Review - Human Issues in Horticulture: A Bibliography

It is a comfort to see the present interest in the environment and the ways that nature can impact our health and wellbeing. A current search of the literature will find an increasing number of studies from a wide range of fields. Previously, finding information if at all possible, was difficult and time consuming. Diana Farmer, in Human Issues In Horticulture: A Bibliography, has completed a monumental task of gathering a vast amount of resources in this topic area. Her compilation is not focused on Journal articles, as one would find in an academic library, but includes all the rest. She provides a list of books that provide information from peripheral disciplines supporting the benefits of nature based therapy. There is a list of pamphlets which are rarely assembled in a cohesive collection. The group of curriculums demonstrates various efforts at organizing this knowledge for teaching purposes. The inclusion of dissertations and theses provides thorough treatments of variations on the theme, and are typically difficult to find. There is also a chapter highlighting various sources of media information. The inclusion of periodicals lists publications which print similarly themed material and offers a quick guide to check on new sources of information. For the serious researcher or the person who is looking to explore the foundations of human issues in horticulture, this will prove to be a valuable aid in their quest.

This bibliography has assembled many important and hard to find sources of information regarding the people-plant relationship. This collection is a great complement to academic journals and a wonderful open-access gift to those interested in the field.

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