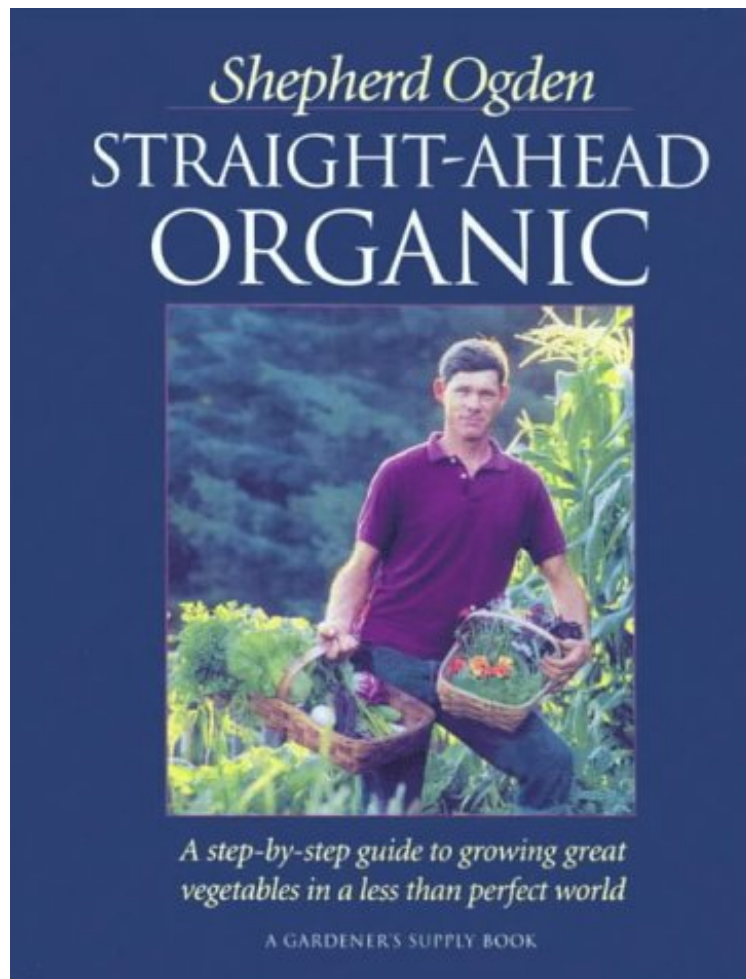


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## **Straight-Ahead Organic: A Step-By-Step Guide to Growing Great Vegetables in a Less-Than-Perfect World**

*Shepherd Ogden*

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**Shepherd Ogden : Straight-Ahead Organic: A Step-By-Step Guide to Growing Great Vegetables in a Less-Than-Perfect World** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Straight-Ahead Organic: A Step-By-Step Guide to Growing Great Vegetables in a Less-Than-Perfect World:

20 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Deserves 10 stars!By Lynda LowmanAt last! An instruction journal for us 'Organic Nerds'! And in plain, understandable terminology. When it is advertised as covering 50 years of gardening (the right way) experience, you can take that to the bank! It was a revelation to read that some of the concepts I had been using for years, actually have merit. I knew they had worked for me, but it is always nice to be validated. If you can only purchase one gardening manual, this is the one to buy. It covers everything and because the

