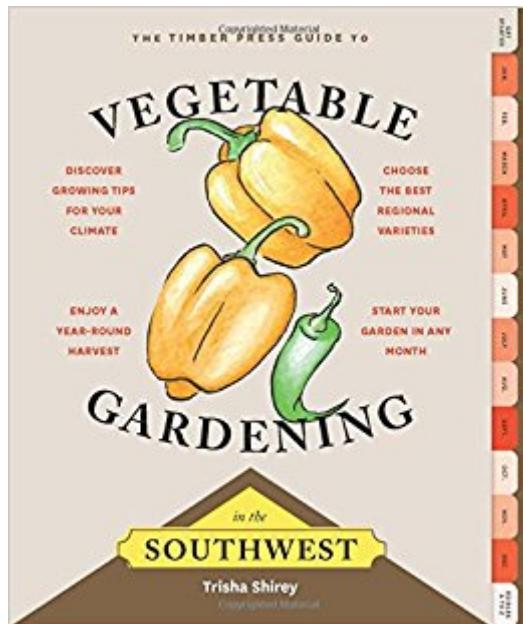


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# Timber Press Guide To Vegetable Gardening In The Southwest (Regional Vegetable Gardening Series)



## Synopsis

There is nothing more regionally specific than vegetable gardeningâ "what to plant, when to plant it, and when to harvest are decisions based on climate, weather, and first frost. The Timber Press Guide to Vegetable Gardening in the Southwest, by regional expert Trisha Shirey, focuses on the unique eccentricities of the Southwest gardening calendar, which include extreme temperatures and low rainfall. The month-by-month format makes it perfect for beginners and accessible to everyoneâ " gardeners can start gardening the month they pick it up. Perfect for home gardeners in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, eastern California, and southern Colorado.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Have you ever wanted to throw a shovel at your food? That is to say: the food you've been TRYING REALLY HARD to grow. Don't despair! Trisha Shirey's to the rescue with Vegetable Gardening in the Southwest. As Lake Austin Spa Resort's Director of Flora and Fauna, Trisha knows everything about organic growing in frustrating harsh-as-heck conditions. Now, she's put all that knowledge into an easy hands-on guide, whether it's your first garden, first one in the Southwest, or last ditch try to grow your own. Covering USDA Zones 4-10, Trisha takes us step by step from soil prep to harvest. Along with tips for building traditional raised beds and small space gardens, she explores hugelkultur and keyhole gardening. Sprinkled with Skill Set tips, she also covers everything you'll run into, from soil pests and insects to 4-legged bandits. Trisha makes it easy to fertilize organically, set

up irrigation, build stakes and protect crops from heat and cold. Month by month, follow along for comprehensive To Do lists from planting times to harvest and pruning and fertilizing. Edibles A-Z present plant profiles to select best varieties and how to grow them. I've got many great vegetable gardening books in my collection, but in this one, Trisha has compiled the latest info with her years of hard-won success in one of hardest places to grow. I know I'll be "eating it up."

This book is VERY thorough! It talks about soils, gives ideas on how to test soil, pH and how to adjust for it, what to do each month in anticipation and throughout spring, what the various needed nutrients are and how the loss of certain ones affect a plant's leaves....and I am only 1/4 through this book! I'm very glad I purchased it and appreciate all the work that must have gone into writing it! Thank you Trisha Shirey!!! As a new Central Texan, who got here as quick as I could from San Diego, CA; I needed to know more about how my plants could best survive here and what others could join them. We're going to create a raised garden and will definitely use your advice on doing that, too!

This book is a must have for any level of gardener. Easy to read, easy to follow and easy to plan your soil preparation, planting, harvesting, pruning, and other gardening endeavors. This book is destined to be the standard by which all others will be judged.

This review is about the book, "Vegetable Gardening in the Southwest" Paperback © January 7, 2015 by Trisha Shirey. The single thing that stands out most about this book is that it is easy to use. It has many descriptions, diagrams, and charts that are all arranged for easy access. It is easy to read and offers many good tips on gardening techniques. There are many other books that offer more material on specific topics like composting or raised bed, but this book is intended to be an "all-in-one" guide to making your garden work. It is also focused specifically on the SouthWest geographic region of the US. PART 1 - GETTING STARTED includes a chart of frost dates, discussions on soil types, composting and raised bed gardening. PART 2 - GET PLANTING is found in the middle, is the largest section of the book, and is arranged in month by month order, to make an excellent guide for activities. January begins with planning and November wraps up most harvesting. Each month includes a primary task list and follows up with related topics. Each page is labeled with the month on the top corner making it easy to navigate to the correct month. PART 3 - EDIBLES A TO Z starts with a master planting and harvesting chart, arranged zone by zone and then continues with a dictionary/encyclopedia like section on individual vegetable plants. This

section wraps up with resources, a further reading list and an index. The best short summary of this book is that it is very useful and practical.

I have several gardening books, but this one by Trisha Shirey is the best I've ever read. It makes gardening accessible to those at any skill level from beginners to advanced. I simply love the month by month breakdown...I keep my book open to the current month to make sure I'm on top of what needs to be done each month. From helping you plan your garden to how to keep your tools in top shape, the topics are on target. Learning everything from soil prep to harvest is made clear and easy to understand. Especially helpful to me is the section on "Edibles A-Z" which gives invaluable information on top producing varieties within each of the vegetable groups. Now, I know which varieties to pick for my area, instead of just shooting in the dark and buying what is offered at the garden center. This book is my gardening bible--Thanks Ms. Shirey!

Okay this book must really be good. I can hardly pull myself away from it to even write this review. So even though I didn't want to put it down because it's just one of THOSE books, I had to come write this review to get the word out to all my friends. This book is full of charts, drawings, detailed descriptions and so many time saving and money saving tips EVERY gardener in the southwest could use, including my girlfriends living in another state in a different garden zone! I even called one of my advanced gardener mentors in LA and told her she had to order this book! Finally a perfect gardening book for every gardener. :) Thanks Trisha!!!

I am in love with the simplicity of using this book as a manual. It is broken down by month so you can flip exactly to the month you're in and know what you should be doing. I also like that most of the info is in bullet points, very simple to reference, without having to read through dense paragraphs. Very basic info, fantastic for the newbie gardener (me!).

This book looks like it's arranged in a 'tabbed' format like a spiral-bound guide would be. That's just the printing on the cover, though. I was really looking for the easy search-ability of that tabbed setup, and was immediately disappointed when I got the book as a result. The content is pretty similar to the other 'southwest region' gardening books on the market, so this isn't really anything special.

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