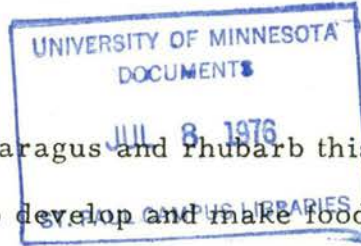


July 9, 1976

July Vegetables



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Stop harvesting asparagus and rhubarb this month to allow enough time for foliage to develop and make food for next year's crops. In asparagus don't remove tops until next spring. Extension Horticulturist Clint Turnquist says for vining types of tomatoes that are planted close, it may be desirable to prune and stake each plant. Pruning is accomplished by removing the lateral shoots that develop between the stem and the leaf. Allow only one, two or three stems to develop and tie these to a strong stake for support.

If you are not growing your tomatoes in black plastic, it would be helpful to apply a mulch of grass clippings, clean straw, ground corncobs or sawdust to smother weeds and conserve moisture. Only an inch or two thick will be helpful to eliminate the need of cultivation. Cultivation often results in blossom-end rot of tomatoes.

Temperature of water makes very little difference when used for irrigating vegetable gardens. Water the soil below the plants until it is soaked to a six to eight inch depth when needed. It is advisable to not apply water over the plants as it may result in more disease problems. The best time to water is during the early part of the day in the morning.

Keep your vegetables sprayed or dusted with sevin or methoxychlor for control of chewing insects. When aphids are present include malathion for control. Always read and carefully follow the label directions.

Use maneb or zineb for foliage blights on tomatoes and potatoes. Apply every ten days according to label directions.

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