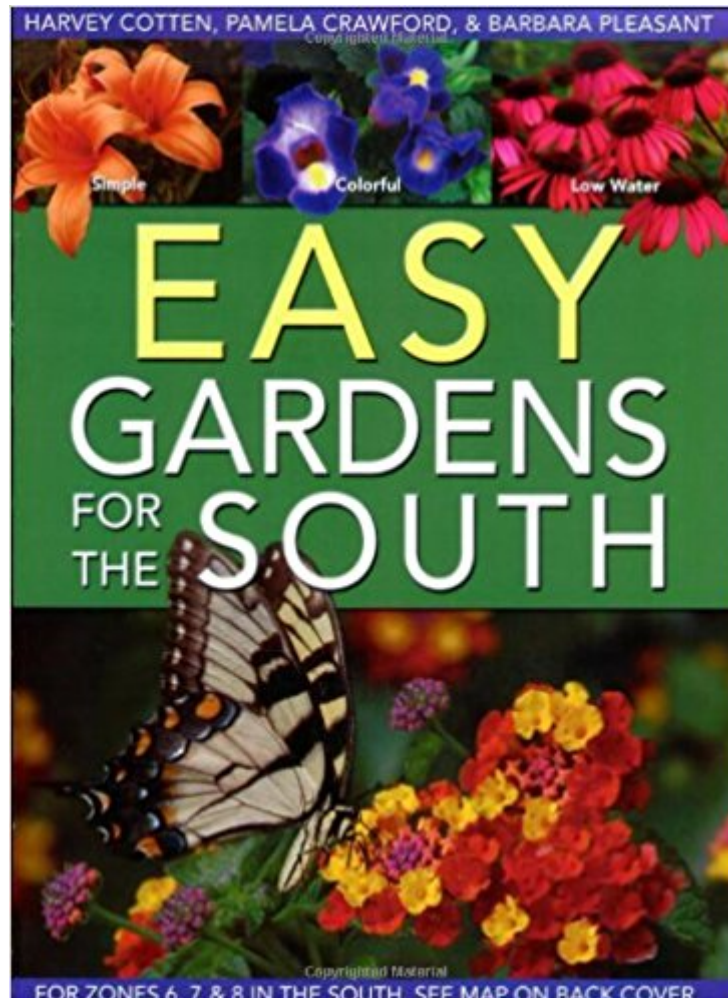




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# Easy Gardens For The South



## Synopsis

This groundbreaking book shows beginners and experienced gardeners alike how to create gorgeous gardens with the easiest, colorful, low water plants the south has to offer. Learn about annuals, perennials, shrubs, and trees that thrive with little or no irrigation and only require minutes of care per year - plants that can breeze through hot, humid, southern summers while attracting butterflies, birds and hummingbirds. Shop for plants like a pro by taking the book with you to garden centers and checking out the latest information on the newest plants around from people who have grown them! Create traffic-stopping color combinations from the over 150 easy examples shown. The book is extremely easy to follow, with thousands of color photographs, as well as many budget gardening tips. For Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, north Florida, and north and central Louisiana.

## Book Information

Paperback: 316 pages

Publisher: Color Garden Publishing; First edition (January 25, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 097122207X

ISBN-13: 978-0971222076

Product Dimensions: 10.9 x 8.5 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 47 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #751,741 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > Southwest #100 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > South

## Customer Reviews

Harvey Cotton has lived and gardened in the south for his entire life. After completing his horticulture degree from Mississippi State University, he worked in both the landscaping and nursery business prior to his current (16 year) position at Huntsville (Alabama) Botanical Garden, where he is currently Chief Operating Officer. Harvey has tested all of the plants in this book at the Garden, where he has extensive experience with all the latest cultivars. He serves as Director Emeritus of the Alabama Nurserymen's Association, and is on the board of the Horticulture Research Institute and the Alabama Invasive Plant Council. Harvey writes a weekly column for the Huntsville Times, and is a weekly guest on the Noonday News television show on the local ABC affiliate.; Pamela

Crawford, author of eight gardening books, has lived and gardened in the southeast for most of her life (in Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, and Georgia, her current location). In addition to designing gardens for over 1500 residences, her work has been featured on the cover of Better Homes and Gardens publications as well as in Southern Living, HGTV Magazine, Fine Gardening, Country Gardens, Country Almanac, Small Gardens, and in over fifty newspapers. As an expert in her field, she has appeared on the Fine Living Network, Fox News affiliates and numerous local tv shows. Pamela has an undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University and a masters degree in landscape architecture from Florida International University, where she received the prestigious Torch Award as an outstanding alumnus from the school of architecture. Pamela has been heavily involved in trial gardens, both on a university and private level. Her goal is to find plants that give the most color for the least amount of care.; Born and raised in Mobile, Alabama, Barbara Pleasant is "one of America's most trusted garden writers" (Cheryl Long, editor-in-chief of Mother Earth News magazine). She has both a B.S. and a Masters degree from University of Alabama, and has lived in Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, and Virginia. Her awards include Honorary Alabama Master Gardener; First runner-up to the Herald Award, given by the American Nursery and Landscape Association; Two-time winner of the Quill and Trowel Award, given by the Garden Writers Association; 2002 winner of the Garden Globe Award in book writing, given by the Garden Writers Association; and 2005 Distinguished Alumni of the Year, New College, University of Alabama. Barbara has written numerous books on a wide range of subjects from vegetables to weeds. She is a contributing editor for Mother Earth News and The Herb Companion magazines, and she also covers the southeast region for Gardening How-To magazine. She lives in Floyd, Virginia, where she grows vegetables, herbs, fruits and flowers.

