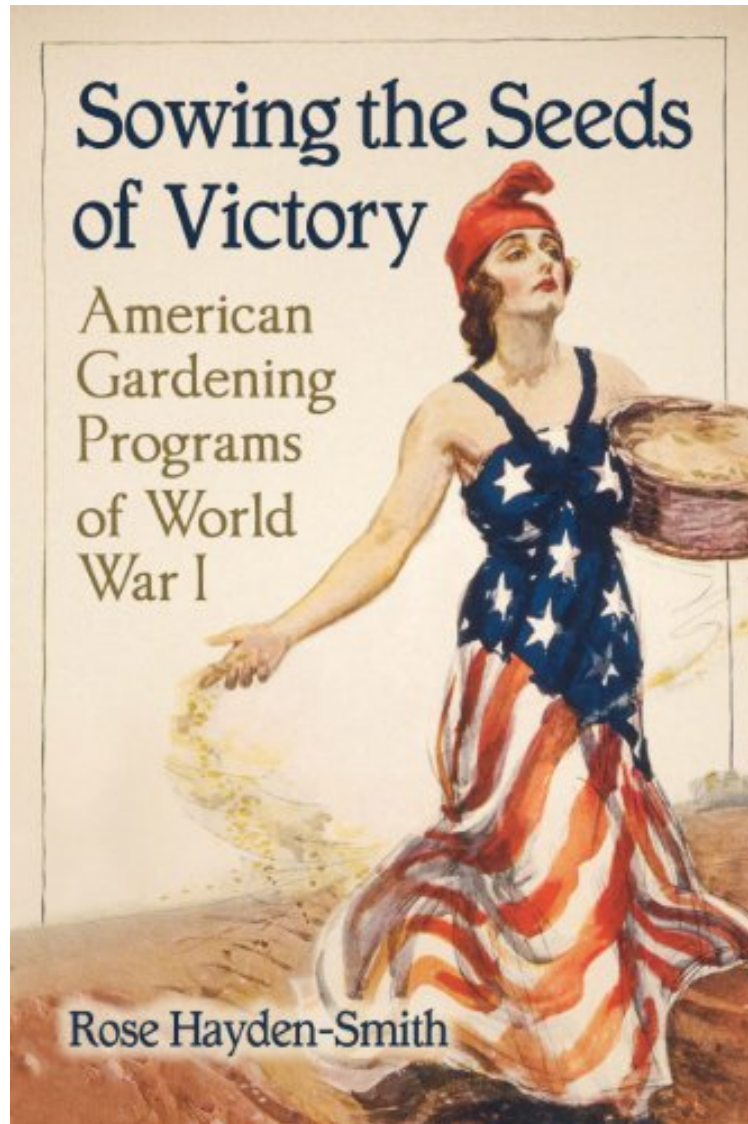


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Sowing the Seeds of Victory: American Gardening Programs of World War I

Rose Hayden-Smith

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Rose Hayden-Smith : Sowing the Seeds of Victory: American Gardening Programs of World War I before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sowing the Seeds of Victory: American Gardening Programs of World War I:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Suzanne MontgomeryExcellent read, using it as a textbook in my senior classes.....MORE ?1 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Two StarsBy sarahJust letting you know that there's absolutely zero actual information about gardening in this book.

Sometimes, to move forward, we must look back. Gardening activity during American involvement in World War I (1917-1919) is vital to understanding current work in agriculture and food systems. The origins of the American Victory Gardens of World War II lie in the Liberty Garden program during World War I. This book examines the National War Garden Commission, the United States School Garden Army, and the Woman's Land Army (which some women used to press for suffrage). The urgency of wartime mobilization enabled proponents to promote food production as a vital national security issue. The connection between the nation's food readiness and national security resonated within the U.S., struggling to unite urban and rural interests, grappling with the challenges presented by millions of immigrants, and considering the country's global role. The same message--that food production is vital to national security--can resonate today. These World War I programs resulted in a national gardening ethos that transformed the American food system. Could we use these models today, to transform the food system, one garden at a time?

...landmark book...this wonderfully written retrospective actually open doors for gardeners, food activists and food security planners so that we might build upon the remarkable Victory Garden legacy she has so passionately described." -Gary Paul Nabhan, author, academic, and food relocalization activist"...a great service in researching a history that has hidden in plain sight, right beneath our feet...it's a subject - as [Hayden-Smith's] treatment of gender shows - that couldn't be more relevant today." -Raj Patel, writer, activist, academic