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## **Dani Baker of Wellesley Island Awarded**

## **Silver Laurel Medal of Achievement**

**Wellesley Island, New York** – Dani Baker of Wellesley Island was recently awarded the Silver Laurel Medal of Achievement for her book, *The* *Home-Scale Forest Garden: How to Plan, Plant, and Tend a Resilient Edible Landscape*. The book was recognized in the Writing: Book (Technical Reference) category for the 2023 Media Awards presented by [GardenComm](https://gardencomm.org/).

Baker states, “I was surprised and delighted to hear about this honor. I credit the support I received from my publisher, Chelsea Green, for helping to make my book as good as it became.”

Since the 1980s, this awards program has nationally recognized individuals and companies who have achieved the highest levels of talent and professionalism in garden communications. The 2023 competition had 121 entries in 39 categories, with recipients of the Silver Medal representing the best in their category. Baker will advance to compete for the Gold Medal next.

Baker’s 2022 book provides a manual for aspiring forest gardeners to kickstart their own edible landscape. Modeled after a forest edge, an edible forest is an intentional planting of diverse perennial food plants. It is comprised of vertical layers, including groundcovers, shrubs and trees, each populated with food-producing and nutrient-supporting plants. Over time, the food forest becomes self-sustaining, so that as the human labor required to maintain the garden diminishes, the bounty of the harvest grows.

In 2013, Baker began implementing this model on a half-acre plot, and three years later expanded the garden to a full acre. Visit [enchantededibleforest.com](https://www.enchantededibleforest.com/) to book a tour of the Enchanted Edible Forest, schedule a U-Pick appointment (honeyberries are ripe!), or find out where to purchase a copy of *The* *Home-Scale Forest Garden: How to Plan, Plant, and Tend a Resilient Edible Landscape*.

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