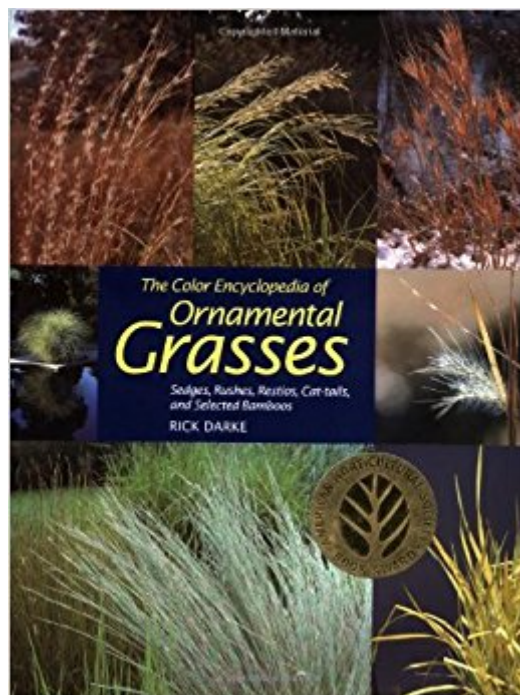




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# The Color Encyclopedia Of Ornamental Grasses: Sedges, Rushes, Restios, Cat-Tails And Selected Bamboos



## Synopsis

This encyclopedia by a distinguished American horticulturist is the most authoritative and best-illustrated reference ever published on ornamental grasses. Rick Darke has been studying and photographing grasses in gardens and native landscapes around the world for more than 20 years, and this book includes the best 500 photographs from his collection of nearly 15,000. At its heart is the illustrated alphabetical encyclopedia of important ornamental grasses, sedges, rushes, restios, cat-tails, and selected bamboos, with many plants illustrated in more than one season. Intended for gardeners in a wide range of situations and climates, this book is an invaluable tool for landscape architects, garden designers, nursery professionals, and home gardeners.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Much has changed in the role and use of ornamental grasses over the past 100 years. Whereas turn-of-the-century gardeners had perhaps a dozen perennial grasses to choose from, today's gardeners have hundreds. Ornamental grasses now embody a huge array of textures, forms, sizes, colors, flowering times, and cultural adaptations. The Color Encyclopedia of Ornamental Grasses is intended for gardeners in a wide range of situations and climates, and draws from the experience and creativity of great gardens and gardeners around the world. It begins with an exploration of the unique aesthetics and appeal of ornamental grasses before moving on to a review of the families of grasses and a survey of grasses in their native habitats. Gardeners usually speak of "ornamental grasses" in the broad sense, including not only the true grasses but also related families of

grass-like plants. Following this tradition, the book provides a detailed treatment of perennial grasses, rushes, and cattails, as well as selected bamboos. Written by horticulturist Rick Darke, this encyclopedia will be invaluable to nursery professionals, landscapers, and home gardeners.

This well-written title by one of the world's authorities on ornamental grasses provides details on the biology of grasses as well as their use in garden design. The plant profiles section includes data on native habitat, physical features, culture, and cultivars. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is a book for very specific types of people. If you propagate grasses or are a professional needing an extensive resource with cultural and descriptive information, then you won't want to miss this book. The descriptions of each grass and how to take care of grasses of all kinds is impeccable. However, the book's kind of outdated in the sense that nowadays, we expect the photography to be as extensive and exhaustive as the text. And I'll admit it - if a horticultural book doesn't have photos of nearly every plant they describe, and photos too of inspirational ways of using them, then the book ends up being my last resort for answering only those questions which my prettier books can't. (I love Grasses by Ondra - it's not as extensive but every time I open it I want to plant new grasses in my gardens!) No question Rick's a grass expert. The question is - are you buying the book for the text or for the photos? If it's for the photos, then look elsewhere. The text is outstanding, though, and well worth the cash if you need this sort of reference.

Photos and descriptions are very good.

Maybe the first Rick Darke book I've purchased that I didn't really care for. I was wanting something that really emphasized the color changes of grasses throughout a year, but this book really doesn't provide the photos or insight like he provides in, *The American Woodland Garden*. I'd also say that if you own, "The Encyclopedia of Grasses" (another Darke book), then you don't need to bother buying this book.

Very good complement to same author's pocket guide.

It is just what I needed for my research. Thanks

Very nicely done. Filled with good nice size pics and a little info about each one. Not a basic book. Very good. Arrived in great condition. I got a like new and it definitely was.

need to be on any grass-lover library.

If you want one book to cover it all. This would be it. A large book. Loaded with information. Good pictures.

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