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# A Time To Plant: Southern-Style Garden Living



## Synopsis

Captures Southern indoor/outdoor living traditions for a new generation . . . A vital young voice in the gardening scene teaches a new generation of Southerners to love gardening and to make it a focal point of their lifestyle. James Farmer III teaches respect for the age-old rules of flower and vegetable gardening in the Deep South (e.g., plant in spring for fall blooms, plant in fall for spring blooms), in a fresh voice that resonates love of life and entertaining at home. Also included are delicious recipes for seasonal meals, as well as suggestions for floral arrangements and centerpieces from the garden.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Georgia's James T. Farmer III keeping state 'in the news' and moms 'in the know' On Saturday, May 11, just one day before Mother's Day, James T. Farmer III was nowhere near North Georgia, but the acclaimed author, gardener, floral and interior designer--who also happens to be a cook and table-to-garden lifestyle expert--was still influencing moms there that day. In fact, he was influencing two moms, and he didn't even know it. As the Douglasville Patch was reporting on Saturday that the upcoming Hydrangea Festival in Georgia was just around the corner, the Atlanta Top News Examiner and her mother were making their way through an estate sale looking for the perfect hydrangea vase to use for Mother's Day. Hydrangeas just happen to be one of the favorite flowers of James Farmer, who says in his A Time to Plant book that when it comes to flowers, "there is hardly another family of flowers that can be cut, dried, arranged and enjoyed more than the

hydrangea clan." This Atlanta writer's mother would agree with him, which is why she was insisting on displaying her blue, purple and green blossoms for her Mother's Day lunch guests on Sunday. But she needed the right vase for them, and she found it. When it comes to hydrangeas and the right vase to use for them, James Farmer might be something of an expert. However, it appears from the attention he is receiving in the media that he knows a lot more than how to grow, display and arrange hydrangeas. In fact, so far in 2013 the Georgia boy has published another book (his fifth), titled *A Time to Cook*, he has appeared on Paula Deen's "Paula's Best Dishes," which aired in April on The Food Network, and--in advance of Mother's Day--he was asked to offer Mother's Day table tips to WAGA-TV viewers on Fox 5's "Good Day Atlanta." And the year isn't even half over yet. If you didn't watch Farmer's Fox 5 appearance you might be interested to learn that he used hydrangea flowers in his floral bouquet for his Mother's Day table decor example. So mom feels vindicated in her own choice! Next up for the savvy seasonal lifestyle expert is a presentation at the Magnolia Springs Garden Club luncheon one week away, on Tues., May 21, at 11:30 a.m. The editor-at-large for Southern Living magazine will be talking about *A Time to Plant* at the one-day event in Alabama, but the garden club will also hold a book signing afterward, so guests can also purchase *A Time to Cook* books, which he will be glad to sign as well. (Smith Radell Examiner.com 2013-05-13)

To everything there is a season . . . a time to plant, and a time to harvest. Whether you are a novice dirt dabbler or a well-seasoned gardener, timing is crucial in gardening. And with proper timing, nature provides us with not only sustenance but trimmings for the home and table, provisions for a garden lifestyle. Garden living, or weaving the garden into your daily life, is a lifestyle filled with rewarding promise and new adventure. Harvesting your own vegetables for a dinner party, arranging your own garden-grown goodness in a bouquet, or entertaining within the garden provides the gardener, cook, and decorator alike an opportunity to meld these talents into a harmonious blend for garden living. *A Time to Plant* is a guide to garden living—*an invitation to walk through the garden, see the possibilities of its bounty, smell the perfumes that abound, taste the produce, and hear the symphony of nature. With photographs, tips, and methods, A Time to Plant will become your guide to a successful gardening way of life. From holidays to every day, the garden can be your source of all things fresh and elegant. Sprigs of mint in your iced tea and lemonade, hydrangeas gracing your tablescape, mantels and halls decked for the season, and a kitchen filled with garden flavors—all are a part of a garden life, garden living, and life well lived. Hailing from the peach-laden fields and muddy river portion of Middle Georgia, James T.*

Farmer III, is president of James Farmer Designs, which specializes in residential landscape design, floral design, and interiors. James graduated from Auburn University. As a native of the Deep South and enthralled with all things Southern, James was influenced by great Southern architects as well as antebellum architecture, having been influenced by the land and flora of his family farm — an old plantation in Kathleen, Georgia, just outside of Macon, complete with rock walls, boxwood parterres, and European influences. Summering on Sea Island also dictated a touch of that particular coastal style in his work. His design practice is about bringing the classicism of the past to the needs of modernity. Find him at [www.JamesFarmer.com](http://www.JamesFarmer.com).

I think this book is glorious. Can you be from the South and not have your life/book full of family? It does contain family recipes, and I just adore that part of his book. It's a coffee table book meet reference/inspiration -- meet cookbook. Full of real places and real "southern grown things" --I love it, and him. I will be giving as gifts.

I have just received my copy of A Time to Plant. I have long been an admirer of anything James Farmer does but this time he has more than topped my expectations! The book is glorious!!! It takes me back to a kinder, gentler time when we all had time to spend with our grandmothers, garden and cook wonderful things. James Farmer has given me a breath of fresh air which isn't easy to come by at the end of another hot, humid summer. I can't imagine anyone not just loving having this book on their coffee table where it will be easy to pick up and gather inspiration on what to plant OR cook. Thank you, Mr. Farmer!!

Bought as a Christmas gift for someone who had interest in planting a more substantial garden but also had concerns of owning a "black thumb." The photos really sold me, but the content was what took the recipient and had her reading from cover to cover. Great information about how to plant both flowering plants and edible plants in harmony, and then use both to add to your home. A wonderful purchase for anyone with an interest in growing anything at your home.

This book is such a beautiful coffee-table book, but that is not the best part. The pictures are fantastic, but the text is so great for those of us who garden in this area and love to bring the outdoors in for beauty. It is easy to understand and makes learning fun! This is a great gift for anyone who loves flowers and entertaining - especially for yourself!

Beautiful book with lots of great information, recipes and beautiful pictures.

Fabulous

a beautifully designed and illustrated celebration of gardening in the South.

Great book, speedy delivery, great condition, great price! Hats off to my fellow Georgian, James Farmer. Eager to read it's competitor, Tastefully Southern, at the end of the summer!

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