

English meadows in the heart of the city

City meadows

The growing support for environmentally diverse gardens is shown by gardeners' continuing love affair with "meadow gardening", which also has a new section in the book. According to Christopher Brickell, editor-in-chief of the established bible of British gardening, *The Royal Horticultural Society Encyclopedia of Gardening*, "More and more gardeners are now creating their own wild-flower meadows, often right in the heart of cities or suburbs, helping in the conservation of our native wild-flowers as well as small mammals, butterflies, insects, and birds."

Adventurous choices for new gardeners

"Nurseries are responding to gardeners' demands. With more people than ever before taking an interest in gardening, new, younger gardeners are more inclined to be adventurous and go for something fashionable, rather than traditional. We've added more exotic plants than in the original edition, including plants like bamboos and bananas, although the latter take a lot of care to see them through the British winters."

The new edition of the encyclopedia also includes completely new, expanded sections on both container gardening and conservatories, reflecting the huge upsurge of interest in gardening all over Britain, even among city-dwellers with limited space. Garden design has also become a larger subject, much loved as it is by television, celebrities and the public alike.

<p>The new edition of the <i>Royal Horticultural Society Encyclopedia of Gardening</i> is published on 31st October 2002, price £35, ISBN 0 7513 0862 5. For more information please contact: Hermione Ireland on 020 7010 4336 or e-mail hermione.ireland@dk.com</p>
