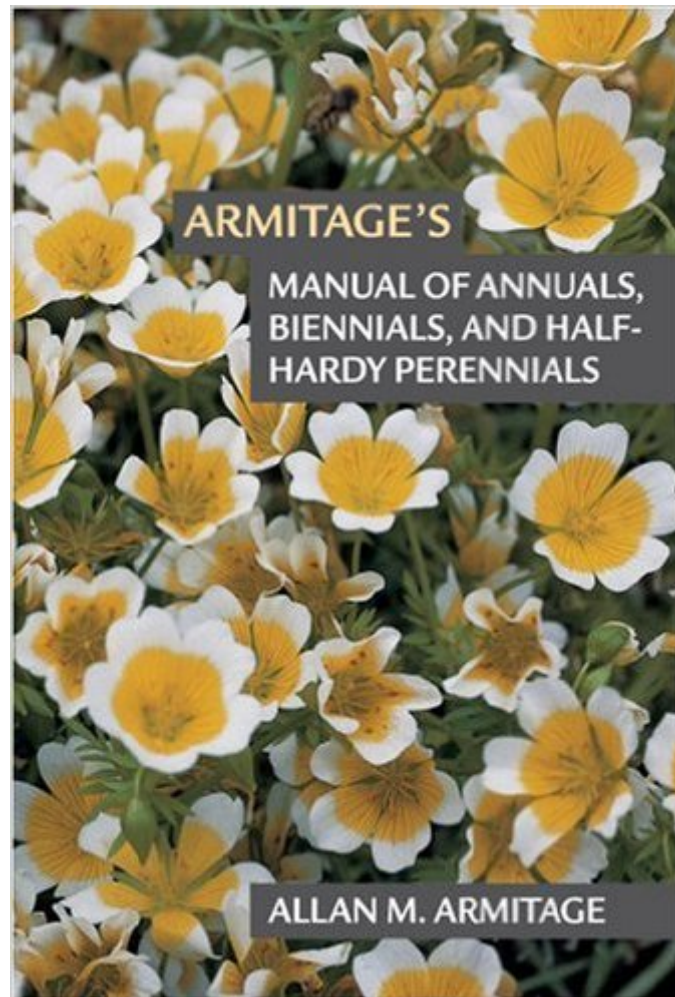


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# Armitage's Manual Of Annuals, Biennials And Half-Hardy Perennials



## Synopsis

Annuals are experiencing a resurgence as today's gardeners demand a wider variety of options. No longer confined to monotone bedding plants, dozens of "unusual" annuals are now available at garden centers in colors and forms far removed from the classic annual bed of pink petunias or red geraniums. In the tradition of his classic *Herbaceous Perennial Plants*, Allan M. Armitage has compiled descriptions and assessments of 245 genera of true annuals as well as plants that behave like annuals in USDA zones 1-7. Focusing on identifying the plants, successful culture, and their primary garden attributes, Armitage discusses 279 species in detail and summarizes the distinguishing features of hundreds of cultivars, many of which he has tested himself. Classics like begonias and pelargoniums are juxtaposed with newcomers from Australia, and all are subject to Armitage's critical eye. Color photos and line drawings illustrate the text, and he suggests additional reading in books, articles, and Web sites for many of the covered genera. Armitage bases his descriptions on extensive personal experience. His frank and conversational style keeps potentially dry details fresh, and each entry is liberally sprinkled with strong and sometimes amusing opinions. Useful lists in the appendix are further evidence of his expertise, as he compiles biennials, half-hardy perennials, winter annuals, shade-tolerant plants, fragrant plants, climbing plants, and everlastings. These lists extend the volume's application beyond a necessary tool for horticulturists and nurserymen to a practical guide for the dedicated home gardener.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 604 pages

Publisher: Timber Press, Incorporated (September 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881925055

ISBN-13: 978-0881925050

Product Dimensions: 9 x 1.9 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.7 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #764,823 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers > Annuals](#) #115 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers > Perennials](#) #599 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Gardening](#)

## Customer Reviews

Armitage is #1 when it comes to bedding and garden plants, and this book shows it. His manual is a top-notch resource and includes his own personal insights into each plant. Unlike other references that are boring and dry, Armitage makes the material spring to life! The line drawings in this book are spectacular as well, and the middle of the book includes several pages of full-color photographs. Very professional and highly recommended.

Unfortunately the book is incomplete. Chapter 8, pages 225 to 256 are missing! I will be returning the book ASAP. Otherwise the content is invaluable for the backyard gardener as well as the professional landscaper. Allan Armitage has an incredible working knowledge of perennial and annual plants.

This is great book to ref back and forth in. Wish that it was in paperback instead of a hardback, making it easier to ref with other books, but still a must in a gardeners collection

Bought this for my son for one of his classes he seems to enjoy using it.

My son used this book for his class Herbaceous Landscapes at University of Delaware. He is so turned on by the information in this book. There are great reference pictures and even though the class has ended, he refers to the book quite often. Found it to be very useful!

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