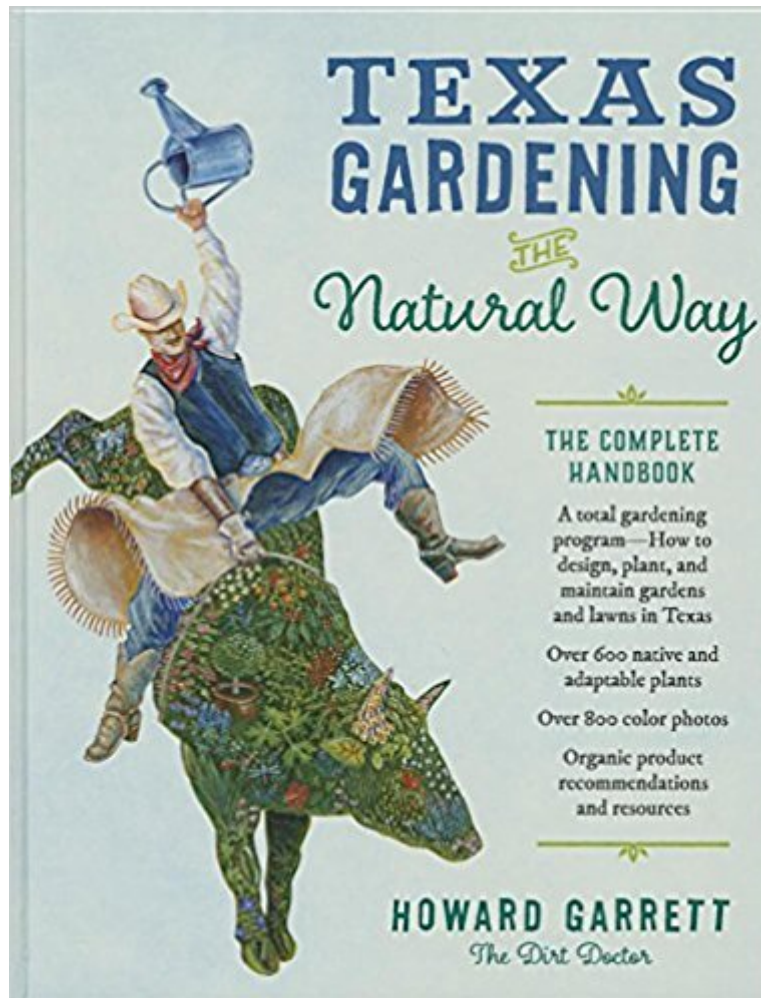




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Texas Gardening The Natural Way: The Complete Handbook



Synopsis

Compost your old "complete" gardening guide. There's a new way of gardening in Texas that's healthier for people and the environment, more effective at growing vigorous plants and reducing pests, cheaper to maintain, and just more fun. It's Howard Garrett's "The Natural Way" organic gardening program, and it's all here in *Texas Gardening the Natural Way*. This book is the first complete, state-of-the-art organic gardening handbook for Texas. Using Howard Garrett's new mainstream gardening techniques, *Texas Gardening the Natural Way* presents a total gardening program: How to plan, plant, and maintain beautiful landscapes without using chemical fertilizers and toxic pesticides. Gardening fundamentals: soils, landscape design, planting techniques, and maintenance practices. Includes more native and adaptable varieties of garden and landscape plants than any other guide on the market. Trees: 134 species of evergreens, berry- and fruit-bearing, flowering, yellow fall color, orange fall color, and red fall color. Shrubs and specialty plants: 85 species for sun, shade, spring flowering, summer flowering, and treeform shrubs. Ground covers and vines: 51 species for sun and shade. Annuals and perennials: 136 species for fall color, winter color, summer color in shade and sun, and spring color. Also seeding rates for wildflowers. Lawn grasses: 10 species for sun and shade, with additional information on 16 native grasses, seeding rates for 32 grasses, and suggested mowing heights. Fruits, nuts, and vegetables: 58 species, with a vegetable planting chart and information on organic pecan and fruit tree growing, fruit varieties for Texas, grape and pecan varieties, and gardening by the moon. Common green manure crops: 29 crops that help enrich the soil. Herbs: 66 species for culinary and medicinal uses. Bugs: 73 types of helpful and harmful bugs, with organic remedies for pests, lists of beneficial bugs and plants that attract them, a beneficial bug release schedule, and sources for beneficial bugs. Plant diseases: organic treatments for 55 common problems. Organic methods for repelling mice, rabbits, armadillos, beavers, cats, squirrels, and deer. Organic management practices: watering, fertilizing, controlling weeds, releasing beneficial insects, biological controls (including bats and purple martins), and recipes for Garrett Juice, fire ant control drench, vinegar herbicide, Sick Tree Treatment, and Tree Trunk Goop. Average first and last freeze dates for locations around the state. Organic fertilizers and soil amendments: 61 varieties, including full instructions for making compost. Organic pest control products: 30 varieties. Common house plants and poisonous plants. Instructions for climbing vegetable structures and bat houses. 833 gorgeous full-color photographs.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Customer Reviews

