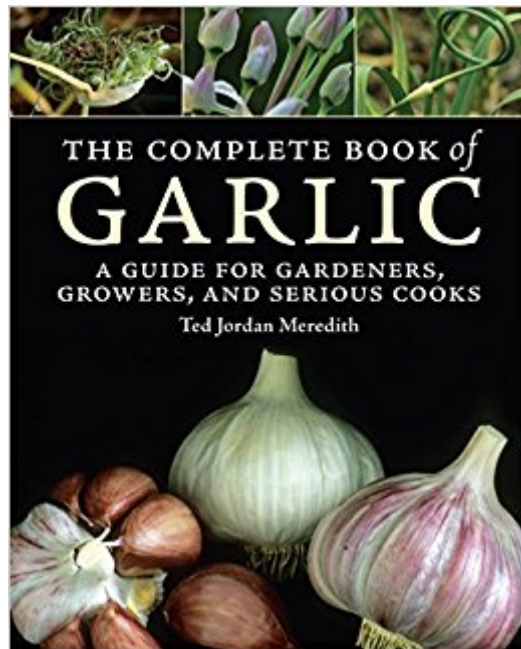


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The Complete Book Of Garlic: A Guide For Gardeners, Growers, And Serious Cooks



Synopsis

An essential element in cuisines around the world, garlic enjoys near mythic status among cooks, chefs, foodies, and enthusiasts of natural remedies. Worldwide, garlic cultivation occupies over 2 million acres of farmland, an area that has more than doubled since 1970. Yet even garlic fanciers may be unable to tell hardneck from softneck, or Purple Stripe from Rocambole, not to mention the hundreds of cultivated varieties grown today, many with distinct differences in taste and character. In fact, the wealth of garlic varieties in nearly a dozen horticultural groups rivals that of corn, carrots, apples, and peaches. This book is the most comprehensive and in-depth guide available to what surely should be the next gourmet frontier. From 'Ajo Rojo' to 'Zemo', Meredith presents illustrated profiles of nearly 150 cultivars. Detailed chapters cover natural history, the history of garlic in cultivation, the nuances of cuisine and culture, therapeutic benefits, plant structure, how to cultivate, curing and storage, taxonomy, pests and diseases, and chemistry. Especially useful are the Quick Guides, which summarize information on growing and buying garlic and provide recommendations for the best-tasting cultivars for specific uses and climates. Lists of garlic sources and organizations are a boon to the aficionado. Whether you share Ted Jordan Meredith's "garlic affliction" or just find the pungent bulb indispensable, you'll understand it as never before with this meticulously researched, lovingly written exploration.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Well researched, beautifully photographed and presented in a very logical readable style. Previous

to this book, I considered "Growing Great Garlic" by Ron L Engeland the essential garlic book, but "The Complete Book of Garlic" is the only book that I would now recommend. Everything you will need to know about selection, planting, growing, harvesting and storage is here and much more. There is even a section that will help you locate growers that sell planting stock. Just learning the different (taxonomy) types of garlic can be confusing (due to mixed terminology in the business) at first, but you will have a clear understanding of the garlic types and characteristics after one reading. The "Essentials" sections covers almost every type of garlic with photographs and characteristic of the specific garlic, plus a quick reference for growing and harvesting. I have been growing and selling gourmet garlic for 9 years and wish this book would have been available when I started. Well worth the price.

I found this book to be very informative, it is well laid out chapter to chapter with excellent information on the species of garlic as well as the different characteristics of each variety. There is well written information for growing and choosing the various types of garlic. I have also purchased and read Growing Perfect Garlic. And found the Complete Book of Garlic an excellent addition to the information offered in learning everything one would need to know when starting on the endeavor of growing and cooking with garlic. I find myself going back to read chapter after chapter as a reference quite often. I highly recommend this book to anyone wishing to learn as much as they can about this wonderful Herb.

The Complete Book of GARLIC by Jed Jordan Meredith. A beautiful book with fantastic photographs. And tons of information for the curious garlic fan to the the level of professional horticulturalist/botanist. Enough information for a college credit course, I am not talking about the basket weaving type here, but real science. The standard book, until this one, was Growing Great Garlic: The Definitive Guide for Organic Gardeners and Small Farmers by Ron L. Engeland, which I hated. That one was too negative and written in the old hippie know-it-all style of the 70's. Buy The Complete Book of Garlic, you will love it, and I believe that it will become the new standard on the subject.

This book was a gift to my husband who is now retired and gardening for the 1st time. One whole bed was devoted to just garlic (Several different kinds). He asked lots of folks about their garlic, when to plant, fertilize, harvest etc. I was in a search for one book that covers it all and then some. This is it! Excellent photos, easy to read and search. This is the Best garlic book ever!

This is the most thorough book on garlic that you'll find. There is a wealth of information about the natural history, cultivation, and culinary use of this amazing plant. I must say, though, the author is very long-winded when it comes to actually prescribing a methodology for growing your own garlic. For the next edition I would like to see a more technically written chapter on cultivation that succinctly lays out the steps that the home or commercial grower should follow. Case studies and anecdotal information are scattered throughout the narrative when all I needed to know was some simple information regarding soil, planting, watering, and harvest (these steps are spread out over what seems like several dozen pages). Aside from this gripe, it is an amazing work that should be on every garlic lover's bookshelf.

This is the most comprehensive book that I think COULD be written about garlic. It is most def a "coffee table book" in that it is big and heavy and not well suited to lying in the hammock to read with a glass of iced tea. I'm not all the way through it, but have actually been reading it page by page in addition to using it for reference. We grow 25 different varieties of garlic (more as the years progress) and are a relatively small specialty farm. This has been a good resource as we have only been growing garlic for about five years. Always like to learn more and my customers appreciate all the little factoids I can share with them thanks to this book. Highly recommend for any garlic grower or food history buff or gardener or anyone who wants to be one of these things.

This book was one of the best book purchases I've ever made. This book is THE authority on garlic. The information is detailed, the images are luxuriously abundant (as well as beautiful). Even if you are only interested in a few aspects of garlic, whatever you are looking for will be treated with definitive answers. One thing that impresses me very much is the description of all garlic varieties. All the variety entries include an image of the garlic type as well as specific information about its origin, flavor, best uses, etc. It's rare to come across a reference book as good as this one. If you want to learn as much as possible about garlic, then this book is a good investment.

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