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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- TABLE OF CONTENTS -- PREFACE -- PART I CHRONOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS: FROM HERBARIUM PICTUM TO HERBARIUM VIVUM -- Introduction. Early Writings on Beneficial Plants: Perceptions and Prescriptions. The Web of Written and Illustrated Plant Books from Antiquity to the Invention of the Printing Press -- 1 FROM COPY TO COPY 1500 YEARS OF PLANT ILLUSTRATION: THE MANUSCRIPT TRADITION -- 2 EARLY PRINTED HERBARIA A BRIEF OUTLINE BASED ON THE EXAMPLES FROM THE LIBERNA COLLECTION -- 3 'EVERLASTING GARDENS' ORIGIN, PURPOSE, SPREAD AND USE OF THE FIRST HERBARIA -- PART II THE USE OF PLANTS IN THE MIDDLE AGES -- 4 PAINTING WITH PLANTS THE USE OF VEGETAL PAINTS IN MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS -- 5 NAMING NAMES PLANTS IN THE AGE OF CHARLEMAGNE -- 6 THE LONG SHADOW OF ANTIQUITY MEDICINE AND PLANTS -- 7 'THE COOK IS THE BEST DOCTOR' PLANTS FOR FOOD AND HEALTH: RECIPES AND PRESCRIPTIONS -- PART III PLANTS IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE -- 8 'AND IT GREW AND WAXED A GREAT TREE' A SHORT SURVEY OF PLANTS IN THE BIBLE -- 9 GOOD TREES, BAD TREES BIBLICAL TREE AND PLANT SYMBOLISM IN THE LIBER FLORIDUS -- 10

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Sommario/riassunto

How 'green' were people in late antiquity and the Middle Ages? Unlike today, the nature around them was approached with faith, trust and care. The population size was many times smaller than today and human impact on nature not as extreme as it is now. People did not have to worry about issues like deforestation and sustainability. This book is about the knowledge of plants and where that knowledge came from. How did people use earth and plants in ancient times, and what did they know about their nutritional or medicinal properties? From which plants one could make dyes, such as indigo, woad and dyer's madder? Is it possible to determine that through technical research today? Which plants could be found in a ninth-century monastery garden, and what is the symbolic significance of plants in secular and religious literature? The *Green Middle Ages* addresses these and other issues, including the earliest herbarium collections, with a leading role for the palaeography and beautiful illuminations from numerous medieval manuscripts kept in Dutch and other Western libraries and museums.
