Chelsea Green Publishing Spring 2022

# The Vertical Veg Guide to Container Gardening

How to Grow and Abundance of Herbs, Vegetables and Fruit in Small Spaces Mark Ridsdill Smith



March 2022 320 pages Full-color photographs and illustrations throughout World Rights Available

From the creator of the wildly popular website and YouTube channel 'Vertical Veg' comes the complete guide to growing delicious fruit, vegetables, herbs and salad in containers, pots and more – in any space at home – no matter how small!

If you long to grow your own tomatoes, courgettes or strawberries, but thought you didn't have enough space, Mark Ridsdill Smith, aka the 'Vertical Veg Man,' will show you how. Make the most of walls, balconies, patios, arches and windowsills and create rich, beautiful and delicious homegrown food (indoors and out) – and put the savings back in your pocket.

With quick, proven results from his ten years of growing in all kinds of containers and teaching people how to grow bountiful, edible crops in small spaces, Mark will show you how gardening in containers is not just a hobby, but a way of creating a significant amount of delicious, low-cost, high-nutrition food.

### Inside The Vertical Veg Guide to Container Gardening, you'll find:

- Mark's 'Eight Steps to Success'
- How to make the most of your space
- How to draw up a planning calendar so you can grow throughout the year
- Planting projects for beginners
- Compost recipes and wormery guide for the more experienced gardener
- Troubleshooting for the specific challenges of growing in small spaces
- How growing food at home can contribute to wellbeing, sustainability and the local community

# Don't be confined by the space you have – grow all the food you want with Mark's *Vertical Veg Guide to Container Gardening*.

**Mark Ridsdill Smith** founded Vertical Veg in 2009 after discovering how much food he could grow on the balcony of his flat. His website and Facebook page (200,000+ followers!) inspire and support people to grow food in small urban spaces. growing experience on BBC Radio 4's *Gardeners' Question Time*, Alan Titchmarsh's *Love Your Garden* on ITV and BBC1's *Countryfile*. He has also written a series of 15 articles for the *Guardian*'s 'Live Better' campaign.

'Mark has eliminated every excuse – you *can* garden wherever you live, without exception. We all are better off with this book.'—**Peter Burke, author of** *Year-Round Indoor Salad Gardening* 

'Mark's enthusiasm is infectious and together with his attention to often-overlooked details, will give you confidence and knowledge to grow an impressive amount of food in seriously small spaces, where you probably thought you could not!' —**Charles Dowding, author of Skills for Growing and No Dig Gardening** 



**Empty Balcony** 

Year One



## Our Wild Farming Life

Adventures on a Scottish Highland Croft Lynn Cassells and Sandra Baer

March 2022 224 pages 8-page color insert World Rights Available



As seen on the BBC's This Farming Life

The inspirational story of Lynbreck Croft—a regenerative Scottish farm rooted in local food, community, and the dreams of two women.

'A ripping good account of the guts, luck and perseverance it takes to create a productive and healthy farm or croft that jumps the rails of our conventional industrial agriculture.'—Nick Offerman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Where the Deer and the Antelope Play* 

'I raced through this beautiful story with mounting awe and excitement. . . . Pragmatism, honesty and openness to new and old ideas shines through on every page. I hope it inspires legions of new farmers.'—Isabella Tree, author of *Wilding* 

Lynn and Sandra left their friends, family, and jobs in England to travel north to Scotland to find a bit of land that they could call their own. They had in mind keeping a few chickens, a kitchen garden, and renting out some camping space; instead, they fell in love with Lynbreck Croft—150 acres of opportunity and beauty, shrouded by the Cairngorms and deep in the Highlands of Scotland.

But they had no money, no plan, and no experience in farming.

In *Our Wild Farming Life*, Lynn and Sandra recount their experiences as they rebuild their new home and work out what kind of farmers they want to be. They learn how to work with Highland cattle, become part of the crofting community and begin to truly understand how they can farm in harmony with nature to produce wonderful food for themselves and the people around them. Through efforts like these, Lynn and Sandra have been able to combine regenerative farming practices with old crofting traditions to keep their own personal values intact.

*Our Wild Farming Life* is what happens when you follow your dreams of living on the land; a story of how two people became farmers—and how they learned to make a living from it, their way.

