



# Book Information

## Sepp Holzer's Permaculture A Practical Guide For Farmers, Smallholders & Gardeners

By Sepp Holzer

Sepp Holzer farms steep mountainsides in Austria 1,500 metres above sea level. His farm is an intricate network of terraces, raised beds, ponds, waterways and tracks, well covered with productive fruit trees and other vegetation, with the farmhouse neatly nestling amongst them. This is in dramatic contrast to his neighbours' spruce monocultures.

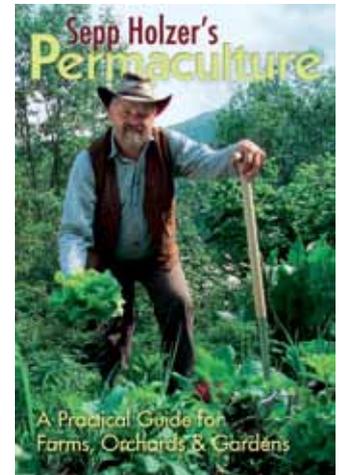
In this book, Sepp shares the skill and knowledge acquired over his lifetime. He covers every aspect of his farming methods, not just how to create a holistic system on the farm itself, but how to make a living from it. He writes about everything from the overall concepts, down to the practical details.

In *Sepp Holzer's Permaculture* you will learn:

- \* How Sepp Holzer sets up a permaculture system
- \* The fruit varieties Sepp has found best for permaculture growing
- \* How to construct terraces, ponds, and waterways
- \* How to build shelters for animals and how to work with them on the land
- \* How to cultivate edible mushrooms in the garden and on the farm
- \* and much more!

Sepp offers a wealth of information for the gardener, smallholder or alternative farmer yet the book's greatest value is the attitude it teaches - he reveals the thinking processes based on principles found in nature that create his successful systems. These can be applied by anyone anywhere.

Sepp is increasingly recognised as a leading figure in agriculture with requests from publications around the world. *Sepp Holzer's Permaculture* offers easy to follow solutions and best practices.



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## What people are saying about SEPP HOLZER'S PERMACULTURE

A fascinating book written by a man who has devoted a lifetime to working with nature and creating extraordinarily diverse polycultures. His work is breathtaking.

*Maddy Harland, editor of Permaculture Magazine*

There, at an altitude which everyone else has abandoned to low-value forestry, what is probably the best example of a permaculture farm in Europe stands out like a beacon.

*Patrick Whitefield, permaculture author and teacher*

Sepp Holzer's Permaculture is the work of a man of unique sensitivity and imagination. Holzer has combined a lifetime of practical experience with clarity of expression and intellect to produce a book which will satisfy a practically-minded farmer or gardener as well as the student of agroecological design. With gentle strength, Holzer would make designers and practitioners of us all and entrust to us neither task unless we join him in the school of nature.

*Harry Byrne Wykman of the Permaculture Research Institute of Australia. Read the full review at <http://permaculturenews.org/2011/06/15/sepp-holzers-permaculture-a-review/>*

This book is really a terrific read, the author goes into great detail laying out his philosophy of farming (something very different from mainline farming) and explaining how he built his productive and beautiful "Krameterhof". Holzer is practical man who has actually done "permaculture" not some self-proclaimed expert without dirt under his nails or profitable balance sheet under his belt. His raised beds are nothing like anything I've ever heard of in the USA. The book has many color photos and diagrams, including his stone cellars and earthen animal shelters. I highly recommend this book, his model of farming is just the thing we need to revive our agrarian roots and change the dreadful course of American agriculture.

*Scott M Terry reviewing on [www.northcountryfarmer.com/?p=272](http://www.northcountryfarmer.com/?p=272)*

Sepp Holzer has become a legend - the man who made a farm high in the Alps profitable and beautiful while reducing its dependency on brought in products. He did all this by reasoned thought and by escaping the bonds of conventional farming wisdom. Now, I garden at sea level in Somerset, so not much of what he did in the Alps is useful here, except for his general method of observing and thinking. The value of this book is that it inspires the reader to do just that. As if that were not enough, it is a thoroughly good read into the bargain. I just could not put it down and read on into the night until it was finished. This is a book to treasure.

*Gauis Calvus*

For me this book is an essential read for anyone interested in permaculture because of the attitude of mind it encourages and stimulates. What comes through loud & clear is Holzer's sense of challenge to the orthodoxy. And it's not just a theoretical, academic challenge; it's more practical. He's constantly asking us to examine why we do what we do and think of more sustainable ways of doing it.

*Carl Legge*

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Josef (“Sepp”) Holzer was born in the Province of Salzburg, Austria. He is a farmer, author and an international consultant for natural agriculture. He took over his parents’ mountain farm business in 1962 and pioneered the use of ecological farming, or permaculture, techniques at high altitudes (1,100 to 1,500 meters above sea level) after being unsuccessful with regular farming methods.



Sepp has been known as the “rebel farmer” for his persistence despite being fined and threatened with prison for practices such as not pruning his fruit trees. He has also created some of the world’s best examples of using ponds as reflectors to increase solar gain for passive solar heating of structures, and of using the microclimate created by rock outcrops to effectively change the hardiness zone for nearby plants.

Sepp conducts permaculture (“Holzer Permaculture”) seminars at his farm and worldwide, while continuing to work on his alpine farm. His farm now spans over 45 hectares of forest gardens, including 70 ponds, and is said to be the most consistent example of permaculture worldwide. He is author of several books and the subject of the film *The Agricultural Rebel*. He works nationally as a permaculture activist in the established agricultural industry, and works internationally as an adviser for ecological agriculture.