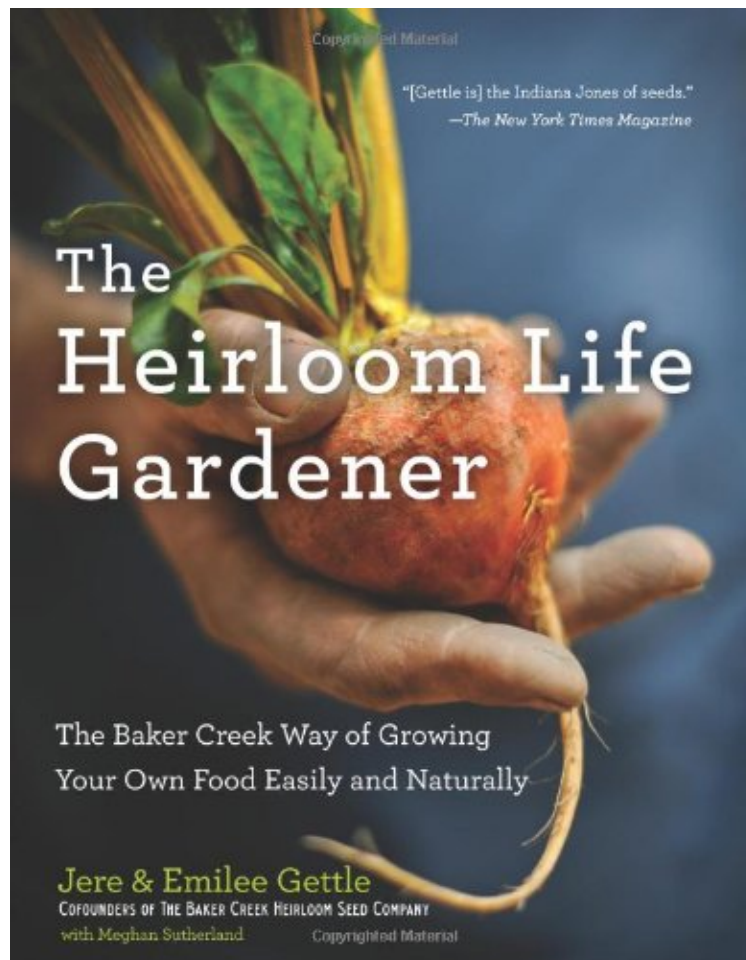


[Free and download] The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally

The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally

Jere and Emilee Gettle, Meghan Sutherland
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#248306 in Books Gettle, Jere/ Gettle, Emilee/ Sutherland, Meghan (CON) 2011-10-04 2011-10-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x 1.00 x 8.00l, 1.90 #File Name: 1401324398240 pages | File size: 36.Mb

Jere and Emilee Gettle, Meghan Sutherland : The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally:

68 of 70 people found the following review helpful. Interesting book that teaches you and makes you want to garden.By R. GeorgeThis book starts out letting you get to know the author somewhat. I think that this is appropriate, as his love of vegetable gardening and heirloom varieties permeate the pages of this book. Besides containing information on how to garden, this book actually makes me want to garden. To address concerns you may have after

reading other reviews: Yes, the first part is a biography of the author, some of his adventures, and where he is coming from both philosophically and geographically. It is probably shorter than it could be, but does take up about 42 pages out of 228. I found this section a fun and interesting read, and a great way to connect with the author. You may or may not enjoy it, but I do not feel that the rest of the book suffers due to this longer biographical section. Yes, there are a lot of pictures, mostly of vegetables, to show the uniqueness and diversity that heirloom vegetables have to offer. If you have ever seen the magazine or catalog that Baker Creek puts out, their use of photography is similar in this book to those other publications. Personally I enjoy all the pictures of vegetable varieties that I may not have seen before. The sections on how to garden make up about 30 pages total. There is enough information to get you going, with ideas for variations based on your particular gardening situation. I think that there is a lot of information here, but certainly not everything is covered. There are books that cover with much more depth areas such as pests, pest management, plant nutrition, etc. While that can all be valuable information when you need it, sometimes throwing it at a novice gardener can leave them feeling overwhelmed. So yes, there could be more information here, but I think that these few chapters are great. Some of the details not listed here are actually listed per vegetable in the next section. The real gem of this book is saved for the second half (and takes up well over half of the book.) There is an A-Z guide to vegetables, with a lot of information on each one. Each vegetable is introduced with a nice picture and a bit of history. For each one, you get additional growing tips, pest information, seed saving instructions, and even a couple of kitchen ideas. Whoever thinks that this book doesn't tell you how to save seed did not look in this section. What is interesting is that you will find yourself actually reading each section here, even for vegetables with which you are already familiar. This compendium does a good job of being informative while still holding my interest as a reader. Use 's "look inside" tool, search for a vegetable, and you will see what I mean. I like that this book isn't too regional in its approach. This way, the information in here is equally applicable to people all over the country. When I need more specific information on local planting schedules or other concerns for my area, I turn to either the newspaper or publications from the county's agricultural extension (and if Las Vegas has these resources available, your area probably does too.) The page or two of regional information that I have found in other gardening books has never been too helpful, so I don't bemoan its absence here. Overall, I think that this is a very good book, an enjoyable read, and something that reignites my passion for gardening. It is an excellent reference, and I think this may be the new book that I give people as a gift to start gardening.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Belongs On Every Gardener's Bookshelf By GrandmaHow I wish that I had had Jere Gettle's *The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally* a couple of years ago, the year of my last big garden. That was a glorious garden - over 50 stunning varieties of heirloom tomatoes in every color of the rainbow just starting to set fruit, zucchini just in flower, squash, herbs and watermelons that were bigger than softballs. And then, one morning I woke up to find the zucchini looking ragged instead of glorious, crawling with strange little bugs. In a matter of days they ate through all of the squash, cucumbers and finally the melons - right down into the ground like the plants had never been there at all! I was devastated. If you raise heirloom vegetables, then you've heard of The Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company. (Many of my seeds have come from there.) Jere is a master gardener who has dedicated much of his life to the pursuit preservation of unusual vegetables from all over the world. Along with telling the story of The Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company, the author has packed *The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally* with all the information you need to start your own garden, whether in a field or a window box. He even talks about storing the produce and saving the seeds. You'll also find an A-Z listing of just about every vegetable you can think of along with a good many you've never heard of. For each the authors give the scientific name, a discussion of how to start the plants and transplant them to the garden, common pests and what to do about them, how to save the seeds, and how to prepare the particular vegetable in the kitchen. You will also find at least one picture of each type of vegetable, usually of some of the more unusual types that Baker Heirloom Seeds offers.

