

Planning Your Summer Vegetable Garden



Presented by
UC Master Gardeners of Placer County



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ UCCE Master Gardener Program

Who Are Master Gardeners?

Master Gardeners of Placer County

- ❖ Extend **research-based**, sustainable gardening and composting information
- ❖ Present accurate, impartial information to **home gardeners**
- ❖ Encourage public to make **informed** gardening decisions



UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

Who Are Master Gardeners?

Where to find us...

Online, in the Media, and Special Publications

- ❖ Hotline: Call **(530) 889-7388** or submit your questions online
- ❖ Website: pcmg.ucanr.org
- ❖ Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- ❖ Gold Country Media monthly column
- ❖ *Curious Gardener* quarterly newsletter on our website
- ❖ *Calendar and Gardening Guide*



UC Master Gardeners of Placer County

Who Are Master Gardeners?

Where to find us...

Workshops, Fairs and Festivals, and Special Events

- ❖ Speakers by Request
- ❖ Workshops (various venues, check website)
- ❖ Farmers' Markets (seasonal: Auburn, Roseville)
- ❖ Fairs and Festivals Booths (varies)
- ❖ Garden Faire (April)
- ❖ Mother's Day Garden Tour (May)



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Agenda

- ❖ What is your goal?
- ❖ Planting methods
- ❖ Soil
- ❖ Seeds or plants?
- ❖ Tools
- ❖ Pests
- ❖ Tips for success

Why grow vegetables?

- ❖ Fresh and nutritious
- ❖ Variety
- ❖ Teaching and Family connection
- ❖ Sustainability
- ❖ Fun



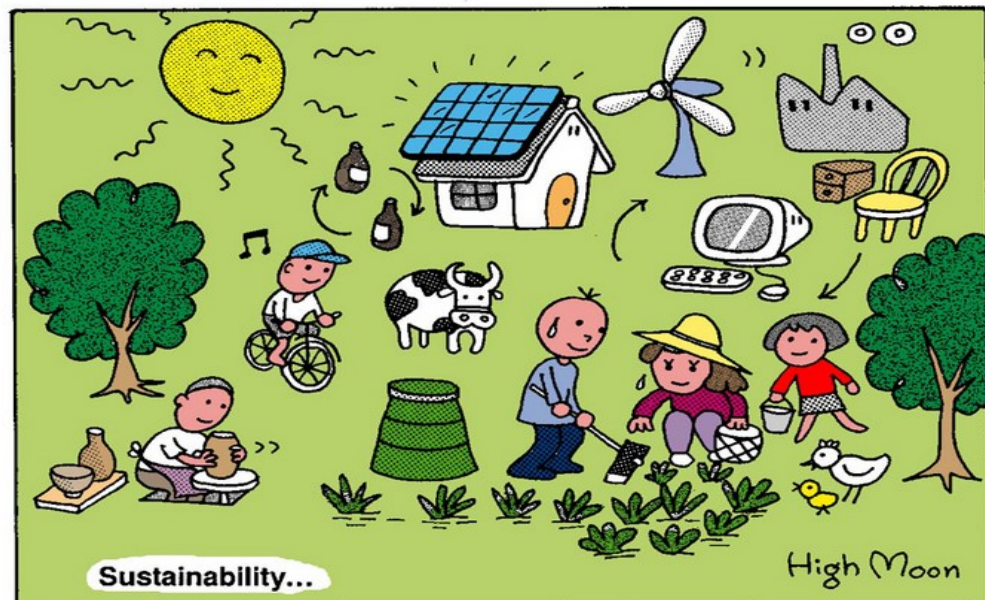
What is Your Goal?

- ❖ *Growing a few fresh vegetables?*
 - ❖ *Expanding to a larger garden?*
 - ❖ *Urban homesteading – Growing all your own food?*
 - ❖ *Somewhere in between?*
-
- ❖ **MAKE A PLAN AND SET A GOAL**

Coming to “Terms” ...

Sustainability – To create and maintain the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations.

