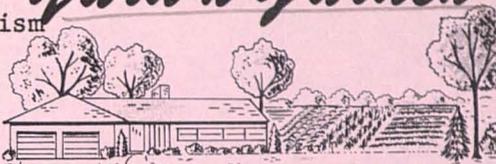


Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Yard 'n' Garden



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use week of
July 5, 1965

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VACATION GARDENING

Don't let your garden spoil your vacation. Good care before leaving can preserve the garden and leave it beautiful while you're gone. Two considerations must be kept in mind. First, how long you'll be gone, and, secondly, the kinds of materials you're growing.

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Summer mulches are very effective in conserving moisture in the garden and controlling weeds at the same time. If you can lengthen the period between waterings and control the weeds, you are taking the first step towards having the garden in good condition when you return. Mulches, such as rotted barnyard manure, compost, buckwheat hulls, commercial peat are all effective for the mulch. Place the mulch on the garden to a depth of 2 to 3 inches and water thoroughly, making sure that the mulch is also soaked.

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Disease and insects should not be allowed to take over while you are vacationing. Use a good all-purpose spray or dust for insects and diseases. For additional protection, you might want to use a miticide such as ovex, aramite, Tedion or Kelthane.

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Dead flowers in the garden tends to mature the plants and often cause discontinuance of bloom. Be sure to remove all dead or faded flowers before leaving.

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If you expect to be gone longer than two weeks, arrange to have the garden watered whenever normal rainfall is inadequate. Have the hoses handy in order to minimize this task for a neighbor.

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