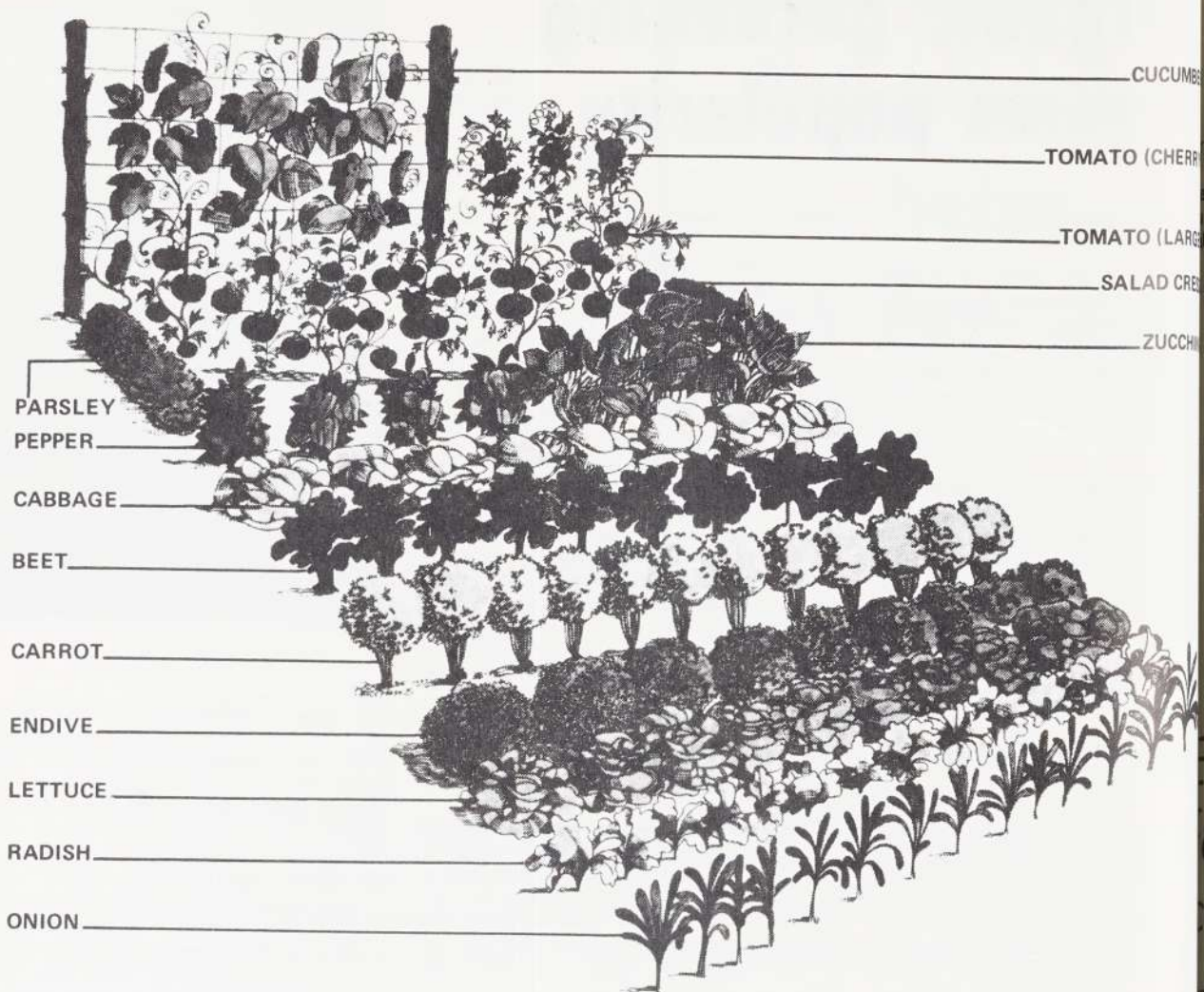




Vegetable mini-garden feeds four

Enough salad vegetables to supply an average family of four can be grown in a 10 by 20 foot plot for about \$15.

Tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, peppers, cabbage, beets, lettuce, radishes, carrots, endive, onions, and seasonings can be accommodated in this small plot and will save the gardener many dollars over store-bought produce.

This garden, small enough to be cultivated by hand, should receive plenty of sunlight, fertilizer and be kept almost fully planted at all times during the season.

A succession of plantings can accomplish the latter. Where there are quick-growing crops they can be followed by another sowing and cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, zucchini and cabbages, although in place most of the summer, provide pickings over a long period.

Neatness counts in a small garden and guidelines should be used to mark the rows for seeds and onion sets. The garden can be worked from the sides, thus eliminating the need for wide spaces between the rows.

An actual mini-garden of this size was

grown by the W. Atlee Burpee Co., seed and plant producers, at their Fordhook Farms in Pennsylvania, under supervision of the editors of "Home Garden" magazine.

They used two different varieties of tomatoes. Mainly Burpee's VF which is resistant to the two most common tomato diseases -- verticillium and fusarium. The plants were started indoors and then set out later. They only used six plants, starting them April 1 for mid-May planting.

They also used three plants of a small cherry tomato -- Basket Pak -- which bears heavily and is an ideal salad addition.

Although zucchini may be a questionable vegetable in this small garden it proved to be one of the best performers. Seed was directly sown in mid-May and was bearing profusely from only two plants starting the first week in July and continuing into September.

Bush zucchini is recommended because young fruits can be eaten raw in salads and

The only failure in Home Garden den were the beets. Although the successive plantings a gopher ate them soon as they were established.

Lettuce, the mainstay of a salad was planted in two sowings. First was Leaf, which was started early and planted on April 15 and was ready for picking by May 15.

Fordhook, a late variety, was planted at the same time and was ready for picking later.

A second sowing was made after harvest of endive which gave them pickings in the fall.

Radishes were also sown twice. A row of quick-maturing Cherry Belle and Season's White, which takes 45 days to mature, insured radishes throughout the season.

Carrots, endive and onions completed the salad bowl. Two sowings of Green endive made an excellent salad green.

Eat salad all summer for \$15

later in the year, large fruits can be cooked conventionally.

Cucumbers were grown on a trellis netting at the back of the garden. This conserved space and acted as a background.

They proved to be a good crop and bore until frost.

Eight heads of cabbage were enough to provide a family of four with a few servings of really fresh slaw. Both green and red cabbage were planted to provide color.

were harvested all season by using the ger plants as scallions.

Cress and Parsley were added for spice for the salad. Two little plants which occupied a small amount of space were well worth the effort, according to editors.

A small amount of garden space can supply a generous amount of produce, provide vegetables that are grown without unnecessary chemicals and give the gardener the satisfaction of doing it himself.

Clackamas Community College

