



Issue #150
February 2005

**Out back, in
the garden...
Featured Article
Garden Monthly!
To Ponder
Growing Community
Closing Comments
Subscription Management**

WELCOME !!

Garden Notes Subscribers!!!

and "Happy Valentine Month! For all you who look forward to this holiday!

February is:

- *National Bird Feeding Month* -
In January 1994, Illinois 10th District Congressman John Porter read a resolution in the Congressional Record making February National Bird Feeding Month. The observance was established because it's one of the most difficult months in much of the U.S. for birds to survive in the wild.
- *National Cherry Month*
- *National Grapefruit Month*
- *National Potato Month*

We are SO very excited this month, we have some new MAJOR developments!

First, we have partnered with two new companies to bring you some of the most comprehensive shopping experiences in gardening on the internet!

Garden Simply's purpose is to be one of the most valuable sustainable gardening resources online. Read "About Us" **Here**. In order to fulfill that purpose, we have to produce income. Until now, we have been almost strictly information, no sponsors, no sales pitches, no hype at all.

And we don't intend to start now. What we do intend to do is succeed in our mission, and to do that, we must produce an income. We have been doing our research and are proud to introduce to you **Garden Simply's Online Nursery**, a partnership between us and Nature Hills Nursery based in Omaha, Nebraska, family owned and operated.

Nature Hills' successes are attributed to marketing healthy and competitively priced

products as well as making sure each item shipped comes complete with planting, care and storage instructions. We even guarantee our products.

Please take a minute and **browse our site** even if you are not in the buying mood today; we enjoy visitors, and are happy that you have chosen to visit us!

Second, We got a new layout for Garden Notes! How do you like the new design? Please **send compliments** (he he!) so that we can feel justified in the expense! We would love to post them. And don't forget to include your name and area!

And **Thirdly**, We've decided to start posting all our new articles in the newsletter for the review of all interested... it's a pain going there and looking to see what has changed every so often (like you'd know if you saw it right? 😊) So we thought this would make it easier for all our members to see things as they are added.

Happy Reading!

EarwigsArticles (IPM)

Fungus GnatsArticles
(IPM)

Seed SavingArticles
(Misc)

In the NewsArticles
(News)

Internet

GardeningCore Content
and of COURSE! Garden
Notes!



 [Back to Top](#)

Out back, in the garden...

Well, judging from the activity we've had this month, spring is just around the corner and gardening die hards from all walks are starting to think spring!

We've had a record month of visitors here at Garden Simply and we would like to thank all who visit us, but most of all, our subscribers. You all make this the most wonderful project in the world! We got an email last week from Cathy that said,


"Great site, thank you. I subscribed and I think this will be my favorite place to check frequently!"

Let us tell you, it's those comments that shine light on a gray day! Thank you for sharing! Be sure to keep gardening journals and let us in on your exploits, and

TAKE PICTURES! we'd love to **post them** on the site We will be highlighting what we receive in the 'Growing Community' section of Garden Notes. Hey, is anyone going to grow **Three Sisters** this year?

Remember....

Even though it's cold, continue to water regularly. Cold winter winds dry out soil and plants, especially transplants, with fatal consequences. Give plants a good watering the day before a cold snap for extra protection.

 [Back to Top](#)

FEATURED ARTICLE

-----==(*)=====

Last month we talked about cold frames for getting a head start on your spring. This month we're going to talk about starting your own plants indoors for spring planting.

For those of you who have saved seeds from last year, (or if you're like us, maybe who KNOWs how far back!) here's a tip....

Check your old seeds. Some vegetable seeds, such as beans, okra, and sweet corn, have a fairly short life. Other seeds, such as tomatoes, can last several years. When in doubt, do a germination test - count out 10 seeds, wrap them in a moist paper towel, put the towel in a baggie, and keep the baggie at room temperature. Keep the paper damp (not soggy!), and check daily. If 7 seeds germinate, then you can expect a germination rate of about 70%, and you'll just need to over-plant a bit. Seeds that germinate at less than 50% should be composted.

