

## How to Grow Native Orchids in Gardens Large and Small

This is an unusual story of how a unique book came about.

Wilson Wall and Dave Morgan are biologists who realised that their expertise and experience as scientists could overcome some of the problems orchids have in the wild:

- Though in a single year 500,000 tiny seeds can be produced from a single plant, only one or two plants might result
- Each orchid needs its own fungus to germinate and thrive, but fungus and orchid are not always found together
- Habitats have been lost through intensive agriculture and the use of fertiliser and herbicide

In *How To Grow Native Orchids in Gardens Large and Small*, Wilson and Dave share their knowledge and enthusiasm. They are zealous in finding pockets where native orchids can thrive and are not put off by the size, the soil or the climate of any environment. They discuss:

- The fragile nature of the orchids' environments and how to stack the odds in favour of the orchid
- Which orchid to choose for courtyard, balcony, orchard or paddock
- How to keep orchids happy – with companion planting and timely grass cutting
- How to ensure the soil is poor enough for orchids to thrive by restricting nutrients prior to planting

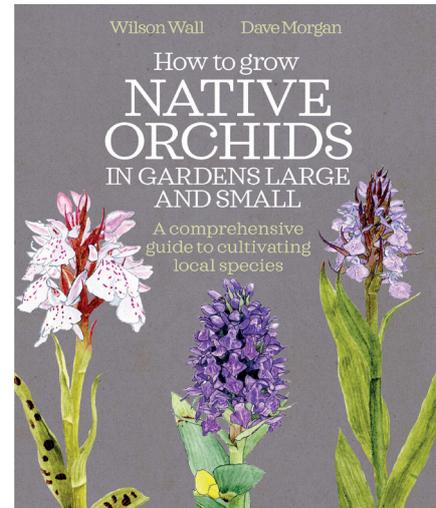
and give practical advice on:

- Where native orchids thrive in Britain
- The soil and climatic conditions for particular orchids
- Seed-saving and propagation methods

Anyone can be an active conservationist by growing a single native orchid on a windowsill or by planting many in a garden. Watching over orchids, hoping for new growth and delighting in the insects attracted to them is a reward you will justly deserve.



**The authors:** Looking at how they could give the native orchid a helping hand, they became enthusiastic orchid growers. Wilson now runs a specialist orchid nursery, supplying baby orchids and seeds to the public. Dave records the intricate beauty of his home-grown native orchids in gorgeous watercolours, as in this beautiful book, and is a dedicated recorder for BSBI (Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland). -- END --



*"This excellent book has inspired me to establish some native orchids in my patch - the authors make failure sound difficult. Highly accessible, encouraging, beautifully illustrated and eminently readable."*

**- Bunny Guinness, Gardener's Question Time**

*"A great guide that shows how, with a little preparation, beautiful native orchids can be grown by anyone, in a range of garden settings, helping to conserve species under threat in the wild."*

**- Ian and Teresa Moss, Rare Plant Fairs**

*"Such delicate illustrations in this informative book. A must for orchid growers."*

**- Graeme Kay, BSBI county recorder**