



Book Review

Gilman, Edward, F. *An Illustrated Guide to Pruning, Third Edition*. 2011. Delmar Publishers, CenGage Learning, Independence, Kentucky, U.S. 352 pp. ISBN 978-1-111-30730-1

Well-written and easy to understand, the third edition of *An Illustrated Guide to Pruning* is a must-have book for anyone interested in the pruning and maintenance of ornamental trees. The book treats the subject of pruning with a scientific approach and a rigorous methodology, and is aimed at arborists, landscape architects, and all other professionals who actively deal with the pruning of ornamental trees.

The book has 18 chapters. Each chapter is treated to a level of detail and exposition that suits any number of audiences, whether that audience be individuals with only the slightest knowledge of the physiological basis of pruning or the world's foremost field experts. Readers will gain scientific knowledge and the practical application to be used in everyday work. For this purpose, the technical nomenclature is reduced to a minimum and explained clearly in order to be easily understood by practitioners while also useful for those who carry out scientific research on the subject. The author's desire to be clear and accessible to a wide range of readers has not diminished the accuracy and precision of the content, making the book an instrument of knowledge useful at any level of professionalism. *An Illustrated Guide to Pruning* has more than 200 color photos in addition to the hundreds of illustrations and figures. The book is also enriched by many practical examples and research results, both positive and negative.

A notable plus for this book is that it was published following several years of scientific and experimental work necessary to collect the relevant research experiences and has been extensively audited by reviewers from different professional backgrounds.

In conclusion, we can say that this guide, which has been completely renovated with respect to previous editions, is designed to help readers understand

and implement appropriate pruning practices that are vital to the development of a sustainable structure in its first 25 years. Topics covered by *An Illustrated Guide to Pruning* also include the challenges associated with pruning, such as disease prevention, root pruning, pruning of mature trees, and their recovery and restoration after damage from stormy weather events. Thanks to the thoroughness and rigor with which it handles the subject, the author has provided an essential resource for those who, at different levels, deal with the pruning of trees.

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