



The Fruits of Natural Advantage

*Making the Industrial
Countryside in California*

STEVEN STOLL

The Fruits Of Natural Advantage Making The Industrial Countryside In California

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The Fruits Of Natural Advantage Making The Industrial Countryside In California:

The Fruits of Natural Advantage Steven Stoll, 1998-11-01 The once arid valleys and isolated coastal plains of California are today the center of fruit production in the United States Steven Stoll explains how a class of capitalist farmers made California the nation's leading producer of fruit and created the first industrial countryside in America This brilliant portrayal of California from 1880 to 1930 traces the origins evolution and implications of the fruit industry while providing a window through which to view the entire history of California Stoll shows how California growers assembled chemicals corporations and political influence to bring the most perishable products from the most distant state to the great urban markets of North America But what began as a compromise between a beneficent environment and intensive cultivation ultimately became threatening to the soil and exploitative of the people who worked it Invoking history economics sociology agriculture and environmental studies Stoll traces the often tragic repercussions of fruit farming and shows how central this story is to the development of the industrial countryside in the twentieth century

The Defoliation of America Amy Marie Hay, 2021-12-14 In *The Defoliation of America* Amy M Hay profiles the attitudes understandings and motivations of grassroots activists who rose to fight the use of phenoxy herbicides commonly known as the Agent Orange chemicals in various aspects of American life during the post WWII era First introduced in 1946 these chemicals mimic hormones in broadleaf plants causing them to essentially grow to death while grass grains and other monocots remain unaffected By the 1950s millions of pounds of chemicals were produced annually for use in brush control weed eradication other agricultural applications and forest management The herbicides allowed suburban lawns to take root and become iconic symbols of success in American life The production and application of phenoxy defoliants continued to skyrocket in subsequent years encouraged by market forces and unimpeded by regulatory oversight By the late 1950s however pockets of skepticism and resistance had begun to appear The trend picked up steam after 1962 when Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* directed mainstream attention to the harm modern chemicals were causing in the natural world But it wasn't until the Vietnam War when nearly 40 million gallons of Agent Orange and related herbicides were sprayed to clear the canopy and destroy crops in Southeast Asia that the long term damage associated with this group of chemicals began to attract widespread attention and alarm Using a wide array of sources and an interdisciplinary approach *The Defoliation of America* is organized in three parts Part 1 1945-70 examines the development use and responses to the new chemicals used to control weeds and remove jungle growth As the herbicides became militarized critics increasingly expressed concerns about defoliation in protests over US imperialism in Southeast Asia Part 2 1965-85 profiles three different women who influenced by Rachel Carson challenged the uses of the herbicides in the American West affecting US chemical policy and regulations in the process Part 3 1970-95 revisits the impact and legacies of defoliant use after the Vietnam War From countercultural containment and Nixon's declaration of the War on Drugs to the toxic effects on American and Vietnamese veterans civilians and their children it became increasingly obvious

that American herbicides damaged far more than forest canopies With sensitivity to the role gender played in these various protests Hay s study of the scientists health and environmental activists and veterans who fought US chemical regulatory policies and practices reveals the mechanisms obligations and constraints of state and scientific authority in midcentury America Hay also shows how these disparate and mostly forgotten citizen groups challenged the political consensus and were able to shift government and industry narratives of chemical safety

The Georgia Peach William Thomas Okie,2016-11-22 Imprinted on license plates plastered on billboards stamped on the tail side of the state quarter and inscribed on the state map the peach is easily Georgia s most visible symbol Yet *Prunus persica* itself is surprisingly rare in Georgia and it has never been central to the southern agricultural economy Why then have southerners and Georgians in particular clung to the fruit The Georgia Peach Culture Agriculture and Environment in the American South shows that the peach emerged as a viable commodity at a moment when the South was desperate for a reputation makeover This agricultural success made the fruit an enduring cultural icon despite the increasing difficulties of growing it A delectable contribution to the renaissance in food writing The Georgia Peach will be of great interest to connoisseurs of food southern environmental rural and agricultural history

