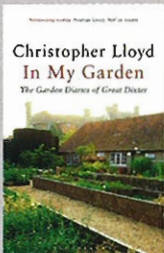
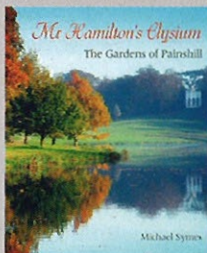


other recently released books for gardeners



IN MY GARDEN
by Christopher Lloyd
Paperback reissue of the Sussex gardener's 1993 collection of essays from *Country Life* magazine.
Bloomsbury, £8.99
ISBN 978-1408811085



MR HAMILTON'S ELYSIUM
by Michael Symes
An illustrated account of the 18th-century landscape at Painshill Park in Surrey, by a respected garden historian.
Frances Lincoln, £35
ISBN 978-0711230552



UNDERSTANDING GARDEN DESIGN
by Vanessa Gardner Nagel
Step-by-step handbook on the basics of laying out gardens, aimed at novice designers.
Timber Press, £20
ISBN 978-0881929430



GROW HERBS
by Jekka McVicar
The celebrated herb-grower's latest book is an update of her 2002 title *New Book of Herbs*, covering 100 of her favourites.
Dorling Kindersley, £14.99
ISBN 978-1405355667

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THE GREEN ROOF MANUAL:

A professional guide to design, installation and maintenance

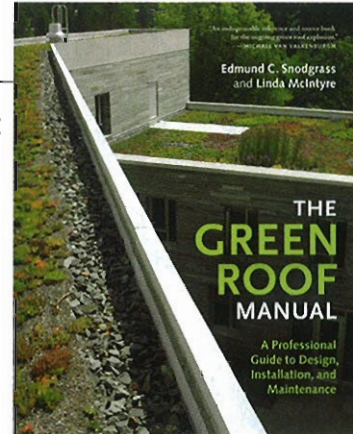
by Edmund C Snodgrass and Linda McIntyre
Timber Press, £25.
ISBN 978-1604690491

When asked to review this book I couldn't believe how timely the request. I've just sacrificed a large chunk of my garden to build a design studio that, of course, is going to feature a funky green roof. My intention was to kill two birds with one stone – write my review and gen up for my green roof.

When the book arrived I soon realised that it is primarily aimed at large-scale projects, either industrial or commercial, with the target audience being architects, landscape architects or engineers. The authors are American and the majority of the research and case studies are based throughout North America, with some reference to European projects.

However, the content of the book is extremely interesting, accessible and well written. Each chapter begins with 'Key Points' highlighted in a box, making it easy to delve in to areas of particular relevance. In fact, much of the content is relevant to small projects as well as large, whether domestic or commercial. The North American climate is so varied that much of the advice will apply to UK readers too.

A lot of attention is given to planting and plant selection and following the paragraph heading 'Don't vilify sedums',



the author stresses that designers 'must have a clear understanding of plant performance relative to the project objectives and the conditions on site'. He goes on to explain why sedums have the perfect survival skills to cope with a wide range of conditions, making them 'good workhorse species', although many other plant species are also included.

Well captioned, good quality photographs appear on practically every page, showing examples of successful schemes and a few problematic ones. In addition there are close-up images of design details, plants and materials. The sample specification and the extensive list of resources are especially useful, even though they are aimed at the North American market. The depth of research and breadth of information in this book makes it a really valuable resource for any designer or architect's studio and well worth the price.

Will this book help me with my building my green roof? Absolutely. *Annie Guilfoyle is a garden designer and director of garden design at KLC.*

book offer

RRP £25. Reader offer price £23 including p&p

