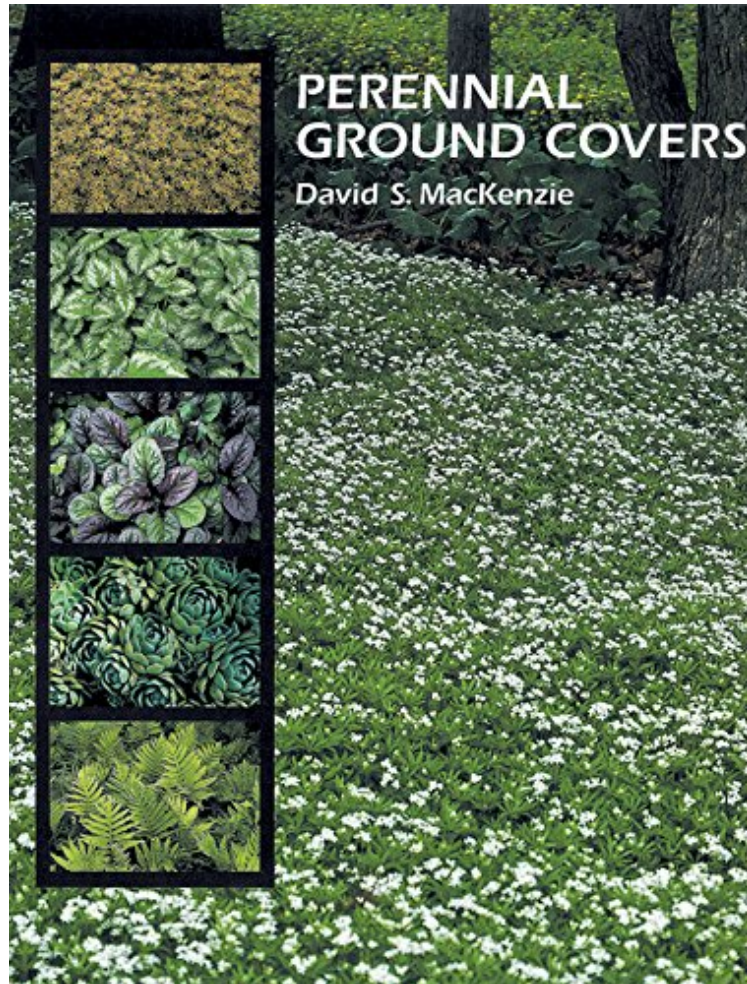


Perennial Ground Covers

David MacKenzie

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David MacKenzie : Perennial Ground Covers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Perennial Ground Covers:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Quit being frustrated by your shady areasBy CustomerAmazingly complete, used this in combination with Taylor's Guide to Ground Covers and Taylor's Guide to Shade Gardening. No more trying to grow grass under trees where no grass will ever grow. Go with the flow, plant something else. It can be perennial and drought-resistant and native if you just read a little! Quit being frustrated by your shady areas!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Reference Book for Ground Cover PlantsBy Pam LThis is an awesome reference book for ground cover plants. It was recommended to me by Michigan State University Extension Offices as a guide to help me assess and select the appropriate ground cover for my front and back yards. It has detailed explanations of hundreds of ground covers and color photos of more than 300 of them. I would've liked to

have had a color photo of each ground cover, but I can always google the ones that don't have pics if it sounds like they'll be suitable for my needs. In addition, there's a fabulous chart that provides an "at a glance" summary of each ground cover with information on the plant type, the climate zone, height, bloom season, type of foliage, scale size of the plant, lighting needs, soil type needed, moisture required. If you are a landscaper, I definitely recommend this as a reference book. I bought it for personal needs, for a limited use, and didn't want to pay the high price for a brand new book that I wouldn't use much, so I purchased it used, in "like new" condition and got a great price and a book that was in excellent condition. 30 of 31 people found the following review helpful. An excellent title from Timber Press By Dave Norden *Perennial Ground Covers* is a great example of the high standards of Timber Press publishing of horticultural subjects. MacKenzie does an overall exceptional job at breaking down hundreds of species of both traditional and non-traditional groundcovers. Many of the plants included here are clever and reasonable additions to those that would normally be considered groundcovers, while some step over a few bounds, with no harm done nonetheless, to be included in this group. This reference book is best for those with just a little more than basic plant knowledge, but can be just as helpful for the beginner. It is refreshing in its approach that does not baby the reader as it does not assume they know nothing about plants at all. The breakdown of this book consists of an introduction, including an explanation on nomenclature, a section of plates of each groundcover included in the book, a non-picture section of species in alphabetical order, and an outstanding appendix of characteristics in table form for all of the plants included. One main drawback of the book is a lack of family names of species that have descriptions. This is where a grouping by relationship or by environmental conditions would be better than an alphabetical listing. I appreciate that the pictures were kept together in a separate section, rather than including them alongside each description. This makes for easier use for reference. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in a reference for both groundcovers and perennials as two individual groups of plants.

Ground covers take on new meaning in this enlightening book designed to make gardeners' work easier. Hostas, stonecrops, smaller rhododendrons, prayer plants, pyracanthas, box huckleberry, hellebores, daylilies, grasses, alpine willows, and unsupported climbing vines are just some of MacKenzie's imaginative suggestions. Even *Gunnera manicata*, a 6-foot-tall, 8-foot-wide plant, is suggested for some situations!

"If I need to plant a large section of groundcover among Japanese maples and I want something more interesting than the old standbys, I can pick up *Perennial Ground Covers*, by David MacKenzie, page through excellent pictures, and find a plant that I had forgotten or never thought would work." Donna Williamson, *HortResources* newsletter, January 2004