

| Soil Management Webinar: Historic Sources | | | | | | |
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| Author | Title | Year | Topic | Primary Source | Secondary Source | Digital source |
| Virgil | <i>The Georgics</i> (from Greek, "On Working the Earth") | 37 BC | Huge detail on which soil suits which plants and how to identify this | (See Sheet 2) | | |
| Varro | De Re Rustica | 1st Century | Advises on best manures: droppings of caged song birds | Loeb Classical Library, <i>On Agriculture</i> , 1977, p.265 | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, 2016, p.144 | |
| Columella | De Re Rustica | 1st Century AD | Uses of human urine, leguminous roots, green manures | Loeb Classical Library, <i>On Agriculture</i> , 1977, p.195-201 | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, 2016, p.144 | |
| Pliny the Elder | Naturalis Historia | 1st Century AD | Benefits of human manure, especially after wine and a rich diet! | Loeb Classical Library, <i>Natural History</i> , 1971, vol5, p.37 | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, 2016, p.144 | |
| Ibn Al Awam | Le Livre de l'Agriculture (trans Paris 1864) | 13th Century | Advises urination on compost heaps | Le Livre de l'Agriculture d'Ibn-al-Awam (trans JJ Clement-Mullet, Paris 1864-66) p.112 | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, 2016, p.143 | |
| Thomas Hill | The Gardener's Labyrinth | 1577 | How to make a raised bed! Benefits of different types of manure | The Gardener's Labyrinth, Ed. Richard Mabey, Oxford University Press, 1987 | | |
| Sir Hugh Platt | Floraes Paradise | 1608 | The best soil has no need for compost or manure | Floraes Paradise, 1608, pp 1-6 and 43 | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, | |
| John Parkinson | Paradisi in Sole Paradisus Terrestris | 1629 | Against the use of manure | <i>Paradisi in Sole Paradisus Terrestris</i> , 1629, p.461 | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, | |

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| Robert Boyle | The Sceptical Chymiste | 1661 | Analyses the chemical composition of plants | Cited by A.G.Morton, <i>History of Botanical Sciences, 1981,p.224</i> | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening, Unicorn,</i> | |
| John Evelyn | Elysium Britannicum | 1660 | Sketches 35 tools used by gardeners to produce fine tilth | | Included in <i>The Gardener's Labyrinth</i> , Ed. Richard Mabey, Oxford | |
| Timothy Nourse | Compania Felix | 1700 | Recipe for potting compost | Compania Felix, 1700, p.325 (See Sheet 2) | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening, Unicorn,</i> | |
| John Laurence | The Gentleman's Recreation | 1716 | Prefers pure loam rather than "rotten dung or the common artificial Composts" | <i>The Gentleman's Recreation, 1716, pp85-6</i> | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening, Unicorn,</i> | |
| Johann Adam Kulbel | Experiments | 1740 | Discovers and names humus in soil | Cited by A.G.Morton, <i>History of Botanical Sciences, 1981,p.254-5</i> | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening, Unicorn,</i> | |
| Theodore de Saussure | Recherche Chimiques sur la Vegetation | 1804 | Lists plant compounds related to composition of soil | Cited by A.G.Morton, <i>History of Botanical Sciences, 1981,pp.337-42</i> | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening, Unicorn,</i> | |
| William Cobbett | The English Gardener | 1829 | The best soils for growing fruits in kitchen gardens | The English Gardener, 1829 | Jane Brown, <i>The Pursuit of Paradise, Harper</i> | |
| Justus von Liebig | Die organische Chemie in ihrer Anwendung auf Agriculture | 1840 | Discovered cycle of nutrition in plants and soil. Synthesised guano | Cited by A.G.Morton, <i>History of Botanical Sciences, 1981,pp.393-4</i> | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening, Unicorn, 2016, p.145</i> | |
| Jane & John Loudon | An Encyclopedia of Gardening | 1835 | 1334 pages of detailed info on soil science, cultivation techniques, tools etc. | An Encyclopedia of Gardening, new edition ed. Mrs Loudon, Longmans, 1871 | | An Encyclopaedia of Gardening |

