



Hinton Around the Yard & Garden

HORTICULTURE NEWSLETTER
by Adrian C. Hinton,
USU - Utah County Horticulture
Agent



**GREETINGS FROM
THE COUNTY AGENT**



Welcome to Spring and all the green things we do this time of year. We can hope that ole Jack Frost has moved on for this year and that we have another great growing season!

TIMELY TIPS FOR MAY-JUNE

1. **Does a family garden pay?** No piece of land on the farm will return more per acre than the space devoted to the family garden. Back yards in town may also afford an excellent location for a good garden if sufficient water is available. Some contend that it is cheaper to buy vegetables than to grow them yourself. Anyone who has tasted fresh garden peas, sweet corn, or had the satisfaction of clipping just enough lettuce for the coming meal will tell you that this is not so. For a few months, at least, a family who is willing to put forth the necessary effort can bypass the vegetable counter and enjoy attractive, flavorful, and nutritiously fresh vegetables from their own garden.
2. **Seeds to sow now (May 5):** Dry bean, snapbean, sweet corn, cucumber, spinach, summer squash, winter squash.
3. **Plant when the ground is warmer (May 15 approximately):** You can put nursery starts such as tomatoes, peppers (all varieties), eggplant, winter and summer squashes, watermelons, and cantaloupe in the ground. Always be on the watch for a possible cold snap and be prepared to cover your plants if this happens.
4. **The 2001 Master Gardener basic course** will be taught this fall (September, October, November). If you want to receive registration information please call the USU Extension office (801-370-8463) to get your name on the list. Registration information will be mailed out in June.
5. **"Slow the Flow" - free water check** of your home sprinkler system will be available this season, also in Nephi and Heber as well as Utah County. Please call this toll free number (1-877-728-3420, 1-877-SAVE H2O) to get on the schedule.
6. **Remember - we do have a plant diagnostic lab each week, starting May 1.** There is a \$1 fee for each sample. Plan to bring your sample into the lab in a closed plastic ziplock or similar container. Also please bring insect samples to be identified in a closed container. We look forward to helping you solve your plant problems this season.
7. **If you are going to plant the new Tristar strawberry,** plant with 18" to 24" spacing. Prepare the soil with 1 1/2 pounds of 16-16-8 fertilizer per 100 square feet.
8. **Water lawn 1" per week.** Bluegrass is healthiest when cut to a height of 2 1/2 - 3".



INSECTS AND DISEASES

by Paul A. Wilkey, Master Gardener - Horticulture Assistant
USU Extension Service - Utah County

Unfortunately, this is the time of the growing year when we become involved with insects and diseases that can virtually destroy a garden. So controlling them is essential to receive maximum floral and vegetable production.



Visual inspection is the best detection of problems. Even when disease is present yet unidentifiable or insects are not visible, their damage is. In Utah County some of our biggest offenders are aphids, beetles, borers, slugs and snails, spider mites, whiteflies and thrips. If you have problems recognizing these or other insects and the damage they do, contact a local year-round nursery or visit your nearest County Extension office. (Identifying these insects or damage by phone is nearly impossible.) Once identified proper treatment should become your number one priority.



Diseases are much harder to detect than insects. Blights, cankers, crown gall, fireblight, leaf spot, mildews, mosaics, scab and rust are just some of the more common we deal with in this area. Like insects, once identified they must be dealt with immediately.

Both insects and diseases have a large number of cures in most cases. But it is essential to have proper problem identification so prudent remedies can be taken.

Following instructions on all treatments is of the greatest importance. Extreme caution should be given in all cases. Serious problems can occur when reckless applications are made. An example would be if you were not careful with the proper application of insecticides you may kill a number of bees. By doing so you would eliminate one of the pollination factors, therefore creating a counterproductive situation.

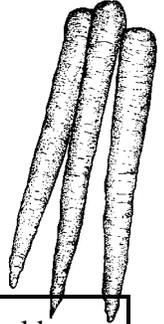
If the instructions on the product label are not clear to you, ask the retailer for more information or call our Extension office. Also most products now are labeled with "800" numbers or web sites that can also extend more information.



