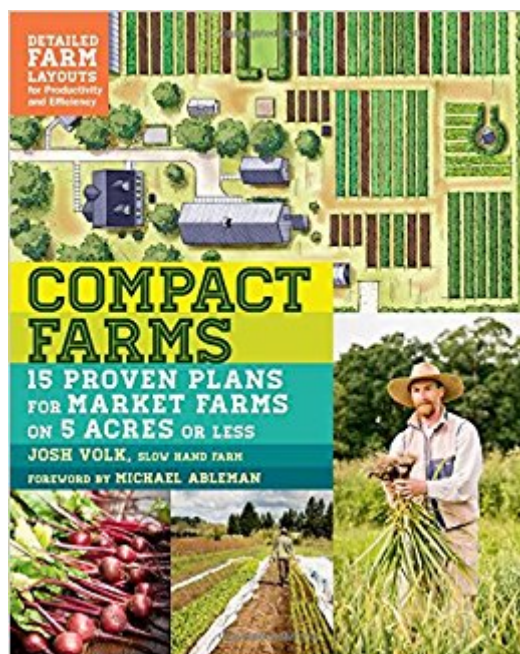


The book was found

Compact Farms: 15 Proven Plans For Market Farms On 5 Acres Or Less; Includes Detailed Farm Layouts For Productivity And Efficiency



Synopsis

Small is beautiful, and these 15 real farm plans show that small-scale farmers can have big-time success. Compact Farms is an illustrated guide for anyone dreaming of starting, expanding, or perfecting a profitable farming enterprise on five acres or less. The farm plans explain how to harness an area's water supply, orientation, and geography in order to maximize efficiency and productivity while minimizing effort. Profiles of well-known farmers such as Eliot Coleman and Jean-Martin Fortier show that farming on a small scale in any region, in both urban and rural settings, can provide enough income to turn the endeavor from hobby to career. These real-life plans and down-and-dirty advice will equip you with everything you need to actually realize your farm dreams.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Volk pushes back against the ‘get big or get out’ narrative, making a strong case for how smaller farms can, and do, contribute to our nation and planet’s health and livelihood.” — The Huffington Post “A very nuts-and-bolts look at successful small farms, which every farmer regardless of skill level and experience will enjoy.” — Hobby Farms “With both the business analysis and schematics of these small agricultural operations, this book is truly human-scaled.” — Josh Volk reveals that there is an alternative to the hype of get big or get out. This is a must read for anyone serious about making it work on a small plot of land.” — Richard McCarthy, Slow Food USA executive director “Here is a clear path for getting started in the most noble of all careers: growing food for your community. This is essential inspiration for anyone

thinking of getting into farming or wanting to scale back a larger farm. Small really is beautiful!â • â ” Lynn Byczynski, publisher, *Growing for Market* â œA trove of inspiration and practical advice for the next wave of young farmers. Even experienced farmers will glean new wisdom from the thoughtful tools and careful techniques in this book.â • â ” Lindsey Lusher Shute, National Young Farmers Coalition executive director and co-founder â œA huge proponent of small-scale agriculture, Oregon farmer Josh Volk outlines 15 case studies â ” real-life operations on five acres or less â ” that prove itâ™s possible to make a living off very little land.â •Â â ”Â Modern Farmer â œIf you’re an aspiring small farmer â ” or you just want to feel optimistic about the future of farmingÂ â ”Â Compact FarmsÂ is one of those things to celebrate.â •Â â ” SlowFoodUSA.org

Small Farms Work. When it comes to farming, it turns out that small isn’t only beautiful â “ small is also sustainable, manageable, and productive. Come along on a tour of 15 successful farms, from urban rooftops to rural retreats, all flourishing on five acres of land or less. Learn from veteran farmers like Eliot Coleman and a new generation of growers like Jean-Martin Fortier how small-scale farms can be profitable, fulfilling, and vital to their communities; then set your dreams on the right track with tips and resources for planning your own compact farm.

Old and new ideas from current farmers who are trying to produce on small acreage. These are not blueprints but more guidelines as to starting and running small farms/market gardens. There are many better books of this type with more information i.e. Elliot Coleman’s. Still, this is the book for the curious who are interested in investigating possible small scale farming options.

This is an excellent book to develop ideas from for small plots. I’ve already read this cover to cover several times and has me thinking new ideas!

Great resource if you’re considering farming (or even can be adapted to plan out home gardens) without a lot of land and was interesting to read about the variety of small farms out there plus the author’s experiences. Written very well for its target audience.

Beautifully laid out book. Josh takes you on a detailed tour of not only his successful small farm, Slow Hand Farm, but also 14 other small (less than 5 acres) farms. Many of the farms he profiles are run by the grandfathers/grandmothers of this industry: Eliot Coleman, Alex Peregrine, Jean-Martin Fortier, to name a few. The others are all run by farmers that may be nationally

less-known, but are still pillars within their own farming communities. Josh effectively breaks down each farm in a manner that is easy to digest. He starts with the basic history of each farm, their hopes/needs/wants/desires from their farms and how they have changed or altered themselves in order to reach those goals. He then walks us through everything from basic tools on the farm, to bed prep, all the way through post-harvest washing and packing, and into the nuts and bolts of office organization. The best thing about this book is the diversity of farmers, their locations, and the ways they tackle their own farming ventures. Josh states at the beginning of the book that being exposed to a range and diversity of growing, harvesting, and packing methods will best inform a potential farm or farmer on how to grow their operation. He is right. I've never read such a book that details the intricate systems of so many different farms, all in one place. Even when meeting other farmers at annual conferences does not provide this kind of detail. Going over these various systems and strategies each farm uses would take way too long to explain, even when meeting these folks in person or actually visiting their farms. Having all of this information collected, stored, and ready-to-use in this book is an invaluable tool for any farmer seeking knowledge in how to improve their operation. It is my opinion that established farms will benefit greatly from this book, as seeing how other highly successful small farms operate (15 of them), is key to picking and choosing the most successful methods for YOUR farm. I also believe that new and starting farmers will benefit as well, but it may take a season or two of growing before all of the principles in this book, and how you may fit them into your own personal farm framework, begin to make complete sense. Like Josh says, there is absolutely no substitute for hands-on learning in the farming world. Get out there and do it, and make sure you have this book in your back pocket to reference. You will find it is worth its weight in gold.

Essential for the Urban Prepper

Clear concise and most pertinent information that has ever been placed in book form about urban/market farming! What a help! From techniques to tools this book has it all!

If you ever wanted proof that you can make a living with a little space and a lot of hard work, then this is your book. I'm off to start a tiny farm!

just what I was looking for

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