

Man Builds Own Auto

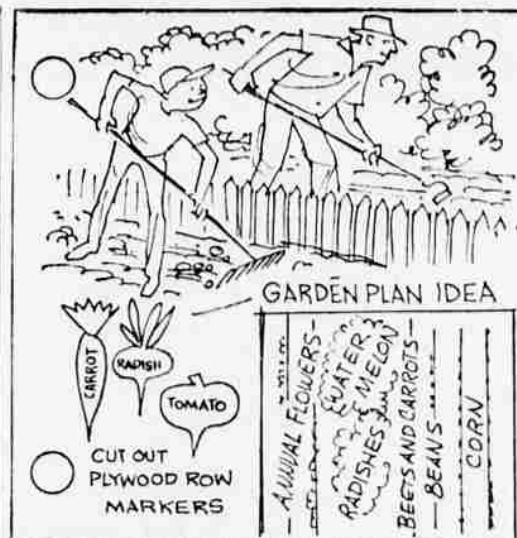
SUNNYVALE, Calif. (UPI) — H. Gordon Hansen of Sunnyvale really believes in do-it-yourself—to the extent of building his own \$3,000 automobile.

The 45-year-old engineer, who designs missile components for a living, decided to build his sleek-tailed vehicle because "I like to do things differently."

And his "Gordon Diamond" is different! Its four wheels are arranged in a diamond with two parallel in the middle of the car and one wheel in front and one in the rear. The aluminum shell body tapers from a bullet nose in front to a slim tail in the rear.

Hansen began building his car after World War II and completed it in 1949 with a few special modifications since then.

Older boys and girls learn new lessons each growing season just as their parents do from gardening.



Children Grow With The Garden So Plant On Plan

By ALLAN SWENSON
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Children and gardens grow well together. With easily-grown flowers and vegetables, even the smallest members of your family can join in the gardening fun this year.

There's a new lesson that children can learn each day from gardening. Planting and tending their own plot provides good lessons in responsibility. Equally important, they can enjoy the rewards harvested from plants they have raised from seeds. To top off the pleasure of gardening, many older children can enjoy the thrill of exhibiting their own flowers and garden products.

Local garden shows, county fairs and even state-wide exhibits provide good competition in junior classes. The award may be only a simple ribbon. In the thick of competition, it may be much more. One enterprising Texas lad, Gus Roberts of Pearlsburg, entered a crate of his cauliflowers in the local fair against lots of adult competition this past year. It brought top honors and sold at auction for \$25 per head for the young 4-H member.

To start a garden for children, keep in mind that youngsters can be discouraged easily if plants don't grow. If it is their first year, help them select flowers and vegetables they can grow readily.

Marigolds, cosmos and zinnias grow well from seed. Morning glories can be trained up walls or fences for beautiful display. Gladioli corms, a rose bush and perhaps some pansy and petunia plants will yield blooms throughout the season.

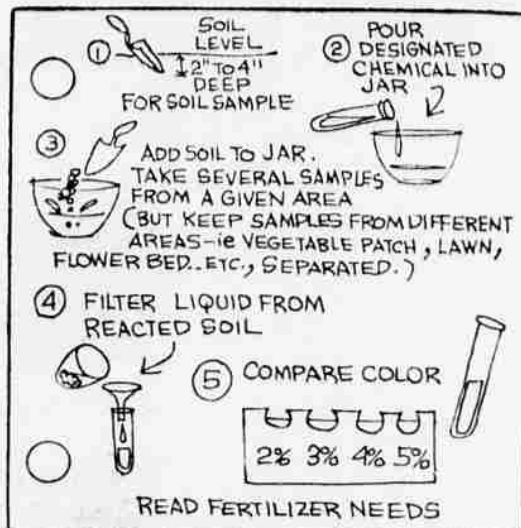
Even the smallest toddlers love to poke tiny fingers in the soil. Vegetables are fine for little gardeners. The big thrill comes when they can pick their own radishes or tomatoes and pop them into their mouths.

As they gain experience, more challenge can be added by selecting new and unusual varieties that require more exacting care. Unique vegetables, like plant tomatoes, Indian corn or popcorn, midget watermelons and gourds can be their special project in the family garden.

Location for a children's garden depends on land available. If possible, give each child his own plot. Usually, a corner of the family vegetable garden or section of a flower bed is best. There they can work side by side with the family.

