

# The Sex Life Of Plants

## **A Garden of Marvels** - Ruth Kassinger

2014-02-25

In the tradition of *The Botany of Desire* and *Wicked Plants*, a witty and engaging history of the first botanists interwoven with stories of today's extraordinary plants found in the garden and the lab. In *Paradise Under Glass*, Ruth Kassinger recounted with grace and humor her journey from brown thumb to green, sharing lessons she learned from building a home conservatory in the wake of a devastating personal crisis. In *A Garden of Marvels*, she extends the story. Frustrated by plants that fail to thrive, she sets out to understand the basics of botany in order to become a better gardener. She retraces the progress of the first botanists who banished myths and misunderstandings and discovered that flowers have sex, leaves eat air, roots choose their food, and hormones make morning glories climb fence posts. She also visits modern gardens, farms, and labs to discover the science behind extraordinary plants like one-ton pumpkins, a truly black petunia, a biofuel grass that grows twelve feet tall, and the world's only photosynthesizing animal.

Transferring her insights to her own garden, she nurtures a "cocktail" tree that bears five kinds of fruit, cures a Buddha's Hand plant with beneficial fungi, and gets a tree to text her when it's thirsty. Intertwining personal anecdote, accessible science, and untold history, the ever-engaging author takes us on an eye-opening journey into her garden—and yours.

*Discovering the Human* - Ralf Haekel 2013-08-14

'*Discovering the Human*' investigates the emergence of the modern human sciences and their impact on literature, art and other media in the 18th and 19th centuries. Up until the 1830s, science and culture were part of a joint endeavour to discover and explore the secret of life. The question 'What is life?' unites science and the arts during the Ages of Enlightenment and Romanticism, and at the end of the Romantic period, a shift of focus from the human as an organic whole to the specialized

disciplines signals the dawning of modernity. The emphasis of the edited collection is threefold: the first part sheds light on the human in art and science in the Age of Enlightenment, the second part is concerned with the transitions taking place at the turn of the 19th century. The chapters forming the third part investigate the impact of different media on the concept of the human in science, literature and film.

*The Microscopic and Chemical Parts of Plants* - Thomas P. Hanna 1999

The plant's cells and their several specialized working subunits are examined in addition to chemical traits like color, scent, and the hormonal effects that turn leaves toward the light and allow other adaptations to the surroundings. And the major processes driven by chemical changes over time that together are the life cycle of the plant are considered."--  
BOOK JACKET.

*Flora Unveiled* - Lincoln Taiz 2016-12-07

Sex in animals has been known for at least ten thousand years, and this knowledge was put to good use during animal domestication in the Neolithic period. In stark contrast, sex in plants wasn't discovered until the late 17th century, long after the domestication of crop plants. Even after its discovery, the "sexual theory" continued to be hotly debated and lampooned for another 150 years, pitting the "sexualists" against the "asexualists". Why was the notion of sex in plants so contentious for so long? "*Flora Unveiled*" is a deep history of perceptions about plant gender and sexuality, beginning in the Ice Age and ending in the middle of the nineteenth century, with the elucidation of the complete plant life cycle. Linc and Lee Taiz show that a gender bias that plants are unisexual and female (a "one-sex model") prevented the discovery of plant sex and delayed its acceptance long after the theory was definitively proven. The book explores the various sources of this gender bias, beginning with women's role as gatherers, crop domesticators, and the first farmers. In the myths and religions of the Bronze and Iron Ages,

female deities were strongly identified with flowers, trees, and agricultural abundance, and during Middle Ages and Renaissance, this tradition was assimilated into Christianity in the person of Mary. The one-sex model of plants continued into the Early Modern Period, and experienced a resurgence during the eighteenth century Enlightenment and again in the nineteenth century Romantic movement. Not until Wilhelm Hofmeister demonstrated the universality of sex in the plant kingdom was the controversy over plant sex finally laid to rest. Although "Flora Unveiled" focuses on the discovery of sex in plants, the history serves as a cautionary tale of how strongly and persistently cultural biases can impede the discovery and delay the acceptance of scientific advances.

