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Home Vegetable Gardening: A Complete and Practical Guide to the Planting and Care of all Vegetables, Fruits and Berries Worth Growing for Home Use (Illustrated Edition)

F. F. Rockwell

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HOME VEGETABLE GARDENING



A COMPLETE AND PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE
PLANTING AND CARE OF ALL VEGETABLES,
FRUITS AND BERRIES WORTH GROWING
FOR HOME USE (ILLUSTRATED EDITION)

F. F. ROCKWELL

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F. F. Rockwell : Home Vegetable Gardening: A Complete and Practical Guide to the Planting and Care of all Vegetables, Fruits and Berries Worth Growing for Home Use (Illustrated Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Home Vegetable Gardening: A Complete and

Practical Guide to the Planting and Care of all Vegetables, Fruits and Berries Worth Growing for Home Use
(Illustrated Edition):

90 of 91 people found the following review helpful. Great practical guide, basics and history
By icebear
This book can be very useful for the small space gardener as it discusses at length, basics of gardening. Anywhere the book describes use of horses, logic would indicate that a tiller of varying sizes could be substituted. Crop rotation is also discussed, and multiple acres are not needed for this. I enjoyed the instructions on constructing a manure-driven hotbed. This was the way it was done before electric seedling heat mats were around. Also prepping sods for seed starting. It reminded me of the way things were done years before pellet pots, plastic seed flats and cell packs were common. The book is old enough to resurrect much of the forgotten techniques used by our grandparents and great-grandparents -of the way things were, the way things could be again for those trying to garden more naturally and self-sufficiently... not buying everything from the garden store. It might also be helpful for the budding survivalist who no longer wants to rely on manufactured products. I found the list of seed varieties in the book to be fascinating. Recognizing many of the listed varieties to still be available today. It was neat to see some of the Heirloom seed choices I made were also the Author's picks. The age of the book in most cases matters very little when it comes to gardening basics, things don't change much at all. In fact, this book might be better for beginners since it is a book that encourages a do-it-yourself and a 'from the ground up' tone. It is almost void of any pre-made devices and there are no gimmicky products being hocked. The old standby tools are recommended, time tested and readily available. My only real problem with the book at all is that the rewrite of the eBook version omitted a number of images and pictures that would have been helpful. But a quick internet search of the names of the described items in most cases will quickly locate images. The book itself is full of sound instruction, good logic and the author has a friendly writing style. The book is about 100 years old and free... just download it already. It is well worth the time spent to read it.

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By Carla c
pretty good book would have liked to know a little more about the soil care for each type of plant

41 of 44 people found the following review helpful. Kindle Review: Historic Gardening Read With Issues
By MainelyClassics
This Kindle book, "Home Vegetable Gardening -a Complete and Practical Guide to the Planting and Care of All Vegetables, Fruits and Berries Worth Growing for Home Use" was published in 1911. It was the first work by F. P. Rockwell, a prolific and well-known horticultural author of his day. He was founder of Home Garden Magazine. Among his many other accomplishments, he was the Sunday garden editor of the New York Times, and garden editor of McCall's. "Waste of Time" or "I loved it" are not cutting it for me when making a decision of whether or not to add a particular publication to my e-collection, so here is my take on this book: There are at least six issues for readers: (1) The information is 100 years old and outdated (ie use of coal ashes; broccoli "is a poorer cousin of the cauliflower...of little use where cauliflower can be grown..."). (2) This publication was intended for a larger gardening operation where you own a tractor, disc, etc. (onions can be stored in "a few barrels, with holes knocked in the sides...for a small quantity...") (3) It written in the verbose style of the day. (4) It is missing charts that should be there (especially lacking in the chapter on pest control). (5) As you would guess for its (free Kindle) price, it does not have illustrations that would enhance the text very much. (6) The TOC is NOT interactive, so you can't easily skip to the information that you are interested in. All that said, its primary use would be in the historical arena. Add one star if you have a strong interest in heirloom varieties and historic methods of gardening. Chapters include: requisites of the home garden, the planting plan, implements, manures and fertilizers, soil prep, starting veggie plants (advice on buying seed: "what you want for your good money is good seed, not cheap ink"), sowing and planting (includes the details of building a greenhouse and plant phonological indicators for planting outdoors which I have never seen), best varieties of vegetables ("you will have to suit yourself about corn."), insects and diseases and methods of fighting them (replete with whale-oil soap, and formalin at 1 gill/15 gals water) , harvesting and storing (if no root cellar, use a room on the northern side of the house that can be kept at 40 degrees or lower, or a "prepared pit" in the garden, worth a try...), followed by similar chapters for pome (apple/pear, lots of familiar varieties here including Kieffer pear) and stone (plum/cherry/peach) fruits followed by information about berries and small fruits. I enjoyed this book, and it is worth a read. However, you may find it on dry side, especially if the illustrations and charts are still not included, so bear that in mind. Unless you have a particular interest in the historical aspects of gardening, there may be more interesting reads in your Kindle to spend your time on...2/10/13 edit: I removed my comments on the Kindle version I read, as I see that this edition has been updated, and likely improved.

For those who understand the significance of home-grown foods to surviving and thriving in difficult times, F. F. Rockwell's no-nonsense Home Vegetable Gardening: A Complete And Practical Guide To The Planting And Care Of All Vegetables, Fruits And Berries Worth Growing For Home Use, may be the best single volume, practical manual of family-feeding, high-yield home gardening ever compiled. With some, the home vegetable garden is a hobby; with others, especially in these days of high prices, a great help. There are many in both classes whose experience in gardening has been restricted within very narrow bounds, and whose present spare time for gardening is limited. It is

as "first aid" to such persons, who want to do practical, efficient gardening, and do it with the least possible fuss and loss of time, that this book is written. Home Vegetable Gardening can be very useful for the small space gardener as it discusses at length, basics of gardening. Anywhere the book describes use of horses, logic would indicate that a tiller of varying sizes could be substituted. Crop rotation is also discussed, and multiple acres are not needed for this. Instructions on constructing a manure-driven hotbed (the way things were done before electric seedling heat mats were around) are also included. Another section of Home Gardening discusses prepping sods for seed starting, the way things were done years before pellet pots, plastic seed flats and cell packs were common. Home Gardening is old enough to resurrect much of the forgotten techniques used by our grandparents and great-grandparents, when they had to garden more naturally and self-sufficiently rather than buying everything from the garden store. It might also be helpful for the budding survivalist who no longer wants to rely on manufactured products. The list of seed varieties is fascinating. When it comes to gardening basics, the publishing date of this book matters very little: many things haven't changed at all. In fact, this book might be better for beginners since it is a book that encourages a do-it-yourself and a 'from the ground up' tone. It is almost void of any pre-made devices and there are no gimmicky products being hocked. In Home Gardening, the old standby tools are recommended, time tested and readily available.

From the Publisher For those who understand the significance of home-grown foods to surviving and thriving in difficult times, F. F. Rockwell's no-nonsense Home Vegetable Gardening: A Complete And Practical Guide To The Planting And Care Of All Vegetables, Fruits And Berries Worth Growing For Home Use, may be the best single volume, practical manual of family-feeding, high-yield home gardening ever compiled. About the Author F. F. Rockwell authored the book "Home Vegetable Gardening" in the early 1900's, together with many articles on gardening and plants.