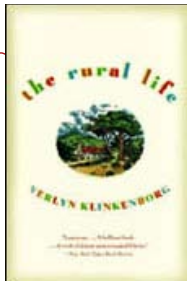


The Rural Life

All the senses—from the winter chill to the way a vegetable or farm tool feels in your hand—are represented in this collection of stories, soothingly woven together. One for the hammock on a warm summer day...

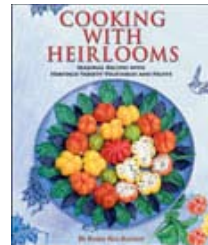
The Rural Life, by Verlyn Klinkenborg; Little, Brown and Company, 237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017; www.hachettebookgroupusa.com; 2002; 224 pages; paperback; \$12.95



Cooking with Heirlooms

Find a spot on your kitchen table for this savory offering that explores the diversity, history and deliciousness of traditional crops, through family heritage recipes, stories and descriptive, beautiful photos. You'll be inspired to begin your own heirloom crops and seed collections.

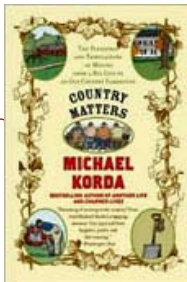
Cooking with Heirlooms, by Karen Keb Acevedo; Bowtie Press; 3 Burroughs, Irvine, CA 92618; www.cookingwithheirlooms.com; 2007; hardcover; 232 pages; \$29.95



Country Matters: The Pleasures and Tribulations of Moving from a Big City

How do you come to terms with all the stuff of living in the country on a farm, when you're used to city living? This book tells the tale with humor and honesty. You may want to read it aloud with a significant other to share these "life-transforming" events.

Country Matters: The Pleasures and Tribulations of Moving from a Big City, by Michael Korda, Harper Perennial, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022; www.harpercollins.com; 2002; paperback; 320 pages; \$15.95



Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal

Hungry? After you read this detailed story of America's obsession with fast food, where it comes from and how it affects our lives, you'll think twice the next time you get the urge to go through the drive-thru.

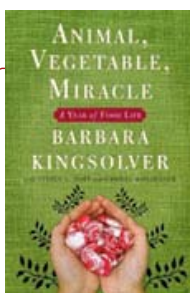
Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal, by Eric Schlosser, Houghton Mifflin Books, 181 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887; www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com; 2001; 356 pages; paperback; \$14.95



Animal, Vegetable, Miracle

How challenging do you think it would be to grow and buy locally nearly all of your food? Find out what happened when Barbara Kingsolver's household did just that for an entire year—and is still doing it.

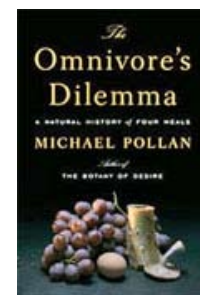
Animal, Vegetable, Miracle, by Barbara Kingsolver, HarperCollins, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022; www.harpercollins.com; 2007; paperback; 384 pages; \$14.95



The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals

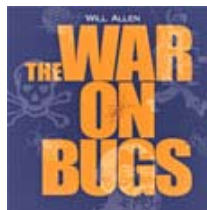
How we became the "ultimate—utterly elastic—industrial eater(s)" is the focus of this book. It covers the food landscape from corn to ethics to all our various food choices—and helps us decipher the environmental and health consequences of these choices.

The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals, by Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, 375 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014-3657, <http://us.penguin.com>; 2007; 464 pages; paperback; \$16



The War on Bugs

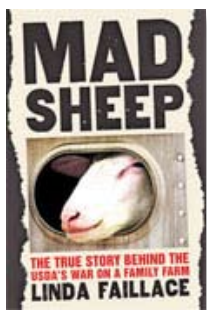
Might it be better to let the bugs win the war? That's what the author of this book suggests. He marvels at how the indigenous farmers in Peru "produce surpluses without chemicals in an environment ravaged by pests" and suggests it's time for us to learn from their example.



The War on Bugs, by Will Allen; Chelsea Green Publishing; 85 N. Main Street, Suite 120, White River Jct., VT 05001; www.chelseagreen.com; 2008; 336 pages; paperback; \$35

Mad Sheep: The True Story Behind the USDA's War on a Family Farm

You need to be a bit brave to open the pages of this book; it tells the story of a small farm family that whole-heartedly grabbed their dream of becoming niche livestock owners, only to run up against government regulations that seemed out to get them.



Mad Sheep: The True Story Behind the USDA's War on a Family Farm, by Linda Faillace, Chelsea Green Publishing, 85 N. Main Street, Suite 120, White River Jct., VT 05001; www.chelseagreen.com; 2006; hardcover; 324 pages; \$25

Organic Inc.: Natural Foods and How They Grew

Written by a food lover and journalist, this book exposes the evolution of "organics" from a fringe-type movement to a full-fledged marketing extravaganza.



Organic Inc.: Natural Foods and How They Grew, by Sam Fromartz, Harcourt Press, 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32887; www.harcourt.com; 2006; hardcover; 320 pages; \$25

Renewing America's Food Traditions: Saving and Savoring the Conti- nent's Most Endangered Foods

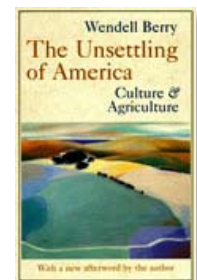
The lists of foods at risk in America (more than a thousand!) are just one reason to keep this book nearby as you make future farming plans. You'll also find inspiring success stories of food recovery, habitat restoration and more.



Renewing America's Food Traditions: Saving and Savoring the Continent's Most Endangered Foods, by Gary Paul Nabhan, Chelsea Green Publishing, 85 N. Main Street, Suite 120, White River Jct., VT 05001; www.chelseagreen.com; 2008; paperback; 350 pages; \$35

The Unsettling of America

A fifth-generation Kentucky farmer, author Wendell Berry, takes a critical view of government, as well as academic institutions, in his exploration of farming; he describes the damage he sees as farming has been taken out of its cultural context (which he describes as estrangement from the land) and turned over to food producers—and offers alternatives to our predicament.



The Unsettling of America, by Wendell Berry, Sierra Club Books, 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105; 1996; paperback; 246 pages; \$13.95