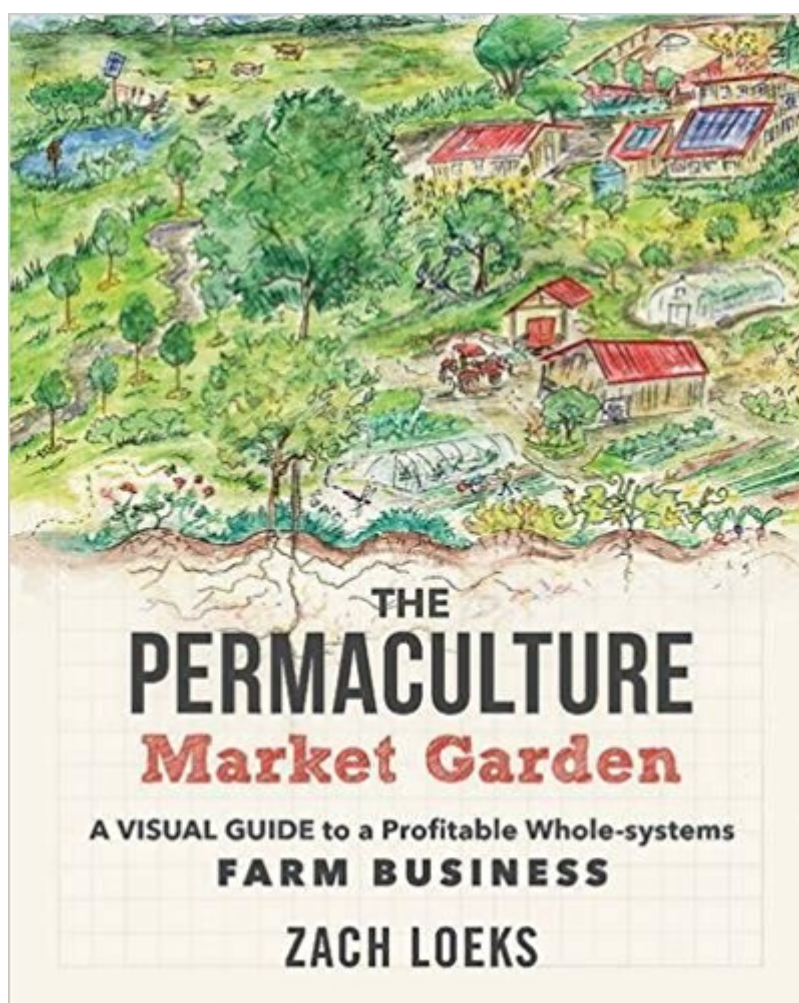


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# The Permaculture Market Garden: A Visual Guide To A Profitable Whole-systems Farm Business



## Synopsis

Permaculture tends to be very much in the domain of home gardeners and property owners. But what if we could take it all a step further, and merge the fields of permaculture and market gardening? In *The Permaculture Market Garden*, author Zach Loeks brings together his passion for sustainable permaculture food production systems and beautiful, vibrant illustrations to provide a highly visual guide to the smooth integration of permaculture into the market garden, in ways that are scalable to specific situations. Profiling crops and ecosystem-based techniques, Loeks demonstrates a profitable, sustainable and approachable model for the future of market gardening. Along the way, Loeks introduces his own system of PermaBeds, season extension techniques, intensive and rotational interplanting, in-depth discussions on soil health, and more, bringing activities, designs and prospects of farming to life through illustrations, so the reader can be immersed within the world of permaculture farming. Playful, informative and curious, inspiring and beautiful and packed with accessible practical information, *The Permaculture Market Garden* will inspire both the seasoned market gardener as well as anyone aspiring to start a business. Zach Loeks is a market gardener, farm consultant and educator living in the Ottawa Valley. Winner of two regional awards for sustainability and innovation in agriculture, he shares his expertise in farming, design and business through a successful series of on-farm workshops, conferences and schools, as well as a successful year-round CSA.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bringing permaculture's holistic thinking to the problems of market farming, Zach Loeks has done this burgeoning economic sector a world of good with his pithy words and lovely drawings. Not a book about carrots, but one in which vegetables, children, customers, trees, vision, and earthworms shape a matrix of success. Business planning was never before this colorful, soulful, or needed for the times.---Peter Bane, author, *The Permaculture Handbook*. A commendable permaculture guide. If you're serious about generating a livelihood in partnership with the land, this book is your compass. Zach Loeks details an approach to informed ecological decision-making so close to my own work I can be sure this book will improve agricultural landscapes and lives.---Jason Gerhardt, permaculture designer, *Real Earth Design* A legacy of grateful land is surely a memorial that can capture both our imagination and our physical effort. Such a sacred mission deserves the level of thought Zach beckons us to pursue. Engaging in this discovery and planning process is worth the effort, and Zach gives us another tool to engage more strategically. Now get out paper, pencil, ruler, and graph paper. It's that simple, and that rewarding.---Joel Salatin, *Polyface Farm* There are few books that delight the senses, satisfy the scientific itch and leave the inner environmentalist contented. I'm indebted to Zach for his work, not only for my own education, but for the many clients that seek a tome of collected wisdom as they embark into their own farming dreams. ---Javan K. Bernakevitch, B. Comn, *All Points Land Design* Zack strikes me as the guy you want to spend a week on your property. Not just for his company, but to access his wealth of knowledge and experience in learning to understand the natural systems at work in any given landscape. *The Permaculture Market Garden* is playful in approach yet completely pragmatic in reasoning and methodology and should be seen as the permaculturist's guide to placemaking through Homesteading. This chewy tome of goodness will help you assess the ecology, geological history and potential future of the land you live on and work with. A wonderful guidebook to help anyone- with land big or small - to thrive not just survive, in tandem with their natural environment.---Sharon Kallis, author, *Common Threads* Bringing permaculture's holistic thinking to the problems of market farming, Zach Loeks has done this burgeoning economic sector a world of good with his pithy words and lovely drawings. Not a book about carrots, but one in which vegetables, children, customers, trees, vision, and earthworms shape a matrix of success. Business planning was never before this colorful, soulful, or needed for the times.---Peter Bane, author, *The Permaculture Handbook*. A commendable permaculture guide. If you're serious about generating a livelihood in partnership with the land, this book is your compass. Zach Loeks details an approach to informed ecological decision-making so close to my own work I can be sure this book will improve agricultural landscapes and lives.---Jason Gerhardt, permaculture designer, *Real Earth Design* A

