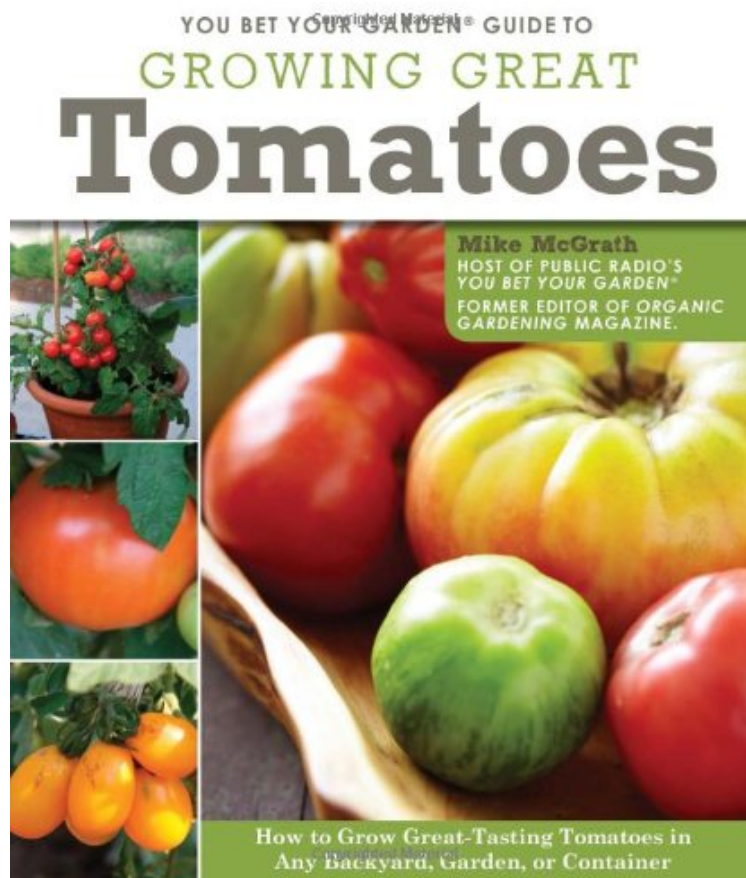


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# You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes: How to Grow Great-Tasting Tomatoes in Any Backyard, Garden, or Container

Mike McGrath

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**Mike McGrath : You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes: How to Grow Great-Tasting Tomatoes in Any Backyard, Garden, or Container** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes: How to Grow Great-Tasting Tomatoes in Any Backyard, Garden, or Container:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great BookBy gardenguyVery informative. Great content about growing tomatoes. Good primer for the beginning tomato grower. Only served to increase obsession for growing different types of tomatoes.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. There is good basic information in this bookBy plunkemThere is good basic information in this book. It is clearly and simply instructional. I listen to him on the radio so I am used to his delivery. It can be annoying but the information he gives is sound. The book is a helpful

tool and an easy read. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. tomatoBy librariangreat book very informative i learned quite a bit but it was also very very funny, the author has a great sense of humor and he keeps you laughing. the humor kept it from getting boring and i was able to go through the book and found many helpful hints

Organic gardener Mike McGrath shows gardeners of all skill levels how to grow a wide variety of great tasting tomatoes anywhere they have a place to plant seeds.

