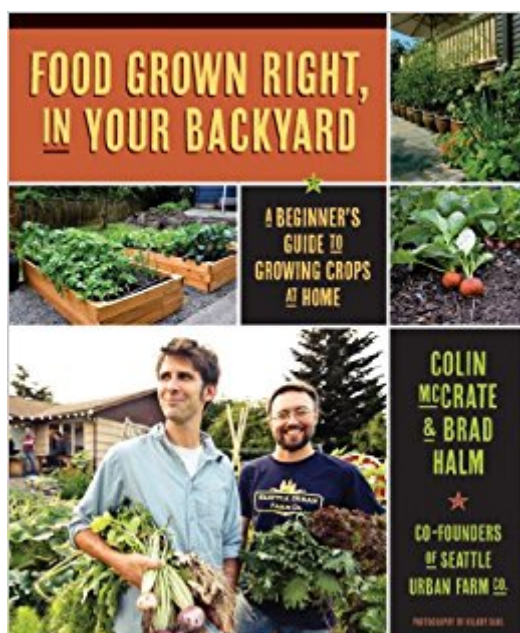


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# Food Grown Right, In Your Backyard: A Beginner's Guide To Growing Crops At Home



## Synopsis

CLICK HERE to download the chapter on "Garden Profiles" from Food Grown Right, In Your Backyard\* Full color with instructional photographs and garden-design illustrations \* Easy, inspiring intro for first-timers who want to grow their own food while saving money and time\* Written by the founders of the nationally recognized Seattle Urban Farm Co. As the founders behind the Seattle Urban Farm Company, Colin McCrate and Brad Halm have heard it all: My backyard is too small; how can I make space for a garden? Do I really need to buy fertilizer? What on earth is that creature crawling on the tomatoes? My crops took off and the zucchini are in the sidewalk -- who has time to harvest this all?! Food Grown Right, in Your Backyard is a primer for these questions and more. In response to the rising interest in homegrown foods, the Seattle Urban Farm Co. builds vegetable gardens for everyone from busy families to restaurants. Along the way, Colin and Brad teach beginner growers from all walks of life the techniques of organic food production. In this full color, beautifully photographed guide, they prove that anyone can develop a "green thumb," as they show readers how to build a garden from the ground up, explain general garden basics, discuss the best types of crops to try, and much more, including:\* Garden size and design for any setting (no matter how small!), including container gardens\* Soil types, and watering and irrigation \* Plant life 101, and profiles of recommended vegetables, herbs, edible flowers, and berries\* Garden tools and time-saving rules\* Crop planning, tips on what to do with the harvest, and a garden calendar to keep your garden growing year-round Q&A material, profiles of other beginner gardeners, and step-by-step instructions all come together in this unique, friendly guide that was inspired by the kinds of questions Colin and Brad hear every day on the job with the Seattle Urban Farm Co."The book is clear, concise, and beautifully illustrated. Even the more technical sections are presented in 'layman's terms,' so even if you are new to gardening you will understand them. The photographs make understanding the text easy. Additional tables throughout the text also help, including one giving materials for composting. Because of the way the information is laid out, it won't matter where you live, you will still be able to use the information. If you wish to plant a vegetable garden, this is easily one of the most useful books I've seen."-- The National Gardener

