

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Illustrations .....	xiii
Preface.....	xv
Introduction.....	1

### AUTUMN • 7

<i>Lesson 1:</i> September 17–23 .....	9
THE AUTUMNAL EQUINOX	
The Circle of Life Uninterrupted	
Are You in the Zone?	
<i>Lesson 2:</i> September 24–30 .....	16
FALL FLOWERS	
Fall Is Full of Flowers	
Mum’s the Word	
<i>Lesson 3:</i> October 1–7.....	23
THE PLANTING SEASON	
Fall Is for Planting	
Purchasing Container Plants vs. Field-Grown Plants	
<i>Lesson 4:</i> October 8–14.....	28
PREPARING FOR WINTER	
Cool-Season Annuals for Those Winter Blues	
Leave Those Leaves	
<i>Lesson 5:</i> October 15–21.....	33
PREPARING THE PLANTING BEDS	
Bed Preparation Is Critical to Plants	
Composting Is Not Complex	
<i>Lesson 6:</i> October 22–28.....	37
CONDITIONING THE SOIL	
Conditioned Soil Enhances Plant Performance	
Know Your Plant Nutrients	

**viii / LANDSCAPE LESSONS**

*Lesson 7:* October 29–November 4 ..... 42  
FALL COLOR  
    The Charm of Southern Fall Color  
    How Do They Change Color?

*Lesson 8:* November 5–11..... 50  
BULBS FOR SPRING FLOWERING  
    There’s Beauty in Bulbs  
    What Kind of Bulb Did You Bury?

*Lesson 9:* November 12–18..... 56  
PLANT REPRODUCTION  
    Cash In on Perennial Dividends Now  
    Sex . . . And Other Means of Reproduction

*Lesson 10:* November 19–25 ..... 61  
GROWING PLANTS INDOORS  
    Bring the Outdoors In for Winter  
    It’s a Matter of Culture

*Lesson 11:* November 26–December 2 ..... 69  
THE ESSENCE OF THINGS  
    The Amazing Grace of the Changing Seasons  
    Latin Names Are Universal

*Lesson 12:* December 3–9..... 78  
HOLIDAY HOLLIES AND POINSETTIAS  
    Hollies Highlight the Holiday Season  
    Poinsettias Are Picky about Light

*Lesson 13:* December 10–16..... 85  
EVERGREENS  
    Live Christmas Trees Provide Lasting Benefits  
    Evergreens Forevermore

**WINTER • 91**

*Lesson 14:* December 17–23..... 93  
HOLIDAY TOYS AND TOOLS  
    Gardeners Like Holiday Gifts Too  
    Use Tools, Not Toys, to Tend Your Yard

*Lesson 15:* December 24–31..... 98  
THE WINTER SOLSTICE  
    The Winter Solstice Brings Light to Our Landscape  
    The Tree in Winter

*Lesson 16:* January 1–7..... 104  
NEW YEAR’S TIME  
    New Year’s Resolutions to Grow On  
    Do You Have the Time?

TABLE OF CONTENTS / ix

<i>Lesson 17:</i> January 8–14 .....	109
CAMELLIAS	
Camellias Thrust Their Color into the Winter Landscape	
Cold-Tolerant Camellia Cultivars	
<i>Lesson 18:</i> January 15–21 .....	113
BIRDS	
Birds Love Your Trees and Shrubs	
How Hummingbirds Hover	
<i>Lesson 19:</i> January 22–28 .....	119
JANUARY'S FLOWERS	
Winter's Yellow Is Fool's Gold	
But It's Not a Rose	
<i>Lesson 20:</i> January 29–February 4.....	124
LANDSCAPE PLANNING	
Planning for Spring Planting Is Practical	
Xeriscaping Is Water-Wise Landscaping	
<i>Lesson 21:</i> February 5–11 .....	130
GRASSES	
Ornamental Grasses Animate Your Yard	
The Paradoxical Grass	
<i>Lesson 22:</i> February 12–18.....	134
ROSES	
Roses Are Scent from Heaven	
The Goods on Grafting	
<i>Lesson 23:</i> February 19–25.....	140
PRUNING	
Proper Pruning Is Based upon Plant Physiology	
Plant a Tree on Arbor Day	
<i>Lesson 24:</i> February 26–March 4.....	147
CONIFERS	
Conifer Collections Are Cool	
Cultural Diversity and Pine Plantations	
<i>Lesson 25:</i> March 5–11 .....	154
AZALEAS	
Azalea Picks Are Boundless	
The Bartram Trail Comes My Way	
<i>Lesson 26:</i> March 12–18 .....	161
HEDGES AND SCREENS	
Hedges Hide Your Neighbors	
On Spacing and Planting Hedge Plants	

