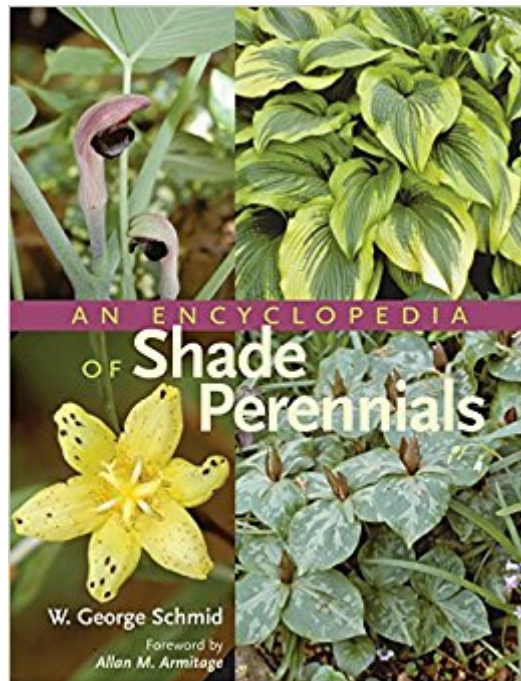




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# An Encyclopedia Of Shade Perennials



## Synopsis

Finding an array of unique and diverse plants for shade might seem like a daunting task, with limited options available to the gardener. Shade perennial expert W. George Schmid dispels this perception in his new encyclopedia. This companionable reference provides information on more than 7000 species and cultivars in 184 genera, from *Acanthus* to *Woodwardia* - some new to horticulture, others unjustly overlooked, but all beautifully suited to the shade garden. Schmid has behind him a half century of practical gardening experience, horticultural education, and extensive travel observing shade perennials in their native habitats; readers are therefore treated to both useful growing tips and his personal associations with the plants. The expert text is rounded out with 500 stunning color photographs, many taken by the author himself.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The lively content of this authoritative compendium offers up much more than a dry encyclopedic gathering of information. Instead, Schmid reveals new ways of looking at gardening in shady conditions by sharing horticultural adventures spanning his own early years in Bavaria and on to Hosta Hill, the aptly named garden he has tended in Georgia for more than 30 years. Graciously guiding budding and sophisticated green thumbs, Schmid demystifies various types of shade, thus paving the way for gardeners to make knowing plant selections. Entries offer thorough descriptions of origins, common names, hardiness, form, and flowers. Additionally, cultivation requirements, propagation advice, and an expert's tips on the likes and dislikes of countless species and cultivars

should further assist all levels of gardeners in matching appropriate plants to a shady site. Abundant color photographs serve double duty as a useful and inspiring resource. Alice Joyce Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

The lively content of this authoritative compendium offers up much more than a dry encyclopedic gathering of information... Graciously guiding budding and sophisticated green thumbs, Schmid demystifies various types of shade, thus paving the way for gardeners to make knowing plant selections... Abundant color photographs serve double duty as a useful and inspiring resource. -- Alice Joyce Booklist 20021111 This book will greatly expand your horizons to include exciting, nonnative, non-invasive, shade-tolerant species for your shade garden. A separate section of the book is an absolutely magnificent 120 pages of 500 color photographs, most taken by the author. He offers a lot of firsthand, little-known information about each plant. -- Joel M. Lerner Washington Post 20021130 I've often complained I have too much shade, but the 7,000-plus species and cultivars in 184 genera of shade plants that Schmid presents in this easy-to-read reference make that complaint irrelevant... Schmid, who has been gardening for more than half a century, includes all the information you'd expect from an encyclopedia, but also mixes in comments about his own experiences with various plants. -- Denise Cowie Philadelphia Inquirer 20021122 You'll be thrilled to discover this large tome of shady characters. The best thing about it is that the author has grown and observed just about every plant he writes about, so the information is thoroughly practical. -- Kym Pokorny Oregonian 20021212 Schmid dispels the myth that shade gardening is difficult. Cleveland Plain Dealer 20021114 Anyone with a wooded lot will find it well worth its hefty price tag. Mr. Schmid's knowledge is truly encyclopedic-and based on 30 years' experience-but his common-sense attitude will win him friends, too. -- Judy Lowe Christian Science Monitor 20021204 The book is deserving of a place in every gardener's library where, I am positive, it will be one to be referred to many times, and each time provide good information and much enjoyment. -- John E. Bryan Gardening Newsletter 20021210 Schmid, a Georgia expert on hostas and other plants, includes his experiences and enthusiasms, enriching reference information on 184 genera and 7,000 species and cultivars. -- Marty Hair Detroit Free Press 20021215 With information on more than 7,000 species and cultivars in 184 genera, this proves to be the definitive guide to plants that thrive in the challenging shade environment. Science News 20021207 Let the 500 pages of species and cultivars in An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials spice up your garden. Garden Gate 20030214 An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials is a superb definitive reference to 7,000 species and cultivars from the author's 50 years of experience. Avant Gardener 20021214 With [this book]

