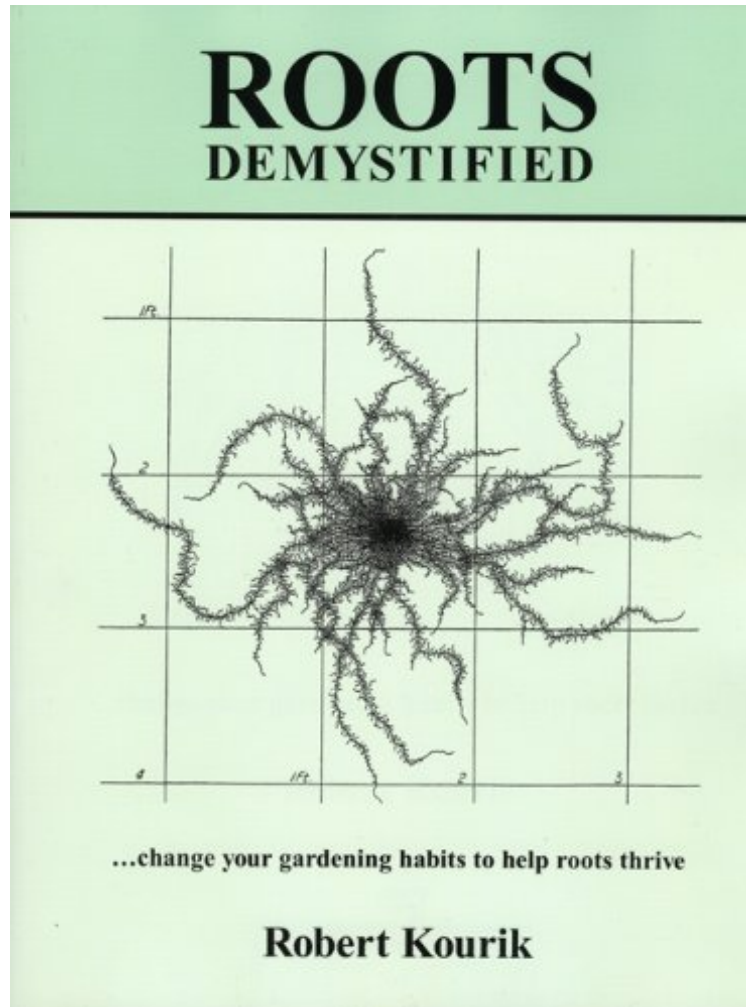


Roots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots Thrive

Robert Kourik

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#280569 in Books 2007-11-15 Ingredients: Example Ingredients Original language: English PDF # 1 11.00 x .38 x 8.50l, 1.04 #File Name: 0961584831176 pages | File size: 58.Mb

Robert Kourik : Roots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots Thrive before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots Thrive:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This book is useful as a reference about general tree root growth By Ben Holberg Not exactly what I expected from the description nor what i wanted. I need a manual that will describe how the roots of an ash or a sassafras or a walnut, etc grow. I know that an oak or a dogwood has a taproot and has to be planted with that in mind. But what about others that don't have taproots? And, how do ancillary or side roots of any of the trees grow? This book is useful as a reference about general tree root growth, soil, best habitats. 1 of 1

people found the following review helpful. Excellent informationBy M. KannerGood information. Kourik explains his previous understanding of plants' root size, compared to the top part of the plant, which was what I had learned as well. His research and discovery of the actual size and shape of the rhizome area of plants was very informative and highly important for our new business of creating worm castings, aerated castings tea, and improving organic soil quality for planted areas: gardens, pastures and orchards, etc. His clear explanation and drawings explaining how root systems support, and get water and nutrients to plants are excellent.35 of 36 people found the following review helpful. good introduction to plant root growthBy CustomerRoots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots Thrive, by Robert Kourik. A good introductory book to the growth of tree, shrub, and plant roots. Has some material on other things that grow in the soil that interact with roots, and some basic soil science, including a brief chapter on fungus and symbiotic relationships. There are sections on vegetables, shrubs, and trees, how their roots grow and differ, with good planting and care advice. If you have other books with sections on roots, there is little new here. If not, it is a good book to start with. It has a good reference section of current books that we can actually purchase or borrow.I have read the book, and thumbed through it several times more, and I am still not sure what the author's recommendation for changing my gardening habits to is, there does not seem to be a conclusion or summary. I think, I may be wrong, that he recommends double digging if the soil is poor or compacted, then move on to compost, mulch, and shallow tilling only.The book is recommended by John Jevons, the "Grow Biointensive" double digging proponent, and it often mentions Ruth Stout, the no dig no work gardening advocate of thick mulching. He draws on the work of John Weaver in the 1920's and 30's, which is good, as Weaver's books are not readily available.All in all a good book, easy to read presented with a dry sense of humor, solid information, a book I may go back to read again for inspiration, and a bit of reference.

Roots Demystified explains simple solutions for growing healthy roots and, thereby, healthier plants. The book explores the subterranean part of every gardeners world, revealing how roots really grow while correcting common errors such as where most gardeners apply water, mulch, and fertilizer or compost. This is the first and only book in print for gardeners with such an extensive number of illustrations of garden and orchard roots. The roots covered underlie lawns, prairies, shrubs, vegetables, fruit trees, and native and ornamental trees. Practical tips for how a gardener can use this information to create more abundant vegetables, better lawns, and sturdier trees and shrubs are offered with each of the 70 illustrations. Roots Demystified also describes several ways to garden without turning the soilno-till and surface cultivationa plus for aging baby-boomers.

About the AuthorRobert Kourik began his career in organic landscape maintenance in 1974. Over the next four decades, he honed his horticulture-related skills by working with clients throughout the US, and has since written fourteen books on the creation of sustainable homes and gardens.His book Designing and Maintaining Your Edible LandscapeNaturally, originally written in 1986, has become a classic in its field, defining the genera of gardening now known as edible landscaping, and focusing on organic, natural, sustainable, integrated systems.His extensive thirty-five-year-old ornamental/herbal drought- and deer-resistant garden and orchard have never been watered.