And there are **MORE Articles** on this topic.

Now then for our article of the month! If you are going to be starting your own seedlings for planting in your garden this year, here is some must have up to date information.

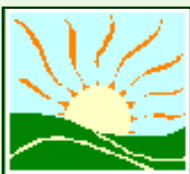
It's lengthy, so we've just put in a link to it **HERE...**

Enjoy!

 [Back to Top](#)

GARDEN MONTHLY

-----==(*)=====



Check out what goes on in the sustainable garden in the month of **February!**



HELP ANOTHER GARDENER OUT !

If you have any interesting gardening tips that you would like to share, Share them **HERE!**

We are in the process of creating a place to post all our subscribers' tips and tricks to help out other gardeners. Full credit will be given for every tip published, including your name and website if you have one.

Thank you for your help and suggestions!

 **Back to Top**

TO PONDER

-----=(*)=-----

Sustainable farmers recognize the importance of protecting the natural environment. These individuals manage their farms and gardens in a responsible manner, maintaining the fertility of the land and preserving resources for future generations; feeding their families healthy whole food.

Vs.

Industrial agriculture practices are responsible for a host of environmental problems; in addition to causing massive topsoil erosion, aquifer depletion, and the reduction of genetic diversity, factory farms pollute our air, water, and soil with hazardous gasses, toxic chemicals, and harmful pathogens.

Industrial farms cause \$34.7 billion worth of environmental damage in the U.S. each year.*

Sustainable Table.org *Norberg-Hodge, Helena , Todd Merrifield,; and Steven Gorelick. Bringing the Food Economy Home: Local Alternatives to Global Agribusiness. Bloomfield , CT : Kumarian Press, Inc. 2002.

 **Back to Top**

GROWING COMMUNITY

-----=====(*)=====

Plan community gardening activities for the coming year now while the outdoor workload is lighter. Host an informal gathering of gardeners. At the same meeting, begin assigning responsibilities for the coming year.

In this cold season, pitch in to help agencies that provide meals and shelter for those who need it, especially families. One inspiring program is the Urban Ministry Center's 'Room in the Inn', in Charlotte, North Carolina. It organizes local houses of worship and colleges to provide shelter and hot meals in cold weather for homeless families and individuals.

Read about it at

<http://www.urbanministrycenter.org/programs.html>.

 [Back to Top](#)

CLOSING COMMENTS

-----=(*)=-----

Well, our Welsh Corgi puppies are ready to go! If you would like to see our adorable little bundles of love, ready JUST in time for Valentine's Day check them out, [HERE](#).

© We are pleased to offer products from one of the largest, most dependable, and easiest places to navigate on the web, Gardener's Supply Company. They offer simply everything you'll need to get done what you want to get done.

We incur expenses every month making Garden Simply a truly valuable internet resource and with you visiting our sponsors, it will help keep us single moms at home with our children and help us all get through school!

And **NOTE!** They are offering *FREE SHIPPING!* on all orders over \$55!!!

Thank you for your support!

Until next month, remember the words of William Shakespeare

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet."



 [Back to Top](#)

SUBSCRIPTION MANAGMENT

-----=(*)=-----

HELP OUT YOUR FRIENDS - - - - -

People you care about can take charge of their garden by effectively using the information and resources available at Garden Simply.com Help them learn how - **forward them a copy** of this months Garden Monthly.

Let **GardenSimply** help you with a
plan of action
for YOUR garden every month!



**Get the eBook "Easy Plant
Propagation"
as a *FREE* gift for subscribing!**



>> subscribe!

Reading Room |
Trees and Shrubs |
Flowers |
Composting |
Soil | Nursery
Shopping |
Books | Tools |
News | Internet
Gardening | Links
Vermicomposting |
Pest Managment |
How To's |
Practical Advice |
Children

**Home | Garden
Monthly! |
Newsletter | About
Us | Contact
GardenSimply.
com** | All Rights Reserved

2004