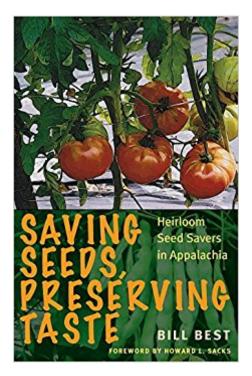


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Saving Seeds, Preserving Taste: Heirloom Seed Savers In Appalachia





Synopsis

The Brown Goose, the White Case Knife, Oraâ ™s Speckled Bean, Radiator Charlieâ ™s Mortgage Lifterâ ‰â "â ‰these are just a few of the heirloom fruits and vegetables youâ ™ll encounter in Bill Bestâ [™]s remarkable history of seed saving and the people who preserve both unique flavors and the Appalachian culture associated with them. As one of the people at the forefront of seed saving and trading for over fifty years, Best has helped preserve numerous varieties of beans, tomatoes, corn, squashes, and other fruits and vegetables, along with the family stories and experiences that are a fundamental part of this world. While corporate agriculture privileges a few flavorless but hardy varieties of daily vegetables, seed savers have worked tirelessly to preserve genetic diversity and the flavors rooted in the Southern Appalachian Mountainsâ ‰â "â ‰referred to by plant scientists as one of the vegetative wonders of the world. Saving Seeds, Preserving Taste will introduce readers to the cultural traditions associated with seed saving, as well as the remarkable people who have used grafting practices and hand-by-hand trading to keep alive varieties that would otherwise have been lost. As local efforts to preserve heirloom seeds have become part of a growing national food movement, Appalachian seed savers play a crucial role in providing alternatives to large-scale agriculture and corporate food culture. Part flavor guide, part peopleâ [™]s history, Saving Seeds, Preserving Taste will introduce you to a world youâ [™]ve never knownâ ‰â "â ‰or perhaps remind you of one you remember well from your childhood.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages Publisher: Ohio University Press; 1 edition (April 30, 2013) Language: English ISBN-10: 0821420496 ISBN-13: 978-0821420492 Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #877,154 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > South #183 in Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Agronomy #193 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Essays

Customer Reviews

â œThis animated narrative offers a glimpse into American folklore, migration patterns, and the glory of the family farm as it is known through its seeds, which live on season after season, offering distinctive local flavor.â •â "Publishers Weeklyâ œBestâ ™s book depicts the alternative to corporate farming as unveiled in Karl Weberâ [™]s Food, Inc. (2009), discussed in Michael Pollanâ [™]s In Defense of Food (2008), explored in Sally Fallon, Pat Connolly, and Mary G Enigâ [™]s Nourishing Traditions (1995), and revealed in Robyn Oâ [™]Brien and Rachel Kranzâ [™]s The Unhealthy Truth (2009). â • â "The Journal of American Culture" The magic in the greatest of all Jack tales is that what appears to be a mere handful of seeds turns instead into a giant beanstalk leading to riches beyond measure. That same sort of alchemy is at work here in Bill Best's Saving Seeds, Preserving Taste. Yes, it's a practical and useful handbook for good garden husbandry, but as it unfolds before your eyes, it reveals as well a vital world of southern Appalachian people, plants, food, and practice to nourish both body and soul." a "Ronni Lundi, founding member of the Southern Foodways Alliance, author of Shuck Beans, Stack Cakes, and Honest Fried Chickenâ œPerhaps only once in a lifetime, we read a book that is a true treasure of American lore, one that no other person could write. Bill Best should be considered a National Treasure Keeper, for his beans, tomatoes, and cornâ ‰â "â ‰as well as his storiesâ ‰â "â ‰are irreplaceable and therefore of immeasurable value.â •â "Gary Nabhan, author of Coming Home to Eat: The Pleasures and Politics of Local Foodsâ œIn Saving Seeds, Preserving Taste, Bill Best has captured in words his passion and dedication for perpetuating heirloom vegetable and fruit varieties in Appalachia. This has been his lifeâ [™]s workâ |. At seventy-nine, he continues to promote the saving of heirloom seeds, seeds that hold the potential for flavorful, nutritious food; seeds that if saved, can be grown year after year; seeds that hold a part of the history of Native American and Appalachian cultures.â • â "Journal of Appalachian Studies

