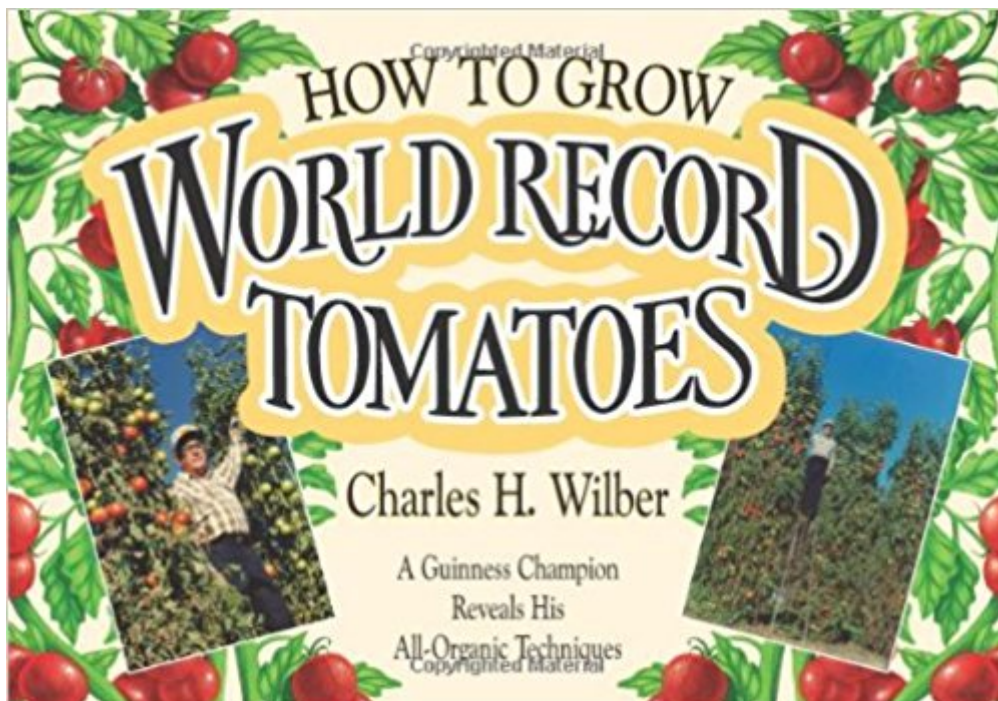




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# How To Grow World Record Tomatoes: A Guinness Champion Reveals His All-Organic Secrets



## Synopsis

Charles Wilber tells his personal story of learning to work with nature, and his philosophy and approach to gardening. He reveals for the first time how he grows record-breaking tomatoes and produce of every variety. There's no magic involved. Just a well thought out system that gives plants more than they could ever want, and makes it possible for them to reach their full potential. Wilber's compost is the cornerstone along with a wide circumference around plants layered with compost, alfalfa meal and mulch. Valuable pruning and watering details are given, too, as well as a new way of looking at seeds. As you will learn, growing awesome tomatoes integrates every aspect of gardening that you can imagine.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Patrons with a love of tomatoes and a competitive nature may enjoy these organic tips from Wilber, who earned a place in the Guinness Book of World Records by coaxing 1,368 pounds of tomatoes from only four plants. This octogenarian's delivery is folksy and no-nonsense as he relates advice on composting, seed selection, pruning, watering, and other basics of tomato gardening. Wilber readily acknowledges, however, that not every gardener is serious enough to get yields like his. This book offers sound advice (particularly for market gardeners), but public libraries may prefer *Tantalizing Tomatoes: Smart Tips & Tasty Picks for Gardeners Everywhere* (LJ 4/1/97), which has a broader audience and is more comprehensive, including historical background, a guide to cultivars, recipes, and a resource list. Still, Wilber is a remarkable man who has written a useful, reasonably

priced book. ?Bonnie Poquette, Shorewood P.L., WI Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Charles Wilber resides in Alabama and is a man on a mission. His entire life has been dedicated to studying nature. And for most of his 80+ years he has been learning how to coax the maximum production from her bounty. He started by emulating the conditions of the forest floor - the same forest where the giant sequoia grow. Then he added in good gardening techniques.

