



Seeds: The Ultimate Guide to Growing Successfully from Seed

By Jekka McVicar

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If you have ever been frustrated by alpine seeds that refused to germinate, or basil seedlings that failed to thrive, or simply wanted to know how to grow specimens from seeds taken from your garden plants, the clear and straightforward instructions found in SEEDS will increase your chances of success every time.

SEEDS offers practical advice to help both first-time growers and experienced gardeners alike reap the benefits of nature's most miraculous process. In addition to basic information about different types of seeds, how they are pollinated and fertilized, and advice about when to harvest, and how to sort and store seeds, there is detailed information on over five hundred genera, encompassing entries for alpines, annuals, grasses, trees, herbs and vegetables.

Simple step-by-step planting methods emphasize a hands-on approach to growing based on organic principles, and planting directions include all the equipment and materials you will need, as well as the ideal time and conditions for sowing. These tried and tested techniques will give gardeners the confidence and knowledge they need to raise the plants they love. SEEDS is a vital guide for anyone who wants to make their growing space a lasting source of pleasure and satisfaction.

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Editorial Review

Review

An extremely comprehensive book from an author more renowned for her Gold Medal winning herb displays and organic gardening. Every group of plant is covered from the more usual annuals, perennials, shrubs and vegetables through to cacti, ferns, palms and aquatic plants. Drawing on her own experience and that of fellow nurserymen, Jekka McVicar gives a concise picture of this fascinating method of plant propagation. Attractively illustrated with the photographs of Marianne Majerus, it is a clear, straightforward guide to seed propagation. The most helpful information included is germination times, something many previous books on the subject have omitted. Many a would-be propagator has thrown away an apparently 'dead' pot of seeds only to discover them suddenly germinating wherever the compost has been turned out! Following on from the A-Z listings of the various groups of plants is the practical information on the generalities of sowing from composts, equipment to seed collection and breaking of dormancy. Unfortunately the terminology in many instances appears to be aimed at the experienced grower rather than the novice and the repetition of the unnecessary 'substrate' as well as compost is particularly irritating. However, as Jekka McVicar says in her introduction, seed growing is a return to nature, the wonders of an emergent shoot never failing to astonish and amaze the sower. What better way to introduce a child to gardening than with a packet of calendula or nasturtium, easily grown and guaranteed to succeed, making an impression which may last a lifetime? This is one of the most in-depth guides to seed propagation recently published and will be an invaluable reference tool for gardeners for many years to come.

From the Back Cover

Looking for ways to sow and grow successfully? Take inspiration from Jekka McVicar's wide-ranging experience to produce outstanding results.

Seeds offers invaluable practical hints to help first-time growers and experienced gardeners alike reap the benefits of nature's most miraculous process. As well as basic information about different types of seeds, how they are pollinated and fertilized and advice about when to harvest, how to sort and store seeds, there is detailed information on over 500 genera, encompassing entries for alpines, annuals, grasses, trees, herbs, and vegetables.

Simple step-by-step planting guides emphasize a hands-on approach to growing based on organic principles, and planting directions detail the equipment and materials you will need, as well as the ideal time and conditions for sowing. If you have ever been frustrated by alpine seeds which refused to germinate, or basil seedlings that failed to thrive, or simply want to know how to grow healthy specimens from seeds taken from your garden plants, Jekka's clear and straightforward instructions will increase your chances of success every time.

Use these tried and tested techniques to give you all the confidence and knowledge you need to manage the plants you choose. Stunning illustrations, useful seed suppliers, and handy cross-references combine to make this book a vital companion for anyone who wants to make their growing space a lasting source of pleasure and achievement.

About the Author

JEKKA MCVICAR has been growing herbs for over twenty years and owns a successful herb farm. She is an expert in her field, having won thirty-two Royal Horticultural Society gold medals since 1992. She is the author of *Jekka's Complete Herb Book*, which has sold over a quarter million copies, and *Good Enough to*

Eat.

MARIANNE MAJERUS specializes in garden photography and regularly contributes to magazines and newspapers, including *Elle Decoration*, *Gardens Illustrated*, and the *Sunday Times*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Matthew Schwartz:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be update about what going on or information even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe can update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what kind you should start with. This Seeds: The Ultimate Guide to Growing Successfully from Seed is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

William Holt:

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Cheryl Reese:

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Carol Ton:

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