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The Lavender Lover's Handbook: The 100 Most Beautiful And Fragrant Varieties For Growing, Crafting, And Cooking



Synopsis

Don't think it pisses God off when you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it. — Alice Walker

The Lavender Lover's Handbook provides a complete checklist of the color, fragrance, size, and foliage of the 100 easiest, most stunning lavenders available today. In addition to details about spacing, planting, pruning, Sarah Berringer Bader offers tips to harvest, cook, and craft with this wonderful herb. The abundant variety, hardiness, fragrance, and culinary opportunities make lavender one of the most popular and versatile plants, and with this practical and accessible guide, it's easier than ever to grow lush lavender at home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Loved this book. Finally someone has summarized all the major aspects of lavender growing for the average gardener!!!! And it has great photographs!!!many lavender books have out-of-focus pictures. I know that the lavender flower is small, but in the 21st century with digital cameras and macro lenses, there is no excuse for out-of-focus pictures. For the first time I now have a clear picture of the difference between hardwood cutting and softwood cutting. It has the basics: how to grow, prune, harvest, how to use for arts and crafts and how to use for culinary purposes. Also has some great lists of lavenders for 1. best color, 2. size, 3 hedges, 4. blooming, 5. scent and 6. location. Then there are pages and pages of beautifully photographed lavender, each with a clear description of color, size, hardiness zone and additional notes about growing that particular lavender. Other lavender books available, especially written by authors from New Zealand or

England (ex. Naughton, *Lavender: The Grower's Guide*) assume that you have a degree in botany. Other publications like the farm and agricultural co-op pamphlets (example, Curtis Beus, *Growing and Marketing lavender*, EB2005) are targeted to the person with hundreds of acres trying to get into the business of lavender planting. Here, finally, is a comprehensive book about lavender growing for those of us who just want to enrich our lives with this lovely plant or enhance our gardens with the lovely purple of lavender. A missing component to this book is a listing of lavender plants for the desert or high altitude desert. A large group of lavenders do particular well in this climate, and there are lavender festivals in southwest, New Mexico, Colorado. Also a listing for High Country Gardens, a nursery in Santa Fe that specializes in high altitude gardening, [...] is not posted.

My sister and I started growing Lavender as a crop four years ago in order to make and sell Lavender products such as soap and sachets. In order to be able to speak to customers about our products, we needed to educate ourselves. This is one of the best books on the subject. It addresses all the questions that usually come up in a conversation with curious consumers. I am also a Master Gardener Volunteer who provides educational seminars as part of a Speaker Series in our community. When speaking on the subject of Growing Lavender in Ohio, I have this book on my table and recommend it to those who are interested.

My front yard of lavender is ripping as I write this. Sarah wrote a wonderful book. The book addresses choosing varieties, how to properly grow and cultivate lavender, cooking with lavender, and crafting with it. The pictures are beautiful. I'd recommend this book to anyone with an interest in lavender.

Nicely presented information on lavender, from selecting plants, growing tips and using the buds in a variety of crafts and cooking.

Though not as detailed as *The Genus Lavendula*, this book contains a lot of good information for the back-yard lavender grower.

Warning: If you like lavender, this book may be dangerous. This is a beautifully photographed book that goes into detail about growing and using lavender. It includes chapters on using lavender in the landscape, growing lavender, diagnosing lavender problems, and using lavender in both cooking and crafts. I think that the most valuable part of the book, however, is the detailed variety listings

and recommendations. For example, I bought a small "Provence" lavender a few years ago, thinking that since Provence and lavender are practically synonymous, that the "Provence" variety would be the best. If I'd had this book, I would have known that while "Provence" has a fabulous scent, the flowers aren't the deep purple I'd pictured and it doesn't dry well for crafts. This book has excellent pictures of each variety and many lists of suggested varieties by color and use.

this book told me everything i wanted to know about the cultivation and care of lavender. i too have been mulling over planting a field with this hardy herb. the text was easy to read and the photos were "colorful" to say the least. i'd write more but... i gotta' get diggin' !

Loved the recipes and great ideas. Informative and beautiful pictures. So glad I purchased this book. It is a good reference for all types of lavender and different varieties best to grow in your area.

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