The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science



Tiny Twirlers, Midget Machines

## The Essential Guide to PRESCRIPTION DRUGS 1989

### By James W. Long

Completely updated, the guide continues to describe drugs in a format that allows readers to easily locate specific information about a particular drug. Each profile contains a highlighted box outlining the benefits and risks of the drug, followed by information on available dosage forms and strengths, the principal uses of the drug when prescribed as a single ingredient and as a component of a combination drug, the advisability of use during pregnancy, side and adverse effects, habit-forming potential, special cautions for patients over 60 years of age and more. This new edition also notes possible advantages of certain drugs and specifies which drugs are currently drugs of choice for particular disorders.

—from the publisher

Important new features that are not found in any other drug book:

- · Benefits vs. risks highlighted for each drug
- How drugs are used to manage and treat 25 chronic disorders, including high cholesterol levels
- Information on the latest AIDS drugs
- Complete list of names of drugs and other ingredients found in combination drug products

Harper & Row, 1989, 1,026 pages, 91/2" x 61/2" x 21/4", paperback, \$13.95. ISBN 0-06-055139-9

Science News Books, 1719 N St., NW, Washington, DC 20036

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of The Essential Guide to Prescription Drugs. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$13.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$15.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

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# Wily Violets & Underground Orchids Revelations of a Botanist

#### By Peter Bernhardt

Explores orchids that bloom underground to attract subterranean pollinators, gigantic water lilies four feet across that can support three hundred pounds of dead weight, aggressive violets that exploit ingenious tricks in order to thrive and prairie grasses that rise from the ashes of the cyclical fires that destroy them. Wily Violets & Underground Orchids is not just a catalog of the exotic and the strange, however. Many people will be surprised to learn that the frontiers of research in evolutionary biology have been dominated by plant studies for thirty years. Bernhardt uses plants as jumping-off points into discussions on such important scientific concepts as adaptation and pollination, nutrient recycling and plant/animal relationships. We

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learn why flowers have evolved only six basic shapes over millions of years; why parasitic mistletoes have come to resemble the eucalyptus trees on which they perch; and why the orchid family continues to intrigue and puzzle scientists all over the world.

—from the publisher

Morrow, 1989, 225 pages, 8½" x 5¾", color illustrated, hardcover, \$18.95. ISBN 0-688-08350-1