... the woodland gardener cannot go far wrong. -- David Wheeler Hortus 20020114 Let An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials spice up your sun-deprived areas with hundreds of diverse plant possibilities. Garden Gate 20030116 I've often complained I have too much shade, but the 7,000-plus species and cultivars in 184 genera of shade plants that Schmid presents in this easy-to-read reference make that complaint irrelevant. -- Denise Cowie Philadelphia Inquirer 20021130 What a treat! -- Ann Lovejoy Seattle Post-Intelligencer 20030116 Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials is a great buy. I am proud to have this book in my reference library. -- Duncan McAlpine BackyardGardener.com 20021122 This is for gardeners who complain they have too much shade and are tired of hostas. -- Carol Stocker Boston Globe 20030102 This is more than a well-illustrated, encyclopedic alphabetical listing of plants with necessary botanical information on height, flowering, and preferred soil conditions, for Schmid also talks about how and why to use the various plants in the garden, and he does it with a personal touch. -- Ethel Fried Manchester (CT) Journal Inquirer 20021201 If you're into shade gardening, this encyclopedia is a must. Garden Hotline Newsletter 20030106 Mr. Schmid's knowledge is truly encyclopedic ... but his common-sense attitude will win him friends. -- Judy Lowe Christian Science Monitor 20021204 Schmid discusses all you need to know about soil preparation, exposure, degree of shade and hardiness--all in a readable, accessible style that steers clear of botanical language and technicalities. -- John Van de Water Newark Star-Ledger 20030126 This botanical reference book covers more than 7,000 species and cultivars in 184 genera and provides the most devoted shade gardener with a wide array of interesting plants. -- Joanne S. Carpender National Gardener 20030219 Schmid provides in-depth details on topics such as soil preparation, watering and growth habits--enough information that you'll feel fairly confident you could grow plenty of the plants listed... After making it through this tome, you'll kind of miss Schmid's company. -- Lisa Van Cleef San Francisco Chronicle 20030115 This book should be recommended therapy for gardeners who grieve that they have little sun. Read it and rejoice in the shade! Perennial Notes 20030303 A valuable addition to any shade gardener's library. -- Lucy Watson TheBookPlace.co.uk 20030303 Plenty of practical advice for the gardener. -- Kathleen Freimond Garden Wise 20030303 The expert text is rounded out with 500 stunning color photographs. American Nurseryman 20030304 This hefty book ... will propel you to your local nursery. Old Farmer's Almanac Gardener's Companion 20030306 Erudite yet eminently readable. -- Judy Glattstein Greenwich Post 20030318 Schmid has thoughtfully constructed the book with novice gardeners in mind-using plain English throughout ("heart-shaped" rather than "cordate," for example)-but has included enough detail for advanced gardeners to make the book valuable to both. -- Deanna Dority Canadian Gardening 20030424 This is an attractive book filled with

