

ICED COFFEE CAN BE PREPARED BY TWO METHODS

Feed coffee, one of the favorite warm-weather drinks, can be prepared in two ways.

Which method you use may depend on how much time you have, says Ruth Drotten, instructor in institution administration at Michigan State College.

The coffee can be brewed at regular strength, cooled thoroughly, and cracked ice added just before it is served.

If you're in a hurry, brew the coffee doubly strong and while it is still hot, add plenty of ice to chill it.

Iced coffee, Miss Drotten says, can be served with or without cream. If it is to be sweetened, the sugar should be added before it's chilled so that it will dissolve readily.

The brewing of iced coffee, like any other good coffee, should follow a few general rules that are designed to give a flavorful product. Some of these suggestions are to use a clean coffee pot, measure the coffee and water carefully, always use fresh coffee and never boil the coffee.

Miss Drotten also advises that coffee be stored in a cool, dry place in a tightly covered container. Try to avoid storing coffee near foods with strong odors. Coffee readily absorbs these odors and they can be tasted in the finished brew.

That Surden has been lifted from the amateur by tests which proved that deep stirring of the soil was actually harmful. It disturbed feeding roots which the plants needed, and lost moisture which they could use. Today correct cultivation of a garden is no more difficult than sweeping a floor.

The research scientists, in fact, say that the secret of correct cultivation is to take it easy. Cultivation should begin as soon as the young plants begin to grow.

At this stage, if the soil between plants is stirred it will be found to be full of tiny white grubs, which are weeds beginning to develop.

One easy stroke of a sharp hoe or cultivating tool will destroy scores of them before they have begun to compete with the vegetable plants for available plant food and water.

As long as weeds are killed in infancy, cultivation will be easy, but once they are allowed to begin substantial growth, not only do crops suffer, but work will increase, and the care of the garden may become a chore.

It is seldom necessary to stir the ground deeper than one inch. This is sufficient to kill young weeds without disturbing the roots of the vegetable plants. It also breaks the soil crust, and allows air and water to penetrate readily.

Besides destroying weeds in the space between rows, those which grow in the row itself must be pulled when tiny. This requires hand work, and is always tedious, but if attended to promptly it takes little time, and once the vegetables have become well established, hand weeding will be unnecessary.

Free air circulation in the soil has been proved to be a vital factor in the growth of plants. In properly porous soil, there is a complete change of air to a depth of eight inches every hour. When the soil becomes compacted and crusted on the surface, this exchange is seriously hampered.

Crust formations can be checked by various methods, including the application of mulch, or by growing a living mulch of fescue grasses. But lacking a mulch, frequent shallow cultivation is necessary, especially after every rain.

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Homes and Gardening



Cultivating the garden not only benefits the plants, but gives posture training to the planter.

Best Means Of Cultivation Is To Give Garden A 'Very Close Shave'

No garden technique has been more changed by research scientists than cultivation. It used to be thought that the deeper the soil between plant rows was stirred, the better for growing plants. Tools were devised to sink into the soil, and it took a strong man to use them.

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Plant Radishes Often, Avoid Over Planting

The first radish he harvests thrills the home gardener more than the first robin. Three weeks, more or less, from the time the seed is sown, the radish is ready for eating.

Yet many home gardeners have trouble devising a radish program which avoids the waste that comes when a planting is too large, and only a fraction can be used before the roots turn pithy, and must be thrown away.

The cause of this is the very short season that early radishes remain edible. The earlier they are, the shorter this season, because they are growing fast and quickly pass by the edible stage on their way to the goal of all plant life, the production of seed.

With radishes, as with other crops, you must sow according to what you need. Figure out the number you will use in a week, and estimate that twelve early radishes can be produced in a foot of garden row. Then sow a week's supply of an early variety at a time.

Miscellaneous radishes will be usable for two weeks, so two weeks' supply of them can be sown. The early varieties do not grow well in hot weather.

If you want a supply all summer, sow late, summer variety for that season. Yet, for some reason, in small lots is a good rule for all except winter radishes which take two months to mature and remain good for six weeks. They grow very large, some weighing several pounds.

One way to grow early radishes is to mix them with the seeds of parsley, parsnips, carrots and celeriac, all of which are slow to germinate. No more than a tenth as many radishes as the other seeds should be used. The radishes will germinate quickly, "marking the row" where the other seeds lie which will assist you in cultivating. Be sure to pull and eat the radishes as they mature before they can crowd the slower crops.

Painting Tips

The success of an exterior paint job is about 90 per cent proper preparation and 10 per cent proper application. Here are some of the things to do to the house before painting: Scrape scales or blisters; Prime bare spots; Caulk joints or seams; Fill holes or cracks; Retain loose boards; Replace window putty; Guard plants and shrubbery. Okay, let's paint.

Use good paint - don't be fooled by a bargain price. A finish that is fast becoming popular is the new eggshell or low-lustre. One of its benefits is that it makes a small crack or a hole less noticeable. Another - even greater benefit - in exterior eggshell is that it is a better-type paint. It means that in nearly 90 per cent of the cases it will control or eliminate the blister problem because the eggshell finish is porous. Much like the way our skin allows sweat to escape, this paint allows moisture to seep through its surface without blistering. This is a great advancement over hard, glossy paint surfaces.

NEW WALL SURFACE

Many home remodeling fans are discovering a new and different wall surface which has elegance and beauty but costs no more than regular wall panelling. It is vertical grain flooring, either fir or west coast hemlock, and because of the tongue and groove is easy to install neatly. You can change the appearance of a room by building one or two walls with this flooring which can be bought at any retail lumber yard. It can be buffed and sanded smooth, then finished in any of many wonderful ways.

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County Extension Agent Offers Tips On Pest Control

The Oakland County extension service is receiving a number of calls these days on the method of controlling the insects that attack the early garden plants.

The big worry of most gardeners is cutworms. These pests attack cabbage, tomatoes, and many flowers. The treatment should be applied the day the plants are set out. County Agent Lyla Abel says to dust around the stalk of the plant with a 5% DDT dust, or spray with 2 level tablespoons of DDT to one gallon of water.

DDT will damage cucumbers and should be applied before the plants come up by dusting over the rows. The tar paper cover fitted around the stalk of the cabbage or tomato plant will drive away the cutworm.

Aphids or plant lice are common at this season of the year. They cause a wilting of the leaves. To control them use nicotine sulfate, or rotenone, or if it is on plants not to be eaten, some of the newer sprays containing malathion are excellent.

For the little black flies beetle that causes the shot-hole like opening in the leaves of tomatoes and potatoes, the gardener should use rotenone or methoxychlor. For the small home garden the most convenient method of controlling many of these pests is to use a general purpose garden dust which can be purchased in a convenient cartridge.

Another pest that has been causing home owners concern recently has been bladder gall on maple trees. These small chlorotic galls on the upper sides of the leaves actually do very little harm to the tree, but are unsightly and have resulted in many people calling the office. There is no control required at this season of the year.

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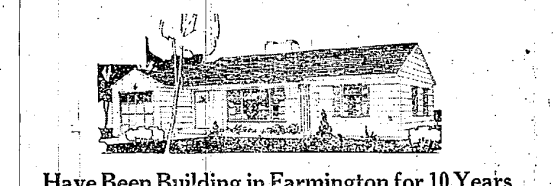
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