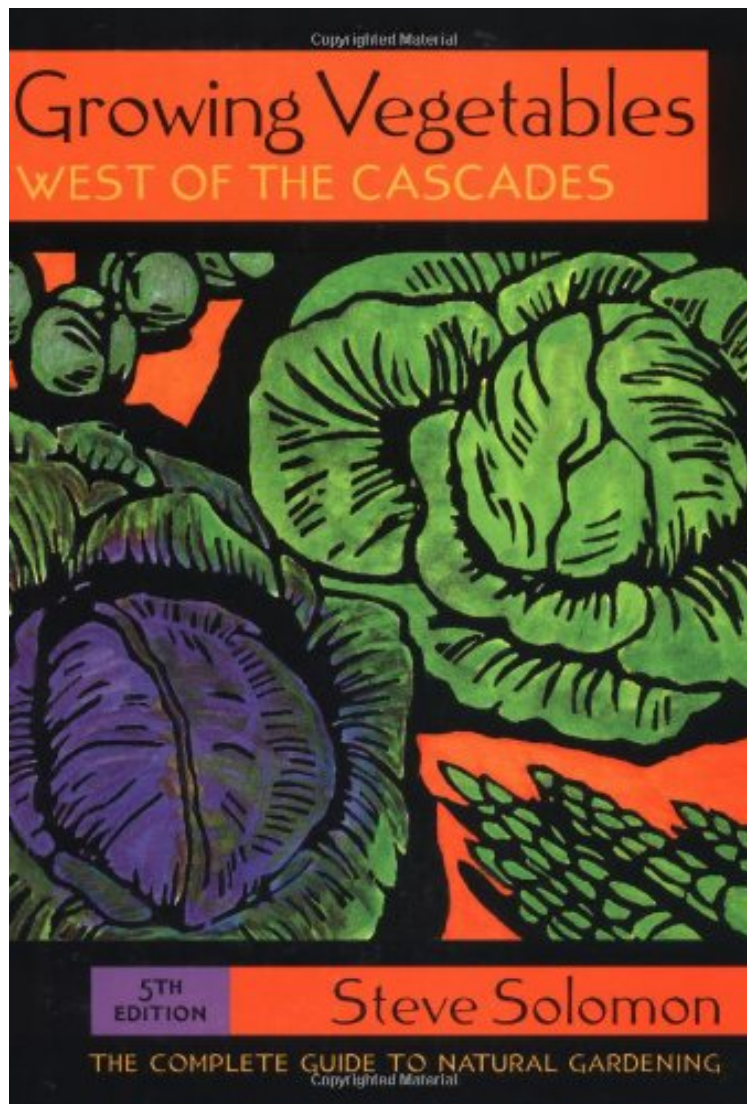


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Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades: The Complete Guide to Natural Gardening

Steve Solomon

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Steve Solomon : Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades: The Complete Guide to Natural Gardening before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades: The Complete Guide to Natural Gardening:

44 of 45 people found the following review helpful. The one essential book for the Northwest vegetable garden.By Larry GreiselSteve Solomon, who founded Territorial Seed Company in 1980, is arguably the world's leading

authority on non-commercial-scale organic vegetable gardening in the Pacific Northwest. Mr. Solomon has experimented with all of the variables in vegetable gardening, in our mild Maritime climate, and he reports the results with an admirable degree of honesty and integrity. His book - plus the Territorial Seed catalog - is all that's needed to achieve excellent garden results (for the first few years) with the least input of capital and labor. That said, I've gardened in Seattle for 15 years, and Mr. Solomon's book has two serious flaws: 1. As other reviewers have noted, Mr. Solomon is dismissive of city gardening on a 200 or 400-square-foot plot. The city gardener must sift through many chapters of advice that applies only to homestead gardens of 1/2 acre or more. 2. After a few years the organic gardener will begin to experience mysterious crop failures - seeds that fail to germinate. Mr. Solomon attributes this failure to symphytan infestation - I suspect that soil-borne seed pathogens (Pythium, Rhizoctonia, etc.) may also play a part - but in any case, this book does not offer any viable solution for the CITY gardener. We city gardeners can hardly afford to garden on only half of our too-small plot, leaving the other half fallow for 3 or 4 years, waiting for the soil to return to equilibrium. (The Seattle Tilth trial gardens have suffered this fate, with no solution in sight.) 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A book that will be referenced over and over again. By Red-Wagon The first time I read this book, I glazed over the section on soils (too involved - I originally thought). The rest of the book was far more interesting since I was more concerned about the best watering techniques, laying out the garden, organic methods, specific instructions for different crops, etc. Since then I've read the soils section at least a half dozen times and am astounded at how simple the formulas are and what a difference it can make. This is a book that will be referenced over and over again. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best gardening book for the perfect location. By K. Smith As beginning with territorial seeds Steve Solomon does a great resource for the organic gardener...ideal location information with lots of great tips. I highly recommend it.

Here's a fully revised edition of this regional bestseller- considered to be the definitive food gardening manual for the Pacific Northwest. This is the bible of vegetable gardening for anyone turning the soil west of the Cascade Mountains- from Western British Columbia to Northern California. It includes the basics of soil, when best to plant, the art of composting, what varieties grow well here, which seed companies are reliable, information on handling pests, and an extensive section on the cultivation of each vegetable.

About the Author Steve Solomon started the Territorial Seed Company and became a recognized expert on organic vegetable gardening. He has gardened in California and Oregon, and he continues to research the art and science of vegetable gardening.