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# The Gardener's Encyclopaedia of New Zealand Native Plants

*Valda Paddison*

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**Valda Paddison : The Gardener's Encyclopaedia of New Zealand Native Plants** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gardener's Encyclopaedia of New Zealand Native Plants:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Five stars are simply not enough.By S. BehuninI ordered this book and was amazed and enthralled by it from the moment I cracked the cover. What a find. I had no idea New Zealand had such wonderful plants. I wish the section on Alpine Wildflowers was more thorough but it wasn't bad. It could use information on cultivation, hardiness, and availability and the book would be perfect. I want to grow some of these plants so bad it isn't even funny. I fell in love with this book and would never part with it. It will remain a cherished part of my library as it would be with yours. Don't pass up the opportunity to get this one. It is well worth the money.I am a botanist and work for a nursery. I have an extensive library, mostly on the area where I live but I love plants from

all over the world. Especially if the plants can survive my climate. I got some good information and photographs from this book. I am not kidding when I said I was amazed. I fell in love with in in the first few pages.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy GillianVery comprehensive, stunning plates, a compendium of detailed information.

This encyclopaedia brings together over 1000 species, hybrids and cultivars of plants native to New Zealand. The colour photographs, arranged according to the plant's attributes and use in the garden, include examples of landscaping possibilities as well as plant portraits. The accompanying A to Z text gives detailed descriptions, cultivation and propagation information (including regionally-specific advice). There are lists of plants with desirable features or for particular situations, and photographs of natives used successfully in gardens.

A wealth of information on a deservedly popular group of plants. -- Alice Joyce, San Francisco Examiner, October 6, 2000For anyone interested in the flora of New Zealand [this] book will prove of immense value. -- UK online, September 2000Indispensable for the plant enthusiast. -- The American Herb Association, Vol. 16:4 2001This book will give a taste of the many unusual plants of this exciting flora to plant enthusiasts. -- Graham Hutchins, The Garden, October 2000Without a doubt it is the book you will need [to] increase your knowledge of the flora of New Zealand. -- John E. Bryan, Gardening News, April 2000About the AuthorValda Paddison is an experienced garden writer and native plants enthusiast from North Auckland who has written extensively for The New Zealand Gardener.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.If you believe that natives are lacking in spring blossom and autumn color, then perhaps you can be persuaded to change your mind. The yellow flower of the kowhai attracts tui to its nectar and is a beautiful harbinger of spring, and the crimson red of the pohutukawa is the essence of summer. Leptospermum cultivars smother themselves with single and double flowers in white and red and all shades in between, and the same can be said of the many Hebe cultivars available. The Hoheria sports its white flowers in abundance in late summer while others such as Rhabdothamnus solandri flower spasmodically all year round. Many natives such as olearias, kanuka and cabbage trees have small flowers but make up for this with sheer quantity. Some trees and shrubs are colorful in other ways. Toronia toru (toru), Pseudowintera colorata (horopito), and Nathofagus fusca (red beech) take on attractive leaf coloration at various times, while berries and other fruit are a prominent feature of a number of plants, including coprosma, titoki and whau. Some have a distinctive form, such as the spiny fruit of the whau, while others bear large quantities of small berries. Many of these are attractive to native birds such as the kereru (wood pigeon).