Empires of Food Andrew Rimas,Evan D. G. Fraser,2010-09-02 For thousands of years we have grown cooked and traded food and over that time much has changed Where once we subsisted on gritty bland grains we now enjoy culinary creations and epicurean delights made with vegetables from the New World fish trawled from the deep sea and flavoured with spices from the Orient But how did we make that change from eating for survival to the innovations of modern cuisine How has food helped to shape our culture And what will happen when global warming and peak oil have their inevitable effect on agriculture *Empires of Food* is an authoritative exploration of the innumerable ways that food has changed the course of history The earliest cities after all were founded on the creation and exchange of food surpluses and since then trade routes of ever greater sophistication have developed We ve built complex societies by shunting corn and wheat and rice along rivers up deforested hillsides and into the stockpots of history But we cannot go on forever As Evan D G Fraser and Andrew Rimas compellingly show the abundance that we all enjoy comes at a price and unless we think of a more sustainable way to grow eat and enjoy food we may find that our civilization reaches its best before date

Southern California Quarterly ,1999

Garden Variety John Hoenig,2017-11-21 Chopped in salads scooped up in salsa slathered on pizza and pasta squeezed onto burgers and fries and filling aisles with roma cherry beefsteak on the vine and heirloom where would American food fast and slow high and low be without the tomato The tomato represents the best and worst of American cuisine though the plastic looking corporate tomato is the hallmark of industrial agriculture the tomato s history also encompasses farmers markets and home gardens *Garden Variety* illuminates American culinary culture from 1800 to the present challenging a simple story of mass produced homogeneity and demonstrating the persistence of diverse food cultures throughout modern America John Hoenig explores the path by which over the last two centuries the

tomato went from a rare seasonal crop to America's favorite vegetable. He pays particular attention to the noncorporate tomato. During the twentieth century as food production, processing and distribution became increasingly centralized, the tomato remained king of the vegetable garden and in recent years has become the centerpiece of alternative food cultures. Reading seed catalogs, menus and cookbooks and following the efforts of cooks and housewives to find new ways to prepare and preserve tomatoes, Hoenig challenges the extent to which branding, advertising and marketing dominated twentieth-century American life. He emphasizes the importance of tomatoes to numerous immigrant groups and their influence on the development of American food cultures. *Garden Variety* highlights the limits on corporations' ability to shape what we eat, inviting us to rethink the history of our foodways and to take the opportunity to expand the palate of American cuisine.

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Civic Agriculture Thomas A. Lyson, 2004 A engaging analysis of food production in the United States emphasizing that sustainable agricultural development is important to community health **History of Science in America, News and**

Views, 2002 **The Writers Directory**, 2013 *The Fall and Rise of the Wetlands of California's Great Central Valley*

Philip Frank Garone, 2006 *The Great Delusion* Steven Stoll, 2008-09-02 Prologue Double the economy A philosophical

machine Paradise materialized Utopia means no place Seven billion billionaires [The John Steinbeck Bibliography](#) Michael

J. Meyer, 2008-09-05 John Steinbeck continues to be a focus of academic study and the source of interest to readers around the globe. Each year new articles and books are written about him, examining the themes of his works and his impact on

literature. This bibliography compiles Steinbeck material. *Transforming the Central Valley* Linda Lorraine Nash, 2000

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America, History and Life, 2001 Provides historical coverage of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present. Includes information abstracted from over 2,000 journals published worldwide.

Embracing the Beat of Phrase: An Mental Symphony within **The Fruits Of Natural Advantage Making The Industrial Countryside In California**

In a global taken by displays and the ceaseless chatter of instantaneous communication, the melodic beauty and emotional symphony developed by the written term frequently disappear in to the back ground, eclipsed by the constant sound and interruptions that permeate our lives. But, set within the pages of **The Fruits Of Natural Advantage Making The Industrial Countryside In California** a stunning fictional value filled with organic thoughts, lies an immersive symphony waiting to be embraced. Constructed by a masterful composer of language, that charming masterpiece conducts readers on a mental journey, skillfully unraveling the concealed tunes and profound impact resonating within each cautiously constructed phrase. Within the depths of this moving assessment, we will investigate the book is key harmonies, analyze its enthralling writing model, and submit ourselves to the profound resonance that echoes in the depths of readers souls.

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