Blue poppies of the genus *Meconopsis* are among the most eye-catching and appealing of all garden plants. Introduced originally from the wild in the early years of the last century from the Himalayas and Tibet, there is now a complex array of forms and hybrids in our gardens. The *Meconopsis* Group was established in 1998 to study all the known forms with the ultimate aim of identifying with certainty those previously named but also to give names to others deemed of excellent constitution, garden-worthiness and, perhaps most importantly, distinctiveness. This has led to more than 60 being named and ratified by The *Meconopsis* Group. The Group has now turned its attention to the rest of the genus – many exciting plants ranging from small high-altitude alpines to the large and impressive so-called monocarpic evergreen species, whose inflorescences can reach 2.5 metres tall and carry as many as 300 flowers. Although the majority have blue flowers, yellow and red are common, as are purple, lavender and white.

This wide-ranging book will include the history of the genus in cultivation, classification for gardeners, genetics, cultivation and propagation, pests and diseases, maintaining a collection, species and cultivars in cultivation, wild and cultivated hybrids, the big perennial blue poppies and conservation.

Edited by Christopher Grey-Wilson VMH, with contributions from members of The *Meconopsis* Group, renowned growers and experts on the genus in Britain and abroad. The book will be published in 2017. If you would like to receive further details in due course, please send an email to meconopsis@agsgroups.org. Alternatively phone the AGS Centre on 01386 554790.