

Arnoldia Reviews

Exotic House Plants. A. B. Graf. E. Rutherford, N.J.: Julius Roehrs Company. 1973. 176 pages, 1200 illustrations. \$7.50.

Originally issued in 1953 as a guide to common as well as unusual house plants, this 8th edition, profusely illustrated with photographs, presents a changed format and benefits from the corrections of nomenclatural errors. The volume is compact and reasonably priced. Illustrations are grouped in eighteen categories and a few general plates are in color. Cultural directions are given in an introductory section and each illustration is accompanied with a graphic symbol designed to suggest a house plant, or one better grown in a greenhouse; also, the requirements of temperature, light, moisture, and soil type. An alphabetical index of scientific names supplies each with a modicum of miscellaneous information and is followed by an index of common names. A handy, useful, and recommended volume continuing an admirable tradition of illustrative plant handbooks.

RICHARD A. HOWARD

Pots and Pot Gardens. Mary Grant White. London: Abelard-Schuman. 1969. 160 pages, illustrated. £1.90.

Not to be equated with other recent books on the popular subject of container gardening, this little English volume offers a comprehensive treatment of an art which originated in ancient Greece and continues to flourish in the Mediterranean area.

Few gardeners have access to the traditional earthenware and terracotta pots which the author describes, and many of the plants she recommends are unsuited to our climate; but the classic concept of a pot garden is a valid one, distinct from today's ubiquitous redwood and plastic planters.

Anyone interested in creating an adaptation will find this a useful guide, as will the potter in search of authentic and pleasing designs. These are copiously illustrated in over 100 black and white photographs which underscore the need for artistry in the selection, planting, and placing of garden pots.

JEANNE S. WADLEIGH



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