# '[This] is a warm yet realistic chronicle of the world of the small-time farmer, sharing a vision of how we humans can feed ourselves sustainably and ethically while living in harmony with the natural world.'—*Booklist*

**Lynn Cassells** and **Sandra Baer** met while working as rangers for the National Trust and soon realised that they shared a dream to live closer to the land. They bought Lynbreck Croft in March 2016 – 150 acres of pure Scottishness – with no experience in farming but a huge passion for nature and the outdoors. Now they raise their own animals, grow their own produce and are as self-sufficient as they can be.

# Cold-Hardy Fruits and Nuts

50 Easy-to-Grow Plants for the Organic Home Garden or Landscape Allyson Levy and Scott Serrano

March 2022 384 pages Full-color photographs throughout World Rights Available



The easy-to-use resource for growing healthy, resilient, low-maintenance trees, shrubs, vines, and other fruiting plants from around the world—perfect for farmers, gardeners, and landscapers at every scale.

Illustrated with more than 200 color photographs and covering 50 productive edible crops—from Arctic kiwi to jujube, medlar to heartnut—this is *the* go-to guide for growers interested in creating diversity in their growing spaces.

# '[Levy and Serrano] go way beyond the standard fare. . . . With their help, you'll be growing persimmons, currants and hazelnuts in no time.'—*Modern Farmer*

*Cold-Hardy Fruits and Nuts* is a one-stop compendium of the most productive, edible fruit-and nut-bearing crops that push the boundaries of what can survive winters in cold-temperate growing regions. While most nurseries and guidebooks feature plants that are riddled with pest problems (such as apples and peaches), veteran growers Allyson Levy and Scott Serrano focus on both common and unfamiliar fruits that have few, if any, pest or disease problems and an overall higher level of resilience.

### Inside Cold-Hardy Fruits and Nuts you'll find:

- Taste profiles for all fifty hardy fruits and nuts, with notes on harvesting and uses
- Plant descriptions and natural histories
- Recommended cultivars, both new and classic
- Propagation methods for increasing plants
- Nut profiles including almonds, chestnuts, walnuts, and pecans
- Fertilization needs and soil/site requirements
- And much more!

With beautiful and instructive color photographs throughout, the book is also full of concise, clearly written botanical and cultural information based on the authors' years of growing experience. The fifty fruits and nuts featured provide a nice balance of the familiar and the exotic: from almonds and pecans to more unexpected fruits like maypop and Himalayan chocolate berry. *Cold-Hardy Fruits and Nuts* gives adventurous gardeners all they need to get growing.

Both experienced and novice gardeners who are interested in creating a sustainable landscape with a greater diversity of plant life—while also providing healthy foods—will find this book an invaluable resource.

**Allyson Levy** and **Scott Serrano** are codirectors of Hortus Arboretum and Botanical Gardens in New York's Hudson Valley. Covering eleven acres, the arboretum is now a nonprofit organization and level II arboretum.

## European Quince



Beautiful pink-and-white flowers.



Tree in bloom.





'Kuganskaya' Baltic quince fruit.

## **Mini-Forest Revolution**

Using the Miyawaki Method to Rapidly Rewild the World Hannah Lewis Foreword by Paul Hawken Mini-Forest Revolution Rapidly Rewild the World HANNAH LEWIS Revenued the World

June 2022 224 pages 8-page color insert World Rights Available

For readers who enjoyed *Finding the Mother Tree* and *The Hidden Life of Trees* comes the first-ever book about a movement to restore biodiversity in our cities and towns by flipping empty lots, backyards, and degraded land into mini-forests.

In *Mini-Forest Revolution*, author Hannah Lewis presents a compelling case that what the world needs is not a corporate-sponsored 'Trillion Tree Campaign,' but instead a people-powered 'plant a million mini-forests' effort. After all, nature is composed of functioning ecosystems, not tree plantations.

Lewis presents the Miyawaki Method, a unique approach to reforestation devised by botanist Akira Miyawaki in response to Japan's rapid post-war development. She explains the scientific basis for why Miyawaki-style mini-forest projects matter and how they work, including how biodiversity increases ecosystem productivity and resilience, how vegetation transforms solar energy into latent heat and releases it away from Earth, and the role of native climax species in replicating the composition of ancient forests.

