is the perfect guide to creating a beautiful and successful garden—and having fun at the same time.

The encyclopedia leads off with gardening basics, such as selecting the best garden tools and equipment, digging techniques, a primer on soil, mulching and composting, pest problems, and weed control. From there the book explores numerous topics such as choosing the right plants for various types of gardens, alternatives to lawns, landscaping, the technology and design of water gardens, garden lighting, organic gardening, everyday garden maintenance, and ways to extend your gardening season.

The *AHS New Encyclopedia of Gardening Techniques* provides all the answers to gardeners' most frequently asked questions and promises to be the definitive garden reference book for this and future generations.

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**About the Editors:**

An award-winning garden writer who lives in Pennsylvania and the United Kingdom, **Graham Rice** is the author of more than 20 gardening books. **Rita Pelczar**, a gardening expert and editor who lives in North Carolina, is co-author of the *AHS SMARTGARDEN Regional Guide* book series. **Fiona Gilsenan**, a garden writer and book editor based in the Pacific Northwest, is a contributor to the *Sunset Western Garden Book*. Based in Alexandria, Virginia, **David J. Ellis** has been editor of *The American Gardener* magazine for more than 10 years.

**Additional contributors:**

Consultants who contributed their expertise to specific sections of the book include: **Simon Akeroyd** on lawns, garden design and growing ornamentals; **Paul Alexander** on soil and composting; **Guy Barter** on growing vegetables and herbs; **Helen Bostock** on wildlife gardening; **Lenka Cooke** on vines and wall shrubs; **Martyn Cox** on growing fruits, water gardening, and trees and shrubs; **Andrew Halstead** and **Beatrice Henricot** on pests and diseases; Leigh Hunt on gardening basics; **Nick Morgan** on gardening under glass; **Dean Peckett** on roses and container gardening; Rosemary Ward on weeds and propagation.

**About the American Horticultural Society:**

Founded in 1922, the American Horticultural Society (AHS) is one of the leading member-based gardening organizations in North America. Through its educational programs, publications, and awards, the AHS advocates earth-friendly gardening practices, promotes plant-based education for children, recognizes leaders in American gardening, and showcases the art and science of horticulture. The more than 20,000 AHS members include home gardeners, garden club members, professional horticulturists, educators, and Master Gardeners.

As part of its mission, the AHS provides useful and accurate gardening information through a variety of sources, including its award-winning magazine (*The American Gardener*), website, book-publishing program, online gardening seminars, and traveling educational programs. Benefits of AHS membership include a subscription to the magazine, participation in an annual seed exchange, free or discounted admission to more than 200 botanical gardens and flower shows, access to free online seminars, and discounts on gardening books. For more information, visit [www.ahs.org](http://www.ahs.org).

***American Horticultural Society New Encyclopedia of Gardening Techniques  
The Indispensable Illustrated Practice Guide***

**Edited by David J. Ellis, Fiona Gilsenan, Rita Pelczar, and Graham Rice**

Mitchell Beazley/Octopus Books USA

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**For more information or to request images or interviews, contact:**

Ron Longe, Media Masters Publicity  
(212) 866-2906  
[ron@mmpublicity.com](mailto:ron@mmpublicity.com)

Viveka Neveln, Communications Manager, American Horticultural Society  
(703) 768-5700 ext. 120  
[vneveln@ahs.org](mailto:vneveln@ahs.org)

Andrea Glickson, Mitchell Beazley/Octopus Books USA  
(212) 364-1439  
[Andea.glickson@hbgusa.com](mailto:Andea.glickson@hbgusa.com)

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The American Horticultural Society (AHS), founded in 1922, is a 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*. The mission of the AHS 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.