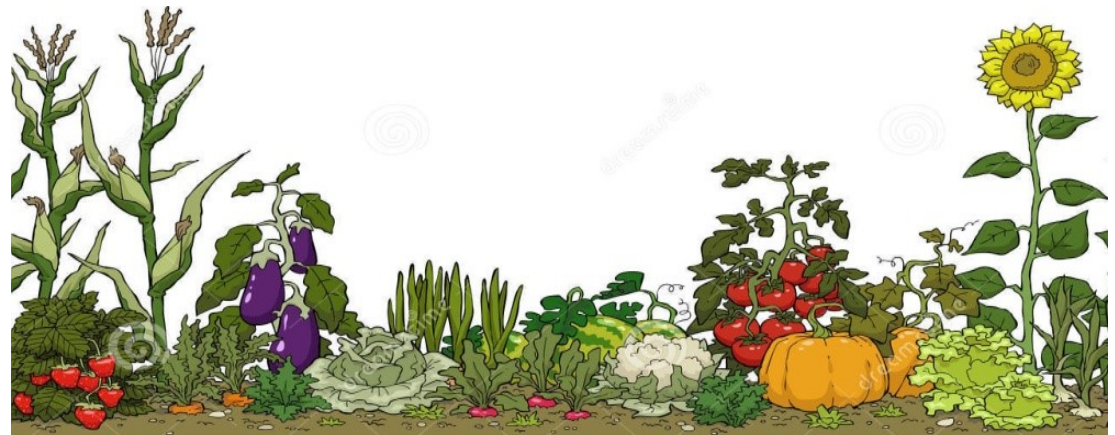
Source: <http://www.epa.gov/sustainability/basicinfo.html>



Coming to “Terms” ...

Organic - A basic definition of organic gardening is gardening without synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. In an organically managed yard or vegetable garden the emphasis is on cultivating an ecosystem that sustains and nourishes plants, soil microbes and beneficial insects rather than simply making plants grow.

Source: <https://pender.ces.ncsu.edu/2012/03/what-is-organic-gardening>



Vegetable Gardening Basics

Site Selection

Sun Exposure:

