

Growing Chillies
A Guide to the Domestic
Cultivation of Chilli Plants
Jason Nickels
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Jason Nickels has been a chilli enthusiast since they were forced upon him in early childhood. In his younger days he made all the mistakes a novice chilli grower is likely to make. Luckily he learned from these mistakes and extensive travel in his 20s, particularly to South America, only served to enhance his knowledge and experience of chillies and their culinary uses.

Ever since his teens Jason has, at the very least, had a single chilli plant growing in his window, but his hobby grew, and in 2003 he was a founder of South Devon Chilli Farm, a commercial grower with an



annual crop of over 6000 plants. They supply seeds, plants and a range of chilli preserves to growers and chilli enthusiasts in the U.K.

In 2012, office bound and disillusioned with being a slave to the corporate life he had helped create; Jason sold his share of South Devon Chilli Farm and returned to the greenhouse to pursue his passion for growing chillies, and vegetables in general. This resulted in the *book Growing Chillies – A Guide to the Domestic Cultivation of Chilli Plants*, published at the end of 2012. His experience and knowledge of the challenges faced by both novice and experienced chilli growers is unparalleled, and having spent many years advising domestic growers on the pitfalls and pleasures of chilli growing he wanted to provide people with a definitive guide on the subject.

These days Jason is an avid grower of unusual and challenging vegetables who revels in the tranquillity of a well-kept greenhouse and continues to write on the subject of chillies and chilli growing. His most recent published writings were features on chilli growing in Kitchen Garden, Grow Your Own, and The Lady Magazines, all in 2013.

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