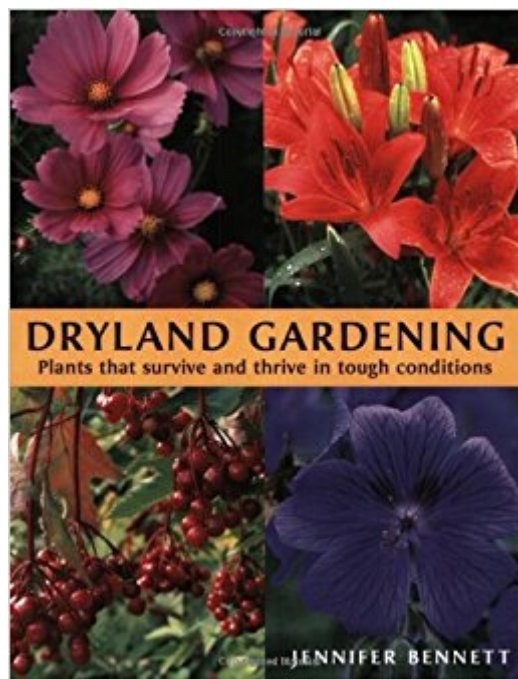




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Dryland Gardening: Plants That Survive And Thrive In Tough Conditions



Synopsis

An essential reference to gardening in hot and cold dry climates. Gardening where summers are hot and prone to periods of drought, or where winters are snowy one week and freezing rain the next, is best managed by xeriscaping -- dryland gardening techniques that favor not only water conservation but also the conservation of time, energy and other resources. Xeriscaping enthusiasts exist throughout North America wherever the climate calls for dryland gardening, from the Great Plains prairies to the California desert. Dryland Gardening explains time-tested strategies: Coping with limited access to water Dealing with invasive plants Dealing with trees under stress Nurturing groundcovers and grasses Starting bulbs, perennials and vines Growing vegetables, herbs and annuals. This book includes both practical advice for dry-climate gardeners as well as an extensive planting list for grasses and groundcovers, bulbs, perennials and vines, vegetables and annuals, herbs, roses and shrubs. Each plant entry provides: Common and botanical names Detailed descriptions Planting instructions, care and maintenance. Dryland Gardening celebrates a resilient garden with a beauty that requires fewer resources and less time.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Firefly Books (March 5, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1554070317

ISBN-13: 978-1554070312

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.6 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,594,107 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Climate > Desert](#) #1226 in [Books > Law > Criminal Law > Forensic Science](#) #2736 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique](#)

Customer Reviews

One need not live in the Southwest to welcome information on gardening in dry climates; nearly every region of the country experiences drought conditions from time to time. As seasonal temperatures increase, making weather patterns less predictable and jeopardizing existing freshwater supplies, gardeners everywhere can benefit from discovering the practices and

determining the plants that can withstand such harsh conditions. Bennett provides thoughtful instructions on various water-conservation topics, including methods for adapting standard cultural procedures to maximize water retention. Augmented by brilliant color photographs and helpful lists of mail-order and Internet resources, Bennett's encyclopedic listing of annuals, bulbs, grasses, ground covers, herbs, perennials, and shrubs describes how these plants handle dry conditions, and comes with her personal recommendations for preferred cultivars. Global warming is, unfortunately, upon us; Bennett's guide to water-restricted gardening is a timely addition to the garden-resource bookshelf. Carol HaggasCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

This book is an excellent source of information on water conservation, low-maintenance and easy-care plants. (Irene Morton Fifty-Five Plus 2007-06-01)In worthwhile book, author Jennifer Bennett points to many ... weatherproof plants that are a good choice for standing up to increasingly erratic weather. (Jan Riegenbach Milwaukee Journal Sentinel 2007-07-22)Inspiring images to encourage landscape architects and lay gardeners to adopt plant palettes that minimize the need for a resource we can no longer take for granted. (Landscape Architecture)Dryland Gardening celebrates a resilient garden with a beauty that requires fewer resources and less time. (I Can Garden.com)It's easy to trust Jennifer Bennett's advice. She has experience gardening under difficult circumstances and gladly shares the secrets of her success. (Jodi Torpey Horticulture, Gardening At Its Best)Whether you garden in a dry region or just have a periodically dry corner of the yard, [this book] has plenty to offer. (Viveka Neveln American Gardener)Packages up a lot of comforting advice for dusty gardeners. Rather than fight the conditions, Bennett encourages the best practice, which is choosing the right plant for the right place. (Kathy Renwald Toronto Star 2005-03-24)A wealth of information gleaned by the author as she coped with challenging conditions... friendly, lucid and authoritative. (Sheila Robertson Acreage Life)Find the answers to low-water gardening in Dryland Gardening yet have beautiful easy-care gardens... [Jennifer Bennett] has first hand experience with the many challenges of gardening with tough winds, droughts and temperature conditions. (Joanne S. Carpender National Garden Clubs New Book Reviews)Just in time comes this plant-centered book that focuses on creating beautiful, lush gardens in less-than-ideal conditions. (Valerie Easton Seattle Times 2005-05-18)For gardeners in need of industrial-strength help, thanks either to their arid plots or irrational climate. (Mike Gillespie Ottawa Citizen 2005-05-21)Create beautiful landscapes by following simple tips, techniques and choosing the proper plants. (Linda Turk Thunder Bay Chronicle-Journal 2005-07-03)Lovely pictures

