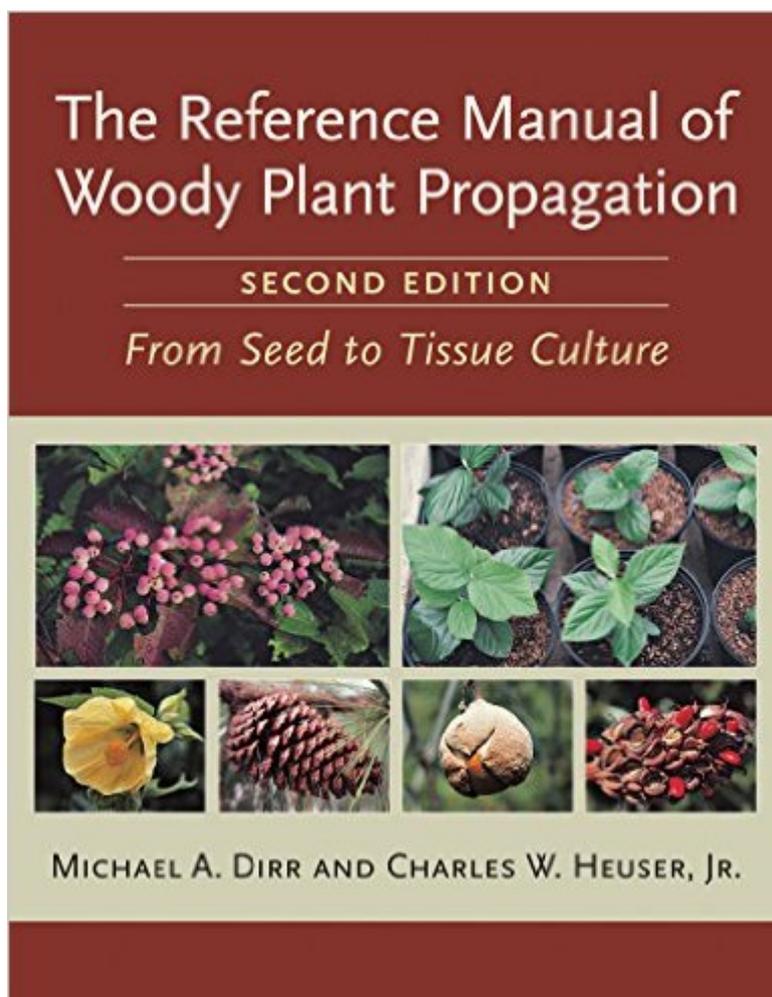


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The Reference Manual Of Woody Plant Propagation: From Seed To Tissue Culture, Second Edition



Synopsis

Compiled by two distinguished professors of horticulture, *The Reference Manual of Woody Plant Propagation* is a must for professionals and students of horticulture. Over 1,100 species and their propagation requirements by seeds, cuttings, grafting and budding, and tissue culture are discussed in exhaustive detail. Essentially a recipe book for making more trees and shrubs, this reference is a high-level how-to.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (41 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Dirr has done all the research and you reap all the rewards. His conclusions are backed up by many scientific studies by various individuals and groups. The first part gives a summary of the different propagation methods and the second part has very detailed data on specific species. I save hundreds of dollars each year by propagating by own southern magnolias, red tip photinas, and navel oranges. This is, by far, the best book on propagation out there!!

I propagated woody plants as a sideline business for a number of years and considered this book THE source. For many species, specific concentrations for rooting hormones are specified. This is invaluable information since for many plants there is an optimal concentration and using a higher or lower concentration of reduces rooting success rates as well as root development.

This is by far the best book out there on this subject. I have bought all the books on this subject and none can compare to this one. If you only want to buy one book on this subject this is the one.

This book is considered an industry standard by most. Nothing else published contains as much information about woody plant propagation. A must buy reference for any plant propagator.

The description states this is 800 pages, leading you to believe it has been updated significantly. It is actually 425 pages with larger type than the first edition. I couldn't find any changes beside the addition of several appendices. Still a must-have reference book, but you don't need the second edition if you own the first edition.

Uncertain which manual would be best, the reviews on this book were so good that I selected it. I'd have to say it's the best all-around propagation manual I've seen for woody plants. The only problem: now I have not only detailed info on desired plant material, but also want to try SO many others!

M. Dirr's books are a MUST in my greenhouses. This book is primarily text with some line drawn examples. It is arranged in alphabetical order based on the Latin names of plants. There is a cross reference in the back for common names. For each plant included he describes in great detail:--what different modes of propagation were attempted-- what percentage of results were achieved for each mode (cutting, seed, tissue culture, etc.)-- details for what method should be used for seed-- What IBA rooting hormone was best-- what time of year the propagation was done-- what climate region the specimen was propagated in-- what part of the plant to do tissue culture from-- grafting I am still working my way through this book as I have not read it from cover to cover. It has been a great reference for propagating at my nursery. It is great support material for my customers also. When someone comes in and says "I want to get some starts off my Grandmother's [insert plant here] before the house sells. Please Help." I can flip to the section of the book that describes all the ways to help, and find the one best suited to my customer and the time of year it is. This will not go in depth on every available rootstock for apple trees or grapes or roses...for that you will need a more specialized book that focuses strictly on the species. But as a general reference guide this is AWESOME!

I bought this book mostly based on all the five star reviews that were given it. However, upon receiving my copy, I was actually disappointed that it was lacking the information I was most hoping for. For some strange reason, this book doesn't discuss propagation of grapevines. Hmmm. I find

this just a bit odd. Grapevines are a relatively common woody plant. I would expect at least some mention of them. But for some reason, I did find info on propagating more obscure woody plants. And the other info that it did have on grafting, I already had in other books. So needless, to say, this book was just a bit unnecessary for me. And the book also came across a bit more academic than I'd have hoped for.

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