

Resources

There are great resources in other Anglophone countries for artisan flower farmers.

We farm flowers in Somerset, England, so I am able to give a longer list of largely UK-based resources on pages 248-250 of the book.

I also urge you to research your own local growers and plant nurseries. There is a wealth of advice out there, and gardeners are people who simply cannot resist sharing their knowledge, which makes them some of the best people to count as colleagues. Don't be afraid to ask other growers where they go to buy stock!

USA

The Association of Speciality Cut Flower Growers

www.ascfg.org

A cooperative organisation through which growers can find training, market opportunities, recommended suppliers, and all sorts of industry support.

The Floret Flower Farm blog

www.floretflowers.com

Erin Benzakien and her family run a very successful artisan flower farming business outside Seattle. She's an inspiration to many of us in the UK as well as in her native America. Erin holds great workshops and is incredibly generous with information on her blog.

Saipua and The Little Flower School

www.saipua.com

www.littleflowerschoolbrooklyn.com

Based in Brooklyn, Saipua and its sister company The Little Flower School are wonderful stylists with natural garden flowers. The 'look' they create inspires grower-florists around the world. Have a look at their blog, and especially follow their Instagram, for how a really creative business keeps their ideas fresh and interesting.

Johnny's Seeds

www.johnnyseeds.com

The only US supplier I know to recommend. If they have a name good enough to have crossed the pond, I imagine they're pretty useful.

Local Harvest

www.localharvest.org

A directory of local farmers' markets and small farm associations. Farmers' markets are a great way to start selling your crop and getting customer feedback for your new, cut-flower growing project.

Canada

Flowers Canada Growers

www.flowerscanadagrowers.com

An association for cut flower growers in Canada.

Hawthorn Farm Flowers

www.hawthornfarm.ca/flowers.php

In Palmerston, Ontario. A good selection of cut flower seed for the organic grower.

Farmers' Markets Canada

www.farmersmarketscanada.ca

For an overview of Canadian farmers' markets. You could look for a place for you to start selling your cut flower crop locally.

Australia

Australian Farmers' Markets Association

www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/food/publications/national_food_plan/issues-paper/submissions-received/australian-farmers-markets-association

To give new growers ideas for where they might put a stall out to sell their wares.

Australian Flower Industry

www.australianflowerindustry.com.au/industry/growerorgs/

Find your local flower groups and florist associations

Green Harvest Seeds

www.greenharvest.com.au/SeedOrganic/FlowerSeeds/Flowers.html

A wide selection of cut flower seed and good deals for large orders.

Also by Green Books



Grow Your Own Wedding Flowers

Georgie Newbery

This inspirational practical book will take you through everything you need to grow and arrange your own wedding flowers. Filled with guidance on selecting, growing, cutting, conditioning and arranging your flowers, from button-holes and bouquets, to pew-ends and confetti. Seasonal planting plans cover weddings at any time of year, allowing you to pick the perfect selection for your special day – and helping you save money.

Published UK November 2015, US and Australia February 2016

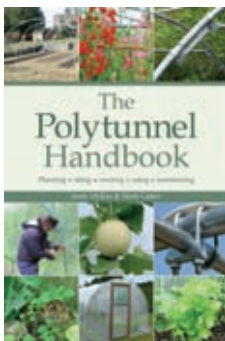


How to create a new vegetable garden: producing a beautiful and fruitful garden from scratch

Charles Dowding

This book takes you through the initial stages of clearing ground and planting a new vegetable garden. Charles Dowding illustrates the simplicity of starting a new vegetable garden with tales and pictures from his first year on his latest plot of land. Filled with labour-saving ideas and insights, this practical book is a must-read for anyone who has unused land and doesn't know where to start.

Published UK February 2015, US and Australia April 2015



The Polytunnel Handbook

Andy McKee and Mark Gatter

The Polytunnel Handbook looks at all aspects of using a polytunnel, from planning your purchase to harvesting the rewards, and includes a step-by-step guide detailing how polytunnels are sited, put up and maintained. There are chapters on developing healthy soil and preventing pests, and a jargon-free guide to the range of often mystifying accessories that many tunnel retailers offer. The authors explain how to keep your polytunnel productive in every season.

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