

# Plant now for another harvest

By Kym Pokorny  
Correspondent

CORVALLIS – As we settle in at the table of summer’s harvest, savvy gardeners pause long enough to consider the coming season.

“Most folks are familiar with and love summer vegetables, but if you want to maximize your food and nutrition, then growing fall crops is a great strategy,” said Weston Miller, a horticulturist with Oregon State University Extension Service.

The window of opportunity for planting those crops is short – as daylight decreases, it becomes harder and harder to hit it right. So, begin now to tuck seeds or transplants into the soil.

Plant in morning or evening and make sure to monitor the soil closely so it doesn’t dry out. Water daily, twice if it’s especially hot. Concentrate your efforts on the top couple of inches of soil where seeds are germinating and the small root systems of new plants are getting off to a start.

If the weather turns scorching hot, you may have to resort to shade cloth or Reemay, a very lightweight fabric that allows light and water through but helps keep plants from burning. Some crops like carrots, beets and direct-seeded greens don’t mind having the cloth placed right on top; bigger crops like broccoli and peppers might appreciate having it propped up on the same type of wire or plastic hoops used to make cloches or cold frames.

If you added compost and organic fertilizer earlier in the season, you don’t need to add more because organic fertilizer takes time to break down and become available to plants. If you used a conventional fertilizer, you can add more, but go light on the nitrogen, which can make brassicas susceptible to pests and encourage foliage growth rather than fruits. Root crops can go without either type.

Whether to plant seeds or transplants depends on the crop and, to some extent, how you’re going to use it. Plants that do best directly seeded include carrots, parsnips, beets, radish, mustard greens, cilantro and arugula. Many crops like kale, chard, lettuces, arugula and mustard greens can be sown heavily for “cut and come again” greens. Cut the greens above the crown of the plant when the leaves reach four to six inches. You can get two to three cuttings if you give them plenty of water and some fish emulsion after each cutting.

All other crops can and should be transplanted for best success. Look for high-quality plants that aren’t root-bound, stunted or off-color. If you can get hold of one-gallon tomatoes and plant them in the next week, go for it. Some crops are too late to plant, such as cucumbers, melons, corn, beans, peppers and parsnips.

Once you get the new plants in the ground, don’t dawdle on weed control. Weed often to make the job easier and to keep weeds

from competing for water and nutrients.

Miller recommends allocating half of your garden space for typical summer crops like tomatoes, beans, and cucumbers, and the other half for cool season crops like kale, scallions, carrots, beets and lettuce.

“That will give you the most from your garden,” he said.

As you plant new crops, be sure to continue caring for those already planted at the beginning of the season. Water 1 inch per week; 1.5 to 2 inches during hotter periods. The main thing, Miller said, is to provide a thorough watering twice or three times a week, depending on temperatures. Continue to harvest promptly. Leaving cucumbers, squash, and tomatoes to get too big will give you less-than-tasty results.

For more information on extended-season vegetable gardening, refer to these Extension publications: Fall and Winter Vegetable Gardening in the Pacific Northwest and Growing Your Own.

## WALKOUT: Complaints about action are still under review

*Continued from page 10*

to voters for final approval.

Democratic leadership said during the walkout that the plan had lost the support it needed among Democrats to pass and it died in the final days of the legislative session.

Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick, D-Portland, indicated during the revolt that she’d seek to garnish lawmakers’ pay. Asked about the change from garnishing to billing, Currie told Oregon Public Media this week: “If anyone said that the Senate would be ‘docking Republicans’ pay’ for the walkout, they were in error. It’s not legally possible to dock them.”

The Office of the Legislative Counsel, which provides legal advice to lawmakers, declined to answer an inquiry on that matter, or to discuss what mechanism allowed Senate leadership in general to fine lawmakers.

Democrats have suggested there is precedent in other states for such fines.

GOP senators’ departure from the Capitol denied the Senate the quorum needed to conduct business. The 11 senators were not fined for the first floor session they missed, and Democrats canceled one planned session after they received threats from militia members, so the fines were only for seven days.

Republicans have also received scrutiny over how they plan to pay those fines.

On June 26, a coalition including labor unions, Basic Rights Oregon and Planned Parenthood, filed complaints with the Secretary of State’s office and Oregon Government Ethics Commission. The complaints sought formal rulings that Republicans could not pay their fines using campaign money or a crowdfunding effort that raised more than \$40,000.

State officials said this week that the complaints are still under review. Senate Minority Leader Herman Baertschiger Jr., R-Grants Pass, told reporters last month his members did not plan to use outside cash to pay the fines.

“We’re all using our personal funds,” he said.

# ADVERTISING in The Nugget WORKS!

**DON'T MISS A SALES OPPORTUNITY!**

“I have had small businesses in small towns and I have always supported the local papers and advertised in them. But never in my experience have I had such success with my advertising as I have with *The Nugget*.

When I opened up about a year ago I started advertising and I have constantly since that time had locals and tourists coming in saying they have seen my ads, sometime in their hands! They often say they have come in just to see who I am and to see what I offer. I have so many wonderful loyal Sisters customers, I am truly grateful for them.

It truly has been phenomenal. ***If you are a retailer and are not advertising in The Nugget, you are missing sales opportunities!***

– Janet Kronemeyer, owner, Gypsy Wind Clothing



## Quilt art....



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

June Jaeger is one of the Quilt Show's stalwarts.

Advertising in The Nugget works!  
**Call 541-549-9941 today!**