I purchased this book because I was looking for an extensive list of perennial FLOWERS that would do well in the south. (We moved here from the midwest a few years ago.) I was dissappointed that there were only 23 that were highlighted, and only 29 that were in the 4 honorable mention pages. In those lists, at least a third of the flowers mentioned were obvious bulbs...such as lilies, iris, and crocus. Also a large portion of the perennial section was grasses and leafy plants, not flowers. I would recommend this book if you are brand new to the area, but if you have lived here a couple of years, most of the plants and trees listed are obvious ones that you see all around you....such as crepe myrtles, magnolias, hydrangeas etc...Beautiful book, but not what I was looking for. If you are looking for perennial flower recommendations, try the book: Perennial All Stars by Jeff Cox

This book would have been more accurately titled "Easy Plants for the South." Because of the title I was expecting to see whole gardens together, and this book doesn't have any. Nevertheless, if you live (and garden) in the hot humid south, you should have this book. It was worth the cost to me for adding new plants to my list of things to try. I was familiar with many of the recommended selections and the author is right on the money about all of the plants on her list I have tried. While the plants had beautiful clear photos and good companion plants, I wished there had been more pictures of whole gardens together. Good book though, I am glad I bought it and will take it with me on my next trip to the nursery. Review update- I have used the heck out of this book- it is definitely one of the most useful on my bookshelf- I was planning on upgrading this to 5 stars, the only reason I'm not is this book is EXTREMELY poorly edited. There are lots of cross referenced pages that don't match (it says in several places that the profile for Japanese Kerria is on page 120 and it is actually on page 100), and Hydrangea was listed as having a red ribbon in one place and a blue ribbon in others- also it doesn't always tell WHY plants didn't get a ribbon. It skimps on information such as plants that are annual in the cooler zones and perennial in the warmer zones (like nearly all lantanas). And Naked Ladies do NOT bloom in lower zone 8 unless there is a cold winter. But for sheer convenience and usefulness of information, you can't beat this book- it tells you at a glance whether or not deer eat it, how long it blooms, water and light requirements- its really really helpful.

This should be a go-to book for any person buying plants in the South. It highlights plants that thrive on rainwater and require less than 5 minutes maintenance per year; specifies which plants attract pollinators/butterflies/birds and which are deer resistant; and suggests pairings of plants that require similar light/water resources. Great photographs & written descriptions.

Great help for starting a new garden or for finding something to replace plants that aren't performing well. The book divides plants by their ease of care, giving blue ribbons to the easiest to grow and suggesting companion plants for each. This is a perfect beginner gardener's "go to" reference for Southeastern zones, but also good for the more experienced garden who wants a fast "jog of the memory." It lists plants by their common names, has good color photos, describes form and size & lists plant requirements. "Easy Gardens for the South" is an excellent mainstay for the home gardener's shelf. I found some errors in index/page numbers, and plant variety is somewhat limited (limited mainly to the easier plants), but it is a great book to flip through for planting ideas, and even to carry with you to garden centers looking for the most "reliable" plants.

The book was advertised as "Used-Very good" but it looks BRAND NEW! Delivered earlier than expected. Excellent service! Thank you for this wonderful book at a fantastic price! I am an avid gardener and first saw this book in a library. After checking it out three times, I decided it was one gardening book I missed when I didn't have it around me. It's a truly beautiful book. Well written. Well organized. Exceptional photography. I recommend it to every one who enjoys flower gardening!

I am a neophyte gardener and have struggled with how to consolidate the wealth of information that is out there with my objectives, which include, but are not limited to, gardening for birds, long blooming season and low maintenance. This book pulls it all together for me and more! I find that it provides guidance but allows me the flexibility to be creative as well. I have used it to create garden plans, and after I make my shopping lists, I carry this book with me to my gardening center to make sure that I am buying the right plants, or to help me choose an alternative if the plant I want is not available. If you live in the south and you love to garden, this book is a must-have. I'm going to buy several more copies as gifts.

This book has become my gardening bible. Enough said!

This is a nice book with beautiful pictures and a detailed discussion of each plant. It is oriented towards the plants that are most likely to survive. The recommendations can be a problem though - several bear cautions that the selection can become an invasive pest. Take these recommendations seriously, or you may get more than you bargained for.

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