**Flora Unveiled** - Lincoln Taiz 2017

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Plant and Planet - Anthony Huxley 1975

"In the final analysis, man, be he botanist, gardener, or plain Homo sapiens, is utterly dependent on plants, while they can exist quite happily without him. How different from and similar to us is this major life form, and yet how little most of us know about it. Here, then, is the world of plants in all its thrusting vigor, incredible variety, ecological delicacy, and unbelievable ingenuity, presented by a writer whose command of the subject is prodigious. Plants have no bone, shell, muscle, blood, or nerves, and yet their lives have striking parallels with ours. [This book] illuminates their life cycle from germination to death, their life styles, their chemistry and structure, their capacities for colonization, their opportunism, and their amazing sex life--all based on water, air, and soil and fueled by their unique ability to convert light into energy. As English reviewer Adrian Bell said after reading Mr. Huxley's book, 'You soon realize that in strolling in the meadows in the merry month of May you are witnessing an orgy of sex beside which La Dolce Vita is like a bishop's garden party.' In addition to their multifarious sex practices, one marvels at the inventiveness of plants: aerodynamics, hydrodynamics, structural engineering, plumbing, insulation, chemical messengers, the slingshot, the poison dart, the triggered trap, all manner of deception, self-adornment--all these the plants perfected long before mankind. This book literally provides a plant's-eye view of the world. Rigorous in approach and style, it lends little solace to those who hope to make their philodendrons grow by giving them Brahms instead of The Jefferson Airplane. Nonetheless, it cannot fail to fascinate anyone whose chlorophyll-consciousness has been raised by such books as Tompkins' The Secret Life of Plants. By the time one has finished it, one sees the verdant world quite differently and can only nod approvingly when the author says at the

end: 'If man wholly or partly destroys himself, the probability is that most natural vegetable life will survive.'"--Dust jacket.

*Wie die Pflanzen lieben (The sex life of plants, dt.) Das geheimnisvolle Liebesleben d. Pflanzen, e. Blick in d. Seele d. Natur* - Alec Bristow 1979

Seeds Sex and Civilization - Peter Thompson  
2010-08-24

The history of civilization told through the story of man's relation to and use of seeds. Seeds have influenced evolution, and for millennia they have influenced and sometimes determined where and how we live. This is an epic tale, given added enchantment by the fact that to most of us seeds mean little more than tiny objects in paper packets: who thinks first of rice, wheat, coffee, nuts, peas, beans, or olives? Here, Peter Thompson unfolds the absorbing history of how, after centuries of investigation, we finally discovered what seeds do and how they work. This is a scientific detective story with heroes and heroines following clues and finding answers. Thompson brings to life the eccentrics, explorers, amateurs, and highly dedicated professionals who have accumulated our knowledge. Some are well known, such as Charles Darwin and Gregor Mendel; others, like the Russian geneticist Nikolai Vavilov, are less so. The seeds also have a story and appear to have personalities, ambitions, and "stratagems" of their own. The book concludes with a chapter by Stephen Harris on current debates about genetically modified crops, seed conservation, and plant ownership in the contemporary world.

**Sex in Your Garden** - Angela Overy 1997

This book takes a clear and concise peek at the reproductive processes of garden plants and their relationship to their various pollinators. Written with a flair for the humorous and a touch of the absurd, Sex in Your Garden is the perfect addition to any gardener's or botanist's bookshelf.

**The Sex Life of Plants** - Alec Bristow 1979-01

*The Sex Life of Flowers* - Bastiaan Meeuse 1984  
Photographs and text describe the variety of methods evolved by plants to achieve pollination.

**Hot Plants** - Chris Kilham 2013-09-10

In the wake of Viagra's enormous popularity, the international market has been inundated by a

blizzard of purported natural sex enhancers. Some of these products are nothing but hype, yet others contain proven agents that enhance libido, improve sexual function, and increase pleasure. These bona fide sex-boosters can be found in Hot Plants. From the ancient rainforests of Malaysia, to remote mountains in Siberia, medicine hunter Chris Kilham has scoured the globe in search of effective, sex-enhancing plants. Hot Plants, Nature's Proven Sex Boosters For Men And Women, contains a lively account of those adventurous travels, with valuable information that you can use to boost your sex life. These natural agents of desire include Tongkat Ali, maca, yohimbe, catuaba, ashwagandha, horny goat weed, zallouh root, Rhodiola rosea, Red ginseng, Siberian ginseng and chocolate. Medicine Hunter Chris Kilham draws upon history, legend and keen research, as he weaves tales of remarkable people, exotic locations, and his extensive investigations into the science and uses of the hot plants. Learn which plants increase libido in both men and women, improve erectile function in men, put more fire into your sex life, and significantly boost your pleasure.

