

Tomatoes are the reason to grow a garden

For most of us who play in the dirt out in the backyard, the tomato is the reason. Sure we love our cucumbers and sweet corn. We always plant a few peppers and some potatoes. What would a vegetable garden be without green beans and carrots? Some of us even raise a little zucchini and eggplant, proving once again that most people will eat just about anything that is grown in the garden.

But the tomato is king! We love our tomatoes; fresh, canned, in salsa or used in dozens of different dishes we prepare almost everyday. And so, as our gardens begin to mature here



kay melia

• the gardener

in the High Plains, every gardener's eyes are solidly fixed on the tomato patch. We worry constantly about whether or not they are progressing properly. Are they getting enough water? Are the vines a nice green color or are they yellowing? Should I fertilize the, and if so, with what, and when? Why aren't they setting on? How long am I going to have to

wait to pick one? The answers to many of our questions depends on which variety we chose to plant. Some varieties will mature a long time before others. Some varieties will mature a long time before others. Some varieties have completely different growing habits, depending on whether they are determinate (smaller vines) or the larger indeterminate types. To complicate their development even further is the date that our plants were transplanted into the garden

and whether or not we caged or staked them, or just allowed them to sprawl. To assign a definite date of maturity is not possible. One thing is certain. The harvesting of the first tomato from our garden is a very special occasion!

Tomato plants are very shallow rooted. And so we must be aware of their need for moisture. I've always understood that they shouldn't be watered too often, but when summer temperatures reach into the 90s, I don't hesitate to water them on a regular basis...everyday if necessary. I've also learned to avoid using a lawn sprinkler anywhere near the

growing plants. I fertilize them at least twice with a water-soluble "pour on" type of material, readily available at the garden center. The first feeding comes when the first bloom appears, and the second about three weeks later. They get a third dose later if they have been weather damaged or just don't seem to be producing well.

I have 32 tomato plants in my garden, set out on Wednesday, May 12, or Thursday, May 13. All are caged and have black plastic on the bottom 18 inches of the cage. As of now, they are absolutely beautiful and all varieties but one are blooming

nicely. I have Northern Exposure, Super Tasty, Shady Lady and Prime Beef Goliath varieties, with the latter two new to me.

I'm going to select two plants of each variety and keep records on them this year. I'll count the number I pick of each variety and also weigh them by variety to determine total production. I'll give you a report when the production hopefully begins in August.

I hope you're enjoying some early maturing stuff now. And remember it's much more enjoyable out there at 6 a.m. than at 2 p.m.

You may need to prop up fruit tree limbs this year

This year we are seeing fruit loaded on peach, pear, plumb and apple trees. I am seeing a lot more fruit set on than I had expected because of the freezes. In many cases the load is greater than the trees have had for several years. Heavy fruit loads this season may cause tree limbs to break without added support. This is especially true for apricot and peach trees that haven't had to support a heavy fruit crop in a number of years.

As fruits increase in size, the



dana belshe

• ag notebook

weight borne by an individual branch can increase substantially. For added support, use one-inch thick boards to prop limbs. Cut a V in the top edge of the board and rest the limb on it so it doesn't slip off.

Long limbs loaded with fruit may need a prop in the center and another on the outer part of the limb.

Another technique is to tie plastic belting material that is

about two inches wide to a heavily loaded limb, then to a large diameter limb above for support. When using a large limb for support, tie it to limbs on opposite sides so the weight is balanced.

A third option is to wrap tape or belting material around the tree in a

spiral to prevent limbs from bending until they break. Heavy twine also can be used, but be sure to remove it at harvest or soon after so it does not cut into the bark on the limb.

Check trees regularly, maybe twice a week, during the last month fruit is maturing. You will find ad-

ditional limbs that need support. This attention given to the heavily loaded tree limbs will reduce the number of broken limbs and help keep a balance of the fruiting wood in your tree.

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Sunflower Contest

RULES

- Write down as many words (at least 3 letters) that you can think of using the word "Pericarp"
- Do not use proper names

• Bring your completed list to The Goodland Star-News office at 1205 Main by 12:00 p.m. by Monday, August 16th
Winners will be announced in the Friday, September 3 edition.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ |
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| 4. _____ | 29. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 30. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 31. _____ |
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| 21. _____ | 46. _____ |
| 22. _____ | 47. _____ |
| 23. _____ | 48. _____ |
| 24. _____ | 49. _____ |
| 25. _____ | 50. _____ |

(If you have more than 50, please attach an additional sheet)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Age _____

Winner of the Sunflower Contest will receive a FREE 1 year subscription to:

The
Goodland Star-News

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Calvary Gospel Church

Pastor: Randy Payne
Fourth & College • 890-3605
Saturday night: 6 p.m.
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10 am
Morning Service: 10 am
Prayer and Praise: 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m.
Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
Youth @ the Rock House: 6:30 p.m.
Small Group Ministries meets through out the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal
307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
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Spanish Mass:
Sunday: 12:30 pm

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Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.
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Bible Baptist Church

Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks
Fifth & Broadway
890-7368
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Morning Service: 10 a.m.
Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
(719) 346-7984
Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo
Spanish Speaking Church
Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.
1601 Texas • 899-5275
Daily Prayer: Sunday thru
Saturday: 5a.m. & 6 p.m.
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 a.m.

United Methodist Church Brewster:

Pastor: Dorine Chambers
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST
Winona:
Minister: Sheryl Johnson
Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly
Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233
Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups,
Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups,
Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship
Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing
Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler
Nurseries Available

Kanorado United Methodist Church

Pastor: Leonard Cox
399-2468
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene

Pastor: Bob Willis
Third & Caldwell
899-2080 or 899-3797
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:50 a.m.
Evening Service: 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.

Goodland United Methodist Church

1116 Sherman 899-3631
Pastors: Dustin and Shelly Petz
Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live
5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400
Pastor: Chad DeJong
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
Wednesday: AWANA (Winter)
and prayer: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake
1121 Main
890-3450
Sunday:
Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.
Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.
Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

13th & Center
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969
Priest: Father Hal Lycett
Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
10:00 a.m. Thursday
Daily Morning Prayer
For emergencies 890-6969

Harvest Evangelical Free Church

521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423
Pastor: Brian Fugleberg
Sunday: Worship: 9:30 a.m.
No Sunday School this summer.
Wednesday:
Senior high 6:30 p.m. at Chuck and Janet
Redlin's
www.goodlandefree.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail
Pastor: Jerry Nowack
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship:
10:15 a.m.
Worship Service: 9 a.m.

Church of Christ

401 Caldwell
890-6185
Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:**

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