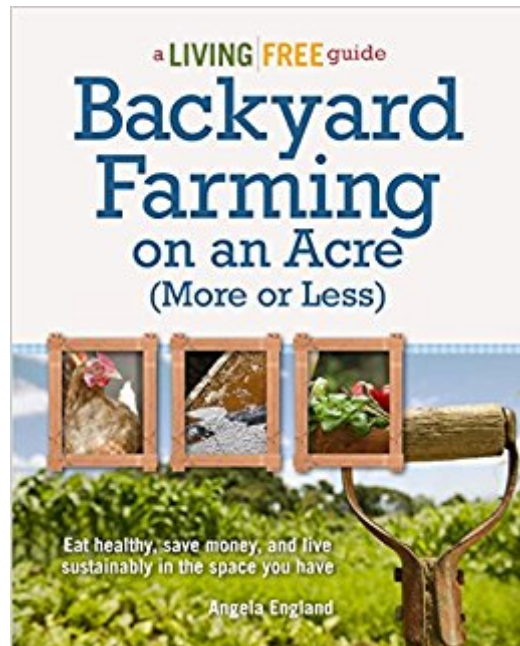




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Backyard Farming On An Acre (More Or Less) (Living Free Guides)



Synopsis

Plan and plant a successful and sustainable backyard farm — from a quarter acre to a full acre and beyond — right in your own backyard. By raising and harvesting their own fruits, vegetables, chickens, bees, milk-bearing animals, and more, people are growing locally, sustainably, and at a fraction of the cost. *Backyard Farming on an Acre (More or Less)* is written by someone who has planned and run a successful small-scale farm. Angela England guides you through the essentials of planning a small farm — deciding what should be grown or raised, implementing proven, sustainable techniques, and maximizing yield and harvest.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Angela England is a freelance writer who, along with her husband and five children, cultivates a 1/2 acre farm in their Oklahoma backyard where they manage to raise dairy and meat goats, keep enough chickens for eggs and free-range poultry, and foster an intensively productive garden for fresh fruits and vegetables. Angela is the founder of [UntrainedHousewife.com](#) and enjoys guiding others in recapturing the lost arts of self-sufficient living. She also manages and maintains the Blissfully Domestic community and contributes to other sites and forums on a regular basis.

It is not that much different from many other similar books. Every book I own like this one gives its own spin on intensive gardening and raised beds. The configurations change but the ideas and

methods stay pretty close to the same. I do think if you are interested in self sustaining or having a ranch or farm that this would be a great book to pick up and read. I use it as a reference and have basically read it cover to cover twice. With nearly 400 pages it covers everything from propagation of seeds to design and layout to crop rotation and building pens and coops to harvest and preserving. There isn't much missing here. Pick it up.

This book is ok, but it's extremely extremely basic. It covers a lot of different topics related to microfarming, but it doesn't really give you enough information on any one topic to really do anything with it. I wish it had been a bit more focused, and gone into more detail on each topic. If you're interested in this topic, I would recommend the following books instead: How to grow more vegetables... by John Jeavons, The Market Gardener by Jean Martin Fortier, the minifarming books by Brett Markham, Sustainable Market Farming by Pam Dawling

I saw a reference to this book in a blog I was reading as we were preparing to think about planting our orchard and framing our garden. I am so thankful I happened upon it because it has been fabulous. There are so many useful tricks, tips, and suggestions. It is a fairly quick read and easy to reference. And after reading it, I am considering possibilities I had not been originally thinking about. Primarily, I am happy with the gardening and composting sections. I have always been intrigued by the idea of composting but assumed it was gross and messy. This book gives you step by step and several options. There are ways we could make it work in our space. It makes me excited for the possibilities to come this spring.

A little too much about making it a show place, but some very good advice for true beginners. After 50 years of gardening, I had hoped for more advanced information. Still, I recommend the book to everyone as there were many good ideas and most of it encourages you to take the leap and try new methods. Some worthwhile reminders at important section about not going overboard--which I am telling myself to heed! I can see getting one acre in shape then moving onto the second acre and on down the line. So far, nothing in the book has been contrary to Master Gardener methods or my County Extension Agent's advice. Seems well researched and practical.

As newbie homesteaders on a few acres, we were in need of a one-stop guide to getting started. My husband and I have only minimal familiarity with farm endeavors and Ms. England's book has provided every bit of information we've needed. It has taken up residence as an always-open book

on our coffee table and on our counter tops as we've learned about keeping chickens, washing wool, composting, planning a garden, and cooking with our bounty. When we have a question, it's "to the book!" we go, knowing we'll find a suggestion or solution. When we first moved to the country, I brought home a stack of publications from the library, most of which overwhelmed me. This book has replaced all of those, with exactly the information and resources we needed to get started on our new little farm.

I grew up on a farm in southwest Iowa where we raised cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and chickens. We had a one acre garden. My mother baked, canned, and sewed. Grabbing a chicken from the henhouse for dinner was a weekly occurrence. I grew up learning many of the things taught in Angela England's book 'Backyard Farming on an Acre (more or less)', but I let all that knowledge go as I moved into a city, then a suburb. As I was looking for ways to make my family more self sustaining, this book was published- filling a need that many have. This is the handbook for those of us one and two generations off the farm, those of us who saw it done and now understand the importance of being able to care for yourself. Though I have nowhere near an acre of land, many of these tips are helpful on my own small plot and I look forward to using the space wisely.

I bought this book after stumbling on the untrained housewife blog last month. I have always wanted to be more self-sufficient, but it seems like such a daunting task. This book breaks things down and makes them seem more manageable and practical. It is full of information, and gets me excited about the possibilities. There is plenty that I can do to provide for my family, even on my little corner of land, and Angela lays out many of the available options in an easy-to-read format. This does not read like an encyclopedia of garden knowledge, like some of the other homestead books that I have read through. It is more like having a conversation about homesteading with a friend that has learned it first hand. Great book, definitely recommended.

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