Mike McGrath, Radio Host of "You Bet Your Garden," shares his wit and gardening expertise in his newly revised and expanded edition of *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes*. Mike McGrath This fun, comical approach teaches readers how to grow heirloom beefsteaks, plums, cherries and other backyard beauties. McGrath, who also writes a monthly column for *Organic Gardening* magazine, explains with characteristic wit how to choose, plant, grow and harvest a variety of tomatoes. This expanded edition is perfect for anyone who's ever tried to grow tomatoes or faced the challenges of drought, hungry nighttime animals, insects, and disease. Readers learn how to start tomato plants from seed, about watering, how to stake and cage plants, feeding and how to prevent plant diseases. The book also offers tips on how and when to pick plants. With every page readers find the writing light and funny, yet rooted in years of experience and practice. *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes* (Fox Chapel Publishing, April 1, 2012) makes a great gift for anyone who's ever thought about growing their own tomatoes or simply wished their own crop looked and tasted better. About the Author: Mike McGrath is host of the weekly nationally syndicated radio show "You Bet Your Garden" as well as a widely published columnist. McGrath has been featured as a gardening commentator on *The Today Show* and has accumulated a base of fans that appreciate both his humor and knowledge. Along with serving as columnist and contributing editor for *Greenprints*, McGrath was editor-in-chief of *Organic Gardening* magazine from 1991 through 1997. He is currently editor-at-large and writes a monthly column, "Mike McGrath's Tall Tales" and answers questions on the magazine's website. McGrath's "You bet Your Garden" airs weekly on National Public Radio. McGrath has made frequent guest appearances on NBS's *Weekend Today* and NPR's "All Things Considered." McGrath is also the garden editor for *WTOP News Radio* in Washington, D.C., a post he has held for more than a decade. Read more: *Growing Tomatoes Explained By Mike McGrath* | The Hunt Magazine <http://thehuntmagazine.com/home-garden/2012/02/growing-tomatoes-explained-by-mike-mcgrath/#ixzz1mGz0WF00> Growing Tomatoes: A Collectio of Expert Advice 5 Reasons You Should Be Growing Tomatoes Or on a lighter note, here are five reasons to grow your own ?maters, from *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes*, by the ever-amusing Mike McGrath: 1. There is honestly nothing you can compare to the taste of a fresh, vine-ripened tomato, plucked at the perfect peak of sweetness and eaten warm and sugary, tart and juicy, right there in the garden as you make a big mess all over your shirt. 2. If you actually get good at this (and you can ? I grow great tomatoes just about very season, and I barely have opposable thumbs), you?ll have access to the ultimate summertime bragging right: ?Oh, and would you like a slice of fresh tomato on that? Let me go out and pick a nice one for you.? 3. If you get really good at it, you can go for the gold: Having ripe, red tomatoes conspicuously hanging on your plants days before that pain-in-the-butt gardener down the block who?s been showing off for years. 4. And then nirvana: Knocking on that gardener?s door with a bag of ripe tomatoes while his first love apples are still green and saying, ?Here ? I noticed your plants don?t seem to be doing very well this year, and we had more than we can eat for weeks now ...? 5. Start your own tomatoes from seed, and you can grow (and share and savor and really brag about) wonderful varieties that you just can?t find already started for you at the garden center, much less in the supermarket, such as ?Tigerella,? ?Brandywine,? ?Big Rainbow? and ?Radiator Charlie?s Mortgage Lifter.? Read more: <http://www.motherearthnews.com/Growing-Tomatoes-Expert-Advice.aspx#ixzz1saQPwZ2a> Home Lifestyles Home and Gardening Home Gardening Headlines It's not too early to plant tomatoes. A new book will help you through the entire process By BARBARA RODRIGUEZ Special Contributor Published: 14 March 2012 06:51 PM Mike McGrath is a chatty sort of guy. One of the things he likes to yak most about are his tomatoes, not to mention his adventures in growing them. Based on his personal experiences, *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes* is rather like a long visit over coffee with a sometimes tedious uncle. The host of a nationally syndicated radio show airing out of *WHYY-FM* in Philadelphia, McGrath does seem to enjoy the sound of his own voice, but legions of listeners can attest they enjoy it, too. As a former editor of *Organic Gardening* magazine, the author does know what he's talking about. Chapters on choosing seeds, germinating, planting, staking, caging, nurturing, watering and harvesting are a quick read (the book is just 111 pages). The tone is light, sometimes irreverent, but the information is tried and true. Although the jokes that run throughout the book are not all that funny, one carries on reading for what is of most value: an expert's inside information. For instance, the page on how to use the calcium in eggshells as the ultimate preventive of blossom-end rot on tomatoes is worth McGrath's silliness. Equally useful are the whys behind a plentiful seeding of dos and don'ts: Don't feed, do compost. Don't trench. Do use bone meal. Do read fertilizer labels (and how to interpret them). Best tip of all: how, come fall, you can speed up the ripening of all those still-green tomatoes. So what if the tone is sometimes overly folksy? This is a how-to book that is as quick and easy to read as it is certifiably useful. Tomatoes, whether or not we think of them as vegetables, are far and away

America's favorite fruit, and the one most likely to be in a home garden. But disease, pests, soil "issues," too much or not enough water and flagrant user error often nip our homegrown harvest in the bud. *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes* can help. Author Mike McGrath is the host of the public radio show "You Bet Your Garden" and now your own personal backyard expert. No matter the skill level or size of garden (or container), anyone can grow healthy, delicious and gorgeous tomatoes. McGrath details how to pick the right variety, start from seed, plant, stake, cage, deal with pests and disease, practice "basic keeping-alive skills" and harvest the bounty. Wit and wisdom combine with big color photos, wacky cartoons and insider tips to help you grow serious gardening skill in no time. The author treats a serious subject with a sense of humor. Today, I pre-ordered *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes: How to Grow Great Tasting Tomatoes in Any Backyard, Garden, or Container* by Mike McGrath. He hosts a weekly garden radio show, on WHYY-Philadelphia, called "You Bet Your Garden." I listen to it religiously, for Mike's humor, sarcasm, and sage advice. While we don't see eye-to-eye on every nuance, we both think squirrels are the most evil creatures to wander the face of the planet. He's the undisputed king of compost, and I'm really excited for his new book. This third edition is re-edited, with new chapters and information. Looking forward to it, as a birthday present to myself. The third edition of Mike McGrath's *Growing Great Tomatoes* is a "deliciously funny little book", but also a serious guide on how to grow an heirloom tomato patch, be it in the ground or in pots. From the Back Cover *How Does Your Garden Grow?* With expert techniques and tips flavored with the irreverent wit that makes his nationally syndicated Public Radio show, *You Bet Your Garden*, such a hit, organic gardener Mike McGrath shows gardeners of all skill levels how to grow a wide variety of great-tasting tomatoes anywhere they have a place to plant seeds. Whether you have an entire backyard to work with or only a terrace, McGrath explains why you should grow your own tomatoes: You just can't beat the taste. Tomatoes are the most popular home garden vegetable crop, and whether you appreciate the enhanced flavor of heirloom tomatoes or want to grow disease-resistant hybrids, the techniques explained in this book allow all varieties to thrive. Based on McGrath's personal adventures in tomato-growing, *You Bet Your Garden Guide to Growing Great Tomatoes* directs you through choosing seeds, germinating, planting, staking, and caging, nurturing, watering, and harvesting homegrown tomatoes. If you love to laugh, love to eat, and love to grow beautiful tomatoes, you'll love this book! About the Author Mike McGrath is editor-at-large for *Organic Gardening* and is the former editor-in-chief. He writes a monthly column, "Mike McGrath's Tall Tales," and answers questions on the magazine's website. McGrath's "You Bet Your Garden" airs weekly on National Public Radio. He has made frequent guest appearances on NBC's *Weekend Today* and NPR's "All Things Considered". --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.