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October 2011

SPECIAL REPORT: POISON IN YOUR COMPOST?

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WE LIKE THIS!

Certified Flavor

Sitting down with a favorite cup of tea is one of life's most peaceful pleasures. With organic, fair-trade teas, that time is even more tranquil, because what's steeping in the mug is free from pesticides and strife. For your relaxing pleasure, we've gathered some of the most eco-friendly, humane tea companies out there, along with our recommendations for their best blends. —Katie Walker

Equal Exchange

Founded on the principles of fair trade, Equal Exchange has been working with small farmers for 25 years to make its wide range of products, which includes an all-organic line of teas. By helping to form farm cooperatives, they enable local farmers to become certified organic, and run training programs through the co-ops. Favorite blend: Earl Grey—"intense classic aroma." Also recommended: Vanilla Rooibos, Chai. 20 tea bags for \$4.50, from Equal Exchange



Zhena's Gypsy

Here is a tea for the eco-conscious free spirit. Whimsical flavors spice up staid blends, and an aromatherapy chart helps to pick the right tea for whatever mood you may be in. The tea tins are 100 percent recyclable, and their airtight seal keeps the tea fresh. Favorite blend: Gypsy Coconut Chai—"nice flavor and aroma; would be great with a tropical dessert." Also recommended: Raspberry Earl, Pomegranate Rose. 22 tea sachets for \$7, from Zhena's Gypsy Tea Company



Frontier

Frontier Natural Products Co-op is devoted to sustainability and relationships with small farmers around the world. While perusing teas and other products on its website, consumers can read a sustainability report, as well as Frontier's commitment to ethical practices. Teas are available only in loose-leaf form, so a teapot or tea infuser is needed. Favorite blend: Gunpowder Green—"very strong and flavorful." Also recommended: Ceylon, Jasmine. 16 oz., \$18.50-\$36.50, from Frontier Natural Products Co-op



Numi

A former European teahouse proprietor and his artist sister founded Numi Organic Tea and named it after a dried-lime tisane that was popular during their childhood in Iraq. Dedicated to more than just great flavors, Numi supports green causes with eco-responsible packaging, carbon-emission offsets, and companywide volunteerism. Favorite blend: Maté Lemon—"sharp and bursting with lemon notes." Also recommended: Aged Earl Grey, Golden Chai. 16 tea bags for \$7, from Numi Organic Tea



Choice

The many varieties of Choice Organic Teas may seem daunting, but the website allows you to select by region, type, or even charity beneficiary. The list of certifications, from wind power matching to kosher pareve, assures a socially and environmentally conscientious cup. Favorite blend: Russian Caravan—"robust and full-bodied." Also recommended: White Peony, Earl Grey. 16 tea bags for \$4.50-\$5, from Choice Organic Teas



For more information, see Find It Here on page 69.



FIND IT HERE

Plant TNT: Ostrich Fern, p. 18

American Beauties Native Plants (sold at garden centers; retail finder at abnativelplants.com); **American Meadows**, 877-309-7333, americanmeadows.com (online sales only); **White Flower Farm**, PO Box 50, Route 63, Litchfield, CT 06759, 800-503-9624, whiteflowerfarm.com

Skill & Abilities: Forcing Bulbs in Pots, p. 20

Brent and Becky's Bulbs, 804-693-3966, brentandbeckysbulbs.com; **EcoTulips**, 434-242-6369, ecotulips.com; **John Scheepers**, 860-567-0838, johnscheepers.com

Common Ground: Postcards from the Veg, p. 26

World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms, woofinternational.org; **WWOOF-USA**, woofusa.org; **GrowFood**, growfood.org; **Viva Farms**, vivafarms.org

Bibendum: A Taste of History, p. 30

Albemarle CiderWorks, 2545 Rural Ridge Rd., North Garden, VA 22959, 434-297-2326, albemarlecederworks.com; **Alpenfire Cider**, 220 Pocket La., Port Townsend, WA 98368, 360-379-8915, alpenfirecider.com; **Crispin Cider**, 405 Central Ave. SE, Ste. 10, Minneapolis, MN 55414, 612-331-3699, crispincider.com; **Domaine Dupont**, calvados-dupont.com; **Farnum Hill Ciders**, 98 Poverty La., Lebanon, NH 03766, 603-448-1511, povertylaneorchards.com; **Foggy Ridge Cider**, 1328 Pineview Rd., Dugspur, VA 24325, 276-398-2337, foggyridgecider.com; **Isastegi Natural Cider**, isastegi.com (website not in English; available via online wine merchants); **J.K.'s Scrumpy**, 919-771-4584, organicscrumpy.com; **Original Sin**, 817 Broadway, 10th Fl., New York, NY 10003, 646-344-1087, originsin.com; **Tieton Cider Works**, 321 Humphrey Rd., Tieton, WA 98947, 509-673-28807, tietonciderworks.com; **Samuel Smith Old Brewery**, samuelssmithsbrewery.co.uk

Spectrum for the Seasons, p. 32

Bloom River Gardens, 39744 Deerhorn Rd., Springfield, OR 97478, 541-726-8997, bloomriver.com; **Eastwoods Nurseries**, 634 Long Mountain Rd., Washington, VA 22747, 540-675-1234, japanesemaples.com; **Wildwood Farm**, 10300 Sonoma Hwy., Kenwood, CA 95442, 707-833-1161, wildwoodmaples.com

The Great Pumpkins, p. 38

Solberga Gärd, Ramsåtravägen 45, 387 90 Köpingsvik, Sweden; telephone 011 46-485-720 60, solbergagard.se. Seed for giant pumpkins: 'Prizewinner Hybrid', **W. Atlee Burpee & Co.**, 800-888-1447, burpee.com; 'Dill's Atlantic Giant', **Howard Dill Enterprises**, 902-798-2728, howarddill.com

How We Grew, p. 44

Wesley Greene has written a how-to book for modern gardeners about gardening in the 18th century, *Vegetable Gardening the Colonial Williamsburg Way*, to be published by Rodale in spring 2012.

