

# Regular harvesting increases productivity

When garden harvest time arrives, don't hesitate, pick whatever is ready to go on the dinner table or into storage.

"Regular picking encourages fruiting vegetable plants such as cucumbers, squash, bushbeans, peppers, broccoli and eggplants to even greater production," said Ray McNeilan, Oregon State University extension home gardening agent.

"Even a few fruits left to mature on a cucumber plant will stop new fruit from setting," McNeilan said.

Once a zucchini starts going to seed, the plant is triggered into a different growing stage and won't develop any more squash.

McNeilan lists the following qualities to look for when harvesting vegetables.

**Bush beans.** Pick them when they are at least three inches long. The pods should be just starting to bulge.

**Squash.** Summer squashes ready for picking should be medium-sized and their rinds should be easy to dent with a fingernail. Winter squashes are ready for harvesting when their rinds are firm enough that they can't easily be dented with a fingernail.

**Tomatoes.** Size is not a good indication of maturity. Look for proper color. Tomatoes can be picked at any degree of ripeness but they taste best if ripened on the vine. Green tomatoes are used for relish or pickling, firm ones for eating fresh and overripe ones for processing.

**Cucumbers.** Pick them before they turn yellow. Medium cucumbers make good dill pickles. Small ones make good sweet pickles. Large ones are good eaten fresh. Cucumbers that are too bitter to eat fresh, even after they are peeled, can be used for pickles and relish.

**Broccoli.** Stalks ready for picking should be firm but tender. Buds at the top of the stalk should be compact and showing the color that would indicate the plant is flowering. Cut the large central head just before it separates into several heads. After that, cut the side shoots that develop into small heads.

**Eggplants.** Those that are shiny are ready for harvest.

**Peppers.** They usually mature late. The green varieties should have a shiny color and be firm. Red varieties should have a uniform red color before harvesting.

Besides regularly harvesting these fruiting vegetables, don't forget to water and fertilize them properly, McNeilan said.

For a variety of uses

# Tips for preserving squash

Zucchini and other summer squash produce abundant crops, and many families look for ways to preserve the excess for future use.

Summer squash come in many sizes and shapes. The most common varieties in Oregon are the green and yellow zucchini, yellow crookneck, yellow straight neck, patty pan and scallops.

These squash, characterized by their soft shells, are best if harvested when they are immature, when the entire squash is tender. Since the quality of summer squash goes down rapidly, it is a good idea to pick only the amount that can be used at one time.

Summer squash may be

canned, frozen, dried, or made into pickles and relishes.

Canned squash must be processed in a pressure canner to kill harmful food spoilage bacteria, according to Carolyn Raab, foods and nutrition specialist. For an extra margin of safety against spoilage, boil home-canned squash for 10 to 20 minutes before tasting.

Because home-canned squash is rather soft in texture, it is best used in soups and stews. The squash will be firmer in texture if canned in combination with tomatoes, Raab said.

The processing instructions for squash should be used.

Summer squash also can

be frozen. It should be blanched before freezing to stop the enzymes that cause undesirable changes in flavor, texture and nutritive value. Package in moisture-resistant bags or containers.

Frozen squash tends to be soggy because of its high water content. This texture change won't be noticeable if the squash is used in soups and stews.

Squash can also be grated and frozen for later use in zucchini bread. Measure enough for one recipe, Raab suggests. Blanching is unnecessary because the bread will mask color and flavor changes.

Summer squash can also be dried. It should first be

blanched to stop the enzymes and hasten the drying process. Dried squash can be added to soups or stews. After rehydration, it can be added to casseroles or served as a vegetable dish. Ground dried squash makes an excellent seasoning for soups and salads.

Slices of dried squash makes tasty chips for dips and snacks. For variety, dip the sliced zucchini in barbecue sauce or sprinkle with seasoning salt before

drying. Zucchini squash often finds its way into pickled products. It can take the place of cucumbers in favorite bread and butter pickle recipes. Some people also use zucchini in quick dill pickle recipes. Zucchini is also suitable for hamburger and hot dog relish.

For more information on preserving summer squash, contact the county office of the Oregon State University extension service at 665-8634.

For information on Hoodland events, see *Hoodland Happenings* every week in *The Post*.

## Public Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF CLACKAMAS  
Probate Department  
In the matter of the estate of LEON F. OLMSTEAD  
Deceased  
No. P81-8-12

P881-12  
8-27

**Notice to Interested Persons**  
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have been appointed personal representatives of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same within four months from this date at the law offices of Richard Egner, Jr., Suite 302, Hood Center Professional Building, 1217 NE Burnside, Gresham, Oregon 97030.

