

Vegetable Gardens Need Tender Loving Care

If you are of the millions of Americans who will plant vegetables this year to help reduce the food bill, you should know that the weeks ahead can be crucial in assuring a bountiful harvest.



TOMATOES ARE the most popular home-grown vegetable. Tender loving care during their development pays off with a more bountiful yield.

The successful gardener gives his plot continual loving care and attention because the moment a vegetable plant stops growing, it is in serious trouble. Should your vegetable garden appear to slow down, consider these tips to see if you are following through on some basic fundamentals.

Be certain watering is done gently, thoroughly, and at regular intervals. Vegetables won't grow well without plenty of moisture.

As an aid in judging watering, place an empty tin can in the garden and turn on the water. Let it run until the can contains about one inch

of water—that's the sign that dousing has been adequate. The best time to water vegetables is late in the afternoon or early evening. The foliage should have time to dry before dark to prevent fungus growth.

During days of excessive heat, you can help your vegetables resist high temperatures by lightly spreading peat moss or green lawn clippings along the rows. The two men analyzed previously occupied homes in Las Vegas which had been sold.

Of these, 107 had swimming pools and 221 did not. The study showed that the pool had added \$5,044 to the resale value of the home.

Take note that only certain chemicals can be used on certain vegetables and such products have been cleared for use by the Food and Drug Administration as well as having passed extensive laboratory and field tests conducted by the manufacturer.

You will need more than a single application for full protection. In fact, you should continue to spray, even when plants are well-established.

A good practice is to spray or dust about every 10 days. Allow, of course, for the proper interval between the last preventive application and the picking of the crop for eating.

Most home gardeners neglect to fertilize their vegetable patch. Sometimes you can get by without fertilization in a first-year garden, but it is best to plan on providing light and frequent feeding.

Some of the popular plant foods come in easy-to-handle pellet or liquid form. If you prefer to place manure or solid fertilizer in your garden, dig a shallow furrow a few inches from the vegetable rows.

Cover and tamp down so the fertilizer won't run off as you water.

Your garden will produce a better crop if you give your plants a good feeding when they are about a third grown. Hoe regularly and use a mulch to keep the weeds down. Weeds take nutrients and water away from your vegetable plants and should be eliminated as soon as they appear.

If you have a large garden, a chemical herbicide will help you reduce the weeding chore.

Study the directions and apply with care as a carelessly applied herbicide will damage plants.

If you follow sound and proven practices in watering, insect and weed control, and fertilize regularly, your vegetable garden will be a worthwhile support for the family budget.

Besides, growing vegetables can be fun for the entire family.

And what tastes better than a home-grown vegetable?

Study Shows Pools Add To Home Resale Value

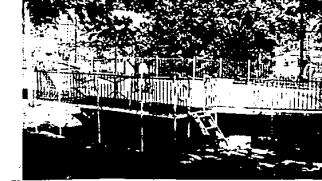
A recent study by two University of Nevada economists professors in Las Vegas revealed that a home swimming pool may fully recover its initial cost and continue to appreciate in value each year, adding to the price of the home if sold.

Dr. Lorne H. Seidman, chairman of the department of finance, and Dr. Bernard Malamud, an associate professor of economics, conducted the study.

Based on complicated economic models they had formulated and computerized, the two men analyzed 221 previously occupied homes in Las Vegas which had been sold.

The idea for the study first began when Dr. Seidman looked at his own new backyard pool and wondered if it were all for fun, or if it might also be a sound investment as well.

"I'd have to conclude," he said, "that pools are to swim in, not to invest in. But at least I think I'll get my money back on mine."



ABOVE GROUND POOLS are responsible, in part, for the boom in home pool installations.

How To Calculate Fertilizer Amount

EAST LANSING
Calculating the rate of fertilizer application for a home vegetable garden is not as difficult as it sounds, say Michigan State University horticulturists.

Commercial fertilizers, they explain, are labeled to show the content of nitrogen, available phosphate, and water-soluble potash. A 5-20-20 fertilizer contains five per cent nitrogen, 20 per cent

termining how many square feet are to be covered, 2) dividing the number of square feet to be covered by 1,000, and 3) multiplying the answer in number two by the number of pounds recommended on the label per 1,000 square feet.

For example, if you need to apply a 5-20-20 fertilizer at the recommended rate of 20 pounds per 1,000 square feet

'Dry Rot' Is Misnomer

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Plants Need Hardening

All plants should be "hardened" before they are transplanted to live outdoors, say Michigan State University horticultural specialists.

Hardening can be accomplished by withholding water, lowering the temperature, and placing the plants outdoors in a protected area during warm days and bringing them in at night.

According to the specialists, most plants will harden sufficiently in two to three weeks.

Extra Plants Bad As Weeds

"Extra garden vegetables can be just as bad as weeds," says Dr. J. Lee Taylor, Michigan State University horticulturist.

"Any plant that is out of place is a weed," explains Taylor. And crowded vegetables are out of place.

He suggests thinning plants when they are small and when the soil is moist, so that pulling does not injure those that are left.

"Turnips, rutabagas, and other root crops should be thinned before their tap-roots become fleshy. Onions and radishes can be left in the ground until those to be thinned are large enough to be eaten.

"It is unwise to sow small seeds far enough apart to permit plants to make their best development," says Taylor. "Thinning is a much better operation."

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