

Unconsumed organic matter is best

By Kay Melia
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It's the year 2012, right? It's an era of unbelievable technological advances, like 100 bushel per acre wheat crops, and federal budgets measured in the trillions of dollars and so much more. And yet, most home gardeners are not aware that unconsumed organic material carries more nutrients than it does after it has been ingested, digested and expelled.

It is not difficult to believe in this computerized age that there are very few who remember when animal manure added untold value to the



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• the gardener

soil and it's distribution from barns and chicken houses to gardens and cornfields was what made things grow and thrive. When just an "overallled" kid, I was the one to roll the trailer over to the chicken house door and scoop everything out for delivery to the garden site. It was a "twice a year" ritual, because everyone knew that manure, from all

farmstead occupants, was the reason that field crops and garden vegetables thrived and produced outstanding yields.

And then came a time when the word was spread by scientists that studied such things that the manure of most farm animals is low in plant feeding elements, even when it is fresh and then when it ages sufficiently so that it does not burn plant roots, most of the nutrients have drained away. The result is that when the gardener works the dry material into the soil,

there isn't much left but fiber. That's not all bad, because fiber enhances the structure of the soil. But the truth is that cow manure, when dry, contains only about 2 percent nitrogen, and that's not enough to help the plant very much.

It was in 1940 that Sir Albert Howard of England wrote a book entitled "Agricultural Testament" that was the springboard for information that manure just wasn't the valuable stuff that people were brought up to believe. Sir Albert wrote that animals, in digesting and assimilating vegetable matter, actually use practically all the nu-

trient content for their own bodies, leaving very little recyclable value in their manure.

Therefore, organic matter of almost every kind, when plowed into the soil and allowed to biodegrade, provides more soil nutrients than manure, because most of the nutrients were used by the animal during his own growth cycle. Still, we have the fiber factor, which really helps the soil. We just have to find other ways to fertilize field and garden crops.

If gardeners really want to do something for soil enhancement, they should build and maintain a

compost pile. Research shows that homemade compost provides twice the feeding elements of an old manure pile. But we must remember that the addition of any organic material, while tremendously valuable for soil structure, does not and cannot begin to equal the value of commercial fertilizers in terms of crop production.

I think back to all those years that I was the appointed one to clean out the barn and chicken house and spread it over the garden and around the fruit trees. Chopped up cornstalks would have done the job better! Now they tell me!

Office has information for new vegetable gardeners

People that are new to vegetable gardening often don't know how much of each crop to plant. Kansas State "Vegetable Garden Planning Guide" gives information on the size of planting needed per person and the average crop expected per 100 feet. Also included is a garden calendar highlighting suggested planting dates and expected harvest dates. Crop specific information is detailed including days to germinate, plants or seeds needed per



dana belshe

• ag notebook

100 feet of row, depth of planting, spacing within the row and spacing between rows. You can pick up the publication here at the extension office or online at: <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/hort2/mf315.pdf>

Another, more in-depth publication that is available for purchase is titled the "Kansas Garden Guide." I recommend this publica-

tion to both new and experienced gardeners alike. This 77-page booklet has sections on planning a garden, composting, improving soil, seeding and planting, garden care, watering, planting gardens for fall production, insect and dis-

ease control, container gardening, season extension and harvesting and storing. This is followed by an extensive section on how to grow specific vegetables and herbs. Like I said, this is a for sale item and you can pick one up at any of the

Sunflower Extension Offices at 813 Broadway, Room 301 or you may order the print publication at <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/hort2/s51.aspx>. This web page also provides a link to a free PDF copy of the same publication.

clubs

Country Clovers March

The regular monthly meeting of the Country Clovers 4-H Club was held on Monday, March 12, at the Sherman County 4-H building. President Parker Sieck called the meeting to order. Ella Ihrig and Taitem Ketter led the club in the flag salute, club pledge and a son of "I'm a Little Leprechaun." Roll call was answered by the number of years the member has been in 4-H. There were 21 members, two leaders, two guests and seven parents present.

Secretary Kaitlyn Daise read the minutes and they were approved as read. Treasurer Alexis Bergquist gave the treasurer's report and it was received as read. Trevor Daise, reporter, stated that an article was submitted to the newspaper. Kate Zelfer and Garrett Nemechek, council members, gave the council report. Leaders Glenda Cochran and Diane Zelfer gave the leaders report.

Club officers and Leader Diane Zelfer held a new member initiation for the Country Clovers' one new member, Kayleigh McCombs. The officers went over all their job duties and explained what the "H" stands for.

There was no old business. For new business a committee was set to establish a time and place to have a fund raiser spaghetti supper.

