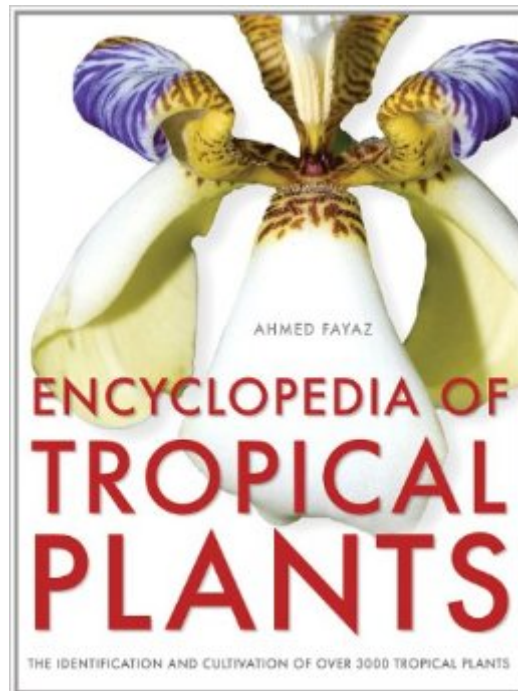


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# Encyclopedia Of Tropical Plants: Identification And Cultivation Of Over 3000 Tropical Plants



## Synopsis

A superb reference for anyone interested in the world's tropical flora. Accessing detailed and accurate information on tropical plants is not always easy, yet there is a huge interest in the beautiful and fascinating flora from the tropical regions of the world. This book is the most comprehensive survey of tropical plants in a single publication to date. Encyclopedia of Tropical Plants brings together over 3,000 species of tropical plants selected to reflect the major plant groups in the tropics all over the world. It uses the most up-to-date nomenclature and systematics and arranges the species in family order, rather than by the usual alphabetical genus name, which makes identification and comparison of similar plants easier. Species descriptions include the plant's leaves, flowers, stems and fruit, as well as its native habitat, distribution, blooming season and zone. Full-color photographs illustrate the major features of the plants described. Encyclopedia of Tropical Plants is an up-to-date, comprehensive and authoritative reference for botanists, horticulturists, professional growers and tropical plant enthusiasts.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book exceeds my expectations! The book is built on the systematics of APG II. So the families are not orders alphabetically but according to the evolutionary tree of plants. This grouping allows to discover the common traits that eg different families of an order share. Many generas are included, even some of the most important species. The described plants are backed up with pictures. Those are a little small, but due to the high information density of this book, is is acceptable. The book is

very heavy (I estimate 3-4 kgs) so it makes my back bag pretty heavy on my travel a lot. But, this is it worth! I hope the day comes, where such books are available as PDF. :) You can use these book either as a reference work, but it is also useful for identifying plants. For this use a certain knowledge of the plant systematics is required. Fazit: It is really a great work!

I just received my copy of Fayaz's Encyclopedia of Tropical Plants and I am already delighted. There are thousands of wonderful photos of a breath-taking diversity of plants, many of which are unusual and rarely photographed. It is wonderful to see the photos of parasitic plants, water plants, succulents and so on (and of course, orchids, bromeliads and palms and other typical tropical plants). The book is organized along modern taxonomic lines; for example, chapters on Basal Angiosperms, Basal Monocots, Commelinoid Monocots, Basal Eudicots and so on, so it is easy to compare and contrast plants that are considered to be closely related under current systematic theory. I would guess that anyone interested in plants would love the photos even if they never read any of the abundant text; professional botanists will find the details in the text extremely valuable. I give this book my highest recommendation. By the way, I am a professor of botany at the University of Texas, and have seen many books on plants. This one is spectacular.

I'm very impressed by the scope and dimension of this great anthology of all knowledge about tropical plants. There are photographs in at least 2 places in this book where labels mismatch the plants in description, however. The picture of *Rondeletia odorata* on p.581 is actually *Clerodendrum calamitosum*, and the picture of *Cestrum aurantiacum* on p.662 is actually taken from *Brugmensia sanguinea* on the previous page. If you are also a tropical plant lover but hesitate to buy because of the pricey tag of this book, I'd recommend you to wait until the next edition is printed.

The book is filled with great photo's and scientifically descriptive. However it does seem to have little information on practical considerations for using or working with the plant material, such as propagation, sun/shade requirements, invasive or not or landscape uses. Jack

This is a serious book for lovers of tropical plants. The scholarship is impeccable, and the breadth extraordinary. Unlike most books out there for the lay person, this book is arranged by taxonomic family, rather than the usual arrangement by life form or - (gasp!) - flower color. Not since A. Graff's *Exotica* have we had a picture book that also has a solid taxonomic basis. Moreover this is not just a book of pretty pictures; the description of each species is detailed and really useful. I am really

impressed with this work. Also, it is superb value for money.

I am a professional garden designer and plantswoman and I expect great detailed info for plants... however... this book was toooooo deep into the botany end and not enough hort info...

When Ahmed Fayaz asked if I would contribute photos for his book, I had no idea that he had undertaken such an ambitious project. It has been a delight to look through the pages and see familiar plants from all over the world. Yes, there are some errors, but that is inevitable in a book that is 700 pages long. The breadth of the book is especially impressive, with multiple species illustrated for many genera. I'm looking forward to the next book from Fayaz.

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