



THE PLAIN DEALER

Get Growing

Big ideas from small herbs in new cooking and growing guide

Thursday, October 11, 2007

BOOK

Big ideas on herbs

Wondering what to do with all of that rosemary, basil and lavender you grew over the summer? Try whipping up some herb honey. Running out of ideas for your harvest of tomatoes? How about spicy tomato grits? These and other recipes for appetizers, beverages, breads, soups, main dishes and more are included in the new "Essential Guide to Growing and Cooking With Herbs" (Louisiana State University Press, \$29.95). The book, produced by the Herb Society of America, isn't just recipes. There's advice on growing and using herbs, an overview of the National Herb Garden within the National Arboretum, and a catalog of botanical and common names.

PRODUCT

Digging made easier

Yard Butler, a California company, has some new tools that could be just what gardeners' aching backs need. The Rocket Weeder, used while standing, grabs weeds without breaking off the roots and rocks the weed and root up out of the ground. The ejector button deposits the weed where you want it. It retails for \$27. Also new, the World's Greatest Shrub Rake for \$25 (\$16 for a smaller version), and the Bulb and Garden Planter for planting while you're standing, \$24. Check out the Roto Planter (\$25): Insert the heavy-duty Roto Planter attachment into a 3/8-inch or larger electric or cordless drill, pull the trigger and start digging. Yard Butler tools are available at lawn and garden and home centers, and directly from Yard Butler at www.yardbutlerstore.com.

- Roxanne Washington

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