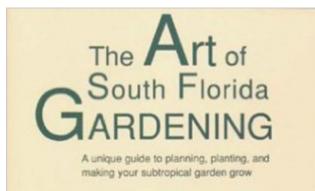
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The Art Of South Florida Gardening: A Unique Guide To Planning, Planting, And Making Your Sub-Tropical Garden Grow



HAROLD SONGDAHL & CORALEE LEON

Illustrations by George Curtis





Synopsis

A unique guide to planning, planting, and making your subtropical garden grow.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Like Linne Faulk, who wrote a related guide, I am a transplant from Michigan. Moving to Florida was just about equal to moving to another planet. My wife and I are homeowners in Cape Coral, found ourselves in Plant Hardiness Zone 10b, but you know, you just have to try different things. We have a butterfly garden which went way whacko with too many dune sunflowers and not enough tropical salvias, gallardias, firebushes, and Bahama cassia. One item to update (this anecdotal book was published eight or nine years ago): There is still Miami sludge, Grade AA, but it is no longer known as "Florida Organix" or "daorganite". Further, in talking with the Lee County Extension Office, products such as Milorganite and Grade AA Miami sludge are being panned as less effective than originally thought. Ultimately, I found gardening to be an art - you never truly master it. But while you're doing it, you must keep your mind constantly engaged because you do learn something new - sometimes paradoxical - every day. I enjoyed the book immensely, especially the old-timer's (Mr. Songdahl) stories. Two of my favorites are the guy who put his whole lawn in a rock garden and bronzed his mower and the transplant who received a one-sentence report on the soil sample he sent back to his old extension agent in Iowa: something like "The only things you don't need are rocks and seashells." So true of Cape Coral, and it seems the only remedy for the packed ocean bottom we have for land is the annual amendment of compost or green manure. By the way, we're

soon to come under water restrictions, so think more in terms of lots of native plants and very little, if any, grass. Being an old corporate accountant, that's my Plan B for what it's worth.

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