SPRING • 169

<i>Lesson 27:</i> March 19–25 .....	171
LANDSCAPING	
The Vernal Equinox Springs Life	
Locating Landscapers	
<i>Lesson 28:</i> March 26–April 1 .....	177
SPRING FLOWERS	
Spring-Flowering Trees and Shrubs with Flair	
Flowering Facts	
<i>Lesson 29:</i> April 2–8 .....	183
LAWNS	
Changing Your Lawn Paradigm Is Preferred	
Diseases, Pests, and Weeds	
<i>Lesson 30:</i> April 9–15 .....	189
HERBS	
Herbs Are Helpful and Healing	
Spices, Herbs, and the March of History	
<i>Lesson 31:</i> April 16–22 .....	194
SHOPPING AND PLANTING	
Planting Plants Properly Is Prudent	
On Plant Shopping	
<i>Lesson 32:</i> April 23–29 .....	200
PERENNIALS	
Perennials Proliferate in Sun or Shade	
Color in the Garden	
<i>Lesson 33:</i> April 30–May 6 .....	207
VEGETABLES AND AGRICULTURE	
Growing Vegetables Is a Venerable Vocation	
The Development of Agriculture	
<i>Lesson 34:</i> May 7–13 .....	213
MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS	
Mother's Day Memories Persist with Plants	
Peony Pointers	
<i>Lesson 35:</i> May 14–20 .....	218
FAVORITE PLANTS AND PLANT SELLERS	
Favorite Plants Are Friends Forever	
On Nurseries and Other Plant Sellers	
<i>Lesson 36:</i> May 21–27 .....	224
WILDFLOWERS AND DRUGS	
It's a Wonderful World of Wildflowers	
The Medicinal Power of Plants	

TABLE OF CONTENTS / xi

*Lesson 37:* May 28–June 3 ..... 230  
ANNUALS  
Award-Winning Annuals Go Beyond the Usual  
What Is an Annual?

*Lesson 38:* June 4–10 ..... 236  
SUMMER PLANTS—THE GOOD AND BAD  
The Hydrangea Puzzle Is Simple to Solve  
Avoiding Invasive Plants

*Lesson 39:* June 11–17 ..... 244  
CONTAINER GARDENING  
Creative Container Gardening Is Landscape Art  
Container Cultivation

**SUMMER • 251**

*Lesson 40:* June 18–24 ..... 253  
DEALING WITH THE SOUTHERN SUMMER  
Succulents Are Successful in Dry Weather  
Beat the Heat

*Lesson 41:* June 25–July 1 ..... 258  
DAYLILIES  
Dazzle Your Yard with Daylilies  
Daylily Delights

*Lesson 42:* July 2–8 ..... 263  
EDIBLE FRUITS  
Red, White, and Blueberries  
Fruiting Facts

*Lesson 43:* July 9–15 ..... 268  
THE FOREST SHADE  
Mountain and Shade Plants Create a Primeval Forest  
Mushrooms Matter

*Lesson 44:* July 16–22 ..... 274  
WATER GARDENS  
Make a Splash in Your Landscape with a Water Garden  
The What's of Water Plants

*Lesson 45:* July 23–29 ..... 280  
GROUND COVERS  
Gaining Some Ground Cover Means Losing Some Lawn  
Kudzu Can't Compete with Ivy

*Lesson 46:* July 30–August 5 ..... 287  
CRAPEMYRTLES  
Crapemyrtles Strut Their Stuff Year-round  
Crapemyrtle Cultivar Choices

**xii / LANDSCAPE LESSONS**

<i>Lesson 47:</i> August 6–12 .....	293
VINES	
Vines Define a Garden	
Picking Perennial Vines	
<i>Lesson 48:</i> August 13–19 .....	297
TREES	
A Future with Trees Requires Plan(t)ing	
Rings Around a Tree	
<i>Lesson 49:</i> August 20–26 .....	303
PRACTICAL AND INSPIRATIONAL TOUCHES	
Walkways Work Where You Have Gone	
Completing the Picture with Garden Art	
<i>Lesson 50:</i> August 27–September 2.....	308
JAPANESE MAPLES AND GARDENS	
Japanese Maples Are Elegance at Its Best	
The Gist of Japanese Gardens	
<i>Lesson 51:</i> September 3–9 .....	314
BUTTERFLIES AND INSECTS	
Butterfly Attractors Bring Movement to Your Garden	
Pesticides or Predators—Your Pick	
<i>Lesson 52:</i> September 10–16 .....	319
MAGNOLIAS	
Magnificent Magnolias—Sweet Summer Smells Planted in Fall	
But for the Plant Hunters	
Conclusion .....	326
Bibliography .....	328
Index .....	337