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Breed Your Own Vegetable Varieties: Popbeans, Purple Peas, and Other Innovations from the Backyard Garden

Carol Deppe

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#702876 in Books 1993-02Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x 7.00 x 1.00l, #File Name: 0316181048303 pages | File size: 29.Mb

Carol Deppe : Breed Your Own Vegetable Varieties: Popbeans, Purple Peas, and Other Innovations from the Backyard Garden before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Breed Your Own Vegetable Varieties: Popbeans, Purple Peas, and Other Innovations from the Backyard Garden:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Readable genetics and breeding, great gardening tipsBy MicrobeMamaLots of in-depth gardening information that I haven't read elsewhere. The breeding/genetics information was very readable, with excellent information about hand-pollinating if you have a garden too small for isolation distances. I loved the stories of how and why she developed the varieties that are specific to her. There is a lot of information that is specific to the Pacific Northwest, where she lives, but I can apply much of it to Southwest California, where I live. Especially the parts about dryland gardening. I am tempted to buy the expanded, 2nd version as it is not available in my libraries. That goes on my wish list.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy Robert DellHappy with this product and transaction.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy Zcheck2uI really enjoyed reading this book. The author did a great job. I highly recommend this book for those into gardening. I love to save my own seeds and experiment. This book is great for people like me.

A guide to creating unique varieties of vegetables through select breeding presents basic genetic information in easy-to-understand terms and step-by-step instructions.

From Library Journal For those amateurs who want even more involvement with gardening than the planning, planting, thinning, weeding, watering, mulching, and harvesting that the average vegetable garden requires, this book will provide the answer. Deppe, who holds a Ph.D. in biology from Harvard University, relates the efforts of adventuresome gardeners to improve their favorite vegetables, including her own experiments with plants such as chickpeas and mustard greens. Since most commercial varieties of vegetables are bred for characteristics not necessarily valued by the home gardener (uniformity, tough skins for shipping, etc.), the home gardener can breed for better taste, nutrition, and hardiness. This pursuit is not for the botanical dilettante, however. Deppe stresses the legitimate need for scientific record keeping and reviews the basic principles of genetics and probability. The text concludes with a glossary, annotated bibliography, and several appendixes, including a very useful one on breeding some of the more popular vegetables. This book will have a limited audience, but for those willing to take up the trowel, it will be essential.- Virginia A. Henrichs, Chicago Botanic Garden Lib., Glencoe, Ill. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.