

# Gardeners are getting restless

At this date "the players are getting restless in the wings" to begin gardening. By this time you've probably thumbed through the new garden catalogs, placed an order for some alluring seed and resent every week's existence until you can get started.

For new people in the area I want to remind them that we aren't in a "safe cycle" for general outdoor gardening until the third week in May. Even then you should be alert to the possibility of a late frost. So don't be shy about covering new seedlings if the weather dips. Nature may get even with us for our unusual winter.

Lots of people get a kick out of the "two-cup system." With a medium size nail, poke three or four holes in the bottom of a foam cup, turn it right side up, place one layer of nose tissue over the holes, fill with a sterile medium soil to 1/2" from the top. Poke in your seeds (shallow for small seeds and 1/2" deep for the larger seeds). Place a transparent plastic cup over the top and there you have a small greenhouse.



down to earth  
**Alice Burlingame**

**WATCH FOR THE green sprouts** and then remove the transparent top for the air to circulate. Do not place your cup in the hot sun, just give the seedling cup light.

This project would be ideal for visiting small guests or classroom participation. Yes, and seniors would glory in carrying out such a project for plants to share even though they may not be active gardeners.

Gardening is sort of like taking a cake. On the shelf you have items to be used for successful results. As you get bitten by the joy of gardening you accumulate materials to make your garden tasks easier. Among those is horticultural perlite, a good ingredient. It is chemically inert and possesses a neutral PH. It is sterile, doesn't have weed seeds or insects. You will find that it will eliminate soil crusting and compacting. It will hold water by retention. Your plants will have denser roots.

Another enlightener to pass on. This idea would ring a bell for our many summer-home gardeners in the north. The idea comes from Tucson where the land is arid.

Dig a trench and build up all around the planned plant bed. The soil within the bed is improved with a mix of compost, manure (if you can get it) and fertilizer.

Agricultural gypsum or soil sulfur can be added to combat alkalinity. Probably you would find yourself a constant begger, "I see you have some nice looking dark, rich soil. Would you have some extra I can have in a plastic bag?"

I tell you, these gardeners are a bold lot.

grow if the soil is acid, less than 6.5. But with lettuce grown in soil of a PH of 7-7.7 alkaline the results are abundant.

**IF YOUR SOIL** shows a reading of 6.5 (average) you might find that some lime scattered around the plantings of lettuce would give a larger production. Try it.

At the Royal Horticultural Show in England growers learned they would have abundant lettuce if they checked the PH of their soil.

Lettuce hardly breaks the ground to

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## Noted English psychic makes American debut

Andreas Vasilou, a noted English psychic, makes his American debut in Detroit this weekend.

He will be featured on 'Kelly and Company' tomorrow morning, and will give a public demonstration of his

skills at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow night in the Southfield Sheraton Hotel.

During the weekend he is sponsored by Michigan Metaphysical Society for workshops on psychic development and healing, and has agreed to give a limited

number of private readings. Inquiries on Vasilou's workshops and private sessions will be taken by calling Sol Lewis, director of the society at 358-8238.

One of Vasilou's hosts for the time is here is Heather Alexander, a Bloomfield Hills resident and a psychic healer who met Vasilou in England, their native country.

Vasilou was trained in every aspect of clairvoyance at Spiritualist Association

of Belgrave Square and the Psychical School of Studies.

"These centers are world famous for integrity and honorable activities and are the most highly regarded metaphysical schools in London," Alexander said. "He very soon became a star in these circles because of his extraordinary talents. He is acknowledged now as the leading light in Europe and the Middle East in his field."



Andreas Vasilou

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