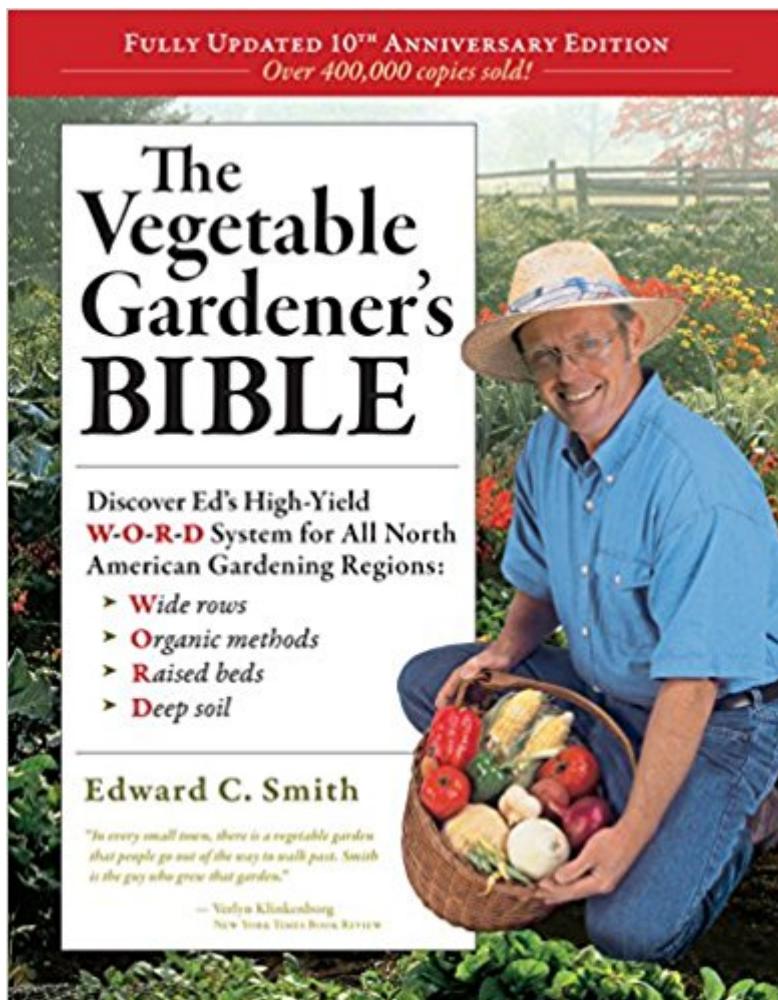


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# The Vegetable Gardener's Bible, 2nd Edition: Discover Ed's High-Yield W-O-R-D System For All North American Gardening Regions: Wide Rows, Organic Methods, Raised Beds, Deep Soil





## Synopsis

The invaluable resource for home food gardeners! Ed Smith's W-O-R-D system has helped countless gardeners grow an abundance of vegetables and herbs. And those tomatoes and zucchini and basil and cucumbers have nourished countless families, neighbors, and friends with delicious, fresh produce. The Vegetable Gardener's Bible is essential reading for locavores in every corner of North America! Everything you loved about the first edition of The Vegetable Gardener's Bible is still here: friendly, accessible language; full-color photography; comprehensive vegetable specific information in the A-to-Z section; ahead-of-its-time commitment to organic methods; and much more. Now, Ed Smith is back with a 10th Anniversary Edition for the next generation of vegetable gardeners. New to this edition is coverage of 15 additional vegetables, including an expanded section on salad greens and more European and Asian vegetables. Readers will also find growing information on more fruits and herbs, new cultivar photographs in many vegetable entries, and a much-requested section on extending the season into the winter months. No matter how cold the climate, growers can bring herbs indoors and keep hardy greens alive in cold frames or hoop houses. The impulse to grow vegetables is even stronger in 2009 than it was in 2000, when Storey published The Vegetable Gardener's Bible. The financial and environmental costs of fossil fuels raise urgent questions: How far should we be shipping food? What are the health costs of petroleum-based pesticides and herbicides? Do we have to rely on megafarms that use gasoline-powered machinery to grow and harvest crops? With every difficult question, more people think, "Maybe I should grow a few vegetables of my own." This book will continue to answer all their vegetable gardening questions. Praise for the First Edition: "In every small town, there is a vegetable garden that people go out of the way to walk past. Smith is the guy who grew that garden." • Verlyn Klinkenborg, *The New York Times Book Review* "An abundance of photographs . . . visually bolster the techniques described, while frequent subheads, sidebars, and information-packed photo captions make the layout user-friendly . . . [Smith's] book is thorough and infused with practical wisdom and a dry Vermont humor that should endear him to readers." • Publisher's Weekly "Smith . . . clearly explains everything novice and experienced gardeners need to know to grow vegetables and herbs. . . ." • Library Journal "this book will answer all your questions as well as put you on the path to an abundant harvest. As a bonus, anecdotes and stories make this informative book fun to read." - *New York Newsday*

