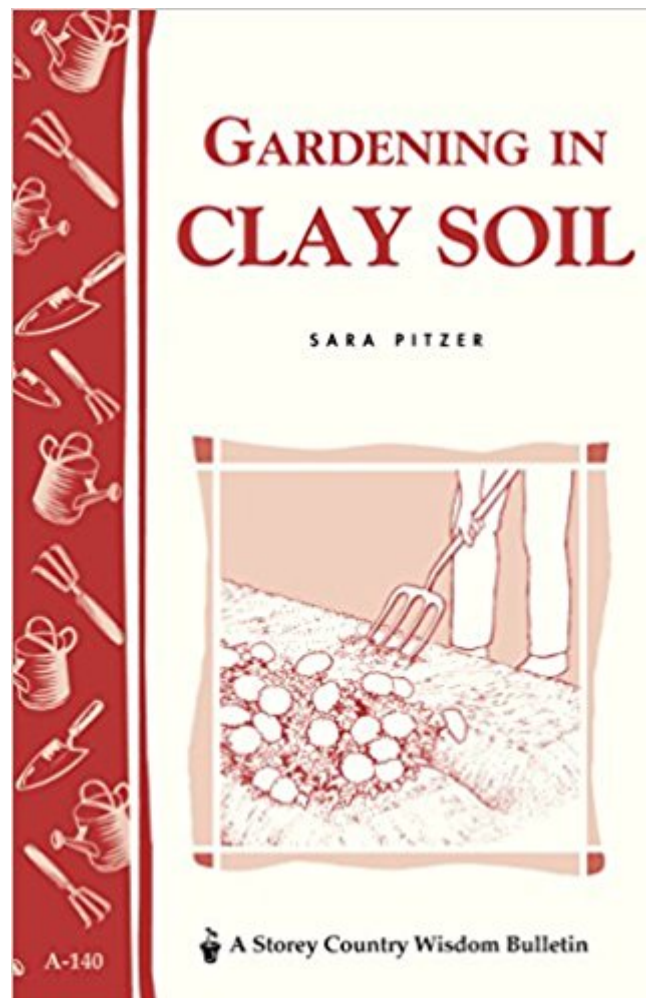




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# Gardening In Clay Soil: Storey's Country Wisdom Bulletin A-140 (Storey Publishing Bulletin)



## Synopsis

Since 1973, Storey's Country Wisdom Bulletins have offered practical, hands-on instructions designed to help readers master dozens of country living skills quickly and easily. There are now more than 170 titles in this series, and their remarkable popularity reflects the common desire of country and city dwellers alike to cultivate personal independence in everyday life.

## Book Information

Series: Storey Publishing Bulletin (Book 140)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Storey Publishing, LLC (January 8, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 088266378X

ISBN-13: 978-0882663784

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.1 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #908,001 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Soil](#) #590 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Vegetables](#) #835 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers](#)

## Customer Reviews

Since the 1973 publication of Storey's first Country Wisdom Bulletin, our commitment to preserving the arts, crafts, and skills of country life has never wavered. We now have more than 200 titles in this series of 32-page publications, and their remarkable popularity reflects the common desire of country and city dwellers alike to cultivate personal independence in everyday life. Storey's Country Wisdom Bulletins contain practical, hands-on instructions designed to help you master dozens of country living skills quickly and easily. From traditional skills to the newest techniques, Storey's Bulletins provide a foundation of earth-friendly information for the way you want to live today.

Sara Pitzer is the author of *Homegrown Whole Grains* and more than a dozen cookbooks and travel guides. She has studied and written about grains in Amish country in central Pennsylvania, in the southeastern United States, and in California. More recently, she has studied small-scale rice growing in Thailand and quinoa production in Peru. She lives in North Carolina.

Contrary to a 1-star review, covering the clay with better soil is only one suggestion, and even the author says it usually isn't practical. Not only are suggestions made on how to improve the soil, but also what \*not\* to do. Specific, real world examples are given. Some techniques take time, so do not expect overnight solutions. Unless, of course, you haul in 12" of new top soil.\*\*\* Amended While the minimum of 50% sand used in this booklet is the most common figure I have found, NCSU's Urban Horticultural Note #3 advises at least 70% sand for their clay soils. They also suggest using pea gravel, roughly 3/8", instead. It doesn't lead to compaction like sand in lower quantities can.

\$4.25 is too much for what is essentially a pamphlet. It is not much more than an article. I feel cheated! I gave two stars because it does discuss clay soil.

Received quickly and as described.

I've been gardening since 1975 . . . we recently moved to the Cincinnati area to a neighborhood less than 10 years old . . . the developer stripped and sold top soil . . . so we have rocks and clay. For a vegetable garden area we purchased a yard of top soil that is still high composition of clay. This is a simple short read with points on softening as well as adding drainage to clay soil.

While all of these are pulled from various sources and are the 'cliff notes' of the prepping world they give a good outline and place to start without having to buy numerous books with unnecessary information. These give you the meat without the filler.

This bulletin is pretty short, as all Storey's Country Wisdom Bulletins are. If you are looking for a thorough, complete, exhaustive guide, glance at the page count for this booklet and move along. That said, there's a lot of useful information in this book. It discusses the various soil amendments you can use to change the texture of your soil, including how they'll affect the soil pH and how often you'll need to re-apply them. (And yes, it does say that one option is to truck in a whole new layer of top soil, because it is one way to deal with the problem, but it also mentions how expensive that would be.) It also discusses when and how to work with the soil to avoid turning your yard into a giant brick. One thing I didn't like, though, was the suggestion to grow things like mint in order to break up the soil. The author suggests that you can simply pull the mint out when you're ready to plant something else there, but in my experience, getting rid of mint is much harder than

that.

Limited information

I live in Houston, and my property has been back filled with cheap clay. I'm going to try the gypsum, organic mulching, and cover crops for the green mulch.

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