

NOTEBOOK

Peak Interest

A NEW BOOK SHEDS LIGHT ON PLANTSMAN DAVID CULP'S APPROACH TO YEAR-ROUND GARDENING. IN A NUTSHELL: ENJOY IT ALL, ALWAYS.

IN HIS FIRST book, *The Layered Garden: Design Lessons for Year-Round Beauty from Brandywine Cottage* (Timber Press, 2012), renowned hellebore hybridizer and galanthus fanatic David Culp sends the message, with the help of writer Adam Levine and photographer Rob Cardillo, that gardens

can delight all year long. Culp is a proponent of "layering," an approach that uses succession planting as its starting point. As he puts it, "More than just making sure one blooming plant follows another, layering is the art of creating a series of peak garden moments." Culp addresses such micro issues as repelling

deer as well as the broader considerations of seasonal light and color. Not everyone will be willing to change out container plantings six times a year, as Culp does, but most of us will come away with a new understanding of how to engage more deeply with our outdoor havens. —Lise Funderburg

Pots don't have to be pots, says David Culp, who drilled holes into this wood block and filled them with echeveria.

ROB CARDILLO