Lewis also explores the multi-faceted benefits of planting a mini-forest, including:

- Cooling urban heat islands
- Sequestering carbon
- Building soil health
- Increasing water retention in dry or degraded landscapes
- Establishing wildlife corridors
- Healing communities working to recover from trauma
- Helping urban youth connect with nature

Today, the Miyawaki Method is witnessing a worldwide surge in popularity as communities seek to restore degraded landscapes both urban and rural. Lewis shares the stories of mini-forests that have sprung up across the globe and the people who are planting them—from a young forest along the concrete alley of the Beirut River in Lebanon, to a forest that is recharging groundwater in Cameroon, to the backyard forest planted by tiny-forest champion Shubhendu Sharma in India.

*Mini-Forest Revolution* is complete with a step-by-step field manual for designing and planting a forest using the Miyawaki Method, with special attention to the process of developing a list of appropriate species and their respective proportions.

No matter where you live, this book will inspire you to help organize a mini-forest project in your own community, and that may be one of the best decisions you can make.

**Hannah Lewis** is the editor of Compendium of Scientific and Practical Findings Supporting Eco-Restoration to Address Global Warming, published by Biodiversity for a Livable Climate (BLC), a nonprofit environmental organization based in Cambridge, MA

## The Home-Scale Forest Garden

How to Plan, Plant and Tend a Resilient Edible Landscape Dani Baker



May 2022 336 pages Full-color photographs and illustrations throughout World Rights Available

Learn how to create an edible forest garden—perfect for gardeners and growers at any scale!

Includes over 100 cold-hardy berry bushes, fruit and nut trees, perennial vegetables, herbs, edible flowers, mushrooms, and more.

Market gardener Dani Baker was inspired to work with nature to create a thriving edible garden ecosystem. In *The Home-Scale Forest Garden*, Baker shares what she learned as she became a forest gardener, providing a practical, in-depth guide to creating a beautiful, bountiful edible landscape at any scale—from a few dozen square feet to an acre or more.

# Baker provides information on planning, planting, and maintaining a resilient forest garden ecosystem, including:

- Using permaculture principles
- Observing and mapping your space
- Building planting beds, including h
  ügelkultur mounds
- Coping with saturated soil
- Matching perennial edible plants to the right growing conditions
- Grouping plants in diverse layers that attract and shelter beneficial insects and birds
- Creating microclimates to increase the range of plants you can grow
- Pruning, propagating, managing pests, and more
- Expending less energy for greater reward

The book includes over 200 photographs taken over 10 years of forest development, along with illustrations of a garden layout and special plant groupings for a range of conditions, including hot, dry sites and shady, moist sites.

Throughout, Baker candidly shares both her mistakes and her successes to help readers better understand the dynamics of a forest garden as it grows and changes over time. Readers will appreciate the practical advice as she recounts lessons learned from her grand edible gardening experiment.

**Dani Baker** farms at Cross Island Farms on Wellesley Island in the St. Lawrence River between New York and Canada, where she raises certified organic produce and grass-fed beef and goats. Dani is a retired clinical psychologist and a self-taught gardener who learned her craft by immersing herself in reading, poring over nursery catalogs, attending workshops on permaculture and gardening, and enthusiastic trial-and-error experimentation.



## Birds, Beasts, and Bedlam

Turning My Farm into an Ark for Lost Species Derek Gow

June 2022 208 pages Black-and-white illustrations throughout World Rights Available



### 'Gow reinvents what it means to be a guardian of the countryside.'—*The Guardian* 'Gow has a fire in his belly. We need more like him.'—*BBC Wildlife* magazine

*Birds, Beasts and Bedlam* recounts the adventures of farmer-turned-rewilder Derek Gow, who is saving Britain's much-loved but dangerously threatened species, from the water vole to beaver, wildcat to white stork, and tree frog to glow worm.

Derek tells us all about the realities of rewilding; how he reared delicate roe deer and a sofa-loving wild boar piglet, moved a raging bison bull across the country, got bitten by a Scottish wildcat, returned honking skeins of graylag geese to the land and water that was once theirs, and restored the white stork to the Knepp Estate with Charlie Burrell and Isabella Tree.