wow, where do I start...This book has opened my eyes when it comes to gardening, not just tomatoes. after this I found an electronic copy of a book on vegetable roots systems that confirms what Wilber says on how big the root system of tomatoes, and other garden veggies really are. I am building a new raised bed based on this books teachings. each tomato plant will be given a 5'x4'x2' area to grow in, much larger than you typically see. check the blog out at [zone29.com](http://zone29.com).

good read and I am trying his way to see how it works for me this year. The straw mulch so far has cut watering down 80 % . I used to water daily , but the ground under the straw is moist when you grab a hand full. I have never done this in the past but it seems to be true on the weeds also no need to hoe for sure and that leaves me more time to do other things . His story inspired me to go and plant something for sure. I had already planted my crop for the year , but after reading his book went out and built me 5 big planter boxes and put in 5 more tomatoe plants , so we will see how it goes . The first ones I planted have been through 3 hail storms and temps dipping in the 40's , but they are still coming along pretty good . Hope to have a good crop and save some seeds off the good ones and plant next year.

The best thing about this book is it shows an easy way to garden with out tilling any soil or weeding!! didn't use these methods for tomato's, I used them on peppers. I only used his hay mulch and compost system, then I got busy and ignored the garden. The results were phenomenal anyway. My pepper plant stems were as thick as my fingers, and they were loaded down with peppers all year (they still are). I also cut corners planting the garden- I didn't kill the grass, I just laid the hay right on top of it. Where I live, it seems like nothing kills the grass that takes over the garden. I have used round up, I have spent hours hoeing, nothing last for long, the grass always comes back. The mulch method used in this book is the only thing I have seen that keeps the grass down all season. It is now November, and the garden I planted in May is still mostly grass free, and I have never weeded it. My garden was planted in almost pure sand that was used to level out the foundation for an

addition to our Fire House, and after the initial planting the only fertilizer I added was some coffee grounds from our morning coffee at the Fire House. In past years I would use a lot of Miracle Grow, and got OK results, but nothing like this year. I also used to put a lot more time into the garden.

Everyone says to sucker tomatoes. Charles H. Wilber encourages letting 15 suckers thrive per plant. Everyone says that suckers do not produce many fruits. I have carefully followed his advice, and even this early in June, I have 20 tomatoes on one plant and 15 on my other plant. I am thankful I have found this excellent, instructive text.

Thank You Charles Wilber! This is the information I have been looking for. For over 50 years I have known in my mind that there had to be a better way of doing things. In this book, if followed religiously, are the many secrets to soil fertility. This gentleman has put all this knowledge at your fingertips. Hint: don't omit any of the steps he describes. They all go together like the parts of a finely tuned race car. This book taught me that the soil is a living organism full of life. If you keep your soil alive all year the results will be astonishing. I keep mine damp all year. Gardening starts with planting the green manure in the fall. It's a mistake to wait until Spring to start planning your garden. Charles Wilber: Thank You for waking me up. I can now grow the biggest, healthiest fruits and vegetables in the country. He takes all the work out of it and makes it understandable, fun, and rewarding. Buy it. You won't be sorry. I bought this book 4 or 5 years ago. The proof is in Pudding.

Wonderful all around organic gardening guidance. You may not want 28-foot tall tomatoes but his advice has helped me immensely. See the photo of my Organically grown 9-foot tomato plants just 60 days after the last snow in Denver using some of the information I learned in this book.

Chemical free growing, is the most important way to grow today, and in this book, you will find all of the best information you will ever need. I have researched for years, and although this is a small book, it is a Power House of information. For me, it was not about growing the biggest tomato plant ever, it was his research, study, and a lifetime of learning and practice, that gave him the ability to grow world class tomato's. He EARNED it. We can take a lifetime of information and use it ourselves. That was his goal, to pass on the information. He said "It is my sincere wish that some reader of this book will set the next world record" Records or not, it's still the best method of the use of plants to feed your soil, and good soil means great crops. Look into each plant he suggests, and you will see, the man knows his gardening. Great book, you will get a lot out of it.

Tons of great information you won't find anywhere else. I was not able to follow all of his recommendations, but am incorporating as many as possible.

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