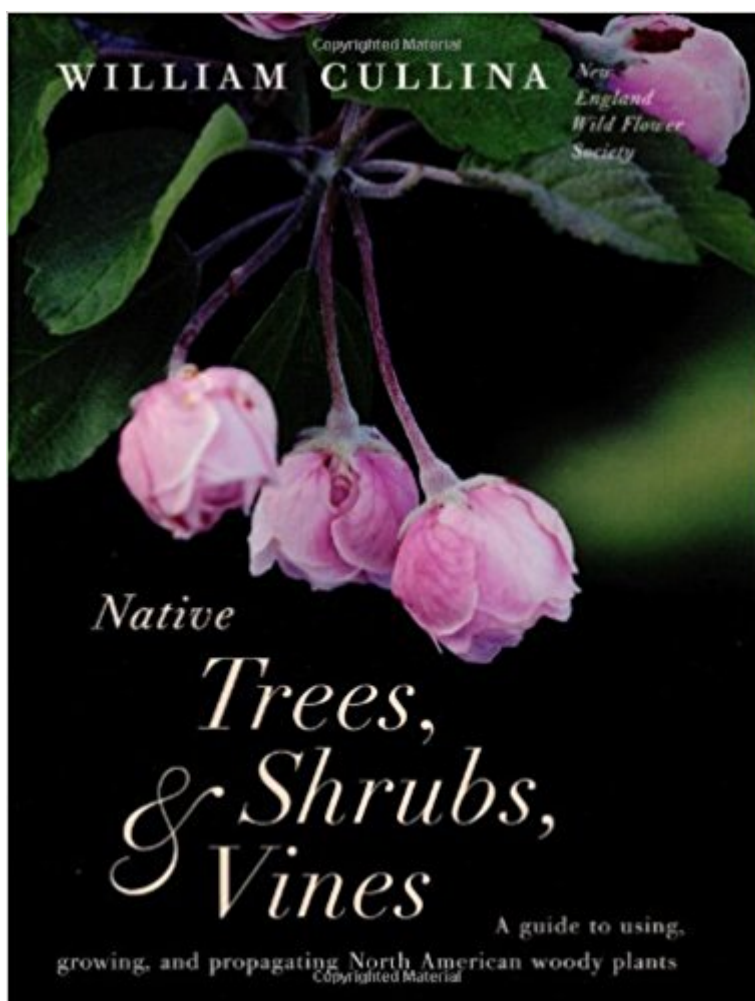


The book was found

Native Trees, Shrubs, And Vines: A Guide To Using, Growing, And Propagating North American Woody Plants



Synopsis

For gardeners, for landscape professionals, and for anyone who cares about preserving the natural world, *NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, AND VINES* is the first national guide to using, growing, and propagating North American woody plants. Written in lively, informative language and illustrated with more than two hundred photographs, William Cullina's book is a comprehensive reference to almost one thousand native woody plants. An invaluable guide for naturalists, restorationists, nursery owners, landscape architects, and designers as well as gardeners, it points out that ecological gardening offers specific benefits to the individual as well as the environment. Even more than wildflowers, native trees, shrubs, and vines are essential to providing the food and shelter that attract birds and insects to the garden. And plants that are native to an area are far easier to grow and maintain than ordinary cultivated garden plants. The author's acclaimed companion volume on wildflowers, *GROWING AND PROPAGATING WILDFLOWERS*, was called "an inspired effort, beautifully written and loaded with useful information" by Robert G. Breunig, director of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Along with that volume, *NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, AND VINES* provides a definitive reference to the native plants of the temperate North American continent. And because Cullina writes from personal experience with the plants in his books, he offers information that is considerably more helpful (and more interesting) than the facts one finds in most plant references.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

William Cullina has struck a great balance in this book. Every time I pick it up I'm amazed at how it is both an informative reference and a very enjoyable read. Bill (can I call him that?) understands there are just as many amateur gardeners as there horticulturalist. In this book, he struck a balance with both audiences. For instance, I'm not a big fan of Latin plant names: I prefer to know the background of a plant, what it needs to thrive, its purpose, etc... When I look up a plant in this book, I get so much more. This makes the informative process extremely enjoyable as well as educational. Bill also gives phonetic spelling of the plants. It helps when you go to the nursery you'll feel less intimidated by those who seem to speak Latin. For instance, I just bought 5 Artemisia plants to go with purple coneflower, Salvia, Russian Sage, etc... Looking Artemisia up in Native Trees Shrubs and Vines, I found out it is actually sagebrush (tumbleweed) from the wild west as well as the extreme hardiness of the plant, its background, how to cultivate it, use it, etc... The style of the writing made the process extraordinarily enjoyable. PS: I've been meaning to write a review of this book for 2 years now. When I read about Artemisia a few minutes ago, it compelled me to leave the garden to write this review. I can't say enough about this book other than it's one of my top 3 favorites on gardening. I actually took 10 minutes out of a beautiful Sunday morning to write this review. Now, it's back to the garden & Bill's book for me :-)

Even though a hard cover reference book isn't usual bedtime reading for me-I couldn't put this down. Each plant is described so personally yet so expertly. Gardening with woody plants is a commitment, and this book provided the insight and knowledge I needed to make choices confidently. The language of the book is wonderful-it is as if the author is chatting with his latest native plant buddy-you. The lists and organization of information is very helpful.

William Cullina, of the New England Wild Flower society, is a highly regarded expert in Native plants. This book is the woody counterpart to his Wildflower book. Included are tips on using, growing and propagating these native wonders in North America. The photography and information provided are a source like none other. This is a must have for anyone interested in restoring the ecology of the landscape through the use of natives - beginners and experts alike - an excellent reference.

This book is a valuable guide to native woody plants. The habits, landscape value, propagation and culture of most(a few are missing) of the important plants are described in a very readable manner. Cullina clearly draws from a deep well, I had the impression that he had much more that he could

have included, but what is here is great. There are a couple of criticisms. The photos are relatively sparse compared to the recent books by Dirr or Darke and are not at all well-reproduced. One picture per genus just ain't enough when there is such wonderful variation within genera. Also, the pronunciation guide for Latin plant names is occasionally bizarre...since when does "Aesculus" have four syllables? (But maybe he is right I couldn't find any native Latin speakers to ask) Finally, the book has a clear East coast bias. Although there are many Western US plants that are mentioned, I suspect that many are missing. Buy this book for the prose.

Cullina is a genius. This is my second book of his that I have purchased for reference and as a local guide. It is very helpful for those that want to propagate native trees, shrubs and vines. His other book, *Wildflowers*, is a must-have as well.

William Cullina (Author), writes in a knowledgeable, practical way. He is very understandable, not like a text book, but like a teacher who knows his topic and speaks plain English. I would buy any of William Cullina books on nature and native plants to North America. I bought this book, and all the others by this Author.

This is a great reference book, well organized and well written. My first choice for a tree and shrub guide is Dirr's *Hardy Trees and Shrubs*, but since it is out of my price range I believe that William Cullina's book is by far the next best book on this subject. It's a great guide and also enjoyable to have around to browse through. My only regret with this book is that the illustrations are not always of the whole plant and there aren't enough of them.

I found this book informative and well written. Good books on native trees, shrubs, and vines are hard to find, and I am happy to have this reference in my gardening library. It offers excellent cultural advice. I highly recommend it.

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Illustrated Guide to Trees and Shrubs: A Handbook of the Woody Plants of the Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada/Revised Edition
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