Heirloom Apples, p. 48

Orchards to visit: **Eastman Antique Apples**, 1058 W. Midland-Gratiot County Line Rd., Wheeler, MI 48662, 989-842-5576, eastmansantiqueapples.com; **Kiyokawa Family Orchards**, 8129 Clear Creek Rd., Parkdale, OR 97041, 541-352-7115, mthoodfruit.com; **North Star Orchard**, 3226 Limestone Rd., Cochran-

ville, PA 19330, northstarorchard.com; **Scott Farm**, 707 Kipling Rd., Dummerston, VT 05301, 802-254-6868, scottfarmvermont.com. Orchards that will ship apples (all offer 'Ashmead's Kernel', 'Calville Blanc d'Hiver', 'Cortland', 'Cox's Orange Pippin', 'Empire', 'Esopus Spitzenburg', 'Macoun', 'Maiden Blush'): **Alyson's Orchard**, 57 Alyson's Ln., Walpole, NH 03608, 800-856-0549, alysonorchard.com; **Tree-Mendus Fruit**, 9351 E. Eureka Rd., Eau Claire, MI 49111, 269-782-7101 or 877-863-3276, treemendusfruit.com (also offers 'Grimes Golden' and 'Pitmaston Pineapple'); **Weston's Antique Apples**, 5470 S. Overlook Dr., New Berlin, WI 53146, 262-679-2862, westonapples.com (also offers 'Grimes Golden' and 'Pitmaston Pineapple'). For more information about apples and orchards, see orangepippin.com. For more American apple history, read *Johnny Appleseed: The Man, the Myth, the American Story*, by Howard B. Means (Simon & Schuster, 2011).

Pay Dirt: Imprelis Imperils? p. 56

DuPont Professional Products, CRP Bldg. 705, Centre Rd., Wilmington, DE 19805, 888-638-7668, www2.dupont.com, email proproducts@usa.dupont.com; **Scotts Miracle-Gro Company**, Scotts Help Center, 14111 Scottslawn Rd., Marysville, OH 43041, 888-270-3714, scotts.com; **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**, Office of Pesticide Programs, Director's Office 7501P, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460, <http://pesticides.supportportal.com>. **BioCycle** magazine covers trade news in composting and organics recycling: *BioCycle*, 63 S. 7th St., Emmaus, PA 18049, 610-967-4135, biocycle.net.

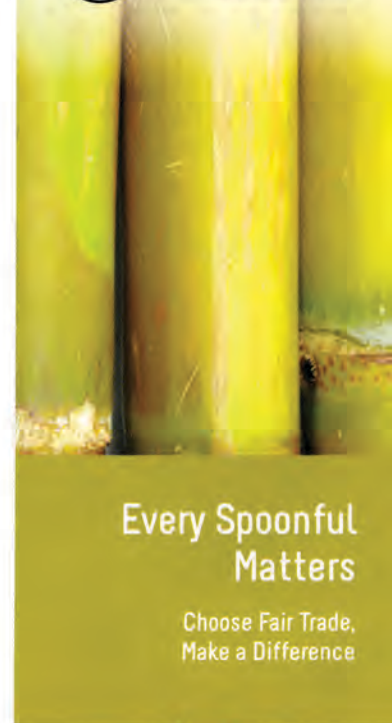
We Like This! Certified Flavor, p. 68

Choice Organic Teas, 600 S. Brandon St., Seattle, WA 98108, 206-525-0051, choiceorganict teas.com; **Equal Exchange**, 50 United Dr., West Bridgewater, MA 02379, 774-776-7333, shop.equalexchange.com; **Frontier Natural Products Co-op**, PO Box 299, 3021 78th St., Norway, IA 52318, 800-669-3275, frontiercoop.com; **Numi Organic Tea**, PO Box 20420, Oakland, CA 94620, 888-404-6864, numitea.com; **Zhena's Gypsy Tea**, 6041 Triangle Dr., Commerce, CA 90040, 800-448-0803, gypsytea.com

Garden Crafts: The Art of the Mandala, p. 70

Heather Rodale is founder of **Healing Through the Arts**, hta.org. Recommended books about mandala making: *World Mandalas: 100 New Designs for Colouring and Meditation*, by Madonna Gauding (Godsfield Press, 2005); *The Mandala Book: Patterns of the Universe*, by Lori Bailey Cunningham (Sterling, 2010); *Healing Mandalas: 30 Inspiring Meditations to Soothe Your Mind, Body and Soul*, by Lisa Tenzin-Dolma (Duncan Baird, 2008)

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