

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Value of 100 Year-Old Books for Gardening and Food Preservation

Port Hadlock, Washington — July 5, 2022 — Dan Youra, owner of Youra Media in Washington State, is a publisher of out-of-print books on the topics of gardening and food preservation.

What do books on gardening that are 100 years-old offer readers compared to newly published books on gardening? Old books and new books are valuable in their own ways. Each has its value. Dan Youra outlines the strong points to appreciate the value that the century-old gardening books have to offer.

Books that are one hundred years-old teach a more “do it yourself” approach to gardening. More dependence on muscle power than gas powered, i.e. a handsaw versus a gas powered chainsaw.

Growing food back then was a life-or-death proposition. No garden in the summer. No food in the winter. Farms were more isolated. They had to “grow and preserve food.” They couldn’t depend on the grocery store chain or the mini mart to fill their pantries. Learn from the pioneers how to can and dry food.

In the “old days,” folks had to be more self reliant, less dependent on local hardware stores, farm coops, and feed stores. Garden tools were much simpler and easier to repair. There were no gas powered tools such as rotor tillers or well pumps.

Some tools that went out of style could be very useful today, if they were resurrected. For example, we should bring back the “wheel hoe.”

The old ways were more naturally organic. Old methods of fighting pests were naturally more organic than spraying modern chemicals. Fertilizer was barnyard manure instead of chemicals. It was an art to prepare and apply animal manure. Old folks valued and brewed green manure.

Back then, they relied more upon hothouses and cold frames to extend the growing season. Old timers possessed a fanatical attachment to "heirloom seeds." A century ago folks grew food on window sills in their houses. Gardening was more of a family effort and a community effort.

Youra Media publishes out-of-print books from one hundred to one hundred and fifty years ago. Old books come from private collectors, local libraries, and the Library of Congress. Contact the publisher Dan Youra at youramedia@protonmail.com

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[To interview Dan Youra call 360-379-8800]

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