Grandma's \$0.02 - *The Heirloom Life Gardener: The Baker Creek Way of Growing Your Own Food Easily and Naturally* is a must-have book that belongs on every home gardener's shelf! Probably the single best source I've seen. Highly recommended

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable, Informative, Helpful By Tolly I loved this book. I very much enjoyed reading the biographical sections because they were focused on gardening and written with a clear passion for heirloom seeds (I admit I skipped some of the bits about the author's seed-gathering travels to foreign countries, but that's just because I wasn't really interested in reading them and wanted to get to the "good" parts about seed saving, etc.; I may go back and read them some day, though). My favorite thing about the book is the list of 50 veggies with a brief history of them, tips to grow them, instructions on seed saving, and kitchen ideas. I was really interested to learn that cukes can be cut up and cooked w/other veggies to make a lovely topper for rice (jasmine is recommended, but depending on what you use to season the veggies, I imagine you can get really creative with the rice types, too). It had never occurred to me to cook cukes, but it's something that I will definitely try. I bought this on my Kindle, so I really didn't get to enjoy the photos as much as I might (it's not a Fire, so no color or resizing options, etc.), and the many tips boxes were a bit hard to read because they were greyed out and the font was lighter. I had to hold my Kindle at a certain angle to read them, but it was worth the eye-strain because each tip box was chock-full of useful information. There were some hidden gems that I hadn't known before or had suspected but not read

anywhere else (such as the above about cukes, notes about what parts of plants are edible besides the parts we grow them for, and new--to me--ideas for natural pest control, etc.). This book is really great, and it's worth buying just for the helpful reference on the 50 veggies. The rest is all bonus fun and information that's well-worth the read!

Tired of genetically modified food every day, Americans are moving more toward eating natural, locally grown food that is free of pesticides and preservatives-and there is no better way to ensure this than to grow it yourself. Anyone can start a garden, whether in a backyard or on a city rooftop; but what they need to truly succeed is *The Heirloom Life Gardener*, a comprehensive guide to cultivating heirloom vegetables. In this invaluable resource, Jere and Emilee Gettle, cofounders of the Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company, offer a wealth of knowledge to every kind of gardener-experienced pros and novices alike. In his friendly voice, complemented by gorgeous photographs, Jere gives planting, growing, harvesting, and seed saving tips. In addition, an extensive A to Z Growing Guide includes amazing heirloom varieties that many people have never even seen. From seed collecting to the history of seed varieties and name origins, Jere takes you far beyond the heirloom tomato. This is the first book of its kind that is not only a guide to growing beautiful and delicious vegetables, but also a way to join the movement of people who long for real food and a truer way of living.

About the Author Jere Gettle's passion for farming developed early, and by the age of seventeen he was in business, selling seeds from his bedroom in Mansfield, Missouri. He didn't set out to start an empire, but to save heritage plant varieties from being lost to genetically modified mega plants and to wave the banner for a way of life he saw rapidly disappearing. He began traveling to far off places, Asia, South America; anywhere he could find and swap rare and unusual seeds, and started a seed catalog that now has 350,000 devoted customers. His seed company employs over 200 full time staff and includes a store, vegan restaurant, and pioneer village in his home town of Mansfield, Mo., as well as two other retail operations--the Seed Bank in Petaluma, California, and Comstock in Westerfield, Connecticut.