



## Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Revised Edition (Science for Gardeners)

By Wayne Lewis, Jeff Lowenfels

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Healthy soil teems with life—not just earthworms and insects, but a staggering multitude of bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms. Chemical fertilizers injure the microbial life that sustains healthy plants, and the soil becomes increasingly dependent on artificial, often toxic, substances. But there is an alternative: by strengthening the soil food web—the complex world of soil-dwelling organisms—gardeners can create a nurturing environment for plants. *Teaming with Microbes* extols the benefits of cultivating the soil food web. It clearly explains the activities and organisms that make up the web, and explains how gardeners can cultivate the life of the soil through the use of compost, mulches, and compost tea. With Jeff Lowenfels' help, everyone—from devotees of organic gardening techniques to weekend gardeners who simply want to grow healthy, vigorous plants—can create rich, nurturing, living soil.

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### Editorial Review

Review

“A breakthrough book. . . well worth owning and reading. No comprehensive horticultural library should be without it.” —*American Gardener*

“Digs into soil in a most enlightening and entertaining way.” —*Dallas Morning News*

“Required reading for all serious gardeners.” —*Miami Herald*

“The authors have given gardeners an inside scoop on the scientific research supporting organic gardening.” —*Pacific Horticulture*

“This intense little book may well change the way you garden.” —*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

“Exceptional. . . A brief, clear overview of scientific information with which every gardener should be familiar.” —*Monterey Herald*

“Sure, it’s a gardening book, but it has all the drama and suspense of an extraterrestrial thriller. A cast of characters without eyeballs or backbones. Battle scenes with bizarre creatures devouring one another. Only this book is about as terrestrial as it gets.” —*Anchorage Daily News*

“All good gardeners know healthy plants start with healthy soil. But why? And how? In *Teaming with Microbes* Lowenfels and Lewis reveal the new research in the most practical and accessible way.” —*The Oregonian*

“Read this book and you’ll never think of soil the same way.” —*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*

“Sure, it’s a gardening book, but it has all the drama and suspense of an extraterrestrial thriller. . . . Read this book and you’ll never look at soil the same way.” —*B&B Magazine*

“A must read for any gardener looking to create a sustainable, healthy garden without chemicals.” —*Virginian-Pilot*

“It takes readers underground to meet the critters that live if you let them under the garden.” —*Rockland Courier-Gazette*

From the Back Cover

### Winner of the Garden Writers Association Gold Award for Best Book Writing

Smart gardeners know that soil is anything but an inert substance. Healthy soil is teeming with life—not just earthworms and insects, but a staggering multitude of bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms. When we

use chemical fertilizers, we injure the microbial life that sustains healthy plants, and thus become increasingly dependent on an arsenal of artificial substances, many of them toxic to humans as well as other forms of life. But there is an alternative to this vicious circle: to garden in a way that strengthens, rather than destroys, the soil food web—the complex world of soil-dwelling organisms whose interactions create a nurturing environment for plants. By eschewing jargon and overly technical language, the authors make the benefits of cultivating the soil food web available to a wide audience, from devotees of organic gardening techniques to weekend gardeners who simply want to grow healthy, vigorous plants without resorting to chemicals.

This revised edition updates the original text and includes two completely new chapters—on mycorrhizae (beneficial associations fungi form with green-leaved plants) and archaea (single-celled organisms once thought to be allied to bacteria).

#### About the Author

Wayne Lewis is a lifelong Alaskan gardener. He has worked with Jeff Lowenfels on many projects over the past 25 years, including the now national Plant a Row for the Hungry program, which encourages gardeners to donate a portion of their harvest to charitable organizations in their community.

Jeff Lowenfels is the author of a trilogy of award winning books on plants and soil, and he is the longest running garden columnist in North America. Lowenfels is a national lecturer as well as a fellow, hall of fame member, and former president of the Garden Writers of America.

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##### **Jack Lumpkin:**

This *Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Revised Edition (Science for Gardeners)* are reliable for you who want to certainly be a successful person, why. The reason of this *Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Revised Edition (Science for Gardeners)* can be among the great books you must have is usually giving you more than just simple examining food but feed a person with information that maybe will shock your earlier knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it almost everywhere and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed versions. Beside that this *Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Revised Edition (Science for Gardeners)* giving you an enormous of experience for instance rich vocabulary, giving you trial of critical thinking that we know it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

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#### **Ian Louviere:**

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a publication. The book Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Revised Edition (Science for Gardeners) it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book provides high quality.

#### **Jeanie Clark:**

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