Remember - *spray only when necessary*. Still it's better to be safe than sorry.

In closing I would like to make a suggestion. When you

are planning out your vegetable garden for this year, consider planting an extra row of a vegetable you can donate to the local Food Coalition. This will help you feed the less fortunate the fresh produce the rest of us enjoy.



If it's true "we are what we eat" we should work to grow nothing but our finest.

BUG FACTS

(From The Reader's Digest, March 2001)

Estimates for damage and related repairs nationwide, from all types of termites, run from \$1 - \$2 billion per year. Costs almost always come out of the homeowner's pocket. But, if you're alert, you'll notice warning signs before bugs can do much damage:

1. Subterranean-termite mud tubes typically are about 1/4-inch wide, and look like thick streaks of caked dirt. Look for tube on walls, ceilings and in moist areas.
2. Swarms: Don't try to determine whether they're ants or termites by yourself. Save the insect corpses for the pest-control expert or USU Extension Agent to inspect.
3. Fecal pellets: Drywood termites discard these through pinhole-size openings in wood they're eating. The sawdust-colored pellets are about the size of a grain of salt.

Treatments: Fumigation, during which a house is covered with a tent while poison gas is pumped in, is effective for drywood termites. The gas is deadly to pets and humans as well as termites. Soil treatments are of two types: repellents and poisons.



MAKE YOUR OWN FLY TRAPS

An idea from the Gila County, Arizona area

Take an empty gallon milk jug or a large juice container (plastic 56 oz. or larger).

Drill several holes in the wall about 3 inches up from the bottom.

Suspend from a tree or something close to the compost pile.

This concoction will ferment and it's like Chanel #5 to flies. They'll enter the container through the holes (about 1/4" in diameter), then cannot find their way back out. These seem to lure only flies, so your "friendlies" are safe. We've found they're effective around horse pens as well.

People will ask you what the ugly jar is. Tell them it's a decoration...

P.S. The trap will tend to dry out after a few months. Just add some water.

MAKE YOUR OWN WASP TRAP

*by Allen Hill, Master Gardener/
Horticulture Assistant*

Take a gallon milk jug and poke a row of holes four inches up from the bottom.

To bait the trap, put a can of cat food in the jug. Fish-flavored cat food works best.

Put the lid on the jug and hang it up in an inconspicuous place.



TURF CARE

Crabgrass and Spurge are best controlled in the spring. Use Dacthal, Betasan or other pre-emergent weed control products.

Broadleaf weeds should be controlled after the temperature is consistently 68-70° F. and the weeds are actively growing, but do not use herbicides when the temperature is over 80° or when it is windy. Use products containing 2,4-D. Trimec is very effective on a wide range of weeds, including cover.



Please follow package directions when using any pesticide. USU does not endorse one product over another.

SHADE TREES

Spring is a very good time to plant trees. The selection is very good and the weather is usually just right.

The following shade trees do well under average Utah conditions:

LARGE: Norway Maple, Red Maple, Horse Chestnut, Tulip Tree, Norway Spruce, Blue Spruce, Austrian Pine, Ponderosa Pine, London Plane Tree, Douglas Fir, Littleleaf Linden, Japanese Zelkova, Sycamore Maple, Common Hackberry, Thornless Honeylocust, Scotch Pine, Burr Oak, Western Catalpa, Japanese Pagoda Tree

MEDIUM: Hedge Maple, Red Horse Chestnut, European Mountain Ash, Goldenrain Tree, Callery Pear, Bigtooth Maple

SMALL: Umbrella Catalpa, Hawthorne, Flowering Plu, Flowering Cherry, Amur Maple, Eastern Redbud, Golden Chain Tree, Western Water Birch, Gambel Oak, Rocky Mountain Maple

MORE TIPS FOR MAY

- ▶Control lilac borer and birch bronze borer at mid-month.
- ▶Second crabgrass and spurge application (6 weeks after first application).
- ▶Plant out annuals after May 10.
- ▶Control broadleaf weeds in lawn.
- ▶Grasshoppers are best controlled when they first hatch.
- ▶Control raspberry cane borer, and slugs and snails.
- ▶Fertilize your lawn.
- ▶Control aphids in fruit trees and worms in apples.
- ▶Prune flowering shrubs after they finish blooming.



