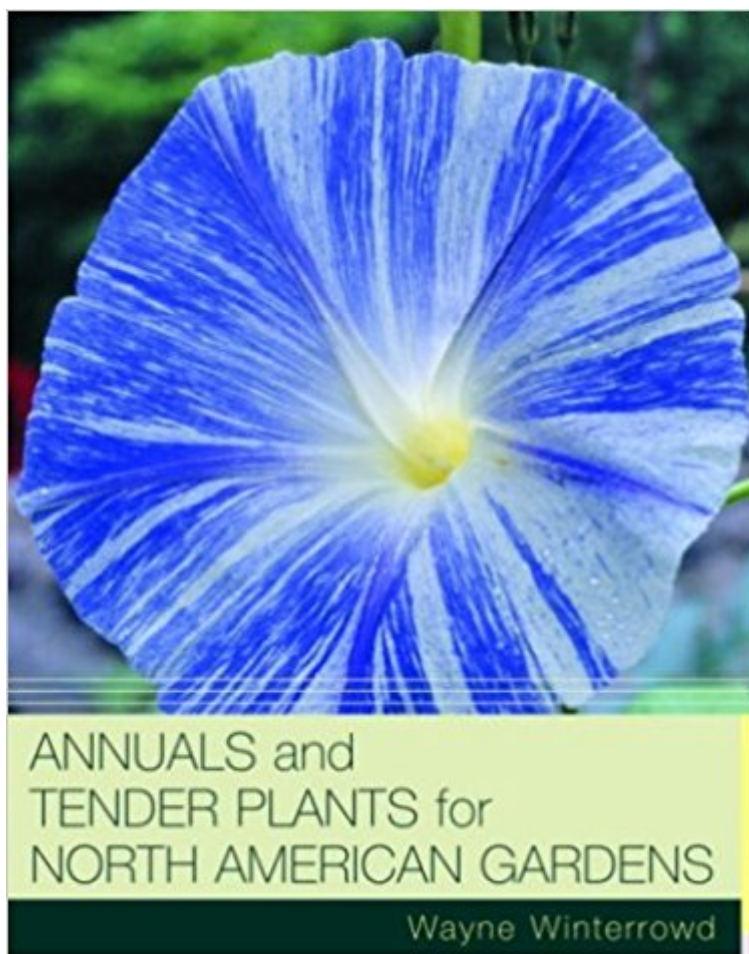


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# Annuals And Tender Plants For North American Gardens



## Synopsis

Experienced gardeners often ask: Why plant annuals? They are common and garish and just don't last. This anticipated new work by eminent horticulturist Wayne Winterrowd "covering more than 250 genera and 600 species and containing over 250 color photographs" provides a great many answers to that question. Familiar garden plants such as marigolds, sunflowers, and zinnias are lovingly portrayed, as well as new species that the gardener may have only just discovered or never previously encountered. Each species is fully described by appearance, range of color, propagation, culture, climatic preferences, and garden value. In addition, Winterrowd supplies fascinating accounts of the botanical etymology, the origins of common names, and the rich historical lore that surround all plants, familiar and rare alike. Most important, his lifetime of hands-on, practical garden experience crisscrosses these pages, offering a trove of practical advice. The result is a volume that will encourage committed annuals growers in their passion and introduce a whole new world of possibilities to gardeners who have hardly guessed at the riches of these formerly undervalued plants. A tremendously ambitious work that reflects almost ten years of careful research, observation, and experimentation, *Annuals and Tender Plants for North American Gardens* is a comprehensive, utterly engaging reference. Arranged alphabetically and with convenient, at-a-glance profiles prefacing each entry, this beautifully designed guide is both a good read and a visual delight.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Winterrowd is well known in the gardening realm in his roles as writer and designer, and for beautiful North Hill, the garden he and his partner, Joe Eck, tend in Vermont. In this encyclopedic reference, Winterrowd catches the wave of popularity accorded a parade of alluring tender plants, from choice biennials and true annuals to half-hardy perennials and exotic shrubby specimens. Writing in a thoroughly engaging style, Winterrowd presents plant entries filled with information and advice on propagation, cultivation, and the level of difficulty one can expect. Moreover, the lively descriptions include a valuable guide to pronunciation, fascinating bits of background, and illuminating accounts of nomenclature. Photo vignettes capture details of foliage and flowers of selected species and varieties in a resource that is both fun to read and instructive, with appendixes revealing growing techniques, mail order sources, and common names. Alice JoyceCopyright Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved

"Everyone knows Wayne Winterrowd is one of America's most authoritative and imaginative garden writers. What they might not know --but will once they read this book-- is what a wonderful writer he is. Between these covers you will find instruction and delight in equal measure." -Michael Pollan

This is being cleared out now at a fabulous price. The book is a tome of 576 full sized pages. The hardcover version is physically hard to read lying down since it is heavy. But oh what a book! Each annual is loving detailed in Wayne Winterrowd's lively prose. About the only thing I could wish for is maybe more pictures since after reading about a plant, you just want to see it. Readers looking for a casual book about annuals that is mostly pictures, be disappointed but those with a passion for plants will be delighted.

This book has an encyclopedic meticulousness plus such affection for the subject that I consider it one of the best gardening resources around. I intend to give it to every landscape designer I know (at least the ones I like!)

As with his earlier book, "Annuals for Connoisseurs," this is a great reference book for annuals and tender perennials. It's also a great place for inspiration and ideas -- you'll want to try some new plants, or use an "old" one in a different way. What makes Winterrowd's work unique are his suggestions on how to get the most enjoyment and beauty from each species. Besides the usual basics, he gives suggestions for each plant on how to grow and use it well (pot, trellis, in shrubbery, etc.), how to start seed, how to overwinter it (if applicable), when to pinch back, which varieties are

most floriferous/hardy, etc. He's also very readable -- engaging, often humorous, a bit like talking to a friend about favorite plants. My only regret is that there aren't more pictures, particularly of the less well-known species. But, in combination with one of the more traditional plant encyclopedias (for pictures), "Annuals and Tender Plants for North American Gardens" will give you way more ideas than you'll be able to use!

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