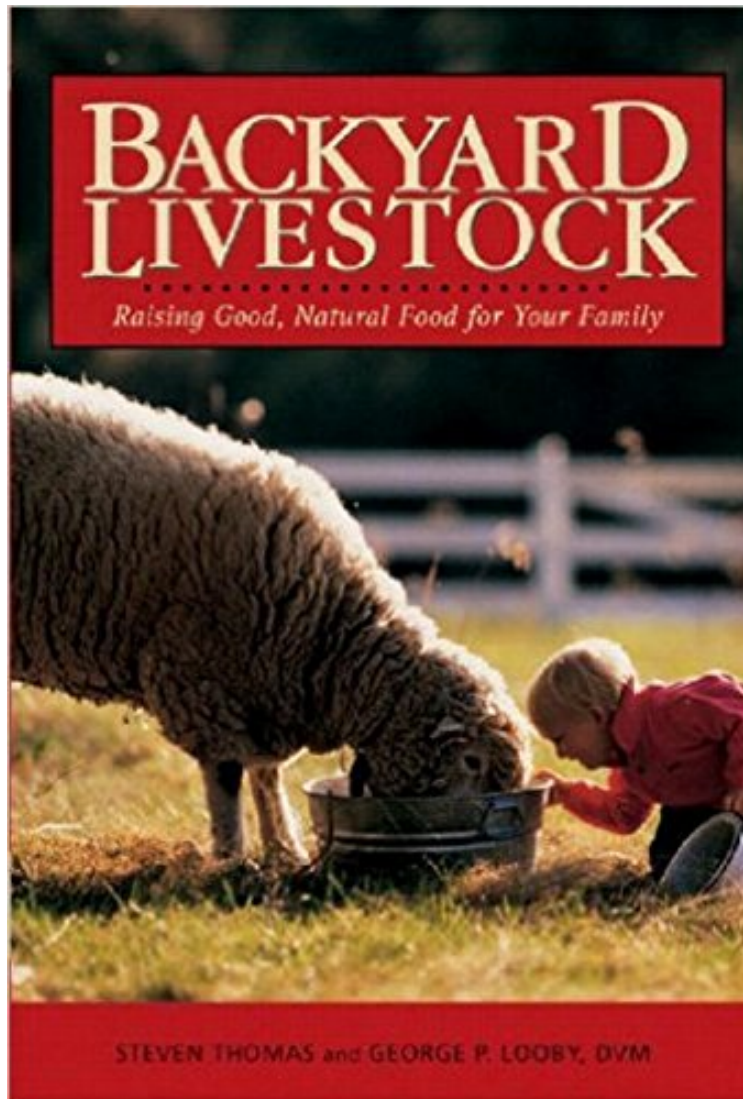


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(Countryman Know How)

Backyard Livestock: Raising Good, Natural Food for Your Family (Third Edition) (Countryman Know How)

George B. Looby

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George B. Looby : Backyard Livestock: Raising Good, Natural Food for Your Family (Third Edition) (Countryman Know How) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backyard Livestock: Raising Good, Natural Food for Your Family (Third Edition) (Countryman Know How):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent for starters with extremely helpful basic information, tips,

first hand experiences, and some humor. By PetPal I've only read through the preface, intro, and poultry chapters tonight and I have to say I feel as well prepared as I could be to start poultry farming! I have no experience in livestock, and I find this to be an easy read with the exception of some livery terms that the index helped with. The occasional humor keeps it from becoming too heavy- imagine stories of snow plowing geese! Contrary to another reviewer's experience, in the 3rd edition the authors do give differing breeds, what they look like, and if they are best suited for dairy, eggs, meat or breeding, or dual/triple-purpose. This seems to be as thorough of a book as it can be for 250 pages. It is full of diagrams and dimensions for building troughs and shelters, how much room a chicken needs in a henhouse, hatch times, productive lifespans, figures for feeding amounts, time expectations you can plan to spend daily with each type of animal, and in the back is common diseases for each type of livestock and cures. It even gives you suggestions for mixes so you can make your own feed, or how to add your own mixes to cut your grain bill in half! This book tries not to be on one side or the other of the "organic" fence, and helps point you in the right direction if you want to start farming that way, and the pros and cons. I feel this would be an excellent starting point for backyard livestock; if you needed more specific information down the road then another, more specialized source, would be necessary though. So far, I have found it to be very informative!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. All the basics, easy to read, written by a veterinarian/ livestock owner

By Customer I love books that are written by knowledgeable people without all the philosophy. This neither gripes about city folks, or vegetarians, and outside of the introduction he's not trying to convince you to raise livestock- Thank you! Just the facts, including FDA feeding and housing recommendations, as well as some personal anecdotes and tips. This is a great reference guide and easy to find a fact later (How many feet of perching room does a chicken need?) It's not a breed guide but it does have the most popular and plenty of resources to find out more. The book is well written well organized and full of useful information!

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great place to start

By Eric Sawyer As someone who is just starting to look into making a change in lifestyle from the suburban cubicle life to a life on the land, I found this book to be a great starting place from which to make some early decisions. I'll definitely buy more in depth books on the types and breeds that I want to include on my future farm. No one should expect a wide-ranging overview like this book to cover everything. The book covers major topics within each animal type such as popular breeds for the homesteader, purchasing options, feeding, housing, handling, management, breeding, health, and butchering. I specially liked the options discussed in how to purchase your livestock and how to save money with mixing your own feed. Overall, a good overview of what's available. Well written with plenty of personal experience thrown in.

This popular and widely praised book describes everything you need to know about selecting and raising small livestock. Long the primary reference for anyone who keeps animals as a sustainable food source, this latest edition includes up- to-date information on breeds and breeding, feed, disease prevention, housing, and management. The book also includes a chapter on growing feed; appendices covering disease identification and treatment, manure, tanning, incubators, and injections; and a catalog of supplemental resources. Country Journal calls it "a handbook in the true sense of the word. You can pick it up and turn to any section to find quickly the information needed." 35 bw illustrations and 25 color photographs

About the Author In addition to farming, Steven Thomas has written for many periodicals, including Country Journal and Yankee. He lives in Woodstock, VT. George Looby has degrees in agriculture and veterinary medicine and was with the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. He lives in Woodstock, CT.