KEEP YOUR BOUQUET FRESH

(Source: www.ehow.com)

- ✿ Buy the freshest flowers available. Look for tight buds and shiny leaves; avoid nodding or browning blossoms.
- ✿ Use a sharp knife or shears to cut stems on a slant under running water.
- ✿ Place freshly cut flowers in a deep container of warm water and let them sit at room temperature before arranging.
- ✿ Remove all foliage from under the waterline.
- ✿ Add a preservative to the water to kill fungus and prolong bloom time.
- ✿ Place your arrangement in a cool spot away from direct sunlight.
- ✿ Change the water every other day. If the blooms look wilted, recut the stems.

Floral preservatives are important in keeping your flowers fresh. They serve two major functions: inhibition of fungal growth (which plugs the stem so water cannot be taken up), and energy source (carbohydrates). Packets of floral preservatives are often complimentary with purchase of cut flowers. These simple tips will help preserve the freshness and beauty of your midwinter treat!

PESTICIDE DISPOSAL PROGRAM SUCCESS

Last fall's collection of unused, outdated, or unwanted pesticides netted more than 13 tons of chemicals, reports the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. The program is offered free to farmers, ranchers, and other agriculture related businesses. Since its beginning in 1993, the program has collected 72 tons of pesticides. The department collected 11,453 pounds of pesticides in its first year. The 2000 collection, conducted November 9 in Santaquin, netted 26,600 pounds. Forty-six people brought in loads ranging from 37 to 7,000 pounds.

The program is intended to let owners of old or unused pesticides dispose of the material properly. It is also designed to care for the environment by disposing of pesticides that could leak into soil or be illegally disposed of. For more information about the program, call Clair Allen at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, phone number 801-538-712 or e-mail him at agmain.callen@state.ut.us.





Improving Family,
Resources & Health

CLOSE TO HOME

by Judy Harris, USU Extension Agent in Utah County

Happily Ever After???

Agreement on Money Management Crucial

Most couples enter marriage expecting an enduring relationship. But the choices that individuals make can create or destroy their future happiness. Few engaged or newly married couples spend time addressing the issues that will be critical to the success of the relationship.

A major cause of disagreement between partners is MONEY. Because of this, it is crucial that any couple beginning a relationship together develop a sound basis for money management.

The following questionnaire for engaged (or newly married) couples may help to avoid some of the pitfalls associated with incompatible values and goals resulting in different priorities in spending. Just knowing that the differences exist can help a couple reach agreement on future spending behavior. Take time with your partner to realistically address the issue of money management.

FIRST ANSWER QUESTIONS INDIVIDUALLY AND THEN COMPARE ANSWERS WITH THOSE OF YOUR PARTNER.

A. Approximately how many times have you seriously discussed your future financial plans? _____

B. Check each of the following subjects that you have already seriously discussed together:

- ___ (1) What is most important to you
- ___ (2) Balancing expenses and income (spending plan) for the first year of marriage
- ___ (3) Types of expenditures for recreation
- ___ (4) Entertaining
- ___ (5) Gifts
- ___ (6) Use of money for personal wants
- ___ (7) Short-term goals and their priorities
- ___ (8) Longer-term goals and their priorities

- ___ (9) Inventory of durable goods each person will bring to marriage
- ___ (10) Need for additional goods at time of marriage
- ___ (11) Use of credit
- ___ (12) Plans for saving
- ___ (13) Insurance: life, disability, renters, home, auto
- ___ (14) Allocation of money mgt responsibilities
- ___ (15) Children: timing and family size
- ___ (16) Type and location of home
- ___ (17) Career plans of wife
- ___ (18) Career plans of husband
- ___ (19) What to do if professional advancement for each means different locations
- ___ (20) Use of family car

C. Now go back and circle those subjects discussed that caused conflicts.

D. On which of the subjects circled in (C) did you reach an agreement or a satisfactory compromise? List by number: _____

E. Check each of the following that were the result of discussing these subjects. It may be helpful to note which topics (by number) resulted in which level of dispute.

