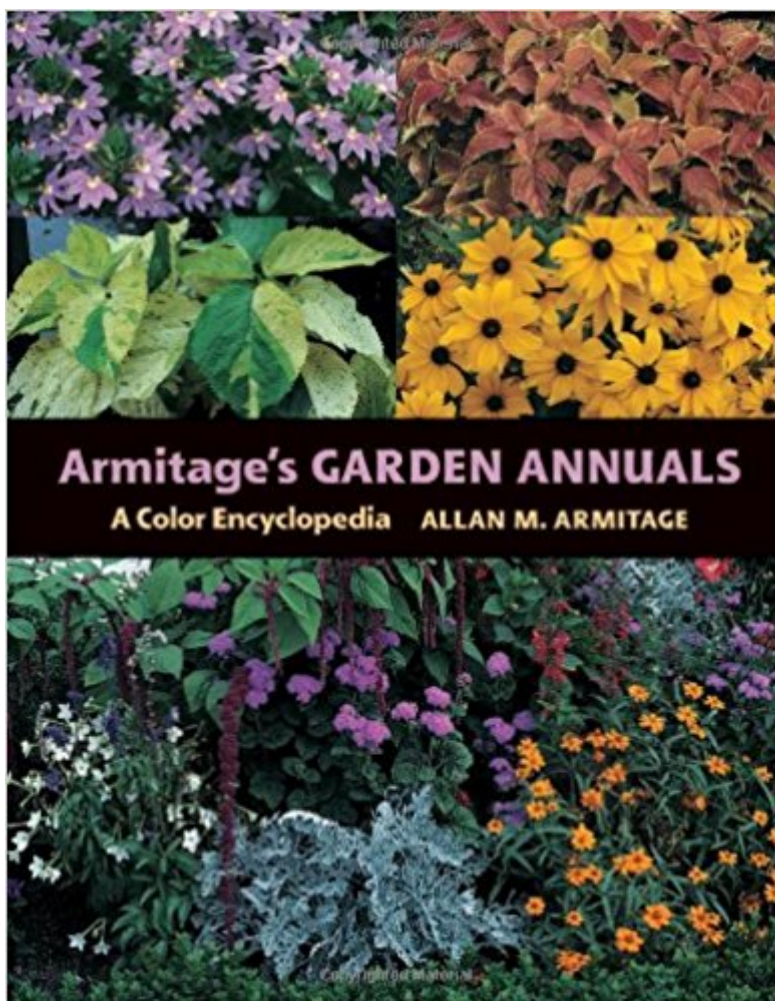


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# Armitage's Garden Annuals: A Color Encyclopedia



## Synopsis

Horticulturists, students, and dedicated home gardeners will be familiar with Armitage's authority on this topic from his more technical *Manual of Annuals, Biennials, and Half-Hardy Perennials*. That volume was singled out as a winner of the Choice Academic Book Award, the American Horticultural Society Book Award, and the Garden Writers of America Golden Globe Award. While this new offering is a perfect pictorial companion to the *Manual*, it also stands alone with its personal commentary and inspiring advice on the most interesting, important, or overlooked plants. Armitage selects proven specimens from nearly 200 genera of plants and evaluates their garden-worthiness and sheer beauty. With humor, authority, and a wealth of practical experience, Armitage offers invaluable insights into those plants that truly earn their keep---and a few that do not! He has illustrated the entries with more than 1300 stunning color photos, rounded out by more than two dozen helpful lists of plants suitable for particular situations or uses, including plants for cool-summer areas, plants for dry situations, edible plants, container plants, shade plants, vines, and flowers for cutting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In dedicating his latest book to plant breeders, Armitage conveys his enthusiasm for the breathtaking range of ornamental plants now available to avid gardeners. Many green thumbs specifically count on annuals to bring vibrant color to beds and borders during the traditional growing season, and this encyclopedic reference provides a wealth of photographs to help delineate

the ever-increasing arrays of annuals that can be found at nurseries and garden centers. Armitage's lively text is both informative and entertaining, and instead of emphasizing cultivation requirements, he provides savvy, up-to-date recommendations for the most desirable species and cultivars to enliven one's garden, from stunning forms of ornamental okra to fuchsias and tropicals such as ginger lily and the unusual twining vine *Basella alba*. A terrific resource for gardeners and an essential book for anyone who gardens in warmer regions, where many of these plants are among the choicest of year-round specimens. Alice JoyceCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

"Armitage is not only crammed with great information - the photos showing mature growth habit of many of the plants is invaluable."

Allan is always fun. I love this (and all of the other books he has written).

Great book, great photos and on target descriptions. Something that a gardener would love to have in their library.

There's enough information here to make it worth owning at a discount, but it's often quite general in its growing advice and his opinions about plants and their uses in the border are pedestrian. He writes less like a designer of gardens than a superintendent of parks, but that may well appeal to some folks. He does seem out of touch with the best work being done with annuals in American gardens, even within the South where he should have experience. If he has much enthusiasm for annuals he works hard not to let it show.

Received the book in a timely manner. I was very pleased with the book as it was as described and now I have an encyclopedia of knowledge (regarding flowers) at my fingertips!

I like the book. I go to it all the time to make sure I am planting in the right place and doing what I need to to get a great looking plant.

Allan Armitage writes as if he were talking to a group of fellow gardeners. He is not pretentious, and writes not with arrogance, but with genuine down to earth knowledge. I love his books, and consider him the 'Michael Dirr' of herbaceous plants.

## Informative resource

Mr. Armitage is following the format utilized by his earlier book "Armitage's Garden Perennials" and Michael Dirr's "Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs", providing frank information of common and obscure annuals. Comments such as "Bananas...If you are reading this and are not thinking, 'this guy is nuts!', then you are an open-minded gardener, and we can drink beer together." are what makes this a good book. But the pictures are outstanding. If this book had no words other than the description below the picture, it would be an outstanding book. I now have all the reference I need along with "Armitage's Manual of Annuals, Biennials, and Half-Hardy Perennials". I just need a bigger bookshelf....

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