methods are tried and true, you can feel confident following Ogdens' suggestions. I can remember when, years ago, neighbors thought me barmy for directly composting kitchen waste (sans meat products). I am vindicated! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This should be re-printed! By Olaf This book is very sound in terms of its perspective on "sustainable agriculture" and it contains excellent practical advice about gardening specifics. 12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Mr. Organic By cb steed Another master work from the master organic gardener! Shepherd Ogden has done it again. I have had the pleasure to meet Mr. Ogden and his wonderful family in the picturesque community of Langrove VT. Upon travelling north one summer we decided to seek out this man and his garden. It is an "earthly delight!" The property is an organic gardener's dream. We were fortunate enough to find Mr. Ogden (who insisted we call him Shepherd) at home.....out in the garden...hands in the soil...practicing his craft....which he makes an art! His lovely wife Ellen was also there, preparing a heavenly salad of succulent greens and vegetables from the family plot. Mrs Ogden who is an accomplished writer in her own right ; adds knowledge and grace to all that she endeavors. Her recipes have added tasty ideas to our menu! Shepherd Ogden's other books including Step by Step Organic Vegetable Gardening and Flower Gardening create a veritable encyclopedia and home guide to the organic gardening enthusiast. The addition of "Straight Ahead....." keeps the resource shelf well stocked.... "Straight Ahead....." is a great book for the novice gardener or the master.... There will always be space on my gardening bookshelf for another Ogden book. Shepherd Ogden comes from sturdy VT stock. We were introduced to this through the memory of his Grandfather "Big Sam" Ogden. Who wrote the organic gardening "bible" and had it republished in the early 1970's. One of the main reasons that our family purchases these books is that we feel that through ....Shepherd's...forward's and intros to his books ....we are part of his "organic gardening family".... We highly recommend this and Mr Ogden's other books. Also we purchase most of our seeds from the Ogden's seed business "The Cook's Garden."

Accessible enough for beginning gardeners or aspiring converts to the organic gospel, "Straight Ahead Organic" pulls no punches in providing both a wealth of advice for gardening successfully and a compelling rationale for gardening naturally. Shep Ogden and his wife Ellen have made their living as organic market gardeners, and more recently co-founded the influential direct-mail seed company Cook's Garden. Commencing with design and site considerations, covering tools and soil care as well as seeding and planting techniques, and culminating in an extraordinarily useful comprehensive guide to growing nearly 50 types of vegetables and herbs, including advice on the best varieties for your circumstances, "Straight-Ahead Organic" promises to be indispensable--a book that will spend far more time off your shelf than on it.

About the Author Shepherd Ogden is founder and president of The Cook's Garden, a mail order seed and supply house in Londonderry, Vermont begun in 1983 as part of his existing market gardening operation. The Cook's Garden is a leader in the production and sale of certified organic garden seed in the United States and Canada. Ogden is a former board member of both The Vermont Small Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association and the Garden Writers Association of America, and is also a member of the Society of Environmental Journalists, PEN New England, the American Society of Journalists and Authors, the Author's Guild, and the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment. He is the author of more than fifty magazine articles on all aspects of horticulture, agriculture and the environment. He has been a contributing editor for both Organic Gardening and National Gardening magazines, where until recently he was Editor at Large. His articles on gardening and environmental issues have appeared in those magazines as well as Garden Design, Horticulture, Country Journal, Harrowsmith, Country Living, New England Living, Eating Well and the Boston Globe. He was the 1988 recipient of the American Horticultural Society's GB Gunlogson Award for "extraordinary and dedicated efforts in the field of horticulture" and has received numerous book and magazine writing awards. Ogden was trained in Environmental Journalism at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst where he authored research reports on industry public relations efforts to defeat and then derail container deposit legislation, apparent manipulation of data in pre-introduction safety tests of artificial sweeteners, and an incident of sick building syndrome at the University. He also interned at the Environmental Study Conference, in the U.S. Congress, where he was the acid rain specialist and liaison for Earth Day 1980 and is currently an Adjunct Lecturer in Environmental Studies at Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vermont. He has lectured at botanical gardens and appeared at professional and amateur symposia in most regions of the United States, and in 1995 conducted a month long lecture tour of the Czech Republic dealing with sustainable gardening and agricultural practices under the auspices of Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (USAID). His recent focus has been on transgenic plant technologies, and he is working on a book about the effects of biotechnology and the market system on our food supply.. Ogden has appeared on numerous panels concerning biotechnology including conferences at Cornell University and the Radcliffe Institute, and he has given lectures at the National Conservation Training Center, Yale University and public meetings in Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts, Ohio and California. In February 2000 Ogden was the keynote speaker at the Northeast Organic Farmers Association winter meeting in

Randolph, Vermont.