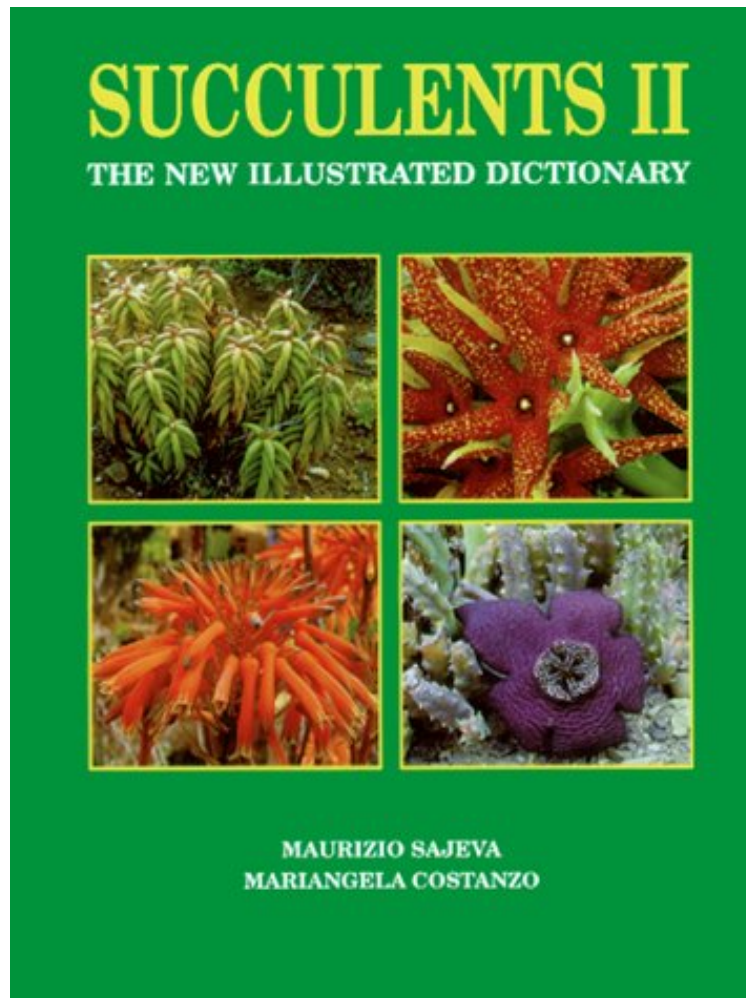


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## Succulents II: The New Illustrated Dictionary

*Maurizio Sajeve, Mariangela Costanzo*  
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**Maurizio Sajeve, Mariangela Costanzo : Succulents II: The New Illustrated Dictionary** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Succulents II: The New Illustrated Dictionary:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Of little practical value. By M. Yeh After reading through both Succulents I and II, I am still confused about what exactly these texts were hoping to accomplish. As another reviewer has already pointed out, these texts are neither useful as identification guides nor are they as cultivation guides; their images are not truly conducive for plant characterization and the text does not touch on plant care in any real capacity. While you may occasionally be able to identify certain unique succulents simply through the likeness of the images that you see in the text, it is all but impossible to make positive identifications of species with more common forms such as the generic rosette form of many sempervivums; this is especially true of species with highly variable color. Even more frustrating are the woefully brief descriptions which are unfortunately generic and vague. Although,

together, both texts cover upwards of 2 000 species of succulents and serve to demonstrate extreme diversity (its most laudable feature), it is by no means a catalog, in the true sense of the word, as it is not complete or exhaustive by any stretch of the imagination. So what is it? The text states that it "constitutes a unique work of reference for succulent enthusiasts and collectors." While I do enjoy the simple fact that these texts are likely to be the most extensive collections of succulents in print, at the end of the day I feel largely unsatisfied; as though I haven't really gained any knowledge having read them. When I look something up in a dictionary, I aim to close the book having newfound insight and clarification. I don't feel these texts accomplish that. This, in addition to its price and datedness, makes these texts disappointing, given its reviews of high praise. 2 Stars - I don't like it. I think most enthusiasts yearn for more than just "Bodies to 4 cm long and 15 mm wide with lighter spots; yellow flowers," a typical description, and a documentary image. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Succulent Supplement By Ginger Russell I previously purchased the first volume of this, and it has become my succulent and cactus bible in terms of identifying plants. This second book seems to either repeat some of the listings from the first book, and I haven't found it as easy to use for some reason. I think any of the information that is truly different from the first volume is going to be useful, and there is also a cross-reference list for species that have been given more than one name. If you are a diehard succulent fan as I am, you may still want to get this, but I think the first volume is better probably sufficient for most hobby gardeners. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I heard about this book from a succulent store owner ... By Dianne and John Scott I heard about this book from a succulent store owner. All my succulents have nicknames, which are the only names I remember. They were unfamiliar with the nicknames and suggested I get this book. Very detailed and helpful.

The authors earlier collaborated on our bestselling *Succulents: The Illustrated Dictionary*. This new book does not replace the original, which continues to be available, but rather supplements it in several ways. It includes 900 species that were not covered in the first volume, and although it includes some species that were covered earlier, this second volume supplies new photographs that illustrate other aspects of the plant, whether in its habitat or in cultivation. The format of the two books is similar, with brief descriptions accompanying the excellent color photographs. Real succulent enthusiasts will welcome the additional coverage and improved photographs offered by this new volume, which should take its place on the shelf next to the original.

From Booklist Sajeve, an Italian biologist, and Costanzo, an expert in the field of alpine succulents, have greatly extended their coverage of succulents in the second volume of their study, which includes many new illustrations, either of species not included in the first volume or of different aspects of plants previously illustrated. More than 1,200 color photographs cover approximately 900 additional species, and a description of each is given with details on its shape, color, growth form, size, and country of origin. An introduction contains basic information on the habitat of succulents and on cultivation requirements. There is also a brief explanation of succulent families and genera. Here's a first-rate book that devoted succulent growers won't want to do without. George Cohen The authors are to be congratulated on their efforts and I would recommend this book to all hobbyists. -- Philip E. Downs, *Asklepios*, Volume 79, 2000 The quality of the photographs and the informative captions will make this a useful volume for those who are growing or identifying these fascinating plants. -- Choice, June 2000 This is a book for serious collectors. -- Sharon Lovejoy, *Los Angeles Times*, April 6, 2000 From the Publisher *Succulents II: The New Illustrated Dictionary* has the same layout as the first volume and includes more than 1200 color photographs covering more than 900 species not illustrated in the first book. For every species illustrated, a description is given with details on shape, growth form, size, cultivation requirements, country of origin, and color. The introductory chapters provide information on the habitat of succulent plants and on genera and families illustrated in the *Dictionary*.