



green books

Advance Information

14/01/2011

COMMUNITY ORCHARDS HANDBOOK

Sue Clifford and Angela King

- Massive interest in community food growing
- Provides a step-by-step guide to setting up your own community orchard with nature at its heart
- An essential guide for communities and schools

"In orchards an exuberant and a secret landscape has been created - a treasury of genetic diversity and a repository of culture." - Community Orchards Handbook

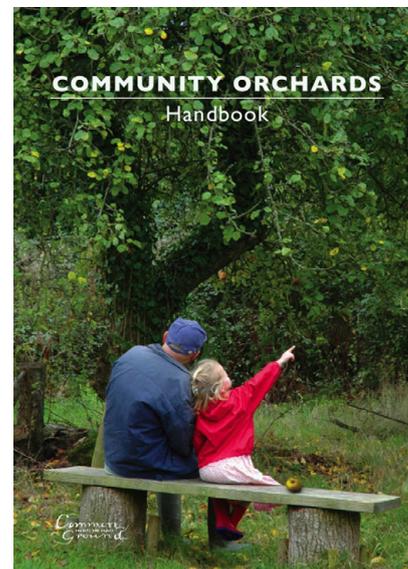
Since the 1950s we have lost more than 60% of orchards in England through agricultural change or development, and we currently import 66% of apples sold in shops across the UK. Yet we have grown an incredible 3,000 varieties of apples and there is now a surge of interest in establishing Community Orchards - local projects run by local people, providing locally grown fruits and nuts. The *Community Orchards Handbook* shows groups and individuals how to start their own Community Orchard, from getting support, tackling legal issues and access to organising working parties and selling produce. It gives suggestions on 'apple mapping' and saving local varieties and of course it gives practical advice on planting, harvesting and safeguarding your orchard. There is a comprehensive resources section and examples of successful community orchard projects across the UK.

The idea of Community Orchards is so good, so obviously right, that I think it's fair to describe it as vital. It will bring back so much benefit to so many, in such an upbeat and positive way. I can't wait to see it happen more and more widely. Congratulations to Common Ground for their inspirational leadership and whole hearted good sense. - Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall

Common Ground's Community Orchards Handbook is a rich and diverse ecosystem in itself, at once practical and lyrical, with elegy and energy inter-twined. It's a Handbook to be revelled in as much as dipped into for the handy hints. - Jonathon Porritt



The Authors: Sue Clifford and Angela King are the founder-directors of Common Ground, an award-winning environmental charity playing a unique role in the arts and environmental fields. Their inspiring projects include Apple Day, Parish Maps and the Campaign for Local Distinctiveness. For more information see www.commonground.org.uk.



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with Common Ground
ISBN 978 1 900322 92 8
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Contents include:

- How to start • Finding out more
- Planting a Community Orchard
 - Adopting an old orchard
 - Conserving and attracting wildlife
 - What to do with the harvest
 - Celebration • Choosing the right legal structure • A model constitution • Orchard groups • National contacts • Nurseries and equipment • Fruit identification
 - Funding ideas and sources

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