For the program, Jamie Nemechek gave a demonstration on her horse project on "How to wrap a horse's leg." Lacie Cowan gave a project talk on her leadership project on "Why we need leaders." Ihrig gave a health and safety talk on "Kitchen safety." Peri Sieck played "Home on the Range" on the piano. Peyton Sieck and Kelsey White led the club in a fun game of "String Relay Race."

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting by saying the club motto.

The next meeting is at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 23.

By Trevor Daise, reporter

Prairie Dale 4-H March

The model meeting of the Prairie Dale 4-H Club was held on Monday, March 12, at the Sherman County 4-H building. President Shayley Miller called the meeting to order. She led the club in the flag salute and the club pledge. Roll call was answered by, "What is your middle name?" There were 21 members, two leaders, and 12 guests present.

Secretary Sianna Miller read the minutes and they were approved as read. Treasurer Manten Crow reported on the club finances. Reporter Evan Peter reported the February minutes were published in the newspaper. Historian Morgan Pritchard reported he needs pictures from talent night. He stated all five members that participated did a great job. A special committee of Trent Coon, Manten Crow, Layne Goodwin, Sianna Miller, Gantzen Miller, Nathan Gillming, Jerek Crow and Ashtin McClung performed a skit about 4-H.

There was no unfinished business. Under new business, it was suggested that the Corner of 17th and Broadway needs to be taken care of. Amanda Coon made a motion to weed and take care of this corner

as a community service project for this year. After much discussion, it was moved and seconded that we appoint a committee to find out more information about the project. Layne, as chairperson, along with Peter and Manten Crow will gather more information and get back to the group.

Shayley Miller passed the gavel to Vice President Jonah McClung to introduce the programs. Dillion Gillming gave a demonstration on making Orange Julius. Nolan Deeds gave a health and safety talk on sleep. Layne Goodwin gave a project talk about horses. Brooke Lockhart presented a music lesson on bagpipes and Rebecca Lockhart presented a 'Clover' game for recreation. After the completion of the programs, Jonah McClung handed the gavel back to Shayley Miller. It was announced that upcoming events include — discovery days, day camp, 4-H council. It was also reported that our skit from talent night received a blue ribbon.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting by saying the club motto and putting up chars. The Deeds and Coon families provided refreshments. The next meeting will be Sunday, April 15.

Evan Peter, reporter

Rotary

The Goodland Rotary Club met for their regular weekly meeting at the Northwest Kansas Technical College meeting room. After the noon meal, President Marty Melia called the meeting to order.

The club welcome guest and future Rotarian, Ryan Hembree, who is the store manager at Wal-Mart.

President Melia reminded the club members of the Rotary District Conference taking place next Friday and Saturday in Philipsburg.

Stephen West reported that the Rotary scholarship committee will meet on the evening of Wednesday, May 2, to select Goodland High School Seniors to receive various scholarships. West noted that Rotarian Gordon Colip has served on the scholarship committee for over thirty years.

The meeting was then turned over to the Rotarian of the day Ken Klemm. Klemm talked about Allan Savoy's principle's of holistic range management. Savoy, author of "Holistic Management" was originally from Zimbabwe and has influenced the conversion of 30 million acres of grass lands worldwide to the holistic approach. Klemm talked about how he uses the holistic concept on his buffalo ranch in Sherman County.

Next week's Rotarian of the day will be Linda Koons on Friday, April 27.

Visitors and those interested in joining Rotary are always welcome to attend the Goodland Rotary meetings, held every Friday at noon in the NW Tech College Student Union.

Marty Melia, club president

Worship warms the heart



Calvary Gospel Church

Pastor: Randy and Mary Payne
Fourth & College • 890-3605
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10 am
Morning Service: 8:30 and 10:30 am
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.
Life Groups - Call for information
Join us on Facebook
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Celebrant: Father Norbert Dlabal
307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment
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
5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering"
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Pleasant Home Church

Serving the rural community
for over 120 years
Rt. 1, Box 180 • 3190 Road 70
(785) 694-2807
Pastor: Perry Baird
Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.

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
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 5:30 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.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Celebrant: Father Don Martin
13th & Center
Church 890-2115 or 890-7245
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday evening

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

H2O Church.TV

Pastor: Craig Groeschel
1022 Main
(785) 728-0123
Experience Time
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

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 p.m. at the church
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
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.

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

Short & Son Trucking
Hwy. 24

Koons Funeral Chapel
North Main

Good Samaritan Center
208 W. 2nd

Goodland Star-News
1205 Main St.

KLOE/KKCE/JKWGB
3023 W. 31

Classifieds work!
899-2338