RHS Colour Chart editions reviewed

Horticultural Colour Chart 1 & 2, also known as the Wilson Colour Chart (Robert F. Wilson). 1939 & 1942. London; British Colour Council & Royal Horticultural Society; printed by Henry Stone and Son, Ltd. (800 colour patches; each colour with a unique name; 5,000 copies printed).

RHS Colour Chart. 1966. London; RHS. First edition; green cardboard box, removable top. (792 colour patches; colours are no longer named but numbered; 7,000 copies printed). -- Accompanying the 1966 edition is a Table of Cross-References of the RHS Colour Chart to the Horticultural Colour Chart (HCC), the British Colour Council Dictionary of Colour Standards (BCC), the British Colour Council Dictionary of Colours for Interior Decorations (CC), the Nickerson Color Fan (Nickerson), and the Commission Internationale de l’Eclairage or International Commission on Illumination (CIE). The cross-references to the CIE are of particular importance since the colors are expressed in co-ordinates obtained with a Hilger and Watts J.40 Colourmeter, with check measurements made on a Beckman spectrophotometer.


RHS Colour Chart. 1995. London & Leiden; RHS & Flower Council of Holland. Third edition; dark green plastic box, fliptop. (884 colour patches; a true reprint of the 1966 edition with 76 new colours that were previously hard to match, primarily dark purples, bright orange, bronze, greys and greens).


RHS Mini Colour Chart. 2005. London & Leiden; RHS & Flower Council of Holland. (one fan with 244 colours, each one carefully chosen to represent the broad spectrum of colour found in the full version; cardboard box; Price: £25). [NOTE: Inadequate range of colours for Syringa. F.V.]


RHS Colour Chart. 2015. London; RHS. Sixth edition; gray plastic fliptop box; 24 new colours have been added; every colour now has an English name. The colours are arranged in four fans with an instruction booklet in English, Dutch, French, German, Japanese and Spanish. Price £199.00

for more information see: <http://www.rhsshop.co.uk/productdetails.aspx?id=10000006&itemno=MARK0011> or contact directly at: <mailorder@rhs.org.uk>