



KITCHEN APPEAL — Vertically striped scrubbable vinyl wallcovering in shades of avocado and pink complements the avocado range and the pink and green floor tile. The white cabinet has avocado trim and the marble table has a painted green metal base. The crisp white wicker chairs and accessories are in the two-color scheme. Even the canisters are vinyl-covered.

The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

Home-grown strawberries: The seed catalogs are rolling in now and the pictures are prettier than ever.

Don't hesitate to try new varieties, but don't go overboard on them. Some of the older varieties are still pretty good. The secret is to not put all your eggs in one basket.

A question I'm often asked is: "What's the best strawberry variety for the home garden?" I wish I could give an answer to this one. What works for one gardener might not be suitable for another.

It depends on the purpose for which the plants are to be grown. Some are good for eating fresh, others are tart but handle better. Some are better for freezing, others extra good for preserves.

Here are some characteristics of a few varieties: For flavor and general home use, try Redglow, Fairfax, Sparkle, Armore, Surecrop, For large size, grow Armore, Catskill, Empire, Robinson and Pocahontas. For high yields, Catskill, Pocahontas, Surecrop and Earliedawn.

Best for freezing, Pocahontas, Surecrop, Sparkle, Midway, Blakemore, Earliedawn. For jams and preserves, Blakemore, Pocahontas and Earliedawn. For poor soil or dry land, Surecrop, Robinson, Premier, Blakemore. Resistance to Red Stele, Surecrop, Redglow, Sparkle and Redchief. Resistance to Verticillium wilt, Catskill, Surecrop, Premier, Robinson, Empire.

Best for resistance to leaf troubles: Fairfax, Premier, Midland, Surecrop, Catskill, Empire. Of course, there are others that will work. When you get a good variety for your garden, go heavy on it.

WATER DOWNSING: Every year we get letters asking us if water dowsing or water witching really works in locating underground water. Dowsing, also called di-

Award To Be Presented

The soil and water conservation award for 1970 will be presented at the annual Oakland County Soil Conservation District dinner to be held at St. Benedict's Church Hall, Pontiac, on Wednesday evening, Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

An election to name two county directors will be held. The terms of Henry Asford, 390 W. Gunn Road, Oakland Township; and James Reid, 5400 Cedar Island Road, White Lake Township have expired. Both have been nominated for reelection.

Others nominated are: Royce Long, 2650 Ford Road, Highland Township; and Robert Ousmanier, 1460 Townsend, Addison Township. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

Sylvan H. Wittwer, director of the Agriculture Experiment Station, Michigan State University, East Lansing will present a slide-talk on the opportunities and challenges for agriculture in 1971.

Tickets for the dinner can be obtained from the SCD Office, 4515 Highland Road, Pontiac. Phone: 673-1555.

Natural Habitat Invites Songbirds And Wildlife

Songbirds and other wildlife have three basic needs for living: food, cover and water, according to Daniel F. Kesseling of the USDA Soil Conservation Service in Wayne County.

It doesn't matter if your lot is small or large, in the city or in the country, the needs are the same. How you supply these needs depends on the size and location of your lot, what you already have available and your own personal choice.

There are numerous ways to provide for these basic needs of wildlife. You may wish to use some man-made devices, such as feeders, birdhouses, nesting shelves, and the like. Or

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