



## Seeds of Adventure

### In Search of Plants

Peter Cox

Peter Hutchison

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- Describes the most extensive series of plant exploring trips to the mountain areas of Asia undertaken in the last fifty years
- The sixteen journeys - often arduous, sometimes dangerous and occasionally funny - resulted in a host of seeds worth treasuring and propagating from among the wild flowers of the Himalaya and the high peaks of western China and Turkey
- Captures the thrill experienced by two great friends as they find special or new plants, as well the difficult times they shared while travelling
- Lavishly illustrated with more than 700 photographs of the mountain flora, set among snowy peaks and colourful tribes

**This book** is the story of the extensive travels made by two Peters in search of plants in Turkey, India, Nepal, Bhutan, China and Tibet. On nearly every expedition, they explored territory where no western plant hunters had been since such great explorers as Frank Kingdon Ward, and some of the trails they followed were so remote and rough that the plants had never before been studied. Every trip was an adventure, and every adventure bore the seeds of success. Where the Himalayan range meets the gorge country of south-west China lies the richest temperate flora in the world. Here the plant life can mate, mutate and migrate in an evolutionary stew that challenges the botanist to classify it. With their Chinese and Indian colleagues, the Peters introduced many plants, especially rhododendrons, new or lost to cultivation, often saving them from extinction, many of which can be grown outside in the temperate regions of Europe and the United States of America.

**Peter Cox** was brought up with plant hunting in his blood and with its influences all around him. He is a world authority on rhododendrons, has run the famous Glendoick Gardens nursery and written more books on rhododendrons than anyone else. **Peter Hutchison** is a keen gardener and plantsman who became the first Chairman of Trustees at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and was later Chairman of the Forestry Commission. Both Peters come from the East of Scotland but share a wild garden on the mild western coast where they grow plants they have collected.