legacy of grateful land is surely a memorial that can capture both our imagination and our physical effort.Â Such a sacred mission deserves the level of thought Zach beckons us to pursue. Engaging in this discovery and planning process is worth the effort, and Zach gives us another tool to engage more strategically.Â Now get out paper, pencil, ruler, and graph paper.Â It's that simple, and that rewarding.---

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Sharon Kallis, author, Common Threads

Permaculture tends to be very much in the domain of home gardeners and property owners. But what if we could take it all a step further, and merge the fields of permaculture and market gardening? What if we can build a new agriculture with every farm as a profitable and enduring ecosystem? In *The Permaculture Market Garden*, author Zach Loeks brings together his passion for sustainable permaculture food production systems and beautiful, vibrant illustrations, to provide a highly visual guide to the smooth integration of permaculture into the market garden, in ways that are scalable to specific situations. Profiling crops and ecosystem-based techniques, Loeks demonstrates a profitable, sustainable and approachable model for the future of market gardening. Along the way, Loeks introduces his own system of permabeds, leading into a close examination of integrated, rotational and site-appropriate production, along with in-depth discussions on soil health, and more. He brings us activities, designs and the prospects of farming to life through dynamic illustrations, so the reader can be immersed in the world of permaculture farming. Playful, informative and curious, inspiring and beautiful, and packed with accessible practical information, *The Permaculture Market Garden* will inspire the seasoned market gardener as well as anyone aspiring to start a farm business.

My garden planning bible!!

I am a certified permaculture designer with hundreds of acres of farm and forest of my own. I also have hundreds of books related to this topic. My initial impression of this book is that it is very thoughtfully laid out and has strong visuals. I really appreciate the formatting and how he handles mapping and holistic planning. Many of the permaculture books that I have do not address profitability, or at least not well and this is a worthy addition for that at the very least. Understand that you are not getting the depth of folks like Mollison or Whitehead, but that can be a plus for many. I would recommend this to folks just getting started in permaculture, as well as those looking to transition from homestead level food production to running a profitable permaculture market garden.

A beautifully illustrated guide to applying permaculture methodology to commercial scale farming. If you're new to permaculture but have experience of mid to large scale farming, you'll appreciate that Zach Loeks, the author, spends about two thirds of the book explaining the mind set and theory behind the practice of permaculture as applied to commercial farming. When I say 'commercial farming' understand that I'm talking of market garden scale commercial farming, not industrial scale agriculture. If you already have a grip on permaculture and are looking to turn your project into a business, there's a some sound advice on this too. As a starting out market gardener with a permaculture background, I bought this book mainly for info on Zach's 'Permabed' system. I have to say that while I've learnt his lingo now, it took an awful lot of flicking back and forth to find definitions or explanations of the many acronyms, abbreviations and terms that he uses. Maybe a lot of them come with a formal agricultural education or for all I know are his own creations. Either way, I didn't know them and wished aloud on several occasions that he'd just written the thing out long hand. Many of them aren't even in the glossary. Having said that you can find them bracketed after the first use of the term... if you can find it. As you can see, I still rate this book 4 stars, so while my complaints stand, I none the less enjoyed this book immensely and found it motivating and useful to boot. I will be adapting his permabed system to my farm where applicable (though I seem to already be doing alot of the things he talks about, which is encouraging!) and watching how things develop over the next few years. A good book well worth consideration.

A wonderful guide to premaculture gardening & how to expand to market to make a business of it. Easy plans to follow even if your more a beginner then an expert,

I've picked up most every book on permaculture as I find it a fascinating subject. What this book does that others haven't is draw the reader in and engage the other half of the brain through beautiful illustrations. It makes the material easier to absorb. Bonus making the world of market gardening accessible so you can turn a profit while saving the planet. Great Job in making permaculture more accessible to the masses Zach Loeks!

Amazing. This book could be, should a school in itself.

Purchased this book and consider it one of the most useful Permaculture resources on my bookshelf. Grateful to Zach Loeks for taking the time to share his knowledge and experience.

While it isn't light reading, it has a tremendous amount of information and ideas. I would recommend it to others interested in this subject

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