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

McCrate and Halm prove that anyone can develop a green thumb. ---Urban Farm

MagazineFeatured as a "Best Beach Reads 2012: Green Home and Gardening Books for the Summer" -Huffington Post Green"If only all textbooks were this pretty. Founders of the Seattle Urban Farm Co. have created a terrifically informative, nicely photographed guide to gardening--not just for Western Washington, but for any planting zone." -Edible Seattle"[Food Grown Right] teaches beginners the basics, like where to put their gardens, how to test their soil and how to keep their plants alive." -The Akron Beacon Journal"The cofounders of Seattle Urban Farm Co.--a nationally recognized outfit that has helped hundreds of families, schools and restaurants design and implement urban gardens--share the wisdom they have accumulated over the years in this overstuffed, lively and personable tome." -Cascadia Weekly"Discover your own green thumb with this wonderfully detailed introduction to backyard gardening." "Save time and money, while eating more healthfully with this easy, inspiring book of instruction." (Territorial Seed Company 2014 Spring Gardening Catalog)With gorgeous photos and conversational writing, the authors lay out an easy-to-follow plan. (The Everett Herald)The cofounders of Seattle Urban Farm Co. "a nationally recognized outfit that has helped hundreds of families, schools and restaurants design and implement urban gardens" "share the wisdom they have accumulated over the years in this overstuffed, lively and personable tome. (Cascadia Weekly)With information based on organic farming and gardening principles, from building a raised bed to specific growing techniques, this guide will make you a farmer from the get-go. (Mount Baker Experience)McCrate and Halm prove that anyone can develop a green thumb. (Urban Farm magazine)[Food Grown Right] teaches beginners the basics, like where to put their gardens, how to test their soil and how to keep their plants alive. (The Akron Beacon Journal)..There's nothing stopping you from settling down with

these inspirational and informative tomes out on the porch swing, backyard hammock, or from the comfort of a bench in a local park. (Mother Nature News)Beginners should (green) thumb through Food Grown Right, in Your Backyard, the new tome from Seattle Urban Farm Company. (Daily Candy)featured as a "Best Beach Reads 2012: Green and Gardening Books for the Summer" (Huffington Post Green)If you are in your first couple seasons of growing and you find yourself with more questions than answers when you look at your raised bed, or if the idea of vegetable gardening sounds great â “ until it sounds way too overwhelming to try â “ then this is the book for you. (Northwest Edible Life)If only all textbooks were this pretty. Founders of the Seattle Urban Farm Co. have created a terrifically informative, nicely photographed guide to gardening--not just for Western Washington, but for any planting zone. (Edible Seattle)

COLIN McCRATE has been growing food organically for more than a decade. He worked on a variety of small farms in the Mid-West before taking a position as Garden Manager at an Environmental Education center on Orcas Island, WA. After leaving Orcas, Colin stayed in the Pacific Northwest, working simultaneously for Farmhouse Organics in Poulsbo, WA and as a residential landscaper in Seattle. After spending a few seasons designing and installing gardens in the city, he officially founded the Seattle Urban Farm Company in January of 2007. It all started with a simple question: "Does anyone need help setting up a vegetable garden?" and it turned out, quite a few did. Learn more at [seattleurbanfarmcompany.com](http://seattleurbanfarmcompany.com) BRAD HALM'S interest in food production started in a small vegetable garden at the Homestead, an experiential living option at DenisonÃ “ UniversityÃ “ in Ohio. After graduating, he apprenticed on organic farms around Ohio for several years, then took a position as the CSA (CommunityÃ “ Supported Agriculture) Manager for Village Acres Farm in Pennsylvania. He moved to Seattle in 2007 to help Colin start the Seattle Urban Farm Company, and he has been building urban farms ever since. Learn more at [seattleurbanfarmcompany.com](http://seattleurbanfarmcompany.com) HILARY DAHL, a Seattle native, has been with the Seattle Urban Farm Company since the winter of 2010.Ã “ She brings with her an educational background in landscape architecture and urban planning from the University of Washington.Ã “ During college Hilary spent three summers interning on aÃ “ sustainable, net-zero energy housing construction projectÃ “ on Lopez Island in the San Juan Islands where she learned traditional and alternative construction skills as well as organic gardening methods. Hilary is also our in-house photographer and you will find her photos on this website and on our other outreach material.

I dabble at gardening. That is, I have several vegetable and herb plants, and some do well and

some don't. I read gardening books and yet still feel unprepared. And then I found *Food Grown Right, in Your Backyard*. It's more conversational than other gardening books. It starts off with a few garden plans, gets into building your garden, balancing your soil, fertilizers, all the usual stuff. But they have some stuff that I had never seen before that I'm sure expert gardeners know, things like cleaning your pots with a diluted bleach or hydrogen peroxide mixture before replanting. They talk a lot about water and drip systems, which I found really helpful. And there is an entire section dedicated to specific veg, what they like, what they don't like, how to take care of them. I live in the southeast so I had to look at the book clearly to make sure that it wasn't just about the Pacific Northwest area and it's not. Their techniques and guidelines apply to gardens everywhere. This book made me start planning out where I want my garden to be and how I can get there. It rocks.

