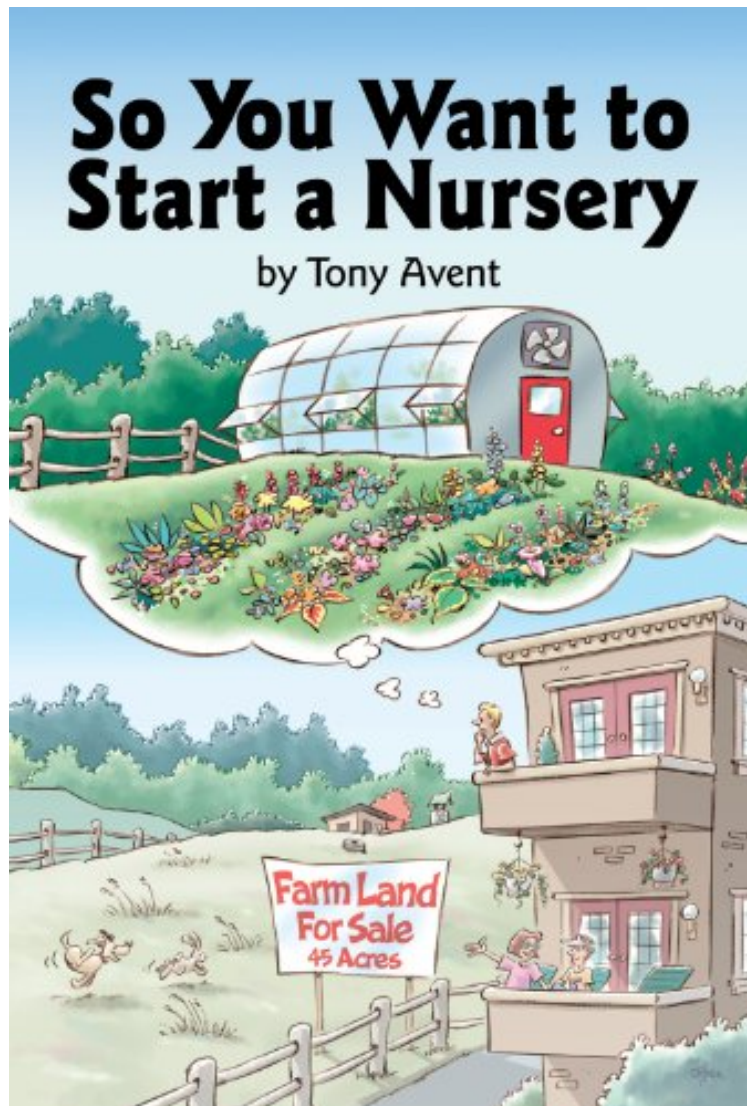


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## So You Want to Start a Nursery

Tony Avent

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**Tony Avent : So You Want to Start a Nursery** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised So You Want to Start a Nursery:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Read instructions before starting an orchard!By trishaaSo You Want to Start a Nursery is a must read for any one who has that little idea niggling at the back of their brain that a nursery might be the thing to bring a little extra cash. Don't think for a minute that you can just stick any old fruit trees into the ground and soon you will have mega money flowing in. WRONG!This book is an eye opener in that you have to find the right area on your property, find out what nutrients your soil needs, research the type of trees are suitable for your area, what kind of fertilizers to use (whether you want to organic or not), what kind of pest control you want to use and

when and how often to spray, and one of the most important items is learning how to prune your particular kind of tree. Apple, peach, pear and plum are all different. Also, and not a must, is available water for irrigation. While the trees are small and you don't have too many, buckets with holes drilled in the bottom can be used but you will need to figure out something else if you decide to have very many trees and nice big healthy fruit. This little book goes through all phases and is an eye opener for the budding (no pun intended) fruit tree farmer. It has good sound advice and is a nice addition to your gardening library. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I've never been so pleasantly surprised by my own ignorance until I read this book. By CustomerChock full of information and should be required reading for anyone considering the nursery business. Although thorough enough for serious or large scale nurseries, the wisdoms so generously shared in this book are useful, and sometimes applicable to even the smallest backyard nursery. If you are even contemplating starting a nursery, of any size, the best business decision you'll make will be reading this book cover to cover with high lighters in hand. I learned so much from this book, I firmly believe it will pay for itself over and over: by helping me prevent common potential oversights and mistakes, with time, money and heart ache saving advice, and tips to improve, promote and prosper my business. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A straight-shooting guide for nursery start-ups. By Gen of North Coast Gardening. Tony Avent owns Plant Delights Nursery, known for its sometimes offensive but always memorable plant catalogs, and the wild selection of unusual plants. Tony's brash, honest, and a straight shooter. If you want to be coddled and told how easy it all will be, look elsewhere as that's not Tony's style. But I laughed out loud nearly every page from his biting sarcastic wit and found myself nodding my head as we walked me through the many pitfalls in operating your own nursery, and his reasoning in choosing certain ways to operate over others. The general feeling I get from reading is that if you can make it through this book with your desire to own a nursery intact, then you might just have what it takes to actually operate one. Even if you're just curious about what it's like to own a nursery, like I was, it's an engaging read.

When Avent announced that he was quitting his job to build a specialty nursery, his former horticulture professor begged his student to reconsider, telling him he couldn't possibly make a profit "without doing something illegal." More than ten years and 20 nursery catalogs later, Avent owns a thriving national business with nearly 30 employees. He wrote *So You Want to Start a Nursery* to debunk myths about the ornamental-plants nursery business and what it takes to succeed, whether you're a backyard hobbyist or a wholesale grower. (And he still has a clean arrest record.) Assuming that the reader has some basic knowledge about how plants are grown, Avent focuses on the business and planning concerns of the nursery owner. While recounting humorous stories of his baptism by fire as a beginning nurseryman, Avent also provides a primer on the nursery industry as a whole, with discussions of the merits and disadvantages of retail, wholesale, mail-order, and liner operations, to name just a few. Readers of this book will obtain the tools they need to make a business plan of their own. This book is a must-read for horticulture students, industry insiders, and advanced gardeners who dream of turning their passion for plants into a job they love.