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IN THE DEN -- Here's how to make a den or small living area pretty as a picture: frame it. Painted 2x4's and tied-back cotton draperies in rich reds and browns are effectively combined here as framing for a picturesque setting. The sofa and sill-length curtains are in the same print to provide the perfect backdrop for a cozy nook.

Guidebook On Orchard Diseases

Michigan orchardists can consult a new publication by a Michigan State University plant pathologist when developing their pest and disease control programs this year.

Disease problems affecting tree fruit crops are described in detail in a bulletin by MSU plant pathologist Dr. Alan L. Jones.

The publication contains both black - and - white and color photographs, to help in disease identification. Important aspects of the developmental pattern, or life cycle, of more than 30 diseases of apples, pears, cherries, prunes and peaches are described in the guidebook.

Extension Bulletin 714, "Diseases of Tree Fruits in Michigan," is available at county extension offices and the MSU Bulletin Office, P.O. Box 231, East Lansing, Mich., 48823. Single copies are free of charge to Michigan residents.

The Green Thumb

By GEORGE ABRAHAM

Fruit flies indoors: There are two kinds of troublesome pests indoors right now—the vinegar fruit fly and the fungus gnats.

Fruit flies buzz around the kitchen usually where spoiled fruit is nearby. Ripe bananas, apples, etc., will attract them. The only control is to get rid of the old fruit. These pests do not live on house plants. Those tiny black flies you see buzzing around your head look similar to the fruit fly but are called fungus gnats.

They lay eggs in the soil of your house plants, and the eggs hatch out into tiny worms or larvae. Will these eat the roots of house plants? We seldom pay much attention to these underground pests, although many greenhouse operators find that they can actually check growth of plants if steps aren't taken to stop them.

In the home the aerosol sprays will kill the small black flies buzzing around, but this

gives only temporary control. You have to treat the soil and simplest method is to dust some Seyin on the surface of the soil and water it in.

Or you can use a non-toxic approach and mix up a soapy solution of a good laundry soap (Peis Naphtha) and drench the roots until it soaks into the soil. Works like a charm! Some people save cigarette or cigar butts and mix up a concoction with these. The solution is added to the soil.

APPLES, nature's toothbrush: This has been an exceptionally good year for apples, a fruit as old as mankind itself. There's something to the old expression "an apple a day" because research indicates that the pectin in apples help reduce cholesterol in the bloodstream. Apples contain vitamins A and C, thus aid skin problems and help prevent viral infections.

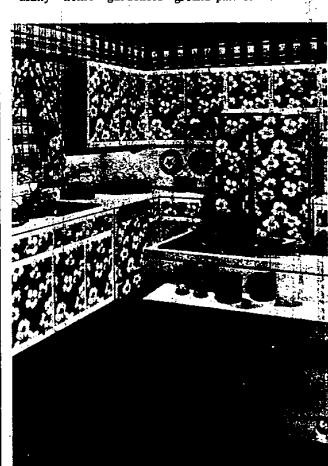
Many home gardeners refuse to plant apple trees because of bugs and blights that bother this fruit. Don't let this discourage you. A few wormy apples are better than no apples at all. Also, apple trees provide us with lots of oxygen, and plenty of shade.

GREEN THUMB CLINIC:

A reader writes: "We want to make a dish garden and would like to know of some wild plants to put in."

Answer: Try some mosses, liverworts, lichens (found on rocks or wood), seedlings of pine, hemlock, juniper, spruce. Also, small ferns, English ivy, moneywort, wintergreen, bearberry.

Many home gardeners



IN THE KITCHEN -- Bright cotton fabrics give the kitchen a touch of springtime all year 'round. Flower - printed cotton on green, white, and black is used for short draperies and decorative panels on cabinet doors, dishwasher, refrigerator, and wall oven.

District To Sell Trees, Shrubs

The Wayne County Soil Conservation District is now taking orders for tree and shrub seedlings for spring planting, according to Wilford Bunyes, chairman of the district board of directors.

"After conducting a highly successful pilot seedling sales program last spring, the district board of directors decided this year to again make seedlings available to area landowners. Last year about 25,000 seedlings were sold by the District. This year the District hopes to make close to 100,000 seedlings available," said Bunyes.

The seedlings are small one to two year old plants and are generally about six to 12 inches tall, depending on the kind of seedling. Several kinds

of evergreen tree seedlings are available, plus a variety of shrub seedlings, according to Bunyes.

The seedlings are not landscape plants but are intended for conservation plantings; such as, wildlife food and cover plantings, hedgerows for wildlife and beautification, windbreaks for wind erosion control, soil erosion control plantings and forestry plantings. Minimum quantities in most cases is 50 seedlings of a single kind of tree or shrub, according to Bunyes.

Chairman Bunyes said that copies of the district's order form for trees can be obtained by writing to, Wayne County Soil Conservation District, P.O. Box 642, Westland, Michigan 48185.

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