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| Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland | | 1841 | "evaluating the application rates of various fertiliser types including farmyard manures, bone and fish compost, sodium nitrate, ammonium sulphate, ammonium chloride..." | | | |
| John Bennet Lawes and Joseph Henry Gilbert | | 1843 | Establishment of Rothampsted Experiment Station, pioneers of the artificial fertiliser industry | | Toby Musgrave, <i>The Head Gardeners</i> , Aurum Press, 2007 p.139 | |
| Julius Sachs | Scientific paper on early aquaponics | 1860 | Isolated the different minerals required by plants | | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, | |
| Hellriegel and Wohlfahrt | | 1886 | Established how plants take in nitrogen from the soil | | Susan Campbell, <i>A History of Kitchen Gardening</i> , Unicorn, | |
| H.H Thomas | The Complete Amateur Gardener | 1924 | Digging one of the "chief garden tasks". Compost mainly means for potting. More space devoted to bonfires than compost making | The Complete Amateur Gardener, Cassells, 1924, p.472 | | |
| William Watson | The Gardener's Assistant | 1925 | 50 pages on formation, nutrition, humus, tillage, all aimed at apprentice gardeners | The Gardener's Assistant, The Gresham Publishing Company, Vol 6 pp23-71 | | |
| T Wallace | Modern Garden Craft | 1935 | 30 pages on soil science and management, citing many scientific papers | Modern Garden Craft, The Gresham Publishing Company, 1936, Vol 1 pp | | |

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| M Thompson (female!) | New Gardening Encyclopaedia | 1937 | Double digging "the best form of digging for gardens" recommends soil sterilisation | New Gardening Encyclopaedia, Associated Newspapers, 1937 p.162 & 379 | | |
| Walter Brett | The Home Gardening Encyclopaedia | 1939 | "Digging is <i>the</i> most important of all gardening operations" + potting soil recipes | The Home Gardening Encyclopedia, Pearson 1939 p.118 & 309 | | |
| C.H.Middleton (BBC Broadcaster) | Mr Middleton Suggests | 1939 | Digging, Double Digging and Bastard Trenching. Recipes for potting compost: "Dark peat from bogs is useless in the potting compost" | Mr Middleton Suggests, Ward, Lock & Co., 1939, p. 40 & 237 | | |
| Lady Eve Balfour | The Living Soil | 1943 | "Evidence of the importance to human health of soil vitality, with special reference to post-war planning". Led to the formation of the Soil Association and the Organic movement | The Living Soil, Faber & Faber, 1943, front cover | Jenny Uglow, <i>A Little History of British Gardening</i> , Chatto and Windus 2004 p.282 | |
| Christopher Lloyd (Great Dixter) | The Well-Tempered Garden | 1970 | "There is currently a tremendous vogue for peat, which is so widely believed to be a panacea for every cultural problem that supplies can barely keep pace with demand and prices are rocketing ... It has often been pointed out that the gardener burns his inheritance on the garden bonfire..." | The Well-Tempered Garden, Collins, 1970, p.27 | | |

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| John and Sally Seymour | Self-Sufficiency | 1973 | "In spite of the teachings of the no-digging and no-ploughing school of husbandmen, people still go on digging and ploughing, as they have done ever since Neolithic times..." | Self-Sufficiency, Faber & Faber, 1973 pp.26-27 | | |
| Dr.W.E.Shewell-Cooper | Soil, Humus and Health | 1975 | 1966 formed the Good Gardeners Association, pioneered "No-dig" approach | Soil, Humus and Health, 1975 | Jenny Uglow, <i>A Little History of British Gardening</i> , Chatto and Windus 2004 p.282 | |
| HRH The Prince of Wales | The Elements of Organic Gardening | 2007 | "The Essential Elements: The soil" the first 26 pages of the book. Composting and rotavating | | | |