

# Bring the whole garden indoors

Soon it will be time to get out in the garden to plant your crops for a summer's worth of fine eating and delectable surprises. It is always fun to experiment with new ideas, so here is one for you: Zucchini as an indoor plant? It does sound preposterous, but what fun. Other plants that will adapt well to this idea are rhubarb, cucumbers, beans, eggplant — just use your imagination.

The secret is to make the plants portable. Vegetables and fruits grow in tubs and pots with grace and produce good crops.

Let your special plants grow to full splendor outdoors, then roll them indoors for four to six weeks and give them the best indoor light available.

Of course, they'll turn back into garden vegetables when it's all over, but you will have had weeks of fun and conversation with the wild "indoor" plants.

Summertime means relaxing and fun, so try this: For zucchini, set a square or round tile at least 15 inches deep on a roll-around tray with a layer of pebbles beneath. Keep the new plant outdoors, and when it reaches its leaf-prime, roll it indoors to your sunniest window.

Plant rhubarb in a redwood tub after giving the plants a good garden start before moving them indoors.

Eggplant and nasturtiums combined in a wooden container will elicit many "oohs" and "aahs." To begin, transplant eggplant seedlings and sow nasturtium seeds.

When cucumber vines are trained up a stake in a tub, you can enjoy the foliage from this plant. Don't expect a crop of cukes from this one.

One other idea: Salad greens can be grown in an old wicker bread or clothes basket that you have lined with plastic. Stuff it with seeds of lettuce, dandelion and chives and bring it indoors when the plants are fully grown.

From Burpee come two new basil. Purple Ruffles is a 1987 All-American winner and will be a wonderful addition either to an herb garden or mixed with your annuals or perennials. This plant has large, heavily ruffled and fringed purple-black leaves with pinkish-purple flowers.

The leaves can be used for herb vinegars and as a garnish. The height is 18-24 inches with approximately the same spread. It is best to start this plant early indoors and then transplant it, as it tends to germinate and grow more slowly than others.

Green Ruffles Basil, another Burpee exclusive, is an important new plant. The fragrant, ornamental leaves are rich green, serrated and wrinkled. The flavor is more subtle than sweet basil and can be used sparingly in a green tossed salad. It can also be used in stews and soups and as a garnish.

Green Bouquet Basil is a good choice to use either fresh or dried. This bushy plant is appropriate for edging and borders. It is compact, making it ideal for growing in pots. It grows 12 inches



down to  
earth  
Alice  
Burlingame

high with miniature, full-flavored leaves 1/4 to 1/2 inches long.

Last, but certainly not least, sweet basil is the traditional, indispensable, culinary basil. It is a sturdy, upright plant with much flavor, and is a favorite in pesto, a wonderful mixture of basil, garlic, olive oil and parmesan cheese.

## Speaking on holy relics

Mark McPherson, the man from Deadalos, will give a program, "Holy Relics, Sacred Symbols" at 8 p.m. Saturday at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 651 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills.

Some of the questions he will be considering are: Was the biblical Ark of the Covenant sought by Indiana Jones in the film, "Raiders of the Lost Ark" actually sought by Hitler's forces in 1939; did the his-

torical King Arthur of Britain send his knightly retinue on a quest for the Holy Grail; and what were the dark powers held by 45 emperors throughout history who possessed the super used at the crucifixion of Jesus Christ?

Tickets for the program, \$10 each, will be available at the Church from 7 p.m. on. To reserve, call 675-8692. Limited seating.



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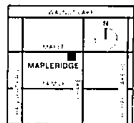
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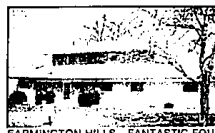
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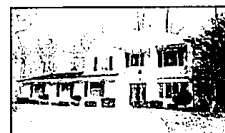
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