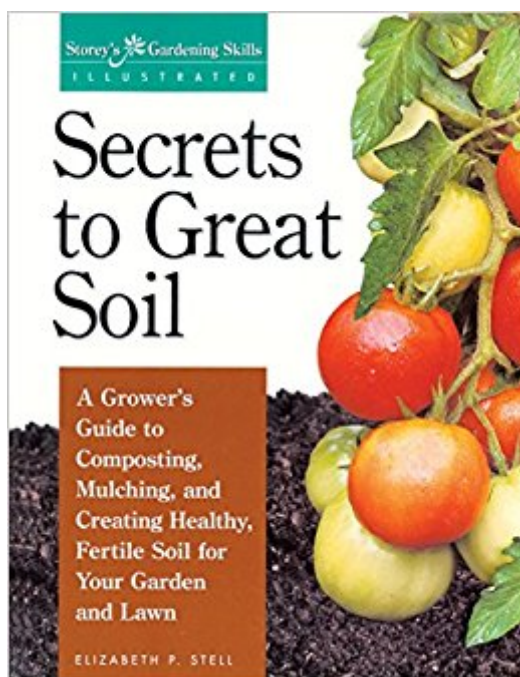


The book was found

Secrets To Great Soil (Storey's Gardening Skills Illustrated)



Synopsis

Good soil leads to thriving gardens. Encouraging you to get to know the unique properties of your garden's soil, Elizabeth Snell shows you how to properly use composted plant materials and animal manure to amend your dirt so that it is perfectly suited to your growing goals. Covering a variety of mulching and fertilizing techniques, Snell provides all the information you need to give your garden a healthy foundation of rich, nutrient-filled soil that will ensure a bountiful harvest.

Book Information

Series: Storey's Gardening Skills Illustrated

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 31 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #216,389 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Soil #135 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Vegetables #150 in Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Gardening

Customer Reviews

What this book lacks in pizzazz it makes up for in practicality. Although Stell's crisp, no-nonsense presentation is as utilitarian as a sturdy trowel, she packs in an impressive amount of information. Some of the discussions are fairly technical—soil acidity and nutrients, for example—and may initially be daunting to novices, but the lively layout (an abundance of illustrative line drawings, charts and sidebar features such as "Master Gardening Tips" and "Hints for Success") keeps the material accessible. Stell leaves no stone unturned in exploring her subject, whether instructing on how to identify particular types of soils, remedy deficiencies, improve problem soils or zero in on the needs of specific plants. She's thorough, presenting, for instance, not one or two but half a dozen different composting methods. The book may not dazzle readers with its style, but it's a valuable resource they'll no doubt find themselves turning to time and again. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Stell starts with an analysis of soil: how it was formed, its different textures, its structure, and the importance of drainage and earthworms. She explains how to create fertile soil with the help of nutrients and organic matter and what hand tools are needed to cultivate the soil--trowels, hoes, spades, shovels, weeders, forks, rakes, etc., as well as power tools such as shredders, trimmers, mowers, rototillers, and cultivators. There's a chapter on making and using compost and how to construct composting bins, a chapter on the use of mulches, and one on choosing and using fertilizers. Another chapter gives data on starting a new garden and deals with raised beds, sunken beds, slopes, and terraces. This latest volume in Storey's Gardening Skills Illustrated series contains 300 detailed color drawings. George Cohen --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Fun easy to read book with good information.

Very Good Book

My raised beds are ten years old, and I found that this tome was valuable in maintaining the productivity of the soil in my beds. I already did rotate crops across six large beds, using five each year and allowing the sixth to go fallow. This book gave me some ideas to follow FOR AN EXISTING GARDEN AREA, where most books only talk about doing this, that, and something else BEFORE starting it! I heartily recommend this book to any and all serious gardeners!

Every great garden starts with great soil. If you are having trouble with your gardens buy this book and begin at the roots. Do not waste you money on random "fixes" from a large department store.

Great book about what makes a good soil. Also, excellent directions for how to amend soil for all gardens.

I went to the library today to see if they had anything new. I've read about every book our small library has which pertains to gardening. Out of the corner of my eye I happened upon "Secrets to Great Soil." It looked interesting; I checked it out. I am now here at .com to purchase this book. I've been organic gardening for 25 years and in all these many years have not found a book which thoroughly lists organic, inorganic, and synthetic fertilizers in a format which is easy to discern. It is

easy to read for anyone, regardless the experience. Both novice and advanced gardeners will enjoy this journey of soil science along with the explanation. I am deeply moved by all the work which went into this highly recommended publication.

Read this book and liked it somewhat, but feel that this book is for beginners. It summarizes what I already knew. But for new gardeners or landscapers it can be very useful.

Very comprehensive guide of all aspects of making your soil better. Easy to understand.

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