

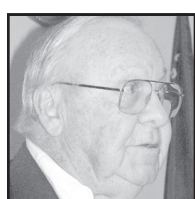
Gardener changes his most important step

By Kay Melia
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Time was, (last year) when I sincerely believed that the most important step to a productive garden, was proper seed variety selection. In other years, in descending order, I believed that the most important facet of gardening was proper soil preparation, watering the garden correctly, timely harvesting or planting as early as possible.

Do you mind if I change my mind again?

I think I finally have it right, after all those years of hanging out in the backyard.



kay melia
• the gardener

All things considered, the absolute sure way to insure a productive garden is the proper use of mulch. You heard right. Mulch! It's defined as any material or substance such as straw, leaves, old hay, shredded newspaper, compost or black plastic, spread on the ground to prevent the growth of weeds, preserve

moisture, and to protect the roots of plants from heat and cold.

I must tell you, and I'm certain that other gardeners will verify, that I cannot recall ever having a crop failure when I have properly mulched the rows or beds of growing plants. The truth became apparent again this year when I properly mulched my potatoes, peppers, cucumbers, and cantaloupe and all produced bumper crops. Other vegetables not receiving this preferred treatment produced average crops, or less.

My mulch of choice is leaves. I sack up many, many bags of them each October and November and store them in the barn until application time next gardening season. It doesn't have to be leaves. Straw, available in abundance in this area, is very good mulch and the older the better. The problem with straw nowadays is finding a farmer who still utilizes the small bales. Trying to mulch a garden with a big, round bale is not recommended.

There is a proper time to apply mulch in your garden. Never add it around growing plants until the soil has warmed to as high as 60 to 65

degrees, because plant roots might be damaged if the soil is still cool. When the soil warms up, mulch will keep the roots at the proper temperature while the plant is maturing. When you add mulch, apply it generously. I mulch potatoes when the plants are only about 8 inches high and I almost cover the plant with the leaves. The leaves soon settle and the plants thrive. Mulch serves still another important job when you plow your garden in the fall and all those nutrients are returned to the soil, black plastic mulch not included.

Again what are the seasonal ad-

vantages of mulching? No weeds grow through the mulch, moisture, both added and natural, keeps the plants moist and your garden will need much less watering all summer. Cooler root systems also means bigger crops.

Proper mulching of your garden is practically a guarantee of a more productive garden. Lay in a good supply of those big black trash bags as you locate a supplier of good clean leaves when fall arrives. Find a farm friend who might trade a small bale or two of straw for a few onions next summer.

Are you a good neighbor about volunteer wheat?

Controlling your volunteer wheat can put you in the "good neighbor" category! Wheat streak mosaic was quite a challenge last year and had significant impacts on the yield of some fields.

The wheat mosaic virus is moved by the wheat curl mite. This mite is too tiny to see with the naked eye, but can sometimes be seen with a hand lens. It is tiny and cigar-shaped. The mite lives in volunteer wheat during the summer and is happy to move to newly emerged tender wheat. It can move up to a half mile on the wind.

In addition to carrying the wheat streak mosaic virus, it can also move High Plains Mosaic virus and Triticum Mosaic Virus. These viruses



jeanne falk
• extension district

are nearly always found in conjunction with wheat streak mosaic and produce more severe symptoms than wheat streak mosaic alone.

To prevent the movement of the mites and viruses, it is critical that all volunteer within a half mile be completely dead at least two weeks prior to planting. Destroying volunteer wheat after the new wheat emerges is too late. The worse scenario is to have volunteer wheat dying as the newly planted wheat is emerging.

The mites will move from their dying food source to the new, tender wheat to begin feeding again. The two weeks is critical because that gives the mites time to die due

to lack of food.

Herbicide control and tillage are two options for controlling volunteer wheat. Tillage and herbicides are also often combined for an effective control program that leaves much of the stubble in place. Many burn down herbicides, such as

glyphosate (Roundup, Durango, Glystar, Makaze, Touchdown, etc) or paraquat (Gramoxone), will provide control. Grazing volunteer is not an effective option because it does not provide complete control. Even intensive and close grazing still has green tissue that the mites

can live on. Neighbors also need to cooperate in finding 'hidden' volunteer wheat. The 'hidden' places might include field edges, ditches and in double-cropped ground. Be especially sure to look in the direction of the prevailing wind!

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Pastor: Randy and Mary Payne
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Prayer and Praise: 5:00 p.m. except last Sunday of the month

Wednesday: Royal Rangers, Missionettes 6:30 p.m.

during school year

Youth @ the Rock House, Sixth & Caldwell: 6:30 p.m.

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Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Pastor: Father Norbert Diabal
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Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 6 pm, **Sunday:** 10:30 am

Spanish Mass:

Sunday: 12:30 pm

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

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Pastor: Perry Baird

Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.

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Promiseland Baptist Church

Pastor: Rick Holmes • 890-7082

225 W. 16th

(785) 890-7944

Sunday: Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Morning Service: 11:30 a.m.

Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study Service 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: Adult Bible Study 7-8 p.m.

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: Church School - All ages 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group: 1st and 3rd Sundays 5-7 p.m.

Thursday: Prayer Class - Noon

Pastor Carol's Class 5:45 p.m.

www.goodlandfccdoc.org

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.

Word of Life

10th & Clark

1-888-781-3450

Pastor: (to be announced)

Services: (to be announced)

A Foursquare Gospel Church

Goodland Bible Church

109 Willow Road • 899-6400

Pastor: Chad DeJong

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.

6 p.m. AWANA during school

Evening Worship: 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 6:30 youth group

Growth groups call for information

www.goodlandbible.org

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 890-7245

Services: 5 p.m. Saturday evening

Harvest Evangelical Free Church

521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423

Pastor: Brian Fugleberg

Sunday: Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday:

Senior High 6:30 p.m. at the church

Junior High 6:30 at the church

www.goodlandefree.com

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161

Pastor: Darian Hybl

Sunday: Christian education/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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