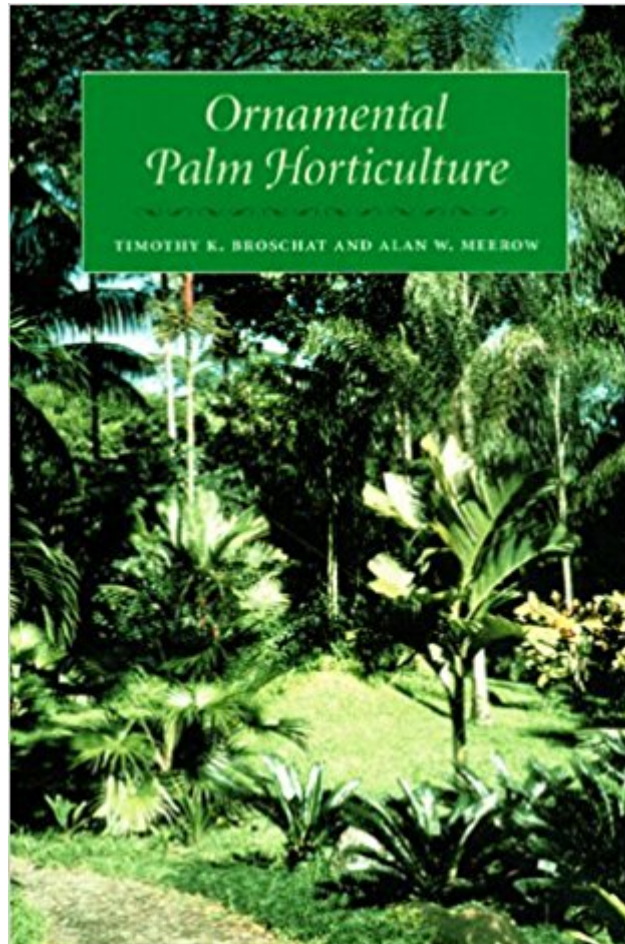


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# Ornamental Palm Horticulture



## Synopsis

"The best palm book on the market." —Henry Donselman, former State Palm Specialist, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida

Comprehensive in scope and based on research from worldwide sources, *Ornamental Palm Horticulture* presents virtually everything ever published about the subject in a concise, readable format, illustrated with 110 color plates and 81 black-and-white photographs. The first complete treatment of palms, the book covers palm biology, palm propagation, environmental influences, mineral nutrition and fertilization, insect and disease pests, container and field production, transplanting, and landscape and interiorscape management. With more than 200 of the world's 2,700-plus palm species under cultivation, commercial palm production has become a major horticultural industry in Florida. Large numbers of palms are also produced in Hawaii, California, Texas, and other warm regions of the world. They have become an integral part of the tropical and subtropical landscape, valued for their unique designs and complex forms of stems and leaves. With varieties from 100 feet high to dwarf-sized, they are also popular indoor plants. While much of the research cited was done in Florida, the authors supplement it with information from other palm-growing regions of the world, making *Ornamental Palm Horticulture* a useful reference wherever palms are grown. Indispensable for commercial producers and landscapers, this colorful book also will be welcomed by the thousands of palm enthusiasts who maintain collections of palms in landscapes, greenhouses, and interior spaces and by the millions of homeowners whose yards are blessed with palms.

Timothy K. Broschat is professor of environmental horticulture at the University of Florida's Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. He is coauthor of *Diseases and Disorders of Ornamental Palms* and *Betrock's Reference Guide to Florida Landscape Plants*. Alan W. Meerow, formerly professor of environmental horticulture and cooperative extension palm specialist at the University of Florida's Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center, is now a research geneticist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He is the author of *Betrock's Guide to Landscape Palms* and coauthor of *Betrock's Guide to Florida Landscape Plants*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Avid recreational gardeners, designers, and nursery professionals who enjoy growing dramatic ornamental palms will welcome this comprehensive manual comprising palm biology, propagation techniques, cultural requirements, and overall care. Broschat and Meerow approach their subject from a learned perspective, yet nonprofessionals should be easily able to navigate the chapters in order to glean sound advice on plants' growth habits, environmental stresses, pests, and diseases. More than 100 colorplates, as well as black-and-white photographs and line drawings, illustrate this excellent guide to cultivating palm trees. Alice Joyce  
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I found that there was a great deal of information on possible diseases and disorders of palms. However, my main disappointment was on the real lack of information on types of palm trees and the type of soil and climate needed. I would have liked to have had more information on the cold resistant palm trees. There was hardly any information on the species of palm trees. I found much more information just surfing the internet on palm trees than what I found in the book. I think that I could have made a much more interesting book if I had done a compilation of information from contributors off the internet! I either will sell the book as used or utilize it to assist in recognizing possible diseases or deficiencies. It would have been nice to have had more information on rare palm tree distributors of seed and/or plants as well.

This is a great book for if your more than a back yard hobby. Detailed - informative - a real resource. pics are a little lacking but there are so many photo's that can be found on line

Excellent book. A must have for any palm fan. This is the definitive book on palms in the U.S. I recomment it highly.

The book was written in attempt to gather scientific literature on palm horticulture together in a single reference text. Broschat and Meerow have done that in a very simple and effective way. This is quite an comprehensive book that tackles the main aspects of palm horticulture from propagation to pests and interior maintenance of palms. Particularly useful are the sections on mineral nutrition and propagation. The different chapters of the book are well-complemented by over 100 illustrations which give you a better idea which disease or deficiency might affect your palm. I have read the book in less than two days and I was able to immediately diagnostic nutritional deficiencies with my Spindle, Christmas and Phoenix palms. This book is not intended to describe how to grow a specific palm. Rather, it teaches general principles to grow and maintain healthy palms. This is the most complete and useful book on palms I have read so far. Every serious palm amateur should have one at home.

This is a useful book to have around when needing information on just about anything relating to palm horticulture. The only thing I was somewhat disappointed in though, was the lack of cultural information on specific palms. I was expecting something more like how best to grow this specific palm and then turn the page and go on to info. on how to grow the next one. This was more of a general and broad coverage of palms. But this might have been more my expectations were different, as the book is and will be very useful. But sometimes I just like to be able to look at a picture of a mature palm, read all the in's and outs of growing it, and dream or plan of fitting it into my landscape.

This book is an attempt to guide those interested in palm horticulture. However, finding that palm horticulture varies widely between the species, I found this title a disappointment. Some palms can't take iron for instance, but the authors neglect to give specific information on those species which would be helpful. The same applies to those palms that need iron. As a general guide, the book is ok, but if you really need to know how to care for your exotic and rare palms you may need advice from the local botanical garden or a nursery that specializes in growing palms to determine the nutritional requirements of a specific genus.

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The authors clearly had no intention in writing yet another book filled with photos of palm species that would instruct readers on what palms to plant. There are already many books that provide the service that two of these reviewers ask for ("Betrock's Landscape Palms," "Betrock's Cold Hardy Palms," "Encyclopedia of Cultivated Palms") that give detailed horticultural information on palm species. The intent of this book is made very clear in the introduction: this a book on how to deal with palms horticulturally, not a guide on which palms to choose in a landscape.

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