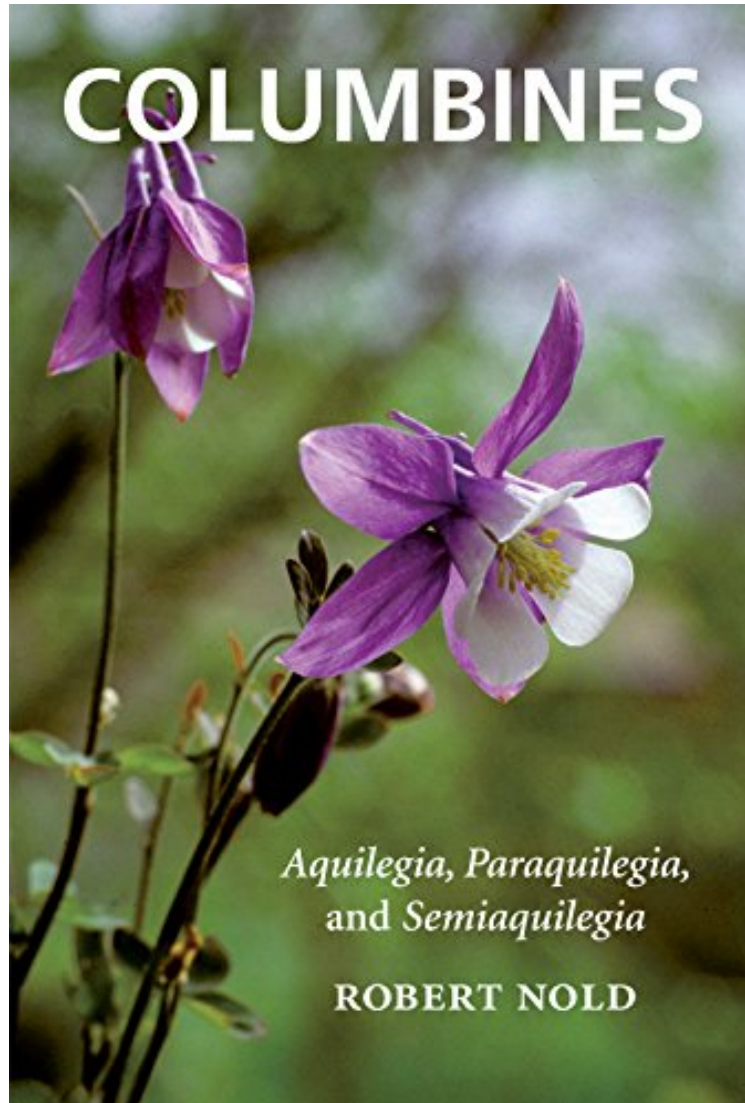


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## Columbines: Aquilegia, Paraquilegia, and Semiaquilegia

*Robert Nold*

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**Robert Nold : Columbines: Aquilegia, Paraquilegia, and Semiaquilegia** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Columbines: Aquilegia, Paraquilegia, and Semiaquilegia:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The best there is!By Green ManI have not yet quite finished reading all of the book but I am amused and delighted by the authors tone.It is really great to have at long last some framework for the genus Aquilegia which is a genus hopelessly muddled in gardens and gardeners minds.As it the only up to date work on the whole genus it is a bit of a cheat to say that this is the best book on the subject but it is certainly worthwhile reading for anyone interested in these superb garden plants! Most of the information in the book is

scattered throughout botanical texts and floras so this is a very valuable reference for all who are interested in and love the genus. And all couched in a lively and iconoclastic tone which at times recalls Christopher Lloyd. I thoroughly recommend it! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Great Aquilegia Guide By Greg Speichert Both botanical and gardener friendly, this book is every bit as good as Robert Nold's last. Although Paraquilegia and Semiaquilegia are mentioned, this book is mainly on Aquilegia. His coverage of Aquilegia is great as he goes in depth about the history, species, diseases and much more. The chapters on pest, propagation and cultivation are great and speak of his experience with these plants. So, if you are looking to learn more about these unique plants, this is the book to check out. Nold's descriptions of these plants will definitely make you want to try more of this genus in your garden. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. columbines: Aquilegia, Paraquilegia, and Semiaquilegia By Jyl C. Tuck I really have enjoyed this book. It is so informative and I really needed help in sizing plants. I get seeds through exchanges, but have no idea how big (or small) they will grow and they have been put in inappropriate places almost losing some little beauties in the process. My Thanks go out to Mr. Nold. Jyl Tuck

Fresh from his award-winning monograph on penstemons, Robert Nold turns his attention to one of the best-loved - and most frequently misunderstood - groups of garden plants. Columbines: Aquilegia, Paraquilegia, and Semiaquilegia is the first gardener's guide to these striking plants in more than half a century; and in his funny, personal, and charming prose, Nold makes sense of the thorniest taxonomic and horticultural questions they present. Sixty-five species of Aquilegia receive detailed examination, with a complete summary of cultivation needs, history, and biology. The author also describes plants of the genera Semiaquilegia and Paraquilegia, cutting through confusion and dissension to create a useful overview of these "columbine cousins." Nold also provides a brief history of hybridization, and practical chapters on propagation and pests and diseases round out the book. In addition to beautiful paintings by the author's wife, celebrated botanical artist Cindy Nelson-Nold, the book also boasts several dozen exquisite photos of columbines in the wild and in gardens.

From Booklist Gardeners have had to wait more than five decades for this modern monograph on generally easy-to-grow columbines. Nold's horticultural guide to Aquilegia species and hybrids, which are often distinguished by curiously elongated, nectar-bearing spurs, covers plant care and pests, morphology, and taxonomy and provides a roster of 65 species, all told in an animated and personal voice melding insights, recollections, and research. To add to the topic's interest, illustrations include elegant drawings capturing the plants' graceful foliage and blooms, and a bevy of photographs depicting wild species and winning flowers for the garden. Nold comments humorously that columbines were practicing free love long before the sixties, and the breadth of the genus as it's presented in these pages will tempt green thumbs to look beyond predictable or readily obtainable columbines. A listing of seed sources is appended. Alice Joyce Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Gardeners have had to wait more than five decades for this modern monograph on generally easy-to-grow columbines. . . . Nold's horticultural guide to Aquilegia species and hybrids. . . . told in an animated and personal voice melding insights, recollections, and research. Booklist A very useful book for gardeners and taxonomists alike. Highly recommended. Choice Enthusiasts will find a wealth of information about both native and nonnative species in this well-researched, highly readable volume. Horticulture With Columbines behind me, I may well add a few new species to my garden, particularly in the new rock garden. So enjoyable was Nold's book that I also intend to read his Penstemons, which has been on my to-read list far too long. Pacific Horticulture Gardeners have waited a very long time for a readable, comprehensive and attractive book on columbines and here it is. HortResources Newsletter Nold's delightful little book is just the thing for stoking the enthusiasm and self-confidence of the gardener who is ready to enjoy growing these flowering gems in abundance. Boox An engaging book. Plant Science Bulletin Fun to read, lovingly written, and recommended for collections with avid gardeners and horticulturists. E-Streams Contains all anyone could want to know about columbines. . . . written in an easy conversational style, with humor lacing even the most intense discussions. California Garden