Fruit > 8 hours

Root > 6 hours

Leaf > 4 hours

- South Facing, away from trees, close to home and a water source

- Consider drainage, fencing and microclimates

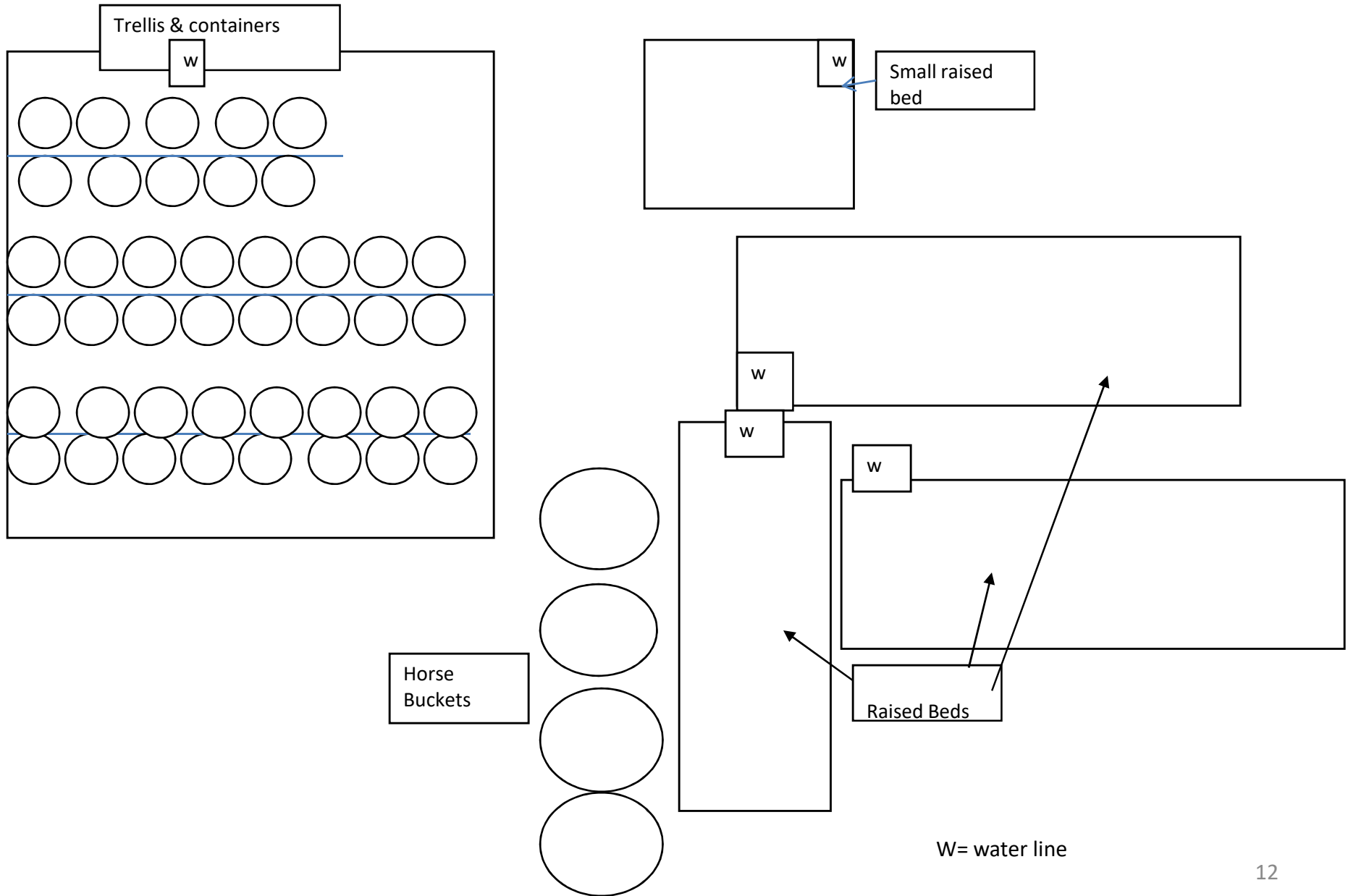


Vegetable Gardening Basics

- ❖ Size – start small and then expand
- ❖ Layout – Plan your rows; east/west, taller plants on the North, plant perennials together
- ❖ Soil Analysis



Make A Garden Plan



Make a List of What You Want to Grow

Tomatoes:

Early Girl
Sun Gold
Roma
Purple Bumble Bee
San Marzano
Ace
Sweet Aroma
Jet Star
Opalka

Other Vegetables:

Contender Green Beans
Market More Cucumber
Painter Serpent Cucumber
Pumpkins-Sweet Baby
Lufa
Zucchini
Yellow squash
Butternut squash

Peppers:

Golden Bell
Feher Orzon
Ozark Giant – Red
Orange Bell
California Wonder Bell
Nadapeno
Craig's Grande – Jalapeno
Thai Chili
Ajvarski – Red roasting
Sweet Banana

Herbs:

Parsley
Basil
Dill
Fennel
chamomile

Melons:

Cantaloupe – Hearts of Gold

Choosing a Method

First considerations:

❖ Size, soil, and what are you growing

❖ In Ground

❖ Raised Beds

❖ Containers



Gardening Methods

In ground

- ❖ Traditional method
- ❖ Cost effective
- ❖ Uses existing soil
- ❖ Less permanent
- ❖ Lower water requirements



Growing Methods

Raised Beds

- ❖ Garden in poor soil conditions
- ❖ Attractive
- ❖ Assessable
- ❖ Extends growing season



Growing Methods

Containers

- ❖ Growing in small spaces
- ❖ Portable
- ❖ Growing close to the house
- ❖ Controlling aggressive plants

