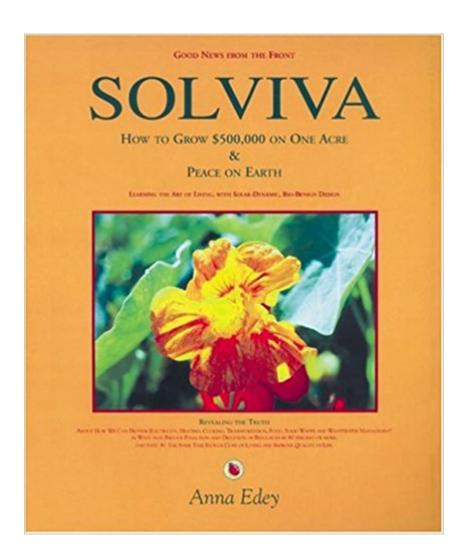
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Solviva: How To Grow \$500,000 On One Acre, And Peace On Earth





Synopsis

This book is about one woman's vision and commitment to learning to live sustainably and in harmony with life on Earth. Since 1976 Anna Edey has made one astonishing discovery after another, developing methods of sustainable living under the name Solviva Solar-Dynamic, Bio-Benign Design. The results of her experiments and methods have again and again exceeded highest hopes and expectations. Solviva describes the exciting trials and triumphs of her journey and offers convincing proof that we can, with today's technology and knowledge, live in ways that reduce pollution and depletion of resources by 80 percent or more, and at the same time reduce the cost of living and improve the quality of life in urban and rural locations. Solviva contains 155 color illustrations and detailed instructions and recommendations to help others along their own journeys toward living sustainably.

Book Information

Paperback: 232 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (35 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #198,809 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies &

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Sciences > Sustainable Agriculture

Customer Reviews

Solviva-How to Grow \$500,000 on One Acre & Peace On Earth. Thisis a strange book! A How-To book it is not. It is a hodge podge ofthoughts, green speak, observations, the authors past 20 years oflife, some interesting applications of solar structures, much greenspeak, her experience with a greenhouse and the business it generated, more green speak, ...full-color pictures of plants, animals, insects, artwork, green speak, and lastly green speak. Whether written this wayon purpose or not it is confusing. It is a very disjointed book; moreabout a persons philosophy of life than about a greenhouse that washeated and cooled by strictly solar methods. The books layout and progression

is far from logical and it is quite a chore waddingthrough all of the philosophizing to arrive at some meat. Does thisbook have value? Some. But cut out all of the psycho babble, greenspeak and moralizing, rearrange the contents, do some more homework onsolar and other peoples projects and failures, get a few scientificfacts verified, more data and details on what Mss Edey did and did notdo, then perhaps it might be a worthwhile book. One glaring lack, atleast as far as I am concerned; it is not a How To book. Maybe thatis not a big issue when one is writing in a diary, but when the bookstitle page uses those words and the book does not deliver, then it is amajor issue. The income generating potential of a solar heatedgreenhouse that uses strict organic methods has a lot of merit andexpanded outdoors during the summer months one could expect that theincome would increase. She makes a claim that \$500,000 is possible with the 10,000 sq. ft. greenhouse and about an acre of land.

I am a gardener with a few years of experience and a lot of book learning on the subject. This is my opinion, after reading the book, and coming to it from that point of view. If you aren't very well read on gardening or mini-farming, I'd recommend skipping this book until you've read a few others, such as Bartholomew's Square Foot Gardening, Jeavons books on biointensive gardening, and a few others. Otherwise you'll buy too deeply into what Edey is trying to sell. If you are pretty well read on the topic and have gardening/mini-farming experience, then the book is a reasonable weekend read. Either way, unless you're extremely flush with cash, I wouldn't buy the book, I'd only spend time on it if it's available from the library. The title is misleading, the "How To Grow \$500,000 On One Acre" is catchy, but not realistic. The author says that her "gross income was up to \$50,000 a year," (pg 158). "up to" ought to raise an eyebrow. I'm supposing that the reader is supposed to assume that the author grossed \$50K, but that's not what it says. It also wasn't indicated how many years this was achieved, though there was an earlier reference to the author working at it for 8 years. There wasn't also a hard indicator regarding how long it took to build up to this, the term "soon" was used, but could mean just about anything. The author then made some seriously goofball (in my opinion) extrapolations: that if the set up had been run more professionally, the author would have been earning well over \$100k; that if a full acre was used, then that would obviously mean earnings would be over \$500k. There's nothing to support such claims. In fact, at one point she indicated that "gross income never did reach much beyond the \$50,000.

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