

Between the tax bite and inflation the cost of living is going to slim down two things: our pocketbooks and our waistlines.

It's going to be a big year for vegetable gardening. Already there are over 80 million gardeners in America and a good share of them will be growing vegetables.

If you have no backyard to grow crops in, then resort to rooftop farming, balcony gar-

dening, or patio culture. Grow plants in pots, tubs or buckets.

The number one vegetable is tomato. Pixie is a fast growing hybrid, ripening early. Grows to about 18 inches high and bears heavy crops of golf-ball size fruits.

Presto is another small fruited hybrid. It produces quantities of 1½ inch fruit on its small vines - and over a long season. The flavor of Presto is excellent and we recommend it for the patio, tubs or even in window boxes.

Red Cherry is a bright red, and grows the size of oxbart cherries.

Red Pear (Pearshaped) is one-inch in diameter and sweet flavored. Yellow pear has tiny yellow fruit and a delicate flavor. Another novelty is Yellow Plum.

Start your own plants in peat pots, ice cream cups, clay pots, fertile-cubes or any of the many seed starting containers on the market. Buy yourself a bag of ready-mixed "soilless" soils, ideal for starting seed.

Seed needs warmth for germination - 75 to 80 degrees F. After they are up, move to a bright window and in a cooler temperature.

And don't forget the staminate flowers such as Moreton Hybrid, Big Boy, Jet Star, Glamour, Manalucie, Heinz 1350, Ponderosa, to name a few.

GREEN THUMB CLINIC: A reader writes: "Last summer I saw a hedge of a flowering plant which was called Joseph's Coat. It was very striking. Please tell me something about it."

Answer: What you saw was Amaranthus, or Joseph's Coat. It's one of the most spectacular plants you can grow; few things can beat its brilliant foliage. Leaves at the base are rich, maroon-red, turning to a bright cerise-red above.

Plants grow three feet tall, but if you want to keep them shorter and more compact, pinch the tips back.



MARIGOLDS ARE HIGH on the list of most popular flowers grown in America's home gardens. This variety is Yellow Climax, a tall growing hybrid with massive flowers. Crockerjok, Jubilee Mixed Colors, and Sunset Giants are other good home garden varieties.

Marigolds Give Splash Of Color

No garden flower is less trouble to grow, has a longer period of bloom, or has more decorative value - both inside and outside the house - than the marigold.

That's a bold claim to make, but it is the reason why this tough, versatile plant has pulled itself up from relative obscurity 50 years ago to become one of the most popular flowers in present-day home gardens.

Marigolds appeal to everyone who enjoys vivid splashes of color, and who appreciates the time- and labor-saving qualities of a plant that performs well in a dry season as well as in a wet one.

Marigolds come in two kinds - the dwarf French, and the tall American (or African).

The French marigolds (Tagetes patula) are earliest to bloom, and range in colors from bright yellow to rusty red. Some bloom within six weeks of planting the seed,

Mouth-Watering Melons Pride Of The Gardener

Why are many new gardeners so conservative about the kinds of vegetables they grow?

Lettuce, beans and tomatoes are great for general use, but nothing in the garden can quite match the pride and pleasure you'll feel in growing your first big, juicy mouth-watering melons.

Melon seed is easy-to-handle, germinates rapidly if planted after all danger of frost, and as the vines grow fast during the hot, humid days of summer, you'll find yourself drawn to the garden each evening to admire the progress of your melon vines.

Melon growing really is very easy, but many beginner gardeners are discouraged because of the space they occupy.

What few people seem to realize is that melons will grow happily up trellis, and the heavy, ripening melons can be supported by "slings" of cloth to occupy no more space in the garden than tomato plants.

Melons have some definite needs, of course. They like a loose, crumbly, fertile soil and full sun for worthwhile results. But apart from these few needs they will look after themselves.

Mulching is a big help to melons, since their roots need plenty of moisture and warmth.

A black plastic mulch has been found best for melons since it not only keeps the ground warm and moist, but also discourages weeds.

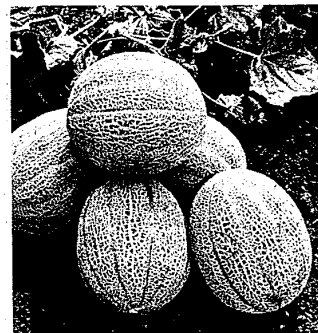
Any seed catalog or seed display will offer a tempting

selection of fine melon varieties, but cantaloupes will be in greatest supply.