easy-to-read text and practical advice. Reading this book will give gardeners hope and inspiration for shade gardening with perennials. -- January Adams American Reference Books Annual 20030327 An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials is a must. -- Michael Weishan Country Living Gardener 20030327 This is a book with something for someone at every level of gardening experience. Friends School of Minnesota 20030422 A pleasure to peruse... it holds the keys to pleasure--filled shade gardening. HortIdeas 20021223 Useful to home gardeners and professional horticulturists alike. -- Amy Wiberley E-Streams 20030423 A book you will treasure for many years. -- Marty Figley Michigan Observer and Eccentric 20030424 We often hear friends or family comment that they struggle to grow plants in the shade. The book to help guide them out of their shady woes has arrived. Michigan Gardener 20030403 While the book's size and scope are vast, the writing is warm and intimate. Gardener for the Prairies 20030616 His love and knowledge of plants is evident on every page. -- Patricia A. Taylor Trenton Times 20030720 Friendly and personal, like talking with a good friend who just happens to be a gardening genius. Juneau Public Libraries 20030917 Because this book is such a complete, authoritative work, and because of its hefty price tag, this is a book most suitable for the serious gardener. But it also could be a great resource for gardeners just beginning to learn to grow in the shade. -- Gwen Fowler Sun News 20030913 In these cash-challenged times I hesitate recommending such a costly reference. But its expansive content ... makes the book a good candidate for joint ownership and sharing. -- Helen Chesnut Victoria Times Colonist 20030322 An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials is well worth shelling out for. -- Ann Milovsoroff Pappus 20030123 This is an awesome resource. University of Kentucky College of Agriculture 20031029 A reference that will be very well-used ... a wealth of information about the individual plants. -- Nicola Green Whaley Leaf 20031029 All in all, this book is a great resource book to anyone who shade gardens. -- Linda Cobb Spartanburg Herald-Journal 20031007 An extensive list of perennial plants for shade, with each plant exhaustively described ... the book is of inestimable value to gardeners in the Northwest and the cooler parts of California. -- John R. Dunmire Pacific Horticulture 20031106 This is a awesome resource; I have already found plants I have had difficulty identifying or finding information about in this book. -- Winston Dunwell Nursery Views 20031201 An Encyclopedia of Shade Perennials is not only comprehensive and authoritative, . . it's a fun read and a handy guide. Northern Gardener 20040121 This is a book with something for someone at every level of gardening experience. Friends School of Minnesota 20030524 A great companion to The Complete Shade Gardener. Alberta Gardener 20041116 Finding appropriate shade-loving plants is not as daunting a task as it once seemed. Schmid's hefty reference identifies, with detailed cultural information, over 7000 new and overlooked species and

My wife loves it. Can't put it down.

Although I've been a shade gardener for many years, this book contains many shade perennials that I had never heard of. I liked that almost all the pictures appear to be of mature specimens, so you can see what the plant will look like. (My pet peeve is when gardening books show baby plants! What good is that?) There are sometimes many pictures of one plant: one picture will show a close-up of the flower, one picture will be a distance picture. The descriptions tell growing information, zone, size, and possible gardening problems. I was pleased with this book and am glad that I purchased it. I have been barely able to put it down, even though I have read several other shade gardening books. Thank you, Mr. Schmid, for a fantastic, wonderful resource. I enthusiastically recommend this book to any shade gardener.

I know George through Hosta circles, and he is as nice a person as he is brilliant. His information is always valuable. This book is lovely for a beginner or an advanced gardener.

Very nice book on shade perennials, well written with good pictures. I found it informative with sound advice. I recommend it.

this book is a good reference book, glad to have it in my collection. I use it often for reference.

This includes all of the classics, a bunch of new herbaceous shade perennials, many, many wildflowers, and hundreds of ferns, both old and new for the shady garden. It covers herbaceous perennials only, as the title implies, but there are thousands of them. A few are missing, but that is a good thing. They are weedy and shouldn't be planted anyway. I liked the personal stories and connection of the author with each of the genera, and the attention paid to culture, diseases, propagation and heat and cold hardiness. As in any encyclopedia, the plants are arranged by genus name and within the genus by species and cultivar names, alphabetically. For the plants illustrated in color, the names are in bold letters. You must know the Latin names of plants, but a huge index lists all of common names and tells you what the Latin name for it is. It also gives cross references for synonyms, different scientific names that have been given to the same plant. It takes a while to get the gist of it, but it is worth the time. A book that will give great shade gardening information for

many years to come. It should be in every serious shade gardeners library.

I am still reading this book. There are many words of wisdom and there is a lot to digest. This book will be used often. It may not have an answer for all shade problems but it gives great information for what to do in the ground layer of a shady garden. The plant descriptions are detailed and the cultural information is extensive and complete. Add to that cold hardiness and heat tolerance as well as propagation, diseases, and anything else you must know, this volume gives the nitty-gritty on many shade perennials, herbaceous as well as evergreen. This is a good book for starting and experienced gardeners. The starters may have to take time to get to know how to use the book. The photos are outstanding, albeit gathered in a bunch in the center sections, but bold printed names point to the illustrations. I'll use this book often and enjoy the many stories presented along with the plant information.

From the man who is the original expert on the subject, a fantastic resource for all who garden in the shade. Very user friendly with seven thousand species and cultivars, useful to the novice as well as the expert. Thankfully the shade craze caught on perhaps with the publication of Schmid's first book, "The Genus Hosta." The book starts with practical tips on the "bones of the garden" trees and soil and covers briefly many other subjects before getting into the plants that are appropriate for shade. I own many books on shade gardening, including books devoted exclusively to the subjects of ferns, ivies, mosses, etc. I find that this is the book that I keep right there with my other two favorites, Dirr's on trees and of course "The Genus Hosta".

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