Bill Best was a professor, coach, and administrator at Berea College for forty years, retiring in 2002. Since that time he has continued his seed saving and work with sustainable agriculture and for several years has been director of the Sustainable Mountain Agriculture Center located near Berea, Kentucky. The center makes heirloom seeds available to a wide regional audience and to the nation in general. In addition, through special arrangements, the center also ships seeds to many other countries.

I am a huge believer in saving seeds and planting heirloom varieties, and I do for the most part. I bought some bean seeds and a few other vegetables from the author's organization and I think

what he is doing is great. The beans were awesome!! On the book... I thought it was more about the process of saving seeds, what and how to do, etc. It is more of a collection of stories about the people that have saved different bean varieties and such. It just wasn't what I was really expecting and I found it a bit boring, but would probably appeal to folks that were interested in that part of "bean history."

How our heirloom foods were preserved, propagated, and grown are a vital connection to our heritage, and point the way to restoring our abbreviated food system. Bill Best brings his experience and knowledge to these subjects in an informative and enjoyable read. And for those of us in Kentucky he is a local treasure- farming in Berea and selling his heritage foods at the Lexington Farmers Market.

This book was great. IT was so much fun to read. Reminds me of my years growing up. I learned a lot about beans and their history. Recommend this book to anyone. Also gave lots of information on growing other vegetables.

For anyone interested in vegetable gardening this book is a must read. Loved the stories about seed savers. Also easy to understand directions for saving seeds.

Very interesting. I ordered some of these seeds from bill best and can't wait to start my own family tradition

Good product

Great book. Good information, and also very entertaining.

The author is very knowledgeable and passionate about his subject. He communicates to his readers the importance of saving original seed before it is contaminated by commercial products. *Download to continue reading...*

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Appalachia Series, 2) (WEST VIRGINIA & APPALACHIA) Ultimate Seeds Handbook for Minecraft: The Best Minecraft Seeds That You Must Know! (Seeds for PC and Mac, Xbox 360, Pocket Edtion) Minecraft Seeds: Top 25 Seeds for Minecraft 1.10 - Unofficial Guide Featuring Seeds You Must Try Out For Yourself (sorted into 5 categories with a bonus gift inside) - GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT The Seed Garden: The Art and Practice of Seed Saving Lily (Seed Savers Book 2) The Beekman 1802 Heirloom Cookbook: Heirloom fruits and vegetables, and more than 100 heritage recipes to inspire every generation Canning and Preserving: A Simple Food in a Jar Home Preserving Guide for All Seasons: Bonus: Food Storage Tips for Meat, Dairy and Eggs Canning and Preserving Guide for Beginners: Canning and Preserving Cookbook for Fresh Food Year Round Canning and Preserving Soups, Stews, and Chili: A Step-by-Step Guide to Canning Delicious Food (Canning and Preserving for Novices Book 1) Food Storage: Preserving Fruits, Nuts, and Seeds Seed by Seed: The Legend and Legacy of John "Appleseed" Chapman Starting Seeds: How to Grow Healthy, Productive Vegetables, Herbs, and Flowers from Seed. A Storey BASICS® Title Seeds on Ice: Svalbard and the Global Seed Vault Seeds! Watching a Seed Grow Into a Plants, Botany for Kids -Children's Agriculture Books The Ultimate Seeds Handbook: Top 50 Seeds for PC and Pocket Edition The Starters Guide To: Backyard Farming: Grow Natural Foods through Backyard Farming, Homesteading, Healthy Living and The Importance of Seed Saving! The Complete Guide to Saving Seeds: 322 Vegetables, Herbs, Fruits, Flowers, Trees, and Shrubs

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