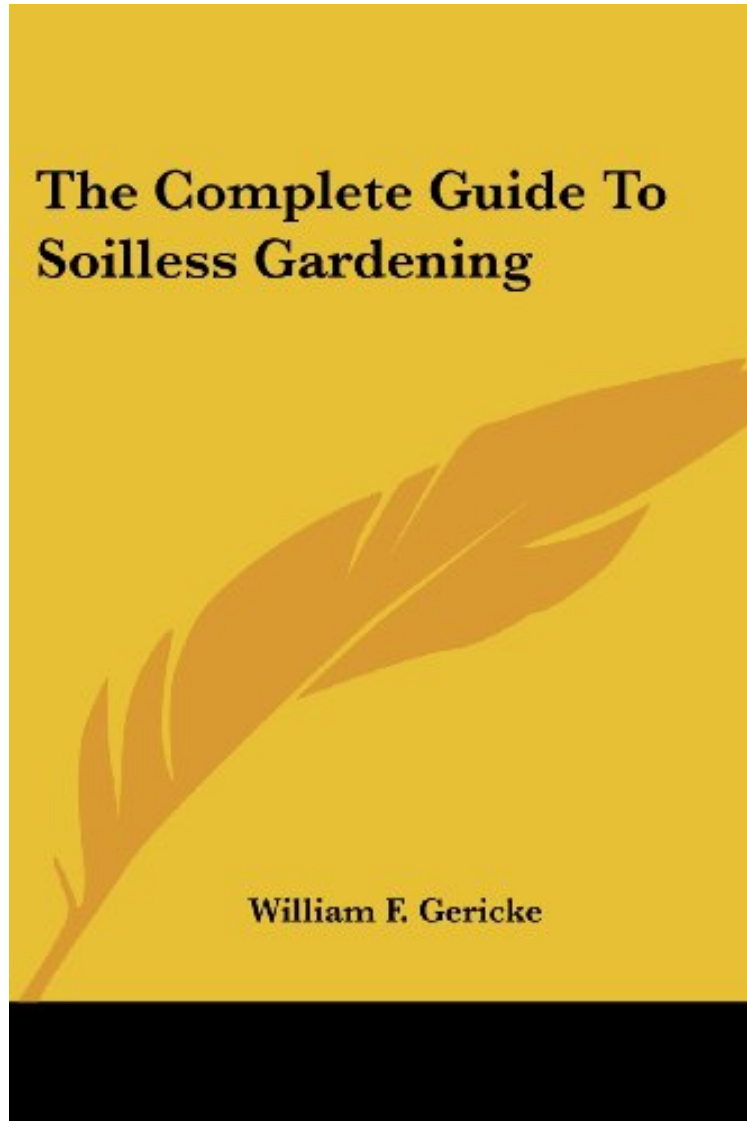


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# The Complete Guide To Soilless Gardening

*William F. Gericke*

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**William F. Gericke : The Complete Guide To Soilless Gardening** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Guide To Soilless Gardening:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. SOILLESS GARDENING, THE COMPLETE GUIDE, 1941 ed.By Burton DaleThe Complete Guide To Soilless GardeningThe first edition of Soilless Gardening came out in 1940. However, hydroponics does not truly exist before 1929. Gericke does mention a process of soilless gardening in a lab in 1860 by a German agricultural chemist, Knop, and later, in 1868, by Knop and Sachs adding chemicals to water to

obtain nutrient solutions. But the hydroponic record is pretty much silent until Gericke's inventions. It was not until the introduction by him using a basin method in 1929 applying water culture for crop production, that hydroponic farming actually starts. Early as this book is, it constitutes a classic text still useful today. You will find an amazing spectrum of practical advice found nowhere else in one volume. For example, he describes how he harvested over a thousand lbs of Suttens's Best tomatoes from a single outdoor basin on 1/220th of an acre (120 square feet!). How he does everything is completely described in this great book. The science is dated in a few places, such as using wood instead of less expensive modern materials to construct the basins. Or, for example, his use of wood shavings to fill the basins. He had to work with the materials available in 1940. That is the only reason I rated the book with four stars. But you will not go wrong in buying the book and applying the information found within its pages for the hydroponic know how is useful to this very day. And, even if for some reason, you opt for all wooden construction. The book tells you how to go about doing all wood. What else can be said for a book that went through four editions sold out from 1940 to 1941? This is the book that the US Army used to keep our armed forces in the South Pacific well fed and fighting eating fresh hydroponic vegetables during WWII. Those coral islands without soil could grow little else than coconuts. And it will be hydroponic vegetables that will feed us when we begin to have colonies on Mars or other inhospitable planets. Burton Dale 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I would rate the book as 4 and one half By Helen The book is very advances (to me), but a very informative book.

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