



## Plant rhubarb and asparagus in early spring

By Bill Heschman  
Former Editor of Home Garden Magazine

Is rhubarb a vegetable or a fruit? It grows like a vegetable, we eat the stems like some vegetables, but we serve it like a fruit. All I know is that rhubarb, along with asparagus, is usually found in a corner of the vegetable garden, so I'll call it a vegetable for simplicity's sake.

**SOME PEOPLE** start preparing for the planting of these vegetables the previous fall. They will add peatmoss or manure to the soil and till it in to

allow the area to lie fallow over the winter. Then in spring, additional organic matter (compost, peatmoss or manure) is added to the soil exactly where the plants are to be put in.

Both are planted in the early spring. It would be wise to order the plants early so you will have them on hand at the proper time.

The earlier you plant the better—you don't have to worry about late spring frosts or cool weather.

Let's talk about asparagus first. Dig a trench about 15 inches wide and eight inches deep. This is where you put your organic material. Put it in the trench and mix it well with the soil at the bottom.

Place the plants about 15 to 18 inches apart. The plants you receive will be a crown and roots—no tops.

Be sure to spread out the roots so they will not be matted.

**PLACE** All the plants in the trenches before filling in with soil. The rows should be about three feet apart. For a family of four you'll need 25 plants.

Now start filling the trench. Just cover the crowns. As they start to grow, fill in a little more until the trench is filled.

Don't cut asparagus the first year. Just let the plants grow into fern. The second year you can cut all spears that are as thick as a pencil. Cut for about four weeks.

The third year, and thereafter, you should be able to cut all the spears for about six weeks. Then let the plants go to fern. You must let it grow in the summer to rebuild new roots for next season.

**RHUBARB** is a big producer. Four hills will be ample for a family of four. In fact, I have heard of people growing a single plant in a tub on a patio; they can get one rhubarb pie a month all season.

It, too, is a long-lasting plant and needs proper soil preparation. Dig and enrich a trench just as we do for asparagus. Just cover the crowns with soil, again just like asparagus. If planting in a clump, just put the crowns in a slight depression and cover as it grows.

Another similarity with asparagus is that you should refrain from pulling stalks the first year. Let the plant develop.

When picking, pull the stalks right from the bottom, don't cut the stems. Naturally, as the plant grows, you will pull the outer stalks and let the inner ones continue to grow. Leave

some to allow the plant to rebuild itself for more growth next year.

You only consume the stalks of rhubarb. Never eat the foliage. There are some toxic substances in the leaves that can be harmful. But the stalks are not only edible—they're delicious. Once you taste real fresh rhubarb, you'll never want anything else.

Fresh rhubarb may surprise you with its sweetness. Fresh rhubarb doesn't demand as much sugar when cooking. It can be eaten raw.

We often couple asparagus and rhubarb together for several reasons. First, they are both planted once and will continue to produce for many, many years, coming up from the same plants each season.

This makes them both perennials. Also, because they are both long-lasting perennials, the planting is similar.

Why Pay More! Why Pay More! Why Pay More! Why Pay More! Why Pay More!



in the Building Supplies Dept.

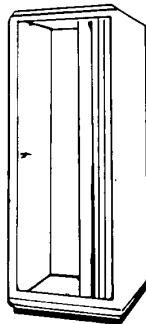


32"x32"  
STEEL BASE

**SHOWER  
STALL**

Easy to install shower  
in your basement or  
garage.  
Our Reg. \$74.99

**\$55<sup>00</sup>**



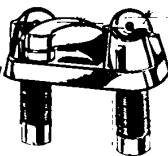
**PLUMBING  
DEPT.**

Price Pfister

**4" LAVATORY  
FAUCET**

Slant housing  
with renewable  
seats No. 04-  
150

Our Reg.  
\$10.99



**\$7<sup>77</sup>**

Price Pfister

**4" LAUNDRY  
FAUCET**

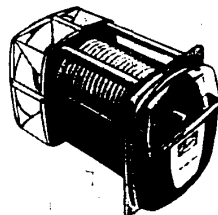


Top mount, chrome  
finish. Also for use in  
bar or utility room. No.  
04-155

Our Reg. \$10.99

**\$7<sup>77</sup>**

PLUMBING DEPT.