Consider a children's garden club. Over 50 years ago, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society began encouraging gardening for youngsters. That idea has been so successful that cities across the country have adopted it. Neighborhood gardening clubs and contests can add excitement. County 4-H Club agents, local garden clubs and the National Council of State Garden Clubs can offer advice and help in promoting youth and community gardening activities.

Sowing seeds, watering and col-



Fertilizer Can Pay Big Dividends With Good Use

By ALLAN SWENSON
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Early fertilizing gives your lawn, perennial plants and shrubs a needed boost for better growth. This year, make your gardening efforts more rewarding with balanced fertilizing.

Whether you're feeding house plants or the entire lawn, remember that strong plants begin below ground with proper soil fertility.

Three major plant foods—nitrogen, phosphorus and potash—are essential. In addition, minor mineral elements are required to produce healthy growth and bloom. These include iron, magnesium, copper and other elements. Complete foods can satisfy these nutrient needs.

Before you buy, learn what you actually need. Soil testing now will tell you what is in the soil and what to add for best growth. It's easy with inexpensive kits. No knowledge of chemistry is required.

If you prefer, your county agricultural agent or state experimental station can test your soil. This service is usually provided free or for a nominal fee.

Gather soil samples from the top two to four inches of soil. Collect several separate samples from your lawn, vegetable garden and flower borders. Test these different areas separately, because they will generally have different requirements.

Home testing is an easy process with Sudbury or similar kits. Place samples in a clean glass jar or test tube. Add the designated chemical to the soil. Shake vigorously, then filter the liquid from the soil. You'll note a color change caused by reaction of soil elements with the chemical.

To determine what plant foods are needed, simply match color charts with the solution color, and read the fertilizer requirements.

You'll be a better gardener if you also watch your "pH." That term indicates the soil's acid level. It may range from a low or acid level of 4.5 to a high pH of 7.5. For most gardens, a pH between 6.0 and 6.5 is best.

A simple acid test reveals the pH. To correct overly acid soil, add lime that sweetens the soil for better plant growth. In most states east of the Mississippi, lime is needed periodically.

Liquid fertilizing has gained increased attention, and for good reason. Liquid takes the labor out of fertilizing. Biggest advantage is the immediate availability of dissolved plant nutrients. Roots get food faster. The higher analysis concentrated in water-soluble fertilizers like Rapid-Gro, Nurish, and Gro-Stuf packs lots of growing power.

A siphon unit on a garden hose spreads fertilizer evenly with little effort. Another simple attachment pipes plant food solution underground to feed shrub and tree roots better.

Spraying foliage has shown

much promise for supplemental feeding. Plants can absorb dissolved nutrients quite easily through their leaves. Foliar feeding is particularly good for house plants and flowers.

Granular fertilizers that don't burn foliage are excellent. Thorough application of urea-form nitrogen fertilizers in the spring will leave nutrients gradually throughout the growing season.

A handy guide for converting pounds of fertilizer into pints and tablespoons for smaller gardens is available. It's leaflet 307, and is obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

This year, test your soil early. By building balanced soil fertility, your garden will be even more rewarding for your efforts.

Drug Firm Uses Young 'Tasters'

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)—Children are telling the executives of a multi-million dollar drug empire here what to put in their medical preparations.

Comments such as "Delicious!" or "This tastes terrible" can make or break months of research by a chemist with a string of degrees.

Officials of Plough, Inc., are going on the theory that no matter how effective the medicine, it doesn't do any good if junior refuses to take it because of the taste.

Dr. W. Harry Feinstone is in charge of the juvenile "taste testers" program. He has 60 boys and girls ready to gulp down the preparations Plough chemists dream up.

"The children are not testing any medicine," Dr. Feinstone said. "For the taste tests, we formulate the product with everything in it but the medicinal ingredient."

The children are volunteers from among the staff of Plough workers and from a nearby orphanage.

What the children decide is what flavor the medicine should have. The actual medicine remains the same. Only the flavor that hides the "medicine taste" is changed on the children's say-so.

Dr. Feinstone has come up with one finding that will surprise no one. Children like chocolate. It's their No. 1 choice for liquids such as cough syrups and tonics, he said. Raspberry is second, orange third and licorice fourth.

For solids, such as aspirin, orange "seems to be the unanimous choice," Dr. Feinstone said.

NASHUA'S PREAKNESS MARK. BALTIMORE, Md. (UPI)—Nashua holds the Preakness record of 1:54 3/5 for the mile and three-sixteenths.

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