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THERE ARE NO FAILURES IN GARDENING....

Only experiments which didn't work out

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Planning Your Garden

- Why?
- What?
- Where?
- How Much?

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WHY?

- Freshness
- Flavor
- Savings
- Recreation
- Fun

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What to Plant?

- Personal Preferences
- Regional Potential
- Value vs. Input
- Difficult (i.e. cauliflower) vs. Easy (i.e. radish, potatoes)
- Plant Maturity Timeframe
- Diversity

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Where to Plant?

- Land Availability – Competing uses
- Windowsill, balcony, containers
- Edges, Small or Large Plots
- Slope Aspect, Angle, Water, Proximity to House, Sunlight Duration

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How Much To Plant?

- Family Size
- Preferences
- Plot Size and Land Availability
- Storage or Preservation?

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TECHNICAL

- Seeds: Open Pollinated vs. Hybrid
 - (Not Genetically Modified)
- Life Cycle: Annual, Biennial, Perennial

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Annuals

Plants which grow from seed and reproduce seeds and die within one growing season. Some tender perennials are grown as annuals. Most salad crops, tomatoes, peppers, squash, peas, basil, beans, cukes

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Biennials

Plants which grow from seeds one year, overwinter, and produce seeds the second year. Most root crops – those which store well – like carrots, beets, onions, leeks

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Perennials

Plants which live 3 or more years. Asparagus, rhubarb, strawberries, raspberries, horseradish, rosemary, sage, and MOST WEEDS.

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Site Selection and Preparation

- Southeast to Southwest Best
- Full Sun – 8+ Hours Daily
- Good Drainage – both site and soil
- Close to Water and Home

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-Double Digging

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SOILS

- Sand – Large particles, drains rapidly, holds nutrients poorly
- Silt – Slightly smaller particles, helps other particles adhere
- Clay – Tiny particles, drains poorly, holds water and nutrients
- Loam – Combination of particles plus organic matter

pH – acidity or alkalinity of soil
 Most Douglas County soils are acid
 Only sure way to determine is with soil test and nutrient analysis

Most crops prefer slightly acid soils, pH ~6.0 to 6.5
 Potatoes, blueberries thrive in more acid soils
 Raise pH by adding ground limestone or wood ashes
 Lower pH by adding elemental sulfur

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Chemical vs. Organic Growing

- Synthetic fertilizers give quick fix, but don't aid the soil
- Artificial pesticides may kill beneficial insects
- Herbicides may be non-selective, killing desired plants, and wind drift often carries them to unwanted plants
- Fungicides lessen rot when seeds are planted in cool soils
- Organic fertilizers feed the soil, which then feeds the plants

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Temperature Modification

- Improper soil temp prevents good germination and development
- Some crops need cool soils, some require warmer soils
- Raise temperatures with plastic mulches, windbreaks, raised beds
- Lower soil temperatures with shading, organic mulches
- Spun Polyester row covers ("Remay"©) help raise temperatures & block insects

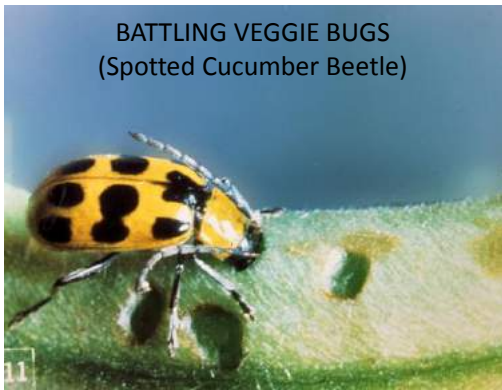
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BATTLING VEGGIE BUGS
(Spotted Cucumber Beetle)

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PESTS & DISEASES

- Prevention: Seedling sanitation, cleanup, crop rotation
- Resistance: Built in immunity or resistance
- Barriers: Spun Polyester fabric, fences, mesh screens
- Physical: Hand picking bugs, removing diseased plants
- Biological: Beneficial insects, selective organisms (B.T.), birds & snakes

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TOOLS



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INDESPENSIBLE TOOLS

Scuffle Hoe

Arrowhead Pointed Hoe



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Small Hand Tools

Trowel, Fork, Weeder

Hori-Hori, Cultivator, Angle Trowel



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Worthless Tools

Circle Hoe

Square Hoe



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WEED CONTROL

- Mechanical – Pull, cut, till, or hoe
- Heat – Solarization, propane torch
- Smother – Organic mulch, plastic mulches, landscape cloth, rock/gravel
- Bio-friendly herbicides – Corn based
- Chemical – Broad spectrum, narrow leaf, broad leaf

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CATALOG SOURCES

- Wealth of information, not just a sales tool
- Territorial (territorialseed.com) – Cottage Grove, OR
- Nichols (nicholsgardennursery.com) – Albany, OR
- Johnny's (johnnyseeds.com) - Maine
- Park (parkseed.com) – South Carolina

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RECOMMENDED READING

- The Basic Book of Organic Gardening, by Rodale Press
- Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening, by Rodale Press
- Sunset's Western Garden Book
- Square Foot Gardening, by Mel Bartholomew
- Gardening for Food and Fun – USDA Yearbook of Agriculture
- The New Organic Grower by Elliot Coleman, Chelsea Green Publishing

Additional information from OSU's website

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/>

Master Gardener Plant Clinic

Master Gardener booth setup at Umpqua Valley Farmer's Market

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