HOWARD GARRETT is a landscape architect, certified arborist, horticulturist, and organic practitioner in Dallas, Texas. He promotes his organic gardening program, The Natural Way, through his WBAP radio and Channel 8 TV shows, weekly column in the Dallas Morning News, monthly Dirt Doctor[™]'s Dirt magazine, The Organic Manual: Natural Gardening for the 21st Century, and regional and national speaking engagements. His previous UT Press books are Howard Garrett[™]'s Plants for Texas, Dear Dirt Doctor: Questions Answered the Natural Way, Herbs for Texas (with Odena Brannan), Texas Bug Book: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly (with C. Malcolm Beck), and Plants of the Metroplex: Newly Revised Edition.

I find this book to be a great quick reference book, like a mini-encyclopedia on all things related to Texas gardening. It covers Texas trees, veggie gardening, lawn grasses, fruits and nuts, shrubs, flowers, and even bugs, diseases and organic management. And the best part, Howard Garrett always has suggestions for doing it the natural way. It is, however, more of a reference book than an in-depth coverage of any one topic. I have some of the Dirt Doctor's (Howard Garrett) other books that cover single topics in depth. Don't get me wrong though, it includes everything you need to know on choosing and planting the best suited trees and shrubs, how to choose the best vegetables for your region and when to plant them, how to fight common pests and diseases with natural, organic means, and more. The book thoroughly explains his Sick Tree Treatment which I have used with great success. It even included recipes for Garrett Juice, cornmeal juice and other

natural landscaping remedies. And if you're a visual person, this book contains more than 800 pictures, which I find especially helpful when identifying trees, grasses and bugs that already exist on my property. This book is a must have for any Texas gardener. If you buy only one Howard Garrett book, make it this one (but remember he has some other great, more in-depth book too). He is a certified arborist and horticulturist, as well as other things, so he knows his stuff.

Great comprehensive book on setting up an organic program in Texas.

At first i was disappoint b/c I thoguht I would learn about horsey riding but this is about dirt and flowers ?? But if you want to know about dirt and flowers and how to make stuff in your yard not die, then this book is for you. I learned a lot about TOXIC CHEMICALS IN MY WATER which is BAD, go figure !!!!11

I borrowed this book from a friend and quickly realized this is a keeper and one for my library that I will use often. It covers everything! A must book for gardening!

Not what I hoped for.

Love the book. I use it almost every day. I have many garden plants and a huge container garden. This book will tell you which plants and veggies are good for the grand state of Texas. This is second only to my Bible on a dailey basis. Also, though the book was classified as used it was in "new condition"! Thanks, Shirley E. Hutchens

So helpful in the Landscape Architecture program at UTA!

Bottom line is, I Love This Book! I am constantly looking at it time after time for information, or just for fun. If you live in Texas, put this book in your collection. It has tons of valuable information on most of the good stuff we can grow successfully. I like Howard Garrett's whole approach to gardening without chemicals. This is definitely one of my favorite books.

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