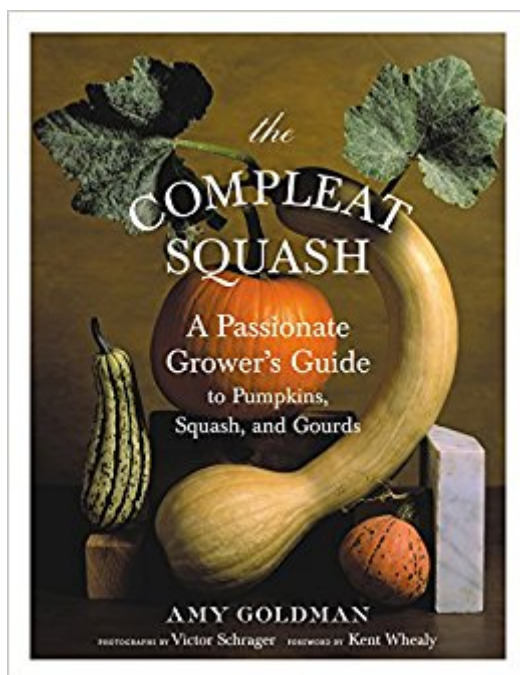


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The Compleat Squash



Synopsis

Part gardening book, part "encounters with remarkable vegetables," Amy Goldman's *The Compleat Squash* unearths the personalities—yes, personalities—of the pumpkin and the squash. They are members in good standing in the horticultural hall of fame, and Goldman lovingly ponders their case histories and culinary merits both with common and uncommon varieties. She gets glorious help from award-winning photographer Victor Schrager, who brings out their eclectic beauty in more than 150 luminous color portraits. Growing, harvesting, and seed-saving instructions are included for the gardener, and for the cook a selection of recipes that show off the unique, lovely flavors of these versatile vegetables.

Book Information

Hardcover: 216 pages

Publisher: Artisan; 1st Ed. edition (October 15, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1579652514

ISBN-13: 978-1579652517

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.8 x 12.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #863,902 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #96 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Nature & Wildlife > Gardens](#) #230 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Fruit](#) #564 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Vegetables](#)

Customer Reviews

Amy Goldman works to preserve the agricultural heritage and genetic diversity of the world's fruits and vegetables. Known to viewers of Martha Stewart Television and PBS, she has written for *Garden Design* and has been profiled in such publications as *The New York Times* and *House & Garden*. She is the author of *Artisan's Melons for the Passionate Grower* and *The Compleat Squash*. She lives in New York City and Rhinebeck, New York. Victor Schrager's photography has been featured in exhibitions across the country. He is the photographer for *Bird Hand Book* (2001) and *Artisan's Anatomy of a Dish* (2002).

Or perhaps it actually succeeds in being both. In a large and growing personal garden library, this is

one of my favorite books. I turn to it again and again. First of all, the photographs are just amazing, managing to combine exquisite beauty with accurate representation of each particular squash. And how very unique many of the squashes do appear to be! However it is in the text that Amy Goldman's book really shines. The information is presented in a clear, easy-to-access format, yet the language is beguiling. I defy any gardener and food lover to read this book and not instantly want to track down half a dozen heirloom varieties to grow. They will be able to do just that, because the author lists seed sources for all the varieties she includes.

It has a goodly amount of reference material, about many members of the squash family. The size and pictures also puts it into a coffee-table class book if you wish to display it that way. Was a little pricey but I love the book, feel it was worth the investment.

I love this book. If you are a fan of pumpkins, squash and gourds then this is a must. Text is informative though a bit preach and opinionated at times. I prefer to just read about nature and science without any agendas. For this I give it 4 instead of 5 stars. I would do 4.5 if I could. The classification of pumpkins was one of my favorite sections. But for the photos themselves and to ID what types of pumpkins and squash you might have it is very helpful.

Have only tried growing pumpkins (this year was my first time) and the experiment was so successful I want to try some that Amy describes in her book. Having bought her book Heirloom Tomato and read every page, I just had to buy the others.

This is a great book beautifully illustrated loads of information on those pictured, but not an Complete encyclopedia there are too many pumpkin varieties missing - like over 100 or more. But still it is my most valuable Pumpkin book.

This book absolutely opened my eyes to a new world of varieties of pumpkins and squashes. I will never look at the garden limitations again for my spring/summer plantings. As a agribusiness major, this lady, with her writing, descriptions and pics.....brought a whole new meaning to fall harvest and halloween celebration for me and my grandchildren. I became a cucurbitacean instantly when I saw and read this book. Thanks Amy Goldman for a well-rounded job and well done, I might add.

At this time, this is the most comprehensive volume on the Cucurbita genus. A good personal

narrative, coupled with sublime photography. My only quibbles are that none of the images show cut open fruit, to give a view of the flesh and cavity. Secondly, that quite a number of internationally known cultivars are not mentioned. Nevertheless, an absolute "must have" for pumpkin and squash devotee.

Great book. Answered lots of my questions. I also ID'ed some of my squash, with the terrific photos. Looks good on the coffee table.

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