illustrate the text... Easy to read, informative and timely this book is recommended for public and horticultural libraries in zones 4-7. (Sue O'Brien Library Journal) Provides thoughtful instruction on various water-conservation topics... augmented by brilliant color photographs... a timely addition to the garden-resource bookshelf. (Carol Haggas Booklist) A timely tome for these challenging times. (Canadian Gardening) How to make the most of moisture, including mulching, planting strategic windbreaks and use hydrogels in the soil. (George Weigel Harrisburg Patriot-News 2005-05-19) Hot, dry summers don't necessarily rule out having a lush, beautiful garden. With this helpful guide, gardeners can learn techniques for growing plants under harsh conditions. (Science News 2005-05-28) Practical advice and colorful portraits of hundreds of plants... a wonderful guide to bring along when shopping. (Denver Post 2005-05-20) Hundreds of "tough" plants that can remain attractive even when water supplies are low... The range of plants is quite broad, including species that are suited to North American climate zones ranging from very warm to quite cold. (HortIdeas) Lovely guide... if the dry weather here keeps up, here is a guide to read. (Becky Homan St Louis Post-Dispatch 2005-05-28) An excellent book for advice. (Stuart Robertson Montreal Gazette 2005-06-11) Excellent advice on how to choose and plant drought-tolerant plants, from herbs and perennials to shrubs and grasses. (Liz Grogan Good Times 2005-08-01) Water saving tips throughout the text and then groups suitable plants... a nice format with text arranged in easy-to-read columns. (Pam Waterman San Gabriel Valley Tribune 2005-10-15) A useful and *à propos* guide for gardeners facing up to climate change. (Harrowsmith's Truly Canadian Almanac 2008) [This book] is a must have. Although it's 10 years since it was published by Firefly, it is still relevant today in our increasingly droughty summers. It covers all the basics of water conservation and survival techniques and then launches into a wide variety of plans that can be encouraged in this environment. (Rhea Hamilton-Seeger The Rural Voice (Blyth ON) 2008-04-30) Bennett's attractive, reasonably priced text is a useful handbook to landscaping in unpromising terrain. (Mary Ellen Snodgrass American Reference Books Annual 2014 2014-09-01)

This is actually a very timely book since so much of the United States is undergoing drought each summer due to the effects of global warming. The book is not about desert cactus gardens. It is about those gardens in Dallas, Birmingham, Atlanta, Nashville, and other cities across the country that become more parched and water starved each year. Bennett has introductory chapters that deal with the issues around water conservation and all gardeners will appreciate her documentation of how much fresh water is wasted each year in the United States. She also spends time discussing water conservation at home, including use of soaker hoses instead of sprinklers and collection of

rain water for watering gardens. The chapters are divided into herbs, grasses and ground covers, bulbs, perennials and vines, annuals, and shrubs. Within each chapter are full descriptions of her recommendations for plants that can withstand dry drought conditions. There are many choices of plants so the dry heat parched garden does not need to be totally bare of color and texture. Global warming's effects on gardens is becoming more evident and more citizens are waking up to the dangers of drought and global warming on the plants and gardens around us. This book has helpful realistic suggestions for water conservation and wise use as well as recommendations of plants that can withstand the dry heat that drought is bringing to our nation. It is highly recommended.

We've been in a drought for several years. Rather than have an ugly yard full of dead grass that presents a fire hazard from people throwing out cigarettes, we decided to dig up the grass and plant flowering plants that survive droughts. We now have the prettiest yard in the neighborhood and we're not wasting water on grass.

Based on its title, I bought this book, thinking it would be useful in the brutally hot, bone-dry and windy desert southwest, where we average 5" of rain per year. Turns out that "Dryland" and "thrive in tough conditions" means "dryish with cold winters", as this book's focus is on zones 4-7, and it rather pointedly avoids most plants which actually do thrive with little moisture in our hot low desert. I don't mean to come down hard on the author; the book is very nice and well laid out and has great photos, but if you are looking for low desert problem solving, don't let this book's title mislead you as it did me.

Great condition, as described.

The book came to me with pages falling out. Enough said?

A great reference book to have in my gardening library.

Very helpful.

I selected Jennifer Bennett's "Dryland Gardening" for a basic primer on xeriscaping in southern New England for a RI Master Gardener Advanced Education workshop. Rhode Island receives between 39-54" of precipitation annually but water is not always available where and when it is needed -

especially in the summer when gardeners are growing, and especially in many of our groundwater dependent areas. This primer has excellent pictures, zoned plant descriptions, and treats water conservation as a central concept. I highly rate this book.

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