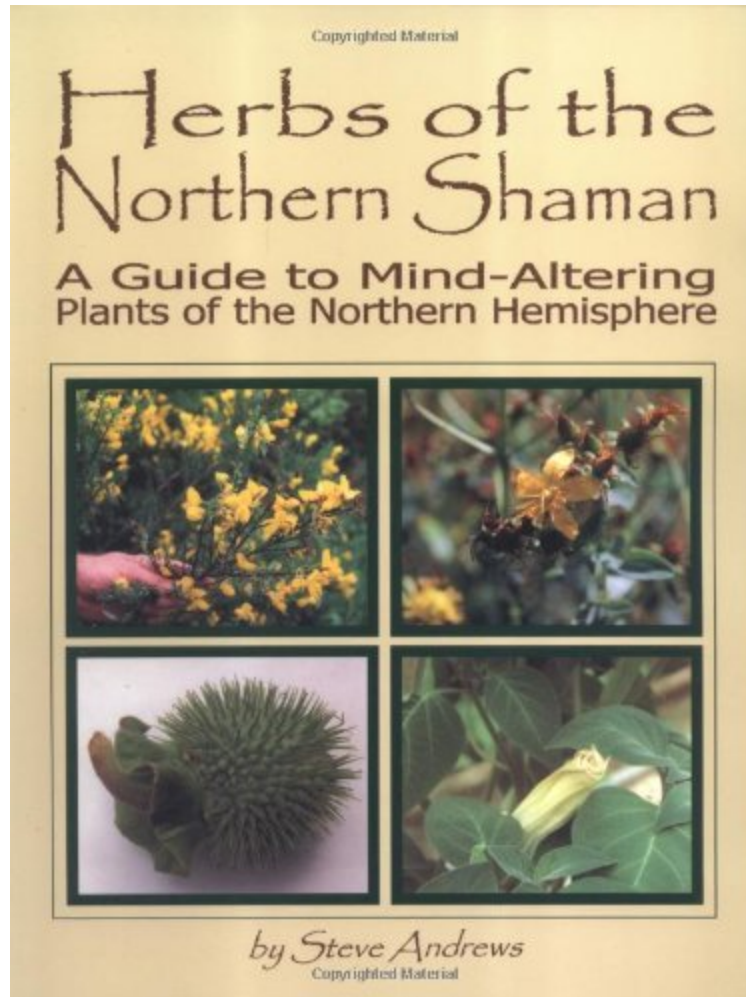


# Herbs of the Northern Shaman: A Guide to Mind-Altering Plants of the Northern Hemisphere

*Steve Andrews*

*ePub | \*DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#4389621 in Books 2001-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 .43 x 8.52 x 11.011, #File Name: 1559502118109 pages | File size: 29.Mb

**Steve Andrews : Herbs of the Northern Shaman: A Guide to Mind-Altering Plants of the Northern Hemisphere** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Herbs of the Northern Shaman: A Guide to Mind-Altering Plants of the Northern Hemisphere:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Dissapointing reference materialBy A CustomerI ordered this book based on the glowing reviews, here is a more honest review. As a reference material the book is sorley lacking and is nearly unusable. Most of the plants do not have so much as a sketch let alone a picture. The ones that do have drawings are poorly done and not very helpful. The very few that have photos are in black and white! There are so few plants described in this book it would have only taken a few short pages to include color plates of all the described

plants. At the very least drawings should have accompanied EACH description, and included various parts, stages of growth etc. Coupled with the fact that the suggested uses are very vague makes this book nearly useless. Other than the very obvious well known plants (that receive multiple pages), the more obscure plants get a very brief description with a short "guess" as to their properties and uses. The authors obviously intentional vagueness leads one to be suspect of his sources not to mention his actual knowledge of what he is describing. At best this book could be used to learn the scientific names of said plant so that one could do further research using better, more complete resources. While I certainly wasn't expecting a "how to" manual, I did at least hope for a more complete reference material in the spirit of other field guides. This book falls way short of being useful as anything much more than a coffee table curiosity.

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Herbs of the Northern Shaman by Steve Andrews  
By Chris Stone  
This book is a mine of useful information for Cosmonauts of Inner Space, as well as for those merely interested in the more arcane aspects of gardening and naturalism. The plants are listed alphabetically by their common names, with their Latin names and other names added for clarity. For instance, did you know that Asafetida, well known as a curry spice, is also known as Devils Dung? Or that Periwinkle is also known as Joy-On-The Ground? Clearly a reference to its properties as a pleasure-giving plant. There are a number of surprises in the book, and it is endlessly enlightening to find out what plants have been used for their mind altering properties in the past. Just to give one example: the writer points out that Caucasian peasants used Rhododendron for Shamanic purposes, and cites a reliable source as evidence. There are lively descriptions of each plant, its appearance and use, and warnings where appropriate. This is particularly important as some of the plants, though possibly useful as Shamanic herbs, are also highly dangerous. The style is light and approachable, easy to read and entertaining, making the book far more than just a reference work. It is also a pleasure to read. As well as the narcotic, stimulating or psychedelic properties of the plants, their medicinal uses are also listed, making the book an invaluable addition to the home-herbalists library. One finds oneself flicking through to read descriptions of plants one knows well, such as Cannabis and Peyote, just to find out what the writer has to say, which is always interesting and educative. The writer is clearly an expert in several fields, being not only an informed naturalist, an inspired horticulturalist and experimenter with odd additions to his house-plant collection, but a mystic traveller too. One feels a certain confidence in his sure-footed guidance around this obscure but fascinating area of knowledge. So whether you merely wish to browse on the subject of alchemical gardening, or prefer to experiment with free and freely available mind-altering substances, this book is a must for you. Highly recommended.

CJ Stone  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent resource and photographs!  
By Kelly Umphenour  
As a writer it is imperative that I understand fully any plant or herb as if I saw it, smelled it or touched it. This book not only gives the most interesting facts about each herb - it also gives other names the plant may be known by. The photographs are amazing and very clear with multiple views for many. The author explains where the plant might be found and its many uses. The medicinal properties are explained as well. This book was written as a guide but the information is so riveting it reads like a novel you just can't put down. Hands down - it's the most useful book I have bought on this topic - EVER!