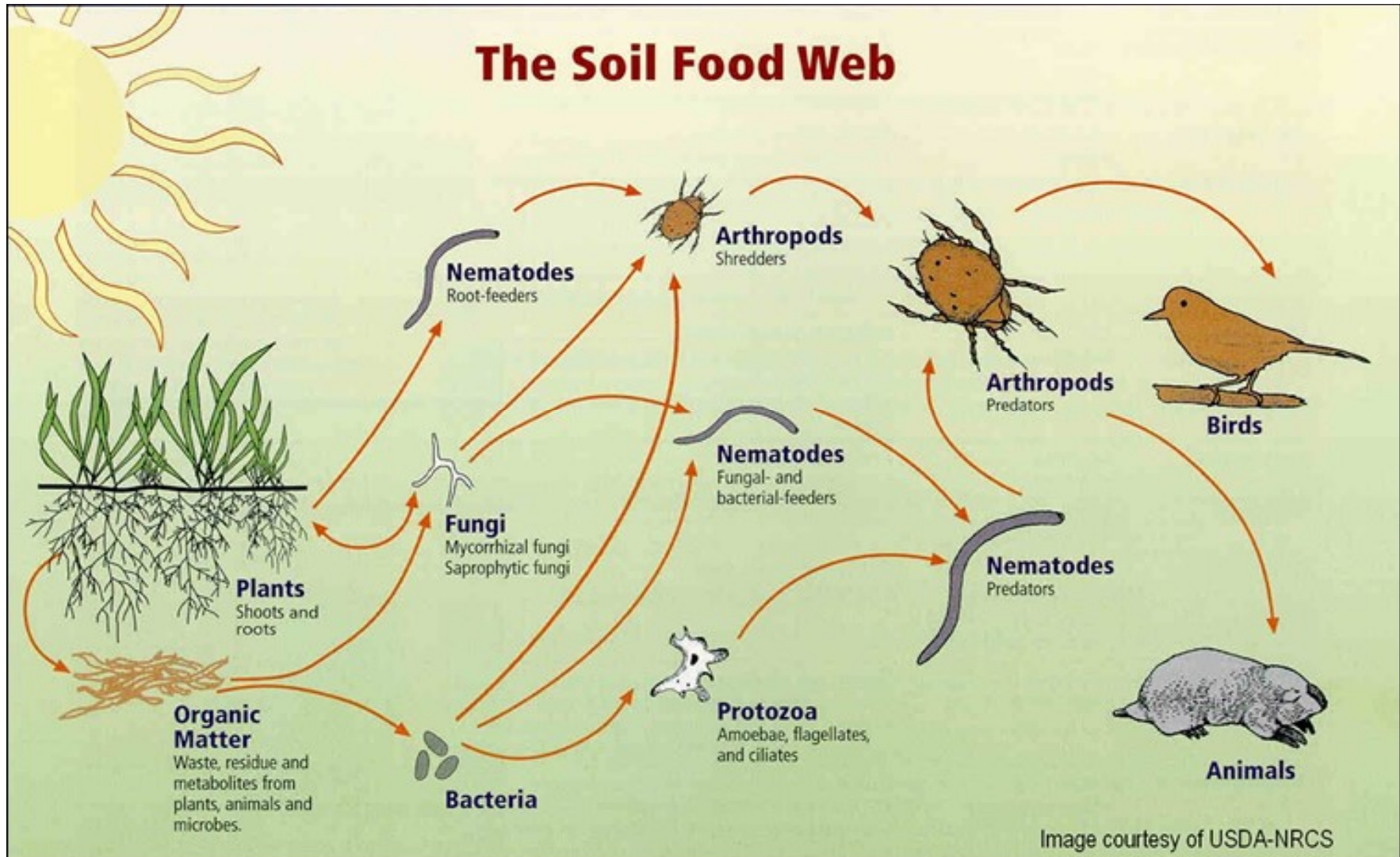


Preparing the Soil

- ❖ Amendments and fertilizers should be added before planting
- ❖ Avoid working wet soil
- ❖ Adjust pH – 5.8 to 6.3 best for vegetables
- ❖ Compost



