

Field Guide to the Orchids of Britain and Europe, by Williams, John & Andrew

This is the first comprehensive Field guide to the wild orchids of Europe which also covers the family of Non-European countries fringing the Mediterranean.

TEXT

The region covered in this book embraces Europe east to the Urals and Caucasus, inclusive of Iceland, the Faeroes, the Mediterranean islands and the Atlantic islands of Madeira, the Azores and the Canaries. The range also extends to the Middle Eastern countries bordering the Mediterranean and to North Africa. Every species is described, as are most subspecies in many forms. Each is given its popular and scientific names and, where appropriate, the French, German and Italian vernacular names follow. The orchids are described in their distribution, habitat and flowering periods are detailed.

There is a useful introduction to the family by the senior author, three artificial keys -- for the genera, for the genus, *Ophrys* and for the genus *Orchis* - a glossary of botanical terms and a checklist. Finally, there is an index to all species and subspecies described in the text.

ILLUSTRATION

The color plates illustrate all 138 species, and also the subspecies and many other forms, making a total of nearly 250 paintings of different plants. In every case illustrations fall in the same spread as the descriptions. On the majority of plates additional diagnostic details have been included.

John Williams, who was for many years Curator of the Coryndon Museum in Nairobi, is a leading naturalist and his son, Andrew, has followed in his footsteps. Norman are a lot as a young British artist whose meticulous work is attracting a growing audience.