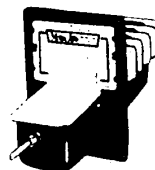


**3000 TURBOFLO  
HUMIDIFIER  
TURBINE TYPE**

Powered and heated where  
necessary.  
Our Reg. \$26.95

**\$19<sup>88</sup>**

CLEARANCE-WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!

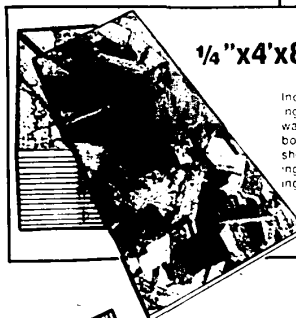


**1300 HUMIDIFIER  
PLATE TYPE**

Fits any furnace.  
Our Reg. \$11.49

**\$8<sup>88</sup>**

CLEARANCE-WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!



**1/4" x 4' x 8' ASPENITE**

Indoor outdoor build-  
ing panels. Strong and  
warp-resistant. Solid  
both sides. Use for wall  
sheathing, roof sheath-  
ing, subflooring, siding,  
etc.

Our Reg. \$5.49  
**\$3<sup>99</sup>**  
sheet



**4'x8'  
OLIVE ASH  
PANELING**

Our Reg. \$7.67

**\$6<sup>49</sup>**  
sheet



**FURRING  
STRIPS**

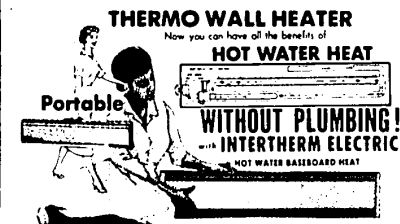
**2x3x7'**  
Our Reg. 74¢

**44¢**  
each

**1x3x8'**  
Our Reg. 49¢

**39¢**  
each

BUILDING SUPPLIES DEPT.



**THERMO WALL HEATER**

Now you can have all the benefits of

**HOT WATER HEAT**

**WITHOUT PLUMBING!**  
with INTERTHERM ELECTRIC  
HOT WATER BASEBOARD HEAT

Built-in thermostat

EP7500  
Our Reg. \$95.97 **\$90<sup>97</sup>**

EP100  
Our Reg. \$99.97 **\$94<sup>97</sup>**

EP1500  
Our Reg. \$106.97 **\$101<sup>97</sup>**

PLUMBING DEPT.

In the Hardware Dept. ...

**RAY-O-VAC BATTERIES**

It's time again to tune up your  
worn out transistor batteries.

**TRANSISTOR BATTERIES**

No. 1604 9-VOLT

Our Reg. 74¢

"C" SIZE-PKG OF 2

#14-2

Our Reg. 62¢

"B" SIZE-PKG OF 2

#13-2

Our Reg. 62¢

**YOUR  
CHOICE:**

**49¢**

Our Reg. 92¢

**69¢**

RAY-O-VAC  
#15-4  
"AA" SIZE  
TRANSISTOR  
BATTERIES

1-volt for  
electronic  
applications

Our Reg. 92¢

**69¢**

PKG. OF 2

RAY-O-VAC  
#15-4  
"AA" SIZE  
TRANSISTOR  
BATTERIES

1-volt for  
electronic  
applications

Our Reg. 92¢

**69¢**

PKG. OF 2



**STANLEY  
WONDER  
BAR**

No. H515

The bar that  
does the job—  
pulls, prys,  
lifts, scrapes.  
Forged tool  
steel.

**\$2<sup>88</sup>**

Our Reg.  
\$3.27



**METAL  
TOOL  
BOX 19"**

Baked enamel fin-  
ish. 10" long, 7 1/2"  
high, 7 1/2" deep.

**\$4<sup>66</sup>**

each

Our Reg. \$7.57

**\$4<sup>66</sup>**

each

HARDWARE DEPT.



**MEIJER  
24 MONTH  
BATTERY**

12 volt  
Heavy duty

Our  
Reg. \$21.88

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**

Meijer also has  
batteries to fit light  
trucks and foreign  
cars at "why pay  
more" low prices

**\$18<sup>88</sup>**