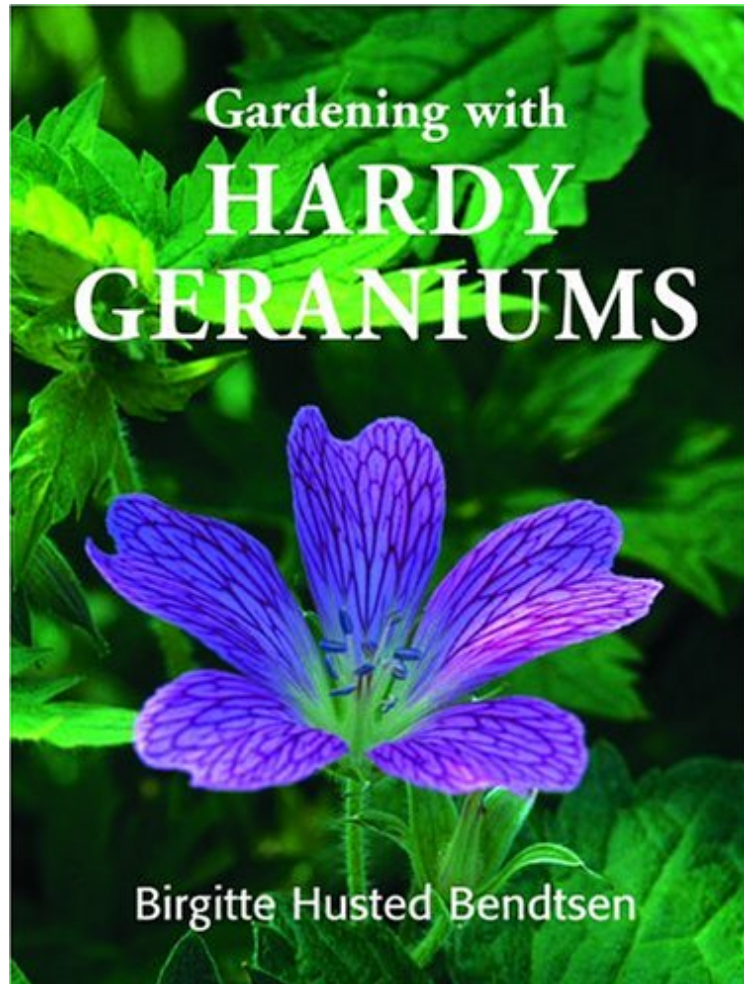


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## Gardening with Hardy Geraniums

*Birgitte Husted Bendtsen*

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**Birgitte Husted Bendtsen : Gardening with Hardy Geraniums** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gardening with Hardy Geraniums:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Wow! Incredibly informative and a good read too! By J. Muench In my garden planning, I keep running across stunning and adorable hardy geraniums. I got this book on a lark, and based on previous reviews, to get a little more information such as "will these actually look as nice in MY garden" and "are they as hardy as advertised"... I have read this book cover to cover since I got it a few days ago--the author is outstanding, showing a true passion for gardening and gardening using geraniums. She is entertaining and explains each of the variations/hybrids simply and thoroughly. This is the first gardening book I have read and finally "gotten" the latin names, understanding the characteristics of each of 'these' parents produces offspring having 'those' features. I know that's not a hard concept, but sorting through garden catalogs, garden stores, etc. I guess I'd get jaded and set my planning aside for a while. Birgitte explains the features of each kind of geranium and their best uses and placement

