

## BOOK REVIEW

Gleason M.L., Daughtrey M.L., Chase A.R.,  
Moorman G.W., Mueller D.S. 2010.

**Diseases of Herbaceous Perennials.**

APS Press – The American Phytopathological Society,  
St. Paul, MN, USA, 281 pp.  
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Although there are hundreds of books referring to diseases of ornamentals, this compendium is the best in this category due to number of characterized host plants and their diseases. In the “Preface” (p. iii) it is emphasized that this compendium provides information on hundreds of diseases of several hundreds of herbaceous perennials.

In section “Introduction” (p. 1–2) it is pointed out that the goal of this book is to help the growers or gardeners to recognize the major diseases of plants and to manage/control them effectively. The authors present a definition of “herbaceous perennials” as such plants that in spite of lacking woody tissue they persist in garden year to year.

Section “Diagnosing and managing diseases of herbaceous perennials” (p. 3–4) provides information on twelve major pathogen types and methods on managing each type.

In section “General types of diseases” (p. 5–26) short descriptions and characteristics of the following types of diseases are provided: (a) fungal leaf spots, (b) gray mold, (c) powdery mildew, (d) root rots caused by fungi, (e) rusts and smuts, (f) vascular wilts caused by fungi, (g) downy mildews, (h) root and stem rots caused by fungus-like organisms, (i) bacterial diseases, (j) phytoplasmas, (k) virus diseases, (l) nematodes.

In section “Diseases by host plant genus” (p. 27–249) the diseases of the plants from the following genera are well characterized and supported by excellent photographs: *Acanthus*, *Achillea*, *Aconitum*, *Actaea*, *Aegopodium*,

*Agapanthus*, *Agastache*, *Ajuga*, *Alcea Alchemilla*, *Allium*, *Alstroemeria*, *Anemone*, *Aquilegia*, *Arabis*, *Argyranthemum*, *Arisaema*, *Armeria*, *Artemisia*, *Aruncus*, *Asarum*, *Asclepias*, *Aster*, *Astilbe*, *Astrantia*, *Baptisia*, *Begonia*, *Belamcanda*, *Bellis*, *Bergenia*, *Brunnera*, *Caladium*, *Caltha*, *Campanula*, *Canna*, *Centaurea*, *Centranthus*, *Ceratostigma*, *Chelone*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Clematis*, *Convallaria*, *Coreopsis*, *Corydalis*, *Crocsmia*, *Dahlia*, *Dasiphora*, *Delphinium*, *Dianthus*, *Dicentra*, *Dictamnus*, *Digitalis*, *Doronicum*, *Echinacea*, *Echinops*, *Epimedium*, *Eremurus*, *Eryngium*, *Erysimum*, *Eupatorium*, *Euphorbia*, *Euryops*, *Farfugium*, *Ferns (Phylum Pteridophyta)*, *Filipendula*, *Fragaria*, *Gaillardia*, *Galium*, *Gaura*, *Geranium*, *Geum*, *Gladiolus*, *grasses and sedges ornamental (Poaceae and Cyperaceae)*, *Gypsophila*, *Helenium*, *Helianthemum*, *Helianthus*, *Heliopsis*, *Helleborus*, *Hemerocallis*, *Heuchera*, *Hibiscus*, *Hosta*, *Hyacinthus*, *Hypericum*, *Iberis*, *Iris*, *Kniphofia*, *Lamium*, *Lavandula*, *Leucanthemum*, *Lewisia*, *Liatris*, *Lilium*, *Limonium*, *Liriope*, *Lobelia*, *Lupinus*, *Lychnis*, *Lysimachia*, *Lythrum*, *Maianthemum*, *Malva*, *Mentha*, *Mertensia*, *Monarda*, *Myosotis*, *Narcissus*, *Nepeta*, *Oenothera*, *Opuntia*, *Origanum*, *Paeonia*, *Papaver*, *Patrinia*, *Penstemon*, *Pentas*, *Perovskia*, *Phlox*, *Phormium*, *Physalis*, *Physostegia*, *Platycodon*, *Podophyllum*, *Polemonium*, *Polygonatum*, *Primula*, *Pulmonaria*, *Ranunculus*, *Rosmarinus*, *Rudbeckia*, *Ruta*, *Salvia*, *Santolina*, *Saxifraga*, *Scabiosa*, *Scutellaria*, *Sedum*, *Sempervivum*, *Silene*, *Solidago*, *Stachys*, *Stokesia*, *Tanacetum*, *Teucrium*, *Thalictrum*, *Thermopsis*, *Thymus*, *Tiarella*, *Tradescantia*, *Tricyrtis*, *Trillium*, *Trollius*, *Tulipa*, *Verbascum*, *Verbena*, *Veronica*, *Viola*, *Waldsteinia*, *Yucca*, *Zantedeschia*.

All readers and users of this compendium will find very useful and helpful the following addendums: (1) “Common Latin Name Directory” (p. 249–250). (2) “References” listing 34 titles of pertinent books or publications. (3) “Glossary” (p. 257–260). (4) “Index” (p. 261–281).

I strongly recommend this book to all horticultural libraries and to the attention of persons professionally involved in horticulture and plant protection sciences.

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