
583–585 vs. 600**Interdisciplinary works on specific kinds of seed plants**

Use 583–585 for works limited to the botany of useful plants, and for works giving significant treatment to species of no particular economic value. For example, use 583.34 for a works covering the 300 species of the buttercup family, and 583.9593 for works on peppers that covers all the species of *Capsicum* and other genera that are called peppers. Also use 583–585 when there are two or more uses in technology, or one such use offset by an obvious botanical interest, e.g., 583.65 for oaks because oaks are useful as ornamental trees as well as lumber trees, and 584.288 for laurels because the many wild species of interest to botanists usually outweigh the few species that are well known as ornamentals.

Use numbers in 600 for interdisciplinary works on most kinds of seed plants that have a single dominant use. For example, use 615.321 for medicinal plants, 633.2–.3 for forage plants, 635.9 for ornamental plants (635.933644 for roses), 641.33–.35 for food plants (641.3411 for apples), 674 for lumber plants, and 677 for textile plants (677.21 for cotton).

The interdisciplinary number for most common plants is given in the Relative Index as the number opposite the unindented term. Use 583–585 for interdisciplinary works on plants that are not indexed, unless they belong in categories like those mentioned in the preceding paragraph. If in doubt, prefer 583–585.