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*Fritz Kohlein*

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**Fritz Kohlein : Iris (Gardener's Handbook, Vol 2)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Iris (Gardener's Handbook, Vol 2):

This complete treatment of genus *Iris* and the related genera *Iridodictyum*, *Hermodactylus*, *Gynandrisis*, and *Juno* provides in-depth coverage of over 200 species, plus information on subspecies, varieties, natural hybrids, and cultivars. Fritz Kohlein, one of the world's leading horticulturists, includes detailed habitat information, thorough cultivation instructions, suggestions for uses in the landscape, and recommendations on cultivars that will lead the gardener to the best and most successful use of these splendid genera. A comprehensive index guides the reader through the labyrinth of iris names. Published at \$39.95 Our last copies available at \$19.98

From Library Journal *Iris* growers have special cause for joy with the publication of these two books, one a substantive review of the genus *Iris* by the German horticulturist Kohlein; and the other, the first comprehensive reference guide to Louisiana Irises U.S. natives discovered only in the 1920s. The Kohlein *Iris* is a splendid overview of these handsome plants. Whether one wants to locate a species or check the cultural requirements of different irises, the author has presented the information clearly in a way that satisfies the needs of specialists and of gardeners merely interested in trying a new variety. The Louisiana *Iris* offers a unique opportunity to learn about the newest irises, the splendid

beardless Louisiana group made up of five American species and their hybrids, native to the bayous. The book includes growers' experiences with them in all parts of the United States (including areas with winter lows of -25F), and in Australia, East Germany, and Japan. These offer the broadest range of color and form of any irises. Both books have handsome color illustrations and complete information tables on award-winning varieties, sources for plants, societies, etc. Both are highly recommended for specialists and amateurs. Deci Lowry, Chappaqua, N.Y. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. Language Notes Text: English, German (translation)