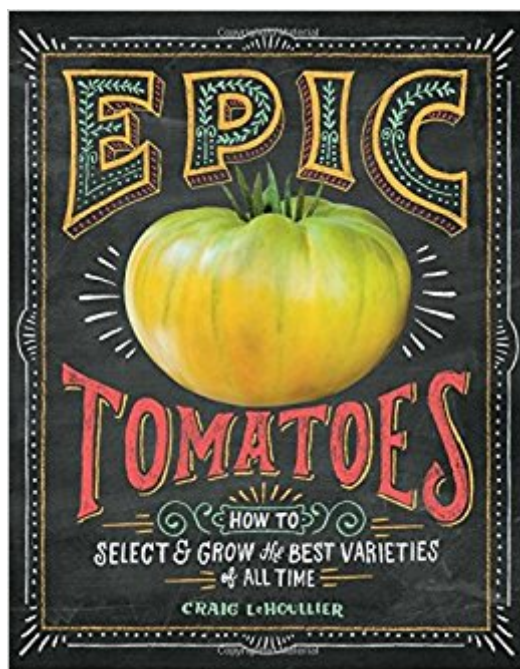


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Epic Tomatoes: How To Select And Grow The Best Varieties Of All Time



Synopsis

Savor your best tomato harvest ever! Craig LeHoullier provides everything a tomato enthusiast needs to know about growing more than 200 varieties of tomatoes, from planting to cultivating and collecting seeds at the end of the season. He also offers a comprehensive guide to various pests and tomato diseases, explaining how best to avoid them. With beautiful photographs and intriguing tomato profiles throughout, *Epic Tomatoes* celebrates one of the most versatile and delicious crops in your garden. 

Book Information

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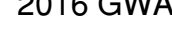
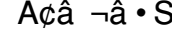
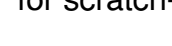
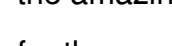
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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 222 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #57,708 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Vegetables](#) #31 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Gardening](#) #31 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Reference](#)

Customer Reviews

2016 GWA Media Awards Gold Medal Winner - Best Overall Book  "All the descriptions and growing information, enhanced by the book's snappy cover art, engaging design, and clever interior layout, make it easy to see how anyone could be smitten by this remarkable and quirky fruit."  • The American Gardener  "A must-read for all serious tomato growers"  "you will want to read this cover to cover as soon as you get it."  • Sunday News Herald  "The ultimate in-depth and practical ode to heirloom tomatoes. ... Gardeners will find it a mouthwatering read, and the photography will make you yearn for scratch-sniff-and-taste paper."  • Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier  "Revel in the amazing variety of tomato colors, tastes, and textures"  | LeHoullier's book is a treat for the senses.  • HGTVGardens.com  "Sure to excite every tomato-growing gardener" | after you read it a supermarket tomato will never taste good again." (Library

Journal)

"Incredibly photographed and beautifully laid out, Epic Tomatoes will inspire and delight." (Niki Jabbour, author of Groundbreaking Food Gardens and The Year-Round Vegetable Gardener)"When Craig recommends a variety, we listen!" (Ira Wallace of Southern Exposure Seed Exchange)"Craig LeHoullier has been on a marathon journey with this fruit for 35 years, growing and evaluating thousands of tomatoes. His hands-on knowledge ... is now entirely accessible in Epic Tomatoes." (Diane Ott Whealy, co-founder and vice president of Seed Savers Exchange)

