This is summer gardens
Just as the keen cook has favourite recipe books, gardeners will find comfort and ideas in the pages of these new titles and established favourites

**Moro East**
by Sam and Sam Clark (£25, Ebury Press)

A year in the life of an East End allotment owned by the couple behind Moro. Their project is a grown-up version of Jamie at Home. With hints and recipes donated by their Turkish and Cypriot allotment neighbours, at last we can all enjoy a tasty use for those surplus leaves and green tomatoes.

**Around the World in 80 Gardens**
by Monty Don (£20, Weidenfeld & Nicolson)

Though short on seasonal pruning tips and recipes for compost, this cultural tour of the world’s gardens is a real treat. Taking in six continents, Don sets out to prove the theory that “people are more interesting than plants”, and talks to the gardeners behind florishing Amazonian vegetable plots and formal Zen gardens.

**Garden Photographer of the Year**
by Bob Flowerdew (£19.99, Kyle Cathie)

Fans of Radio 4’s Gardener’s Question Time will be well aware of maverick East Anglian Bob Flowerdew, his amazing skill with fruit and veg and his recipes for “recycled cider”. This guide to gardening organically encourages the novice gardener, and is full of his author’s infectious enthusiasm and smart advice.

**Exotic Gardens for Adventurous Gardeners**
by Christopher Lloyd (£20, BBC Books)

Christopher Lloyd was the well-loved warwick of Great Dixter in East Sussex, and this story of his controversial Exotic Garden, which was almost complete when he died in 2006. The book is now a tribute to Lloyd from his fellow gardeners and biggest fans, including Roy Lancaster and Anna Pavord.

**The Kitchen Gardener**
by Alan Titchmarsh (£20, BBC Books)

You either love him or you hate him, but Alan Titchmarsh knows his stuff and in this beautifully illustrated book he seems to have thought through all the potential pitfalls for an amateur veg grower and offers practical solutions. Fruit and veg seeds are now outselling flowers in Britain, so this is a great help.

**RHS A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants**
by Christopher Brickell (£15.99, Dorling Kindersley)

For anyone who has thoroughly digested all the beginners’ books and wants to move on, this is the ultimate reference book for the expert horticulturist. There are sections on matching, staking and pruning, barely and tender plants, herbaceous varieties and hybrids - but buy this for the 10,000 individual plant entries and 4,000 colour pictures.

**On Guerrilla Gardening**
by Richard Reynolds (£14.99, Bloomsbury)

Don’t have a garden, a roof terrace or even a window sill? Don’t worry, just follow this anarchic guide and practise botany on your nearest roundabout. Citing the words of Che Guevara and Mao Tse-Tung in its opening chapter, this book advocates the politics of revolution using only seed bombs and the cover of darkness. Great fun.

**The Lawn Expert**
by DG Hessayon (£7.99, Expert)

With condensed books on everything a gardener could ever worry about (containers, greenhouses, cereals, peas and beans, fruit and vegetables, trees and shrubs etc.), Hessayon is constantly among the bestsellers. If you ever admire a friend’s garden, you’ll probably find one of his books on their shelves (possibly learnt, if they are a man.).