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Get Down and Dirty with Your Roots

Roots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots

Thrive is a clearly written and copiously illustrated book that explains how to make any plant flourish, using methods based on the knowledge of how roots actually grow. It explores the subterranean areas of every gardener's world, revealing the complex and secret lives of roots and root systems, debunking outworn gardening myths, and providing down-to-earth advice on root-efficient planting and cultivation methods.

The roots uncovered and demystified in this lively book include those of lawns, prairies, shrubs, vegetables, fruit trees, and native and ornamental trees. Each of these divisions abounds with practical root-based tips; following Kourik's advice is a surefire way to produce better-looking lawns, more abundant vegetables, more productive fruit trees, and sturdier trees and shrubs. ***Roots Demystified*** also describes several ways to garden without turning the soil—a plus for aging baby-boomers—and explains why roots thrive when not mangled by a rototiller or shovel.

A highlight of the book is its collection of 25 meticulous scale drawings produced in the early 20th century by horticultural researchers who actually dug, troweled, dusted, mapped and drew their way through entire growing root systems, down to the tiniest root hair. The resulting illustrations are at once miracles of precision, a tribute to scholarly obsession, and a revelation of the beauty contained in the patterns and habits of rooting plants. These drawings are amplified throughout the book by helpful illustrations and instructive diagrams. ***Roots Demystified*** is the first and only gardening book in print with such an extensive number of illustrations of garden and orchard roots.

The soft back book is 176 pages of B&W text, 70 illustrations, six appendices, index and bibliography.

The list price is: **\$25 USD**.

See www.robert-kourik.com for a sneak preview