
THERE ARE NO FAILURES IN GARDENING….

Only experiments which didn't work out

Fertility

Rotation & Reading

Experimentation

Diversity


## Planning Your Garden

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

## WHY?

- Freshness
- Flavor
- Savings
- Recreation
- Fun

## What to Plant?

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

## Where to Plant?

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

## How Much To Plant?

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

## TECHNICAL

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

**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

**Biennials**

Plants which grow from seeds one year, overwinter, and produce seeds the second year.

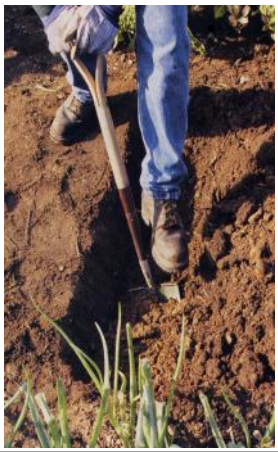
Most root crops – those which store well – like carrots, beets, onions, leeks

**Perennials**

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

# Site Selection and Preparation

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

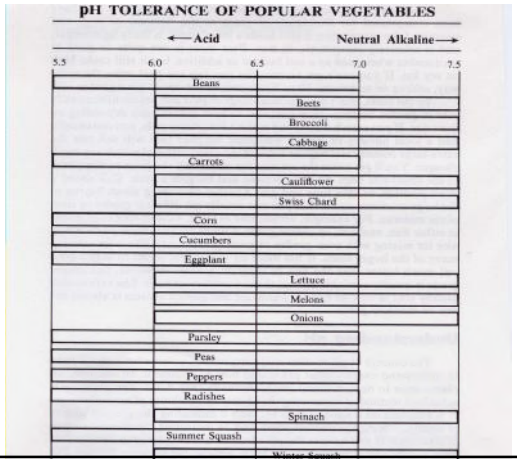
–Double Digging

# 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

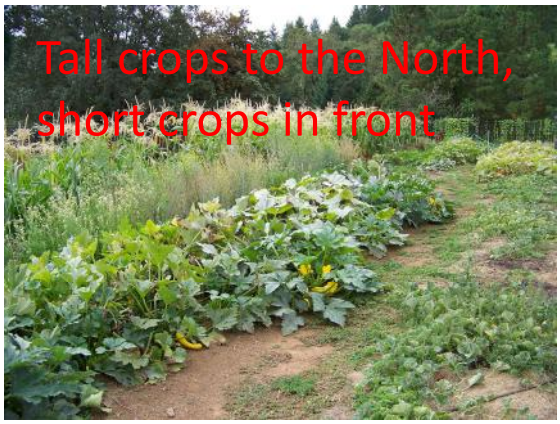



# CHOOSING VARIETIES

•All America Selections (AAS) good starting place
•Disease Resistance
•Days to Maturity
•Local Seed Companies
•Locally Grown transplants
•OSU Recommended Varieties
•**Experiment each season**

# Plant and Seed Placement

•Tall plants to North
•Perennials and Biennials separated from annuals
•Rotate from last year's plan
•Wide rows in raised beds most efficient
•Succession Planting – later crop following early crop (can be same variety)
•Companion Planting – Varieties which thrive in each others company
•Interplanting – Crops planted between other veggies which will mature before companion needs that space or with complimentary growth
•Transplants for long season crops
•Direct seeding when soil temperatures are proper for that veggie (**READ**)
•Be aware of mature size to avoid gross overcrowding
•Proper planting depth printed on seed packet
•Hardening Off – gradually acclimating transplants to hostile outdoor conditions




# FERTILIZERS

N-P-K: Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium, plus micro-nutrients

•Nitrogen for lush foliar growth
•Phosphorous for root and fruit development
•Potassium for plant strength and development
•Lime (calcium carbonate) allows fertilizers to be more available

•Organic fertilizers generally slower acting and more forgiving
•Chemical fertilizers usually faster acting, but shorter term and don't feed the soil – easy to over-apply
•MORE IS NOT BETTER – **read the label**!

## Fertilizer Bag Info



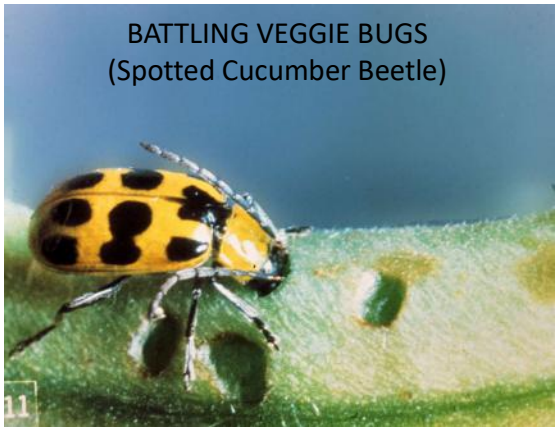
## Chemical vs. Organic Growing

- 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

## 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 or shelters
- Lower soil temperatures with shading, organic mulches
- Spun Polyester row covers ("Remay"©)help raise temperatures & block insects

BATTLING VEGGIE BUGS
(Spotted Cucumber Beetle)



# 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

## TOOLS

## INDESPENSIBLE TOOLS

**Scuffle Hoe**

**Arrowhead Pointed Hoe**

## Small Hand Tools

**Trowel, Fork, Weeder**

**Hori-Hori, Cultivator, Angle Trowel**

## Worthless Tools

**Circle Hoe** **Square Hoe**

## 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

## 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

## 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