I was very impressed by the quality of this book. Brad and Colin clearly have a great deal of experience and knowledge about growing food, especially in the northwestern United States, and it looks like they've tried to share it all! The book caters to a wide range of experience; it is a suitable introduction for beginners, but the reference sections probably have information that would be new to most seasoned gardeners. Stylistically, the book keeps things fresh by moving between different ways of addressing the reader as the material dictates. Sometimes, the book is textbook. Other times, it is a series of anecdotes. Still other times, it is a Socratic dialog. For me, this made the book a lot easier to read and kept my attention through information that could have been easy to overlook. The latter half of the book is more of a reference, making its way through dozens of plants and pests, and giving solutions to many common garden problems. Visually, the book is beautifully laid out and Hilary has done a fantastic job with the photography, which appears on nearly every page. As an amateur gardener, I'm thrilled with this book. My gardening books from the 80's are nice, but it is great to have a modern urban gardening reference from people who clearly know their stuff!

This book is definitely a go to and a must for the novice to advanced gardener. In depth detail down to troubleshooting advice for if the crops start to turn funky colors or have a pest problem. Gives you great layout ideas for all seasons so that crop rotation is easily managed. Would advise any beginner gardener such as myself to pick up this book and study from cover to cover!!!!

I buy and read tons and tons of books but almost never write reviews...too lazy. But I really love this book and I'm so impressed with how useful it is for my new found gardening passion. It's a great,

compact, and beautiful reference book. Concise yet contains all the useful information any novice gardener need for each common plant in an edible garden. Particularly useful to me are the plant profiles for each plant that are packed with information in just a couple of pages. For example: suggestions of how much of each type to plant (having never gardened before, I have no idea how much, say, a cucumber plant, will produce each week), suggested schedules of successive planting, expected number of days it takes each kind of seed to germinate at each temperature bracket (an information I haven't seen in other books), etc., etc. Photos are gorgeous. Best gardening book of it's type that I've read. The authors did a great job!

I have always wanted to plant a veggie garden, but haven't had the space until recently. I'm putting in a raised bed garden this year and was looking for a book that would simplify "garden knowledge" and give me lots of visual ideas. I also wanted a book that was somewhat relevant to the Pacific Northwest and covered Organic gardening. I have nearly zero garden knowledge by the way. I looked through a few garden books before selecting this one. This had the most visuals of books I looked through. After reading it I was impressed by the simplicity and ease of reading. I usually only had time for one chapter each time I opened the book, which took about 10-20 minutes each. I love the color photographs in each chapter. They were really helpful in illustrating the topics. The book covers the basics, planning, selecting and preparing a location, building planting boxes from scratch or raised beds, container (i.e. pots) gardening, planting and managing your crops through all season/problems, and selecting what crops to grow. It's clear these guys write from personal experiences. Although the authors are from the Pacific Northwest I think the book would apply to most any climate and they seem to write the book in a way that doesn't alienate any climate. The entire book was dedicated to the concept of Organic gardening so there was nothing that covered the use of chemicals or other unnatural products. Armed with the ideas and knowledge from the book I felt confident in my ability to get started. I don't always get that feeling with "do-it-yourself" books, but this one did a great job. I quickly and easily selected a sunny location in my yard that would fit one of the recommended raised bed sizes. I made a crude drawing of what I wanted, acquired second-hand a few of the recommended garden tools, hit the hardware store and I am off and running.

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Farming: Your Guide to Building the Ultimate Self Sustainable Backyard Mini Farm (Backyard Farming Essentials - Mini Farming - Urban Gardening - Self Sustainability - Backyard Homestead)

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Marijuana: Growing Marijuana, Beginner's Guide for Big Buds - Step by Step (How to Grow Weed, Growing Marijuana Outdoors, Growing Marijuana Indoors, Marijuana Bible Book 1)

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