All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information regarding the proceedings from the below listed personal representatives, from the offices of Richard Egner, Jr., attorneys for the personal representatives or from the records of the court.  
Margo Olmstead  
Personal Representative  
949 Teal Lane  
Tallahassee, Florida 32308  
Ruth A. Olmstead  
Personal Representative  
1101 Winfred Drive  
First Publication: Aug. 27, 1981  
Last Publication: Sept. 10, 1981  
Attorneys  
Law Offices of  
Richard Egner, Jr.  
Suite 302, Hood Center  
Professional Bldg.  
1217 NE Burnside  
Gresham, OR 97030  
P881-11  
8-27  
9-3  
9-10

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, September 8, 1981, to consider the request of Mr. Dick Meinig for a comprehensive plan change and a zone change for tax lot 1300, section 13, map AD, T25, R4E, within the city of Sandy.  
The City Council will consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission of a commercial designation and C-2 General commercial zoning for the southerly 125 feet of the property and a high density residential designation and R-3 High Density Residential zoning for the balance of the property. The Planning Commission is also recommending public improvements and access restrictions. Other combinations of land use designations and zoning designations may also be considered.  
The public hearing is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at Sandy City Hall. The public is invited to attend and to give testimony.  
Don Wilson  
City Planner

CITY OF SANDY OREGON  
SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS  
Tupper Park to Meinig Park Trunk Sewer  
**Notice to Contractors**  
Sealed proposals for extending and connecting a 12 in. sanitary sewer trunk line between Meinig Avenue at Meinig Park and Tupper Park in the City of Sandy will be received by the City Manager at the City Hall in Sandy until 10:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time on September 8, 1981, and thereafter will be publicly opened and read.

This proposal consists of furnishing and laying approximately 1,060 ft. of 12 in. sanitary sewer pipe, including a road crossing and 170 ft. bore under an existing highway. The work also includes connection into an existing manhole, and providing service connections at designated locations.

Prequalifications of bidders must be on file with the City at least two (2) days before opening of bids.  
Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be examined at Sandy City Hall, 39250 Pioneer Blvd., Sandy, Oregon 97055. Copies may be purchased by qualified prospective bidders upon the receipt of \$25.00 by check, made payable to the City of Sandy, Oregon. The purchase price will be refunded only when a bid is submitted. Otherwise, the payment will be retained to offset the cost of printing.

Proposals must be submitted on the forms furnished with the Specifications and must be accompanied by a bidder's bond in the form of a certified check in an amount equal to or exceeding ten percent (10%) of the total bid. A one hundred percent (100%) corporate surety performance and payment bond will be required at the time of execution of the Contract. A maintenance bond guaranteeing the repair of all damage due to improper workmanship or materials for a period of one year after acceptance of the work by the City will also be required. The successful bidder must show evidence of adequate liability and property insurance.

The City of Sandy reserves the right to reject any or all bids for good and sufficient reasons. The award of the Contract will be made to the responsible bidder submitting the lowest acceptable proposal.

By order of the Mayor and City Council of Sandy, Oregon,  
Dated at Sandy, Oregon, the 21st day of August, 1981.  
Roger Jordan  
City Recorder  
p881-10  
8-27

# Kids! Earn prizes & money!



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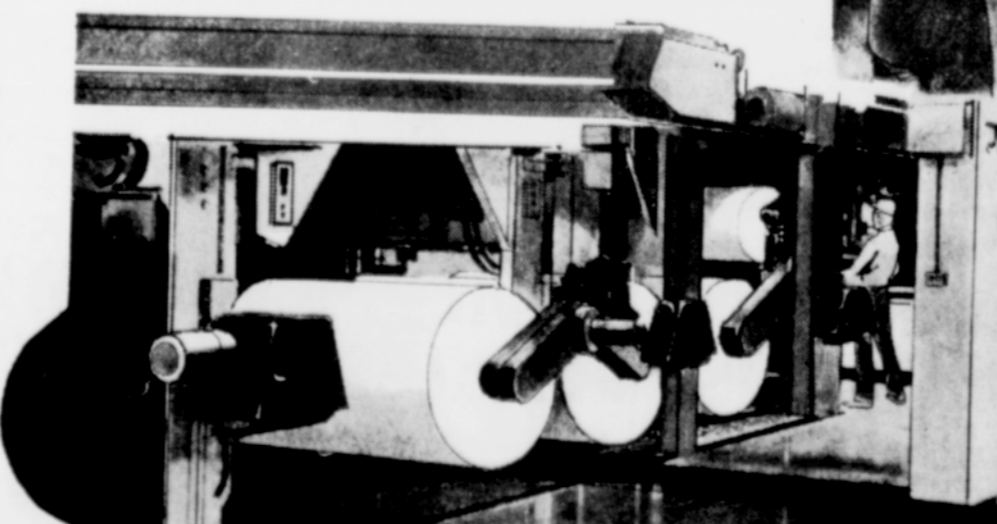
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