(will this one work in a rock garden or only woodland settings?), as well as having a great photo of most every flower and some of their leaves to show the many variations and combinations. Many of the plants I have seen just recently on-line are included in this book, which made me pretty happy. I learned that Geranium 'Anne Folkard' may not survive a cold, damp winter unless I take extra care and shelter it a little, and *G. pratense* Midnight Reiter may not grow as fast as I would have liked it too to fill in the area where I wanted to place it. After reading "Gardening with Hardy Geraniums", I am taking this book with me to the garden stores, with my slightly revised list, so if I see something else that calls out to me, I can look it up and know a heckuva lot more than on the little plant tag. I wish more plant-specific books were more like this one--really interesting and informative without being just a list of plants with the same information on the plant tags. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is the one you need. By P. Larkin Hutton I already had the two books on hardy geraniums that are written by Trevor Bath and Peter Yeo, so I thought I had adequately covered that topic in my gardening library. However, I have recently become more interested in these flexible garden plants as good companions for my collection of heirloom roses. Visiting a friend who is something of an expert on geraniums, I came across this book. I pretty much read it cover to cover over the course of a week-long visit, but decided I needed a copy for myself. It suits my needs more closely than either of the other two books, though both of them are also quite good. Despite the high cost, I ordered a copy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book for the Geranium Aficianado! By BB If you are fond of hardy Geraniums, you want this book. Chock full of information on identifying and growing the many varieties, you will learn a great deal and will use this book over and over again for reference. Ms. Bendtsen's writing style is more friendly and entertaining than some, yet she doesn't lack knowledge. The only thing that would have made this book better for me, a US resident, is a book written by someone in the US for US gardens and varieties. Until then, this is my go-to book on Geraniums.

Hardy geraniums were the first plants to shrug off the rigours of her coastal climate and grow in Birgitte Husted Bendtsen's garden every bit as well as they did in the fertile, sheltered plots further east in Denmark. Add to this their tolerance of dogs and children, resistance to pests and diseases, interesting foliage, and delightful flowers in a wide range of colours, and it is little surprise that Birgitte developed an insatiable passion for them. In this book, she shares her knowledge of cultivating the plants and highlights the most garden worthy species and varieties. Expert cultivation advice, including comments on soil preferences and hardiness, is followed by fascinating information on pollination, and failsafe propagation secrets. Captivating colour photographs display key characteristics of hardy geraniums including their legendary range of flower colour and intricate, often highly marked, foliage. Here readers may marvel at the many cultivars of *Geranium x oxonianum*, enjoy favorites like Geranium 'Ann Folkard' with its striking black eye against magenta background, and covet the fine-leaved, blue-flowering *Geranium himalayense*. Smaller varieties ideal for growing in rockeries, containers and troughs are described along with perfect geraniums for associating with roses of all colours. Birgitte Husted Bendtsen communicates like a true enthusiast and the text is peppered with interesting anecdotes including news of an exciting variety that is prized for its blue flowers and modest stature. With over 400 species and hybrids of hardy geraniums and 450 beautiful colour photographs, this book is both rich in information and beautiful to browse. It is a long-awaited reference that will delight seasoned enthusiasts and introduce a whole new generation of gardeners to the charms of the hardy geranium.

A skillful photographer and gifted writer she has produced an excellent all-around book on this very popular species. Greenfeeder 20050708 Avid gardeners with a passion for geraniums will relish *Gardening with Hardy Geraniums* as [an] in-depth survey of geranium varieties. Bookwatch 20050823 Comprehensive ... an excellent reference book. -- Bobbie Schwartz Buckeye 20051001 The wonderfully detailed photographs illustrate in eye-opening variety the wide range of blooms and foliage available in this group of plants. -- Karin E. Guzy Perennial Notes 20060201 The faultless photography offers a botanist's ideal of blossom and leaf varieties. ... This spectacular work should find a place on library shelves and in the hands of home gardeners and horticulturists. -- Mary Ellen Snodgrass American Reference Books Annual 20060301 A first-class reference book describing over 400 geraniums, including many of the latest cultivars. The photographs are excellent, detailing both flowers and leaves for quick and easy identification of plants, the descriptions clear and concise. -- Sue Tasker Professional Gardener 20060401 Readers will find here a rich source of information and beauty as they share with the author her enthusiasm for these plants with their interesting foliage and delightful flowers. -- Suzie Heap California Garden 20061101 About the Author Birgitte Husted Bendtsen first became interested in hardy geraniums as a young member of the Jutland Garden Society in her native Denmark. Once hooked, she resolved to learn more, and she now holds a comprehensive collection. A skilled photographer and gifted writer, Birgitte Husted Bendtsen contributes articles on a range of gardening subjects.