This year, I decided to grow tomatoes (for the first time ever). With all of the info available online, I saw no reason to go in search of books. At the advice of many online experts, I eventually spent quite a ridiculous amount of money on pots, grow boxes, soil amendments, lights... you name it. And -- this should come as no surprise to anyone -- the "experts" all contradicted each other. I followed the advice of one "expert" in my kind of tomato-gardening-difficult area (Pacific Northwest). Bad decision. As a result, I started my tomato seedlings indoors a month too early and six times as many seedlings as I should have started. Eventually, thanks to more online recommendations, I bought a different book (Growing Vegetables West of the Cascades, 35th Anniversary Edition: The Complete Guide to Organic Gardening -- which contained a lot of interesting information, to be sure, but mostly only confused and discouraged me. Then -- again thanks to online recommendations -- I checked this book out of the library. Within two chapters, I knew that I had to buy a copy. I'm now about 2/3 of the way through the book, and it just gets better and better. This book is eminently readable. It answers ALL of my questions. LeHoullier spells out what to do, when to do it, and pros and cons of different approaches -- and explains WHY very clearly with just enough detail to make sense but not enough to have you saying "Enough already" and skipping parts. At this point, thanks entirely to this book, I actually feel like my too-early start will be correctable. (I fixed the "too many" part by giving away dozens of seedlings.) I no longer feel overwhelmed and confused by online "experts" all offering contradictory advice. I only wish I'd bought this book to begin with, because I'd have saved myself a lot of money in unneeded (and, sadly, not returnable) supplies. If you're embarking on a tomato-growing journey -- even if you're not doing it as cluelessly as I started off -- be smarter than I was, do yourself a favor, and start by buying this book. Seriously

This book is wonderful on several levels. First, the visual aspect is simply luscious. Well printed,

gorgeous photos of lots of cool varieties of tomatoes that sent me scrambling to order seeds. But the meat of the book is the text, which is thorough, well-written, and contains lots of good info, tips and tricks, as well as history and science. An all around win!

Fantasticbook!!! Pictures are amazing. Great read so far, though haven't gotten through it all since my 3 year old son insists on "reading" book with me every night. I am not kidding. He is obsessed with tomatoes after picking them in our garden this year. He actually makes me turn every page of book and now knows the names of all the heirloom tomatoes. I wish I could expand my garden space to make room for more tomato varieties shown in book. Have watched author's videos on You Tube which will be very helpful come Spring seeding/planting season. I bought a hardcover copy for my father who's been gardening for 80 years. Will be a great gift. If you're thinking about buying this book, then buy it since you won't be disappointed.

Wow - after finding out about GMOs in our food, I ordered over 20 books to start growing my own - this is my favorite so far! It is fun, fun, fun! Lots of huge, nice, color pictures that inspire and make you smile to look at: tomatoes of so many different varieties pictured on the vine, cut open, and described, so you get a real close look at them and can decide if you would like to grow that variety yourself. Lots of good tips on how to do that. Love the author's style: for example, he says, rather than telling you how to plant he wants to share what has worked from him and still learn from others - he has experience in two different climates. Lots of good tips to get me started in the southeast, for sure. Even the table of contents is presented in a fun style with chapter headings printed on little seed bags and labels - just gives you a good feeling to look at this book. It is huge (8.5 by 11 inches - like a piece of paper) and has good quality material and easy to read print. The only thing I don't like is that it has a horrible smell to it - maybe my copy did not have the print cured/dried properly - but I am hoping that will dissipate with time and I am happy to deal with that in exchange for the thick, glossy, almost three dimensional color pictures of the tomatoes. Two more great points about the book are the loving presentations of the "Ten Tastiest" tomatoes, again with super color pictures and descriptions - makes me want to try at least two more that I have not thought about before - the kind of 'gotta have this one in our family' feeling that gets you going - and the lovely presentation of letters from seed savers like you and me, again with pictures of the actual letters - nice to see. There is also a section on problem solving - a most useful book for any tomato fan and a beautiful book to look at, too - it's like a tomato art gallery on my book shelf, that I can visit any time now. =]

An amazing book for the home gardener or anyone interested in the history of the tomato in American home gardening culture. Not much in the way of commercial tomato growing (for that I'd recommend Tomatoland), but who cares when the real tomato is what is grown in back/front yard gardens the world over.

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