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YARD 'N' GARDEN

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

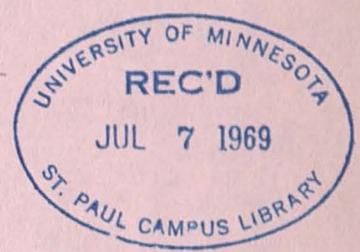


EXTENSION
HORTICULTURISTS

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RENOVATING STRAWBERRIES

Consider renovating the strawberry patch after harvest if you're carrying the planting over, especially if fruit production dropped.

Begin by mowing the plants to the ground with a scythe or mower. Rake the leaves and mulch and remove them from the patch.

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Next cultivate between the rows, leaving a narrow band of plants about 8 to 10 inches wide. The new row should be on either side of the original row of plants. Remove any old, weak plants, leaving only strong and vigorous young plants. Apply a sidedressing of a complete fertilizer such as 10-10-10 at the rate of 1 pound per 25 feet of row. If the weather is dry, a thorough watering will speed new growth.

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Herbicides can be applied immediately after renovation for weed control, but good results depend on using them correctly. Both Dacthal and Sesone will control