Pride of Wisconsin is a fine, old-fashioned melon that fresh-fruit stands every year do a roaring business with. A dollar and more per melon is what many people will pay to sample its delicious sweet orange flesh, yet a packet of seeds costing

a fraction less will plant dozens of vines - each vine capable of yielding eight or more luscious fruit.

Of course every seed company offers its own favorite variety of melon, and whatever your preference, it's fun to experiment each year with something different until you find your own personal favorite.



HALE'S BEST MELON, shown above, has very good quality and thick, sweet orange flesh. Honey Rocks, Samson Hybrid and Pride of Wisconsin are other good choices for the home garden.

TOILET LEAKING?

INSTALL THE ORIGINAL **korky**

THE ONLY ONE-PIECE FLAPPER TANK BALL. Fits all conventional flush valves. Perfect seal ends drip-drip of water. Over 10 million in use. Get Korky at plumbing and hardware stores. Pat. No. 3,747,406.

Manufactured by **LAVELLE RUBBER CO.** Chicago 60622

ONLY \$1.49

Westland GARDEN CENTER and NURSERY

LARGE SELECTION OF SHADE AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

FROM 1995 UP TO \$349.95

- Norway Maples
- Red Maples
- Crimson King Maple
- Mountain Ash
- Little Leaf Linden
- Sugar Maple
- Pin Oak
- Moraine Locust

- Sweet Gum
- Green Ash
- Flowering Crab
- Dogwood
- Magnolia
- Purple Leaf Plum
- Flowering Cherry
- Red Buds

Large Selection of Evergreens and Flowering Shrubs.

Rhododendron Azalea

LANDSCAPE DESIGN
LANDSCAPING
PATIOS AND DECKS

If planning the landscape design for your home presents a problem, just bring in the dimensions of the area and we will design a layout for you at no charge. Bring in a picture if you have one.

32593 CHERRY HILL
WESTLAND • 721 3610

SUPERIOR BUILDING COMPANY

OFFERS YOU QUALITY WORK AT A REASONABLE PRICE!!

NO MIDDLEMAN • DEAL DIRECT WITH THE BUILDER!

Kitchens, that are tastefully designed, with the latest in built-in appliances, micro-wave ovens, trash mashers, black glass hoods, counter-savers and featuring all Formica cabinets

Room additions, that blend in with your home or with doorways to give you that indoor-outdoor look

Call Us for all your Remodeling Needs

- DORMERS
- ATTICS
- RECREATION ROOMS
- ROOFS
- PORCHES
- STORM WINDOWS
- BATH ROOMS
- HEATING
- AWNINGS

SAVE \$1000 ON EITHER AN ADDITION OR DORMER WE BUILD THE OUTSIDE -- YOU FINISH THE INSIDE

CALL 533-9610

SUPERIOR BUILDING CO.

25890 SIX MILE ROAD
(Just West of Beech Daly)

Green-up your Winter Wilted lawn the easy way

Seed, Stop Crabgrass and Fertilize...

Get NEW SEED off to a GOOD START and STOP CRABGRASS in one easy application.

Now's the time to FERTILIZE your lawn and STOP CRABGRASS... in one EASY application.

ONLY \$11.95

5,000 sq. ft.

ONLY \$7.95

2,500 sq. ft.

ONLY \$13.95

5,000 Sq. Ft.

FREE

Clip here to receive a FREE Greenfield product RIGHT!

ONLY \$10.95

10,000 Sq. Ft. \$8.95
15,000 Sq. Ft. \$12.45

Greenfield...ask somebody who knows!

Elanco guarantees you will be satisfied with the performance of any Greenfield product, when used as directed, or your money back. Simply send evidence of purchase to: Elanco Products Company, A Division of Eli Lilly & Company, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206, U.S.A.

LIVONIA
H & R HARDWARE
27430 Joy Rd., 421-5181

BURTON HOLLOW HARDWARE
17162 Farmington Rd., 261-9920

DEARBORN HEIGHTS
ENGLISH GARDENS
22850 Ford Rd., 278-4433

HAROLD THOMAS NURSERY
14925 Middlebelt Rd., 421-2888

REID GARDEN & LAWN CENTER, INC.
29255 Southfield Rd., 352-5858

WESTLAND
TERRACE GARDENS, INC.
28616 Warren Rd., 421-2959

LIVONIA HARDWARE
33533 5 Mile Rd., 422-1155

RAHILL NURSERY Sales
30720 Orchard Lake Rd., 626-6421

PLYMOUTH
SAXTON GARDEN CENTER
597 W. Ann Arbor Trail, GL 3-6250