**The Secret Life of Plants** - Peter Tompkins  
2018-06-12

Explore the inner world of plants and its fascinating relation to mankind, as uncovered by the latest discoveries of science. A perennial bestseller. In this truly revolutionary and beloved work, drawn from remarkable research, Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird cast light on the rich psychic universe of plants. Now available in a new edition, The Secret Life of Plants explores plants' response to human care and nurturing, their ability to communicate with man, plants' surprising reaction to music, their lie-detection abilities, their creative powers, and much more. Tompkins and Bird's classic book affirms the depth of humanity's relationship with nature and adds special urgency to the cause of protecting the environment that nourishes us.

**Vegetal Sex** - Stella Sandford 2022-11-03

This book introduces the reader to the exciting new field of plant philosophy and takes it in a new direction to ask: what does it mean to say that plants are sexed? Do 'male' and 'female' really mean the same when applied to humans, trees, fungi and algae? Are the zoological

categories of sex really adequate for understanding the - uniquely 'dibiontic' - life cycle of plants? *Vegetal Sex* addresses these questions through a detailed analysis of major moments in the history of plant sex, from Aristotle to the modern day. Tracing the transformations in the analogy between animals and plants that characterize this history, it shows how the analogy still functions in contemporary botany and asks: what would a non-zoocentric, plant-centred philosophy of vegetal sex be like? By showing how philosophy and botany have been and still are inextricably entwined, *Vegetal Sex* allows us to think vegetal being and, perhaps, to recognize the vegetal in us all.

*The Nature of Crops* - John Warren 2015-04-24  
Have you ever wondered why we eat wheat, rice, potatoes and cassava? Why we routinely domesticate foodstuffs with the power to kill us, or why we chose almonds over acorns? Answering all these questions and more in a readable and friendly style, this book takes you on a journey through our history with crop plants. Arranged into recurrent themes in plant domestication, this book documents the history and biology of over 50 crops, including cereals, spices, legumes, fruits and cash crops such as chocolate, tobacco and rubber.

**The Social Emergency: Studies in Sex Hygiene and Morals** - Various 2022-07-31  
DigiCat Publishing presents to you this special edition of "The Social Emergency: Studies in Sex Hygiene and Morals" by Various. DigiCat Publishing considers every written word to be a legacy of humankind. Every DigiCat book has been carefully reproduced for republishing in a new modern format. The books are available in print, as well as ebooks. DigiCat hopes you will treat this work with the acknowledgment and passion it deserves as a classic of world

literature.

*Sex Theories and the Shaping of Two Moderns* - Deirdre Anne McVicker Pettipiece 2013-10-08  
This book examines the impact of scientific and sexologic theories on the creation of character in the prose of two moderns, Hemingway and H.D.  
*Alice in the Land of Plants* - Yiannis Manetas 2012-06-07

Why is it that plants do not need to move? How does a nonmotile organism have sex or defend itself? Why are some plants virtually immortal? What is the mechanism that allows plants to exploit a practically inexhaustible extraterrestrial energy source? How do plants regulate the composition of our planet's atmosphere? Why have there not been mass extinctions among plants as there have been among animals? How do plants communicate with one another? In the end, are plants intelligent organisms? These are some of the questions the author discusses to demonstrate that plants are wrongly considered to be simple organisms lacking specific behaviour and intelligence. This book promises to be as pleasant a surprise as Alice's experience in the white rabbit's warren, in which she encountered a world very different from ours. The author explains the biology of plants following Einstein's maxim that everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.

**Plant Love** - Michael Allaby 2017-04  
Get ready for the shocking truth about botanical sex. Who knew that bee orchids trick insects into having sex with them, avocado flowers are female one day and male the next, and some flowers are the insect equivalent of nightclubs where males and females meet and mate? Bestselling author Mike Allaby reveals over 200 of nature's most unseemly creations in this sensational expose.

**The Sex Life of Plants** - Alec Bristow 1978

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