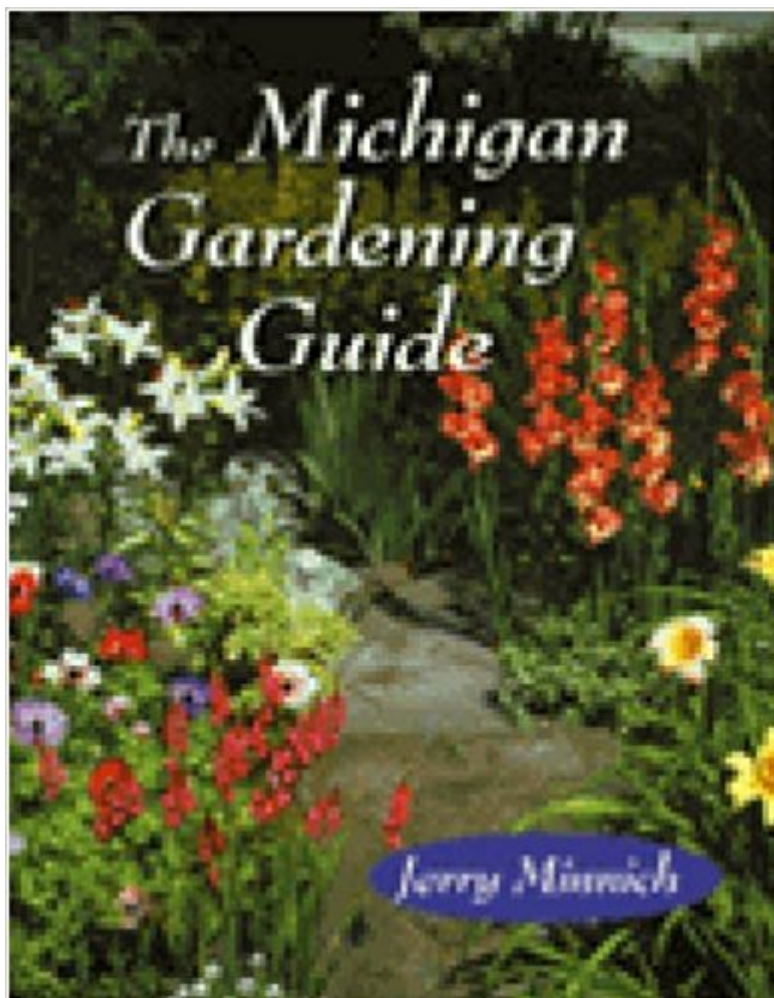


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# The Michigan Gardening Guide



## **Synopsis**

It's all here---step-by-step guidance for gardening success in Michigan's varying soil types and often difficult climate. Veteran garden writer Jerry Minnich presents detailed directions and practical tips for growing vegetables, herbs, flowers, landscaping plants, and house plants, as well as dependable advice on hundreds of garden operations. Minnich begins where gardening begins---in the soil---as he tells how to build a healthy and productive soil, and how to solve soil problems. In subsequent chapters he reveals composting and mulching techniques, and what to do when the weather is less than congenial for gardens. Minnich describes more than sixty Michigan vegetables, tells how to grow them, and lists recommended varieties for each. There are also chapters on growing fruits, berries, and nuts, and on food storage. Minnich devotes a chapter to growing annuals and perennials, another on lawns, trees, and ornamental woody plants. He tells how to deal with insect and animal pests without using harmful chemicals, and he includes a major section on houseplants. Throughout, Minnich approaches the subject with experience, wit, and style. Readers will learn how to deal with weeds in the lawn, how to surf the landscape for composting materials, and how to grow mulch at home. He explains intercropping, companion planting, seed saving, cover cropping, strip composting and other techniques. He tells how to raise unusual crops such as tomatillos and radicchio, as well as the standard favorites. He explains how the science of phenology can help the gardener, how to take a soil test, how to use earthworms to turn household wastes into compost, and how to attract birds and toads to the garden. And he lists more than a thousand varieties of vegetables, herbs, fruits, and ornamentals that can be trusted to grow in the Michigan climate. The Michigan Gardening Guide is the one backyard guide that Michigan gardeners can trust. It is a tool as indispensable as the hoe and the shovel. Jerry Minnich has written about gardening for more than twenty years and has been commended with a Certificate of Merit by the Garden Writers Association of America. His interest in gardening began when he joined the staff of Organic Gardening in the 1950s.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

I borrowed this book from the library and planned to take a few notes. It was so helpful in many ways that I decided to buy the book to highlight and make notes in the book because there was just too much in it. I am implementing many suggestions this year but will spend the winter re-reading it to plan for next summer. I am not a novice gardener but am new to Michigan

I am totally amazed by the quality of the book.

I also checked this book out from the library. The writing and content is so charming and comprehensive I decided that I needed it. While it does have a lot of content just for Michigan, I would say that it'd be a good book for any gardener.

I was disappointed in this book because there are very few photos or illustrations, and those that appear are not in color. Also, I assumed the book was solely about floral gardens (because of the lovely cover) but it actually covers lawn care, fruit trees, vegetable and indoor gardens, etc.; not that much is devoted to flowering annuals/perennials. (My fault: I should have previewed the table of contents). The section on insect control is probably the best part of the book. Although other readers might be very pleased with the book and all the general info it contains, I would not have purchased this book if I had seen it beforehand.

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