Derek's first book, *Bringing Back the Beaver*, was a riotously funny and subversive account of his singlehanded reintroduction of the beaver in Britain. *Birds, Beasts and Bedlam*, a natural successor to Gerald Durrell's *A Zoo in My Luggage*, tells the story of Derek's rewilding journey and his work to save many more species by transforming his Devon farm into a wildlife breeding center. He now houses beavers, white storks, water voles, lynx, wildcats, and harvest mice, with the aim of releasing them into the wild one day.

Tearing down fences literally and metaphorically, Derek Gow is the one person with the character and strength of will to defy authority, bend the rules—and save our wildlife.

#### 'The radical rewilder.'—*The Times*

'Derek Gow wants his farm to be a breeding colony, a seedbed for a denuded island.'—*The New Yorker* 

**Derek Gow** is a farmer, nature conservationist and the author of *Bringing Back the Beaver*. Born in Dundee in 1965, he left school when he was 17 and worked in agriculture for five years. Inspired by the writing of Gerald Durrell, he jumped at the chance to manage a European wildlife park in central Scotland in the late 1990s before moving on to develop two nature centres in England. He now lives on a 300-acre farm on the Devon/Cornwall border, which he is in the process of rewilding. Derek has played a significant role in the reintroduction of the Eurasian beaver, the water vole and the white stork in England. He is currently working on a reintroduction project for the wildcat and a book on our lost wolves.

## Follow the Pipelines

Uncovering the Mystery of a Lost Spy and the Deadly Politics of the Great Game for Oil Charlotte Dennett

February 2022 368 pages World Rights Available



'Charlotte Dennett has written an excellent book summarizing the geopolitics of the Middle East historically through to current events.... This is an amazing piece of historical writing.... Students, foreign affairs 'experts' and officials should have this work as required reading.'—Jim Miles, *Palestine Chronicle* 

#### '[Dennett is] an expert in resource-based politics.'-Time

'Equal parts Thomas L. Friedman and Tom Clancy, the book is a remarkable achievement whose personalized insights on geopolitics are both gripping and sobering.'—*Seven Days* 

Unraveling the mystery of a master spy's death by following pipelines and mapping wars in the Middle East.

In 1947, Daniel Dennett, America's sole master spy in the Middle East, was dispatched to Saudi Arabia to study the route of the proposed Trans-Arabian Pipeline. It would be his last assignment. A plane carrying him to Ethiopia went down, killing everyone on board. Today, Dennett is recognized by the CIA as a 'Fallen Star' and an important figure in US intelligence history. Yet the true cause of his death remains clouded in secrecy.

In *Follow the Pipelines*, investigative journalist Charlotte Dennett digs into her father's postwar counterintelligence work, which pitted him against America's wartime allies—the British, French, and Russians—in a covert battle for geopolitical and economic influence in the Middle East. Through stories and maps, she reveals how feverish competition among superpower intelligence networks, military, and Big Oil interests have fueled indiscriminate attacks, misguided foreign policy, and targeted killings that continue to this day.

The book delivers an irrefutable indictment of these devastating forces and demonstrates how the brutal violence they incite has shaped the Middle East and birthed an era of endless conflict, including the conflict in Ukraine.

Once again, the world holds its breath as it contemplates World War III emerging out of the current hostilities in Ukraine. A single unintentional spark could set off an inferno. Make no mistake: this is yet another chapter in the Great Game for Oil. Unlike the energy wars that have torn apart the Middle Eastern countries bordering the Gulf, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, this one threatens the very stability of Europe. Just follow the Nordstream II pipeline from Russia to Germany, and the challenge it poses to Ukraine and the NATO alliance becomes clear.

Part personal pilgrimage, part deft critique, Dennett's insightful reportage examines what happens to international relations when oil wealth hangs in the balance, and she shines a glaring light on what so many have actually been dying for.

Charlotte Dennett is a former Middle East reporter, investigative journalist, and attorney.

## Scanned

Why Vaccine Passports and Digital IDs Will Mean the End of Privacy and Personal Freedom Nick Corbishley

March 2022 208 pages No Art Program German and Bulgarian rights licensed



Imagine being physically denied access to your office, business, or livelihood. Imagine being refused entry to a grocery store or being told who you can or cannot sit with at a restaurant. Imagine being barred from a hospital room when you or your family member needs critical care.