The “dirt” on Soil



Lets Get Growing

Choosing Plants

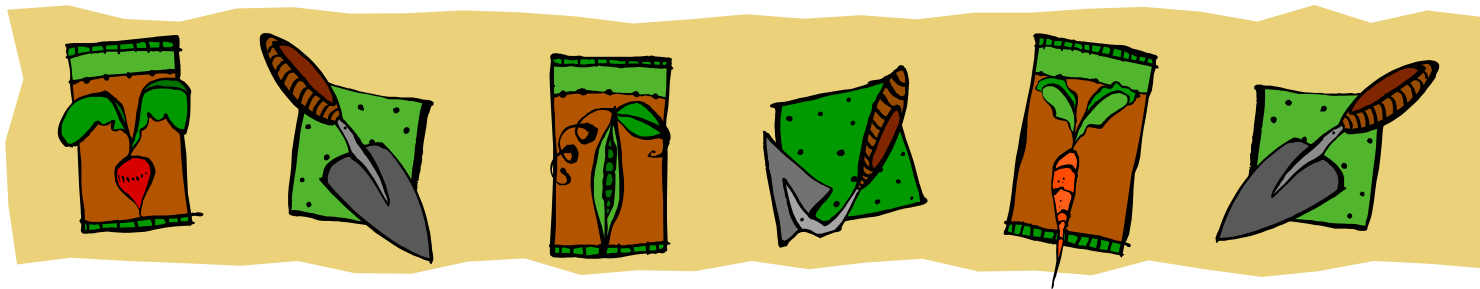
- ❖ Buy plants from reliable sources
- ❖ Choose plants that have true leaves and established roots
- ❖ Check for disease and pests



Lets Get Growing

Seeds:

- ❖ Know your climate zone
- ❖ Buy fresh seeds from a reliable source
- ❖ Read the seed packet
- ❖ Get a jump on the season
- ❖ More variety





Placer County Vegetable Planting Guide

Version 3.0

- Start seeds indoors
- Direct sow in garden
- Transplant
- Harvest

The dates on this chart are for gardens at about 1200' of elevation. For Winter/Spring planting, gardeners at higher elevations should delay planting by about 2 weeks for every 1000' above 1200'. Gardeners at lower elevations should plant about 2 weeks earlier for every 1000' below 1200'.

City	Approx. Elevation	Avg. Last Frost Date
Roseville	165'	3/15
Lincoln	165'	3/15
Rocklin	250'	3/23
Loomis	400'	3/26
Granite Bay	480'	3/26
Penryn	625'	3/26
Newcastle	950'	4/2
Auburn	1225'	4/12

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
<i>eggplant</i>							
<i>peppers</i>							
<i>tomatoes</i>							
<i>winter squash</i>							
<i>beans, green</i>							
<i>beans, dried</i>							
<i>summer squash</i>							
<i>corn</i>							
<i>cucumber</i>							
<i>melons</i>							
<i>sweet potato</i>							
<i>okra</i>							

*Slips

Starting Seeds Indoors

Here's what you need:

- ❖ Suitable planting media
- ❖ Containers
- ❖ Seeds
- ❖ Warm location
- ❖ Adequate light



Transplanting and Planting



These will be ready to transplant in a couple of weeks when they have true leaves



These are ready for the garden

Direct Sowing

Planting directly in the soil

Soil Prep

- ❖ Organic matter added
- ❖ Temperature

Environment

Thinning



Tools



Spading fork



Hand trowels



Yardstick



Rake



Twine



Shovel

Pests

❖ Insects



Aphids



Grasshopper



Tomato horn worm



Stink bug



White fly

Pests

❖ Vertebrates



Rabbit



Raccoon



Rat



Deer



birds

Tips For Success

- Develop a plan
- Prepare the soil
- Location
- Start small
- Grow what you can use
- Choose healthy plants
- Purchase fresh seeds
- Manage pests
- Have fun



References

Iowa State University – Extension and Outreach

<https://store.extension.iastate/Product/pm870b-pdf>

Illinois State University

www.extension.illinois.edu/soils.cfm

Oregon State University – Extension Services

www.extension.oregonstate.edu/nep/edmaterials

University of Georgia – Cooperative Extension

www.extension.uga.edu/publications

Placer County Master Gardeners

www.pcmg.ucanr.org

The California Garden Web

www.cagardenweb.ucanr.edu

Thank You!

Any Questions?

Master Gardener Hotline: **(530) 889-7388**

Rot Line: **(530) 889-7399**

Master Gardener Website: **pcmg.ucanr.org**



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