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

Edward C. Smith is the best-selling author of *The Vegetable Gardener's Bible* and *The Vegetable Gardener's Container Bible*. For more than 30 years he and his wife, Sylvia, have lived off the grid in Vermont, in a house they built on land they cleared by hand. Together, they grow more than 100 varieties of vegetables, fruits, and herbs in their 2,000 square feet of gardens and containers.

This is a fabulous book for the backyard gardener. My vegetable gardens were good until I read this book. Now they're fantastic! With Ed's down home advice and good sense of humor, I learned a lot about compost and soil structure (the trouble with tilling, the wonder of worms, what's wrong with chemical fertilizers, etc), the fact that a well-nourished, happy plant is far less likely to have bugs and disease...what to do if my plants do succumb to these things. There's a huge section on vegetables and herbs, who likes what pH, growing temp, amount of light, seed longevity, fertilizers, nutrient requirements. There's advice on how to identify and rid your garden of pests while sparing the beneficial bugs, with emphasis on organic methods...and lots more. The book is easy and enjoyable to read with lots of colorful photographs and illustrations. I find myself re-reading this a lot as there's so much I can't afford to forget. It's an invaluable addition to my garden library and a great gift for any friend/relative interested in growing their own.

Amazing book for gardeners! It's full of wonderful information and has many excellent tips.

Appropriately titled as a "Bible" for Vegetable Gardeners. This book was recommended to me by an extraordinary gardener who told me this is her best resource that helped her create her amazing

garden. She and I are from Colorado and find this book relevant to the conditions of our climate. I love how helpful this book has been! I produced more and better quality in my garden following the suggestions presented in this book. Very educational. The seller was great, too. The book was used but looked to be in new condition.

What a handy reference guide to have around. Whether you're looking for a specific answer, or just looking for ideas, I highly recommend having this book around.

This book is awesome. Thanks

This book's title could not be more accurate. I had actually ordered the book for my aunt because she could not put my copy down. I have been gardening for years, but continue to learn excellent information from this well written book. Some of the most important pages are those that describe the companion and adversarial vegetables. The entire layout of our four vegetable gardens revolve around the advice from these pages. Before buying and reading this book we could not understand why certain plants kept dying every year. It was due to their proximity to adversarial plants! We also have learned how to identify the insects in the garden. Every year we share this book with our gardening friends. Compared to the many other gardening books I have on my shelf, this surpasses the others by far. It is easy to read and the pictures are all complimentary to the text.

Get this book! It is the most comprehensive book on veggie gardening I have ever read. I bought one for my son, too. This book has been so helpful and I highly recommend it.

UPDATE: I just had to come back a year later to reaffirm just how much I depend on this book. Seriously, it's all that and then some! My poor paperback is so beat up on the outside. But the inside is holding up very well, so is the actual binding. I've tried so many times to put it away, but it ends up coming right back out shortly after. Anytime I get to thinking about growing something or if I want to improve things in the garden, check the PH, nutrients, etc. back to the book I go. I really do highly recommend it to anyone who isn't yet a "master" gardener. Who knows, they might even learn something from it! I think the reason it is so popular, other than the data being dependable, is the layout is so common sense. The whole back of the book has pages dedicated to each vegetable and you just go in alphabetical order to access that page. So my point is, if you are floundering around trying to pinpoint which gardening book to start with, this is it! ORIGINAL REVIEW: I started

gardening for the first time last year and have used this book to the point that the edges are curled and it looks like it's 10 years old! It tells a little about everything. Whenever I need to know how deep to plant, spacing or what nutrients plants need, it's all right there on one page! I believe it is more focused on northern gardens, but I live in the deep south and it still came in quite handy! I never actually put this book away. If I do, it comes right back out within a few days. It is a great introduction to gardening organically and tells enough to get you started on everything. If you need more information you would need to research further, but this book provides enough to get you going for sure. I give it 5 stars for the layout, pictures, information and ease of use! Happy gardening!

I like this book quite a bit and I still reference it, years after my first garden. It's clean cut, informative, and displayed well. My only complaint is that it lacks alternatives and creativity. This was more set up for the gardener with the near perfect situation. Since most of us have to throw things together to get a garden to work, this didn't provide as much useful information in that regard. Not everything likes wide rows or needs deep beds and there are thousands of alternatives to the "typical" garden that would work much better depending on your situation.

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