**Unthinkable?** Today, these scenarios and worse are happening in 'democracies' all over the world, and could be our collective future—orchestrated by AI, Big Tech, and state-sponsored apps—all in the name of 'protecting' public health with vaccine passports.

**The stakes could not be higher.** If you do not have a vaccine passport, you will be prevented from accessing basic services, from earning a living or traveling within your own country. Even if you do have one, you will be exposed to unprecedented levels of government and corporate surveillance, data mining, and behavioral control.

If things continue on the current path, Corbishley makes clear, getting back to 'normal' is never happening. Put simply, instead of a return to normality, we will see the creation of a starkly different form of existence in which most of us will have virtually no agency over our own lives.

### Inside Scanned, you'll also find:

- The massive implications of a tech-enabled digital ID, social credit systems, and biometric tracking
- How basic freedoms and privacy are being handed over to the state and private companies without our knowledge or consent
- How government programs and increased surveillance will facilitate discrimination, segregation, and stigmas for huge segments of the population

Few people want to be seen as outliers, especially if it means feeling responsible or being blamed for the suffering and deaths of others.

'But there is a fundamental flaw in applying the 'greater good' argument to vaccine passports,' Corbishley writes, 'because the passports themselves offer precious little in the way of potential good—and a huge amount in the way of potential harm.'

**Nick Corbishley** is a writer, journalist, teacher, and translator based in Barcelona. Formerly a senior contributing editor at the San Francisco–based economics and finance news site Wolf Street, he is currently a regular contributor to the US financial news and analysis blog Naked Capitalism, where he writes about financial, economic, and political trends and developments in Europe and Latin America. Nick is an occasional speaker (in English or Spanish) on economic, political, and geopolitical topics. Nick holds a BA in history from Sheffield University and speaks three languages (English, French, and Spanish).

Wild Nights Out

The Magic of Exploring the Outdoors After Dark Chris Salisbury Foreword by Chris Packham, author, naturalist, BBC presenter

June 2021, 64,500 words Black-and-white Illustrations throughout **German rights licensed** 



The go-to guide for exploring nature at night, whether on summer holidays, weekends away or even back garden adventures!

Parents, grandparents, teachers and nature educators alike will discover a wealth of unique activities to explore the natural world from dusk till dawn. Alongside games, walks and exercises to expand our senses, storyteller and outdoor educator Chris Salisbury will bring this unexplored nocturnal dimension to life with lore about badgers, bats and minibeasts as well as tales of the constellations and planets to share around the campfire.

Nature has so much to offer at night, so let *Wild Nights Out* be your guide to the dark. It will boost the resilience and self-confidence of children and adults, and instill a lifelong love of having fun in the outdoors when the sun goes down.

'So inspiring! More than anything else, it encourages us to cross a threshold into a new world and go on a nocturnal ramble to look and listen for where the wild things are.'—Simon Reeve, author and broadcaster

### Rebugging the Planet

The Remarkable Things that Insects (and Other Invertebrates) Do – And Why We Need to Love Them More Vicki Hird

September 2021 46,500 words, 224 pages Some black-and-white illustrations throughout **Korean rights licensed** 



#### 'This is a lovely little book that could and should have a big impact...Let's all get rebugging right away!'—Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall

# Meet the intelligent insects, marvelous minibeasts, and inspirational invertebrates that help shape our planet—and discover how you can help them help us by rebugging your attitude today!

We need to act now if we are to help the insects survive. *Rebugging the Planet* explains how we are headed toward 'insectageddon' with a rate of insect extinction eight times faster than that of mammals or birds, and gives us crucial information to help all those essential creepy-crawlies flourish once more.

Author Vicki Hird passionately demonstrates how insects and invertebrates are the cornerstone of our global ecosystem. They pollinate plants, feed birds, support and defend our food crops, and clean our water systems. They are also beautiful, inventive, and economically invaluable—bees, for example, contribute as much as \$577 billion to the US economy annually, according to *Forbes*.

*Rebugging the Planet* shows us small changes we can make to have a big impact on our littlest allies. So do your part and start rebugging today! The bees, ants, earthworms, butterflies, beetles, grasshoppers, ladybugs, snails, and slugs will thank you—and our planet will thank you too.



the politics and practice of sustainable living

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## Eliza Haun

### Director of Rights and Contracts ehaun@chelseagreen.com (802) 295-6300 × 109

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