- _____ New insights for both of us
- _____ Find we are generally in agreement
- _____ Bitter disagreement
- _____ Some disagreement
- _____ Settled disputes by compromise
- _____ Settled disputes by his giving in
- _____ Settled disputes by her giving in
- _____ Decided to solve it later

F. List by number the subjects that you have not yet discussed that you would like to discuss: _____

G. On which subjects do you need some help and guidance before you can discuss them intelligently? List by number: _____

What did you learn from the above exercise? Were you surprised by your own answers? Were you surprised by your partner's answers? Were your answers in agreement with your partner's? Were your lists the same for subjects on which you have reached agreement? How do your lists compare as far as results of discussion of the subjects is concerned? Where can you find help on subjects for which you need more information?
(continued on page 7)

Home Repair Self Defense

Most home repairs are major expenses for homeowners. So get price quotes before work starts. Get at least two estimates in writing for each job. Ask for referrals of former customers; request to inspect the work done. Remain at home while repairs are being made.

State in the contract that the repair person return one week after the job is done to fix any work that proves to be faulty. Take time to check over work completed on your property. Don't pay in advance. *Always* pay by check. (Source: Exploring Today's Concerns)



Paint Exteriors Right

Paint in the Right Weather Conditions.—When it comes to painting, all days are not created equal. If the day is too hot or too windy, your paint may dry too quickly to enable it to form the most protective film. In fact, painting in the wrong conditions can even lead to premature flaking and peeling of the paint.

So, when should you paint with exterior latex paints?

✓ Try to do your exterior painting on days when the temperature is between 60° and 85°F. with low or moderate humidity and little or no wind.

✓ Even on moderate days, it is best to avoid painting in direct sunlight, since exterior surface temperatures can be 10 to 20 degrees F. higher than the air temperature—too hot for good paint film formation. Work your way around the house so that you are always painting in the shade, especially in the warmer afternoon hours.

✓ At the other extreme, avoid painting when the temperature falls below 50 degrees F., since cold temperatures can also prevent latex paint from forming a good protective film. Remember, too, that certain sides of the home get less sunshine, so the surface there may be even colder than the air temperature. The north side of the home is especially vulnerable this way.

✓ You can apply latex paints just 30 minutes after it rains, assuming that the surface is not visibly wet. (If you are

Painting Tips

◆ When painting stairs, paint alternate steps so you'll have a way out. When those steps dry, paint the others. Or paint one side of each step at a time. Use the other side for foot traffic until the painted side dries, then reverse the process.

◆ If your light-switch plate was painted over along with the wall and you now need to remove it, avoid flaking or chipping any paint by cutting carefully around the switch plate with a single-edge razor blade. Remove the screws and lift off the plate.

◆ If you can't, or don't want to remove hardware when painting adjacent areas, coat hardware with petroleum jelly before painting. You'll be able to wipe off any paint that accidentally gets on the metal. (Source: *How to Beat House-work!* by Eureka Vacuum Cleaners as reported in Exploring Today's Concerns)

applying oil-based paints, you should wait until the surface is completely dry.)

✓ Avoid painting in windy weather. Even light wind can cause latex paint to dry too quickly, resulting in inadequate film formation. In addition, wind can stir up dust and other contaminants that can ruin your paint job.

Paint in the Proper Sequence.—To avoid extra work when doing exterior painting, it is wise to have a good plan of attack. Here are some guidelines:

" As a general rule, work from the top down so that you don't drip onto areas that have already been repainted.

" Start by painting fascia boards, gutters and eaves; then tackle the walls. Next, paint the downspouts. Finish the job by painting windows, doors, and trim.

" When painting lap siding, work horizontally by applying paint all the way across several boards (stopping in the middle of a board can cause an unsightly "lapping" effect, which may show up immediately, or after a year or two of weathering). Likewise, on vertical siding—grooved plywood or board-and-batten, for example—complete one vertical section at a time, then move on to the next section. Regardless of the surface you are painting, don't stop painting until you reach a visual breakpoint. (Source: *A Step-by-Step Guide: How to Paint*, by the Paint Quality Institute)

Festival of the American West

July 27 through August 4 (closed Sunday) 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Celebrate our Western heritage at the 30th annual festival. Known for its accuracy in offering visitors a more realistic understanding and appreciation of our history. Twice received the prestigious Freedom Foundation Award and has been chosen five years in a row as one of the top 100 attractions in North America.

American West Heritage Center
U.S. Highway 89/91—Wellsville, Utah
(90 miles north of Salt Lake City)

- M** The Great West Fair: Native American village, mountain man rendezvous, military encampment, pioneer settlement, heritage craft demonstrators, cowboy shoot-out, medicine show, and great food
- M** The American Heritage Quilt Show, July 27-Aug 4, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. at Wellsville Tabernacle, 75 S. 100 E.
- M** Amer. West Art Show, July 27-Aug 4, 11a.m.-9 p.m.
- M** The West: America's Odyssey—Outdoor Pageant July 27, 30-Aug 4, 9-10:15 p.m.
- M** American West Cowboy Poetry Gathering, July 27-28 10 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
- M** Anniversary Celebration Saturday Night Concert July 28, 8 p.m., \$20, Michael Martin Murphey's Sagebrush Symphony including Waddie Mitchell. Also features 1812 Overture with live cannons.
- M** Western Horse Parade, July 29, 9 a.m. (Main Street in Wellsville)
- M** World Championship Dutch Oven Cook-Off August 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tickets: 800-225-FEST or 435-245-6050

PASS	FAIR	PAGEANT	COMB O
Adult 1 day	\$10	\$10	\$19
Adult season	\$30		\$50
Group & Senior	\$ 9	\$ 9	\$18
Student	\$ 6	\$ 9	\$14
Children under 12	\$ 5	\$ 6	\$10
Family*—One Day			\$65
Family*—Season			\$150

*Family includes parents and up to 4 dependent children under the age of 21

Pressure Gauge Testing

Free testing of pressure canner gauges is scheduled throughout Utah County. A pressure canner gauge with a needle that moves to point to the pounds of pressure should be tested every year for accuracy. **Only the lid with gauge is needed at the time of testing.**

The seven sites are:

- Friday, May 11
 - 9-11 a.m. American Fork Library, 64 S. 100 E.
 - 12 noon-2 p.m. Lehi Library, 120 N. Center
 - 3-5 p.m., Pleasant Grove Library, 30 E. Center
- Monday, May 14
 - 9-11 a.m. Springville Library, 50 S. Main
 - Noon-2 p.m., Spanish Fork Library, 49 S. Main
 - 3-5 p.m. Payson Library, 439 W. Utah Avenue
- Tuesday, May 15
 - 9-11 a.m. USU Extension—Utah County office
51 S. University Ave., Room 206, Provo

Happily Ever After??? (continued from page 1)

Some words of caution. This exercise can help you recognize areas where you still need to work on reaching mutual agreement. Sometimes we assume that this means that either one person must "give in" or "lose." Or we may think that we will compromise where neither person totally wins or loses.

Couples are usually happier if they are able to reach an agreement that resolves the difference by finding a level where *both* feel they are winners and neither feels they have lost anything. Thus, if one person believes that all credit use is bad and another believes that it is best to charge everything there are three levels of solution to the disagreement. (1) First, one of the individuals may give in and agree we won't ever use credit or the partner may agree to charge everything. (2) The couple may decide to compromise by establishing a limited number of credit accounts that will only be used to a given maximum. (3) Or the couple may decide that considering all of their values and goals they can maximize their potential by using credit for major purchases such as home mortgages or car loans but never for clothing, food, or other consumable goods. If both individuals change their thinking to the point that this is their first choice for the use of credit then the couple will have selected a solution that allows both parties to win without compromising or giving in to the other party. (Source: Helen C. Potter, *Financial Counseling Principles and Practices* as reported by Virginia Langrehr)

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