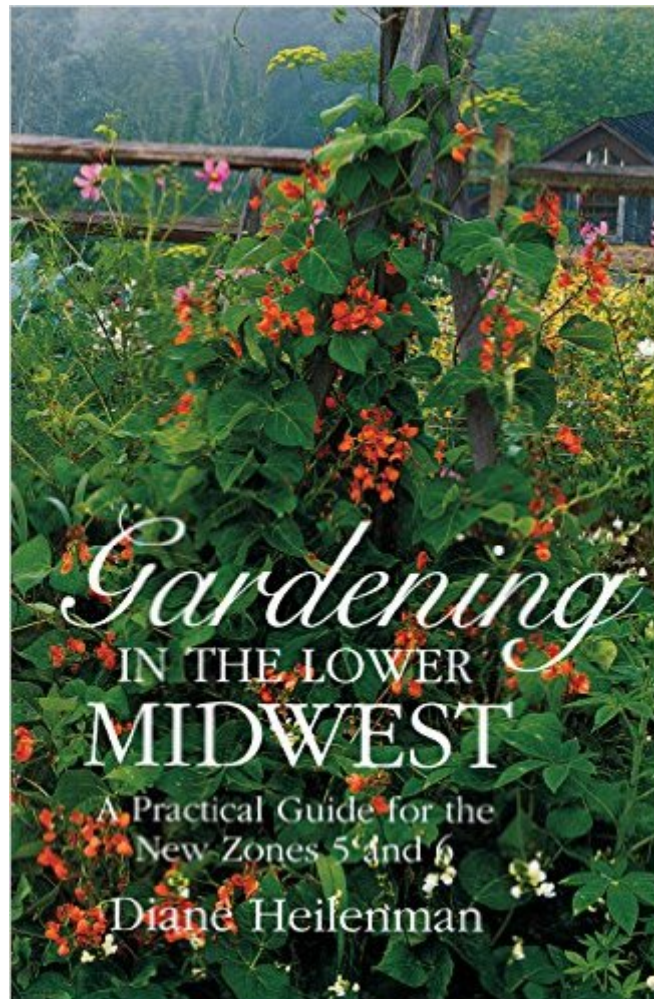


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# Gardening In The Lower Midwest: A Practical Guide For The New Zones 5 And 6



## Synopsis

"... a common-sense handbook for gardeners... It will help slacken the stress level that gardening was never meant to bring." —HortScience [Diane Heilenman] gets to the heart, the soul and the humor shared by all in the gardening world... both a practical reference and an inspiration... " —The Herald-Times (Bloomington, IN) Diane Heilenman tells novice and experienced gardeners how to cope in this difficult and trying climate, create gardens appropriate for the region, and select flowers, plants, trees, and shrubs that will be happy — and in turn make us happy. The gardening columnist for the Louisville Courier-Journal, Heilenman is also a gifted thinker who grapples with what it means to garden in our time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a "must own" for every newer gardener in the lower midwest states, i.e., Kentucky, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, and Ohio. Even seasoned veterans will appreciate the information provided in this book. Originally, I had planned to use the library's copy, but when I started to bookmark every page, I realized that purchasing my own copy was the only reasonable and considerate option. Ms. Heilenman shares her hands-on experiences without flinching at the sometimes harsh realities of the weather, and she describes the plants that grow well, as well as those that have failed. Her dry humor, for example when noting her personal failure with a plant that her colleagues seem to grow with ease, is amusing. The book has only a few photographs (they are in color), but it did not deter me from making use of her advice. This is, as far as I know, one of the very first midwest regional gardening books, and it is still, in my opinion, one of the very best. The contents are straight forward, practical, and eminently readable. And considering the price tag you can't do better!

Diane Heilenman used that term to describe this changeable, challenging growing area long before the zombie rage. I'm surprised that IU Press has not issued a new edition of this 1994 treasure. But it was published around the time the USDA last revised its zones, so much of what is presented still stands, with some mental adjustments for the changing weather scene. As a Texas gardener studying up before a move to Indiana, I am learning a great deal that should save me some \$\$\$ and horticultural heartache. The author writes informatively and with a terrific sense of humor, and she's not preachy the way many gardening writers are. The only improvement I could suggest would be the addition of more photographs. C'mon IU Press, collaborate with the author for a revised edition!

Most gardening books are written for the wonderful British climate. The extremes of the Midwest make for a different approach. The info in this book addresses these differences in climate and also varieties of plants that will do well. I was so glad to find this book.

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