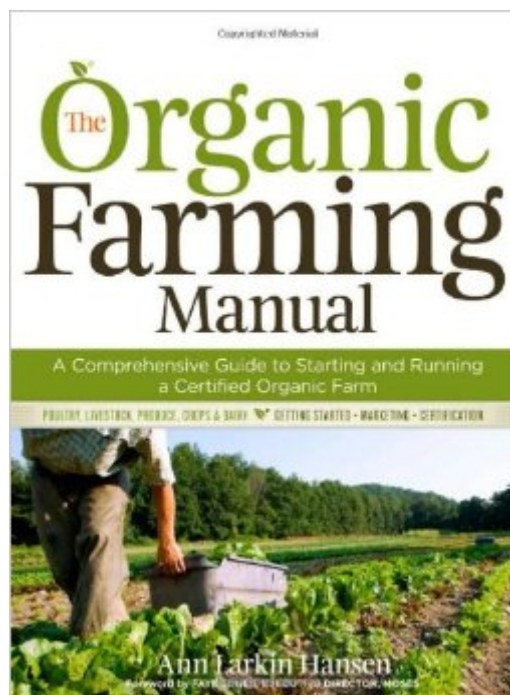




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The Organic Farming Manual: A Comprehensive Guide To Starting And Running A Certified Organic Farm



Synopsis

Providing expert tips on tending the land, caring for animals, and necessary equipment, Ann Larkin Hansen also covers the intricate process of acquiring organic certification and other business considerations important to a profitable operation. Discover the rewarding satisfaction of running a successful and sustainable organic farm.

Book Information

Paperback: 437 pages

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Customer Reviews

I did not buy this book, it was a gift from the author who is an acquaintance. I met Ann through a now defunct sustainable farm network. I've been to her farm a few times, have a general idea of her operation, and know her reporting for a farm newspaper exposed her to many farm people and their ideas. I have 20 years experience with sheep, was honored to be married to a lifelong, 2nd generation (in the US) dairy farmer, and still live surrounded by multi-generational dairy farmers. I wish I had seen this book prior to publication so errors could have been corrected, and the numerous half true/half not-so-true, confusing statements rewritten. I closely read the sections on animals and crop production, and skimmed the other sections. This book is very comprehensive, and I would recommend it to someone considering farming who has no knowledge of what farming is about, or is interested in how organic certification impacts the farm operation. But as the drive within grows to actually farm, I would recommend not using the information in this book as the sole basis for a decision because that information may not be true. The other problem with this book is its upper Midwest, opinions that are presented as facts, may not work in other areas in the country. Ann does write a few times to check local conditions, but that warning should have been put on just

about every page. On to some examples of the information that caused me to give this book two stars. A potentially deadly, half-truth is written in chapter 12, the "Benefits and Drawbacks of Silage" section. Ann writes, "Storing silage in an upright silo has its own dangers."

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