

Our Victory Garden Program Is Progressing Splendidly

CONTROLLING WEEDS AND INSECTS NOW MOST IMPORTANT

Ninety-five Gardens Are Being Raised By Employees Here At Plant

The Victory Garden program of Ecusta employees is progressing splendidly in spite of the rapid growth of weeds and grass, a check up reveals.

There are 95 employees who have Victory Gardens covering 50 acres of land here adjacent to the plant and it is estimated that Ecustans have approximately 1000 gardens at their homes. Here the company also has 25 acres in gardens for the cafeteria.

R. H. Niswonger, extension horticulturist at State College, was in the county a short time ago and praised the towns and county, as well as Ecustans, for their fine garden program.

At this time he emphasized the importance of good cultivation and control of insects.

Right now, he said, the Mexican bean beetles, cabbage and squash beetles will do greatest damage if they are not destroyed.

The Victory Gardens have not only afforded a good sideline activity for employees, but also they have afforded humorous remarks, and it is believed that they will provide a lot of food this season. If the proper canning program is carried out, they will provide food for the year round.

One of the most aggressive of the local Victory Garden co-operative syndicates is the firm of Harrison, Kappers and Straus, Inc., which has been showing great activity. Walter Straus, vice president, is in charge of weed culture and is said to be the busiest member of the firm.

Tony Rhodes, in a patriotic and friendly gesture, promises to take over and plant in cornfield beans any neglected gardens for the benefit of the general public.

It is stated that every time a gardener gives up his plot or gets called to the army, two more spring up to take his place. Buck Best, slowly but surely is going nuts trying to keep the map straight.

A great deal of credit for the success of the Victory Garden program is due Mr. Vannah for benefit of his wide knowledge passed on to gardeners through the Echo. His "Do and Don't" column is very valuable, especially to amateurs, and there are a good many of those this season.

By a grapevine, it was learned that those neat rows in Bob Coldwell's garden look like potatoes, but they are only weeds. It is perhaps one of the neatest camouflage jobs of the war!

The grapevine has a number of other interesting observations about the Victory Garden program, but they will be left to the humor columnist.

A man was telling about a proposed fishing trip in Colorado.

"Are there any trout out there?" asked one friend.

"Thousands of 'em," replied Mr. Wharry.

"Will they bite easily?" asked another friend.

"Will they?" said Mr. Wharry. "Why they're absolutely vicious. A man has to hide behind a tree to bait a hook."

Victory Gardening In Ecustaland!



Control Of Insects Essential To Success Of Any Victory Garden

Four Definite Suggestions Are Offered. Neglect Will Prove Costly

Insects are attacking gardens. The attacks will increase. But gardeners can repulse the attacks. Methods of control exist. Materials are available at supply stores. Equipment can be procured or improvised. A principal factor in the control of insects is often the gardener himself.

Gardeners have a double duty in meeting the control of insects—a neglected individual garden becomes a breeding spot from which insects spread to one's neighbors' gardens. Hold the line at your garden. Win for yourself and help your community at the same time.

Observe The Attack

The first thing in the control of insects is recognition of their attack. A flight of certain moths foretells the coming outbreak of cabbage worms. The appearance of adult potato beetles, the presence of their egg clusters on the underside of the leaves, is each a proof positive that soon the destructive leaf eating bugs will attempt to take your potatoes. If you have some curling cabbage leaves, uncurl them and you will probably find aphids inside the curl. Are some of your tomatoes and other crops cut off at the ground level? Are your potato and tomato leaves showing tiny perforations, and do small black flea beetles pop off those leaves when you approach the plants? Are spotted beetles appearing on your bean plants?

Fight Right Way

The next thing in the control of insects is that of doing the right thing according to the attack that you recognize. If cabbage moths are flying, a supply of insecticide should be gathered and an applicator such as a piece of cheese cloth with a rock in it, unless you have a blower duster. A few days after the cabbage moth flight, worms will begin feeding on your cabbage and then the insecticide is to be applied. Spread treated bait if cutworm injury is seen. If potato beetles and eggs are in evidence, the same above equipment and materials as for cabbage worms will be needed. In protecting the potatoes against the potato bugs, accomplish two things at one time. Incorporate the insecticide in a Bordeaux spray and protect the potatoes against blight. If aphids are found on the

Garden Don'ts

Don't use all your enthusiasm making a garden, then turn it over to bugs and weeds.

Don't plant seeds among cinders, tin cans and rubbish and expect fertilizer to make things all right.

Don't plant seeds too thick just to empty the packet. The seed supply is getting low.

Don't waste crops. See that somebody gets the leftovers, even if you have to give them away.

Don't plant more of any one crop than can make use of, one way or another.

cabbage—and other crops—spray or dust them on a warm day with a nicotine preparation. If flea beetles are on your plants, repel them with a lime dusting, or Bordeaux dusting or spraying. If spotted beetles appear on your beans, work fast. Insecticides should be applied at once else the leaves will be consumed in a short time when the larvae hatch.

Kill Them At Once

The third thing in the control of insects is to understand the importance of trying to kill them at the incidence of attack and definitely repeating the control procedure until they are wiped out. An adult produces great numbers of eggs and most of the eggs hatch. One laying of eggs can produce ravaging results.

The fourth thing in the control of insects is keep in touch with the condition of your garden constantly. Take advantage of your own knowledge and experience in control of its insect enemies; consult your County Agent, read literature and information on the subject, budget some money for the right insecticide and use the insecticide, at the right time, in the right amount, and in the right frame of mind—the will to control the insects.

Gardeners themselves are the control. The know how can be found out. The doing of it is the thing.

The world's worst combination is a cutie with lots of dough marrying a guy with half-baked ideas.

CONTROL WEEDS BY HARD WORK

Cultivation Not Only Destroys Weeds, But Also Stimulates Soil

Start cultivation now to insure against loss of your crop to weeds. The recent warm weather and the rains have started a vigorous growth of weeds. Weeds should be killed now while still small and tender and before they have developed strong roots or started flowering.

The sovereign remedy for weeds is cultivation. Start early and continue regularly. The ground should be cultivated at least every ten days and also after every rain as soon as the ground is dry enough to work. If a walking cultivator is available, cultivate between the rows to within 1-2" to 1" of the row. A small prong weeder is handy for working closer to the row or in the row. Care should be taken that cultivation is not too deep close to the row during the early stages when the vegetable seedlings are small and the roots are easily disturbed. Most important is to start weeding at once and continue regularly. This not only gives the best results; it is easier, because the weeds are destroyed before they have strong root systems and before they have become established.

Weeds are weeds because they are so successful in competition with your crops. They successfully compete for space, moisture, and soil elements. Some weeds are breeding places for garden pests. For good results, keep your land clean. Large vigorous weeds may be a tribute to your soil; they are not a tribute to your gardening. Do this:

1. Start cultivating now.
2. Cultivate at least every ten days.
3. Cultivate after rain only when ground has dried enough to work.
4. Hoe to within 1-2" to 1" of row. Use prongs closer to row or weed by hand.
5. Cultivate shallow near the row of young seedlings.
6. Keep a dust cover over the ground at all times.

Timely Warning To Victory Gardeners

The weeds are moving in on you. Right now is the critical stage of the race, and your victory garden committee warns that each day's delay in beginning the fight cuts down your production of vegetables. Each weed has a German name this year, and you cannot afford to relax the fight long enough to let them raise their ugly heads.

Later on you will be asked to pretend that all potato bugs, worms, and beetles have Japanese ancestry, and must be treated accordingly. But right now the problem is weeds—so roll up your sleeves and attack!

When the Echo went to press the following patriots had clean gardens: Tom Allen, Bob Colwell and Walter Straus. Some of the rest of you are about even in the fight, and we have a few sluggards in mind who will be issued lawn mowers as booby prizes.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS EVERY PAY DAY