

# Gardens, Books, and Legacies



GARDENS,  
*Books, and  
Legacies*

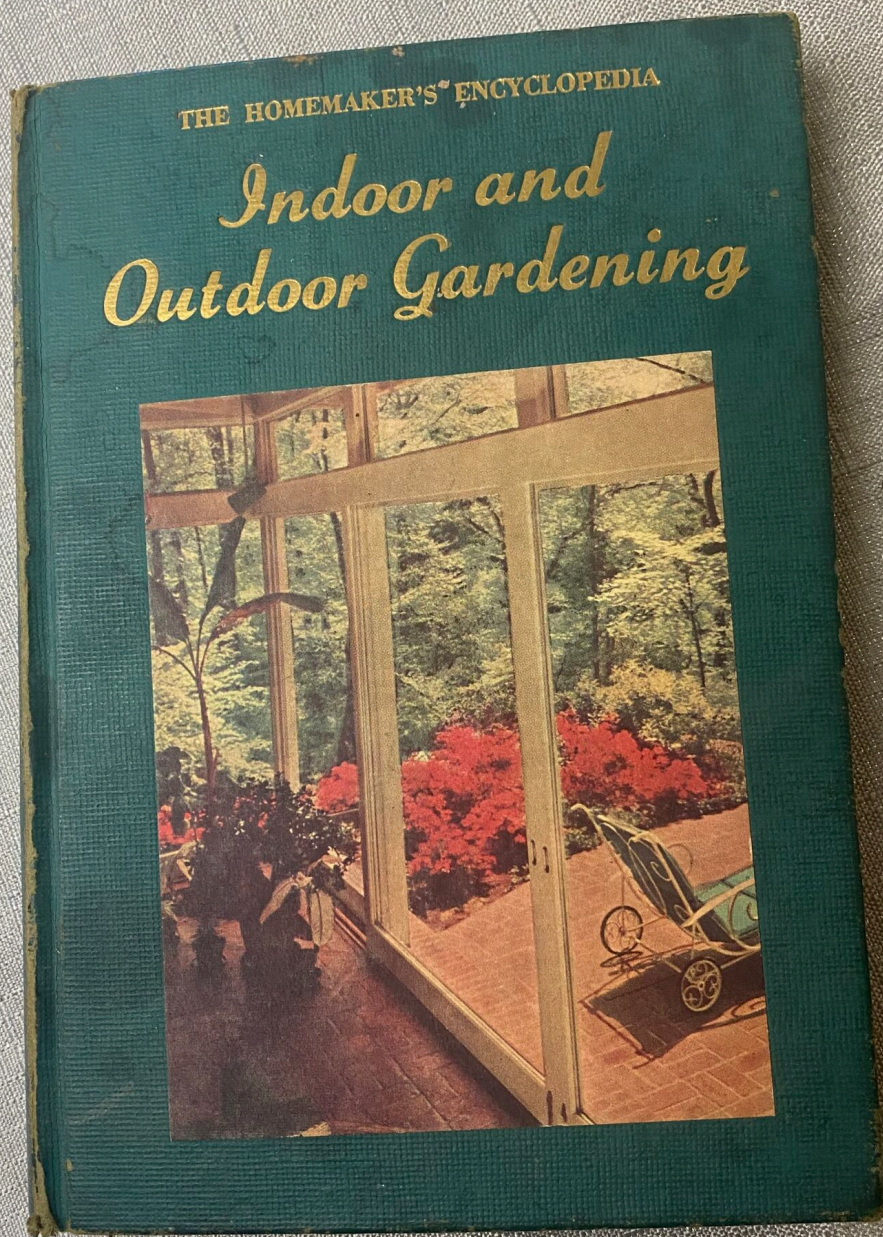
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Gardening wasn't a hobby in my mother's family. Instead, it was essential to their lives. In the 1950s and 60s in rural Arkansas, the garden was their only source of fruits and vegetables. And when they wanted something different, they bartered their oversupply with their neighbors.

As the decades passed, my grandmother's life changed dramatically. In the 1990s, the rural farming community had a grocery store, but my grandmother used it sparingly. She loved buying things like snack cakes and out-of-season fruits, but her heart still lived in the growing and cooking of food she grew.

## **Gardens and Books**

Before the internet, my grandmother was an adventurous gardener, so she had all kinds of magazines, pamphlets, and books around her home. And they called to my bibliophile soul, y'all.



I remember spending hours upon hours looking through the books with her. Sometimes, she would plan a garden, so we would make charts and draw out maps on graphing paper.

She taught me how to use the index and cross-reference between 2 sources to check facts.

Even more important than these skills, she taught me that garden work was not all weeding, feeding, and harvesting.

It is a place where we can provide for ourselves. Food, creativity, beauty, and community intersect in the garden, and she knew it.

## **Gardens and Legacies**

My grandmother took a lot of pride in her garden.

When I was in high school, my grandmother grew a peach tree from the pit of a fruit she bought at the grocery store.

I remember seeing the seedling pop up, then she kept it in a pot and brought it inside that first winter. The day she planted it, she had never seemed so happy. And I remember seeing the first flower and tasting that first peach.

It was delicious, but it was so much more than that. It was the culmination of 4 years of meticulous care. Instead of keeping it to herself, she cut it up and served as many of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandkids as she could.

It wasn't about the peach anyway. It was about sharing in the loving family she cared for just as meticulously as that peach tree she nurtured.

## **Conclusion**

My grandmother has passed away, but the things she taught me while working in the garden, like patience, diligence, and compassion, live on. I am using my garden to teach these things to my children.

I still have some old gardening books that fed my passion for

reading and growing things. So I get them out and look through them now and then. I will share pictures of them below.

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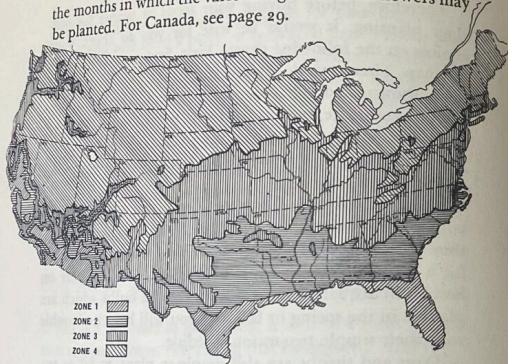
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When to plant your vegetables and flowers

Seasonal zones on this chart for 237 popular plants, compiled from the U. S. Department of Agriculture records, are based on the average date of the last killing frost in spring. To determine the approximate planting dates for your section of the country, find the zone in which you are located. Then, in the column under the zone number you will find the months in which the various vegetables and flowers may be planted. For Canada, see page 29.



CLIMATE CHART, VEGETABLES

	ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4
Artichoke	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-May		
Asparagus	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-May	Apr.-June
Beans	Apr.-Aug.	Apr.-June	May-June	May-June
Beet	Jan.-Dec.	Feb.-Oct.	Mar.-July	Apr.-July
Broccoli, Heading	July-Oct.	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-Apr.
Broccoli, Sprout	Feb.-June	Feb.-June	Mar.-July	Apr.-July
Brussels Sprouts	Feb.-May	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-Apr.
Cabbage, Spring	Jan.-Mar.	Jan.-Apr.	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-May

CLIMATE CHART, VEGETABLES (continued)

	ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4
Cabbage, Fall	June-Aug.	June-Aug.	Apr.-June	Apr.-June
Cardoon	Mar.-May	Mar.-May		
Carrot	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Mar.-June	Apr.-June
Cauliflower, Spring	Feb.-Mar.	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-May
Cauliflower, Fall	May-July	June-Aug.	May-June	May-June
Celery	Mar.-June	Mar.-May	Mar.-June	Mar.-June
Cheeril	Feb.-May	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-June	Apr.-June
Chicory	Feb.-May	Mar.-June	Mar.-May	Apr.-July
Chinese Cabbage	Aug.-Oct.	Aug.-Sept.	Mar.-May	Apr.-June
Chives	Feb.-May	Feb.-May	Mar.-June	Apr.-June
Collards	Jan.-May	Mar.-June	May-July	May-July
Corn	Apr.-June	Mar.-Oct.	Apr.-July	May-Aug.
Corn Salad	Mar.-Aug.	Mar.-Oct.	Apr.-July	May-Aug.
Cress	Apr.-Aug.	Mar.-July	Apr.-June	May-June
Cucumber	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Dandelion	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Egg Plant	Feb.-Mar.	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-May	Apr.-May
Endive	July-Sept.	Aug.-Sept.	Mar.-May	Apr.-June
Fennel	Mar.-May	Mar.-May	Apr.-May	May-June
Kale	Feb.-June	Feb.-May	Apr.-May	May-June
Kohlrabi	Mar.-June	Mar.-May	Apr.-May	Apr.-May
Leek	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-May	Apr.-May	Apr.-May
Lettuce	Jan.-Dec.	Aug.-May	Mar.-June	Apr.-June
Melon, Musk	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Melon, Water	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Mustard	Feb.-May	Feb.-May	Mar.-June	May-July
Okra	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Onion	Dec.-Mar.	Dec.-Apr.	Feb.-May	Mar.-June
Parsley	Jan.-Dec.	Jan.-June	Feb.-June	Mar.-June
Parsnip	Mar.-June	Feb.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Peas	Jan.-May	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-May	Mar.-May
Pepper	Feb.-Mar.	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-May	May-June
Pumpkin	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Radish	Jan.-Dec.	Feb.-Oct.	Mar.-Aug.	Apr.-July
Rhubarb	Feb.-May	Feb.-May	Mar.-May	Apr.-June
Rocket	Feb.-May	Mar.-May	Apr.-June	May-June
Rutabaga	July-Sept.	July-Sept.	July-Aug.	July-Aug.
Spinach	Jan.-Dec.	Feb.-Oct.	Mar.-Sept.	Apr.-Aug.
Squash	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Sunflower	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	Apr.-June	May-June
Swiss Chard	Mar.-Apr.	Mar.-May	Apr.-June	May-June
Tomato	Jan.-Dec.	Feb.-Sept.	Mar.-Aug.	Apr.-July
Turnip, Spring	Jan.-Mar.	Feb.-Mar.	Mar.-May	Mar.-May
Turnip, Fall	Feb.-Mar.	Jan.-Mar.	Feb.-Apr.	Mar.-May
	Aug.-Oct.	Aug.-Oct.	July-Aug.	July-Aug.

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[5 Affordable Indoor Plants That You Might Also Get for Free](#)