

ORGANIC GROWING READING LIST

Books

Coleman, Eliot. **The New Organic Grower**, 2nd Edition . Halifax, Nova Scotia: Nimbue Publishing, 1995. If you purchase one organic growing book, this should be it. A manual of tools and techniques for the home and market gardener.

Schewenke, Karl. **Successful Small-Scale Farming: An Organic Approach**. Pownal, Vermont: Storey Communications, Inc., 1991. Schewenke says, “. . . live simply, work hard, be creative about your marketing, and your small scale venture will thrive”. An important read for small-scale farmers. Includes farm practices, machinery, the whole farm approach and analysis of some main crops.

Macey, Anne, editor, **Organic Field Crop Handbook**, Ottawa, Ontario: Canadian Organic Growers , 1992. This book provides practical information coming in most part from farmer experience. Excellent for a good understanding of the principles of organic farming, designing of crop rotations and transition from conventional to organic farming and a step-by-step guide to field crops.

Solomon, Steve. **Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades**, Seattle, Washington: Sasquatch Books, 1989. The originator of Territorial Seeds gives a short course in soil science, irrigation, seeds, transplants and how to grow in our Maritime climate.

Hennayson, Dr. D.G. , **The Vegetable Expert**, Waltham Cross, Herts, England: PBI Publications, 1985. This little book records expected yields, timing between sowing and picking , and amount of seed required for a certain space.

Flint, Mary Louise, **Pest of the Garden and Small Farm**, A growers guide to using less Pesticide, Oakland, California: University of California (Publication #3332) 1990.

Ellis, Barbara W. and Bradely, Fern M., editors, **The Organic Gardener's Handbook of Natural Insect and Disease Control**, Emmaus, Pennsylvania: Rodale Press, 1996. A complete problem-solving guide to keeping your garden healthy without chemicals. A good section on “ What goes wrong and why”.

Pleasant, Barbara. **The Gardener's Weed Book**, Pownal, Vermont: Storey Publications, Inc. 1996. Identifying more than 70 common weeds, teaching time-saving tips for weed control and how to put weeds to practical use.

Ashworth, Suzanne, **Seed to Seed**, Decorah, Iowa: Seed Savers Exchange, Inc., 1991. This is a complete seed-saving guide.

Berry, Wendell, **The Gift of Good Land**, Berkeley, California; North Point Press, 1995. Eloquent, thought provoking essays on stewardship of the small farm.

Gershuny, Grace , **Start with the Soil**, Rodale Press, Emmaus, Pennsylvania 1993. An excellent explanation of understanding the soil ecosystem, and evaluating and managing soil fertility and tilth.

Gershuny, Grace and Joseph Smilir, **The Soul of the Soil**, A Guide to Ecological Soil Management, 3rd Edition, AgAccess, Davis CA, 1995. Get either this book or Start with the Soil to better understand soil chemistry and the importance of organic matter.

Hinshaw Patent, Dorothy and Diane Bilderback, **Gardening Secrets**, Camden House Publishing, Charlotte, Vermont, 1991. This book gives very clear scientific explanations of individual plant needs

Sutton & Sons, **The Culture of Vegetables and Flowers from Seeds and Roots**, Simpkin Marshall, London, England, 1930. This is an old but valuable book that you may find in a used book store; I did after it was recommended to me.

Reilly, Ann, Park's **Success with Seeds**, Geo. W. Park Seed Co, Greenwood, South Carolina, 1978. You may have to order this book from the Park Seed Catalog out of the States. That's how I got my copy. This book gives all the germination requirements of almost any vegetable, flower, or herb you will want to grow. It also shows photos of the newly emerge seedling of each plant as well as much other valuable information.

Fukuoka, Masanobu, **The Natural Way of Farming**, Japan Publications, 1985, This is another book that may be difficult to find. It is the best description of Fukuoka's philosophy and techniques.

Jason, Dan, **Greening the Garden**, New Society Publishers, Gabriola Island, BC, 1991. An excellent book by our own Dan Jason of Salt Spring Seeds.

Mollison, Bill, **Permaculture, A Designer's Manual**, Tagari Publishers, Tyalgum, Australia, 1990. This a huge text book, the definitive book on Permaculture. Introduction to Permaculture , 1994, is a smaller and less expensive and more readable book.

*This bibliography was put together by Tina Fraser and Mary Alice Johnson for
Organic Gardening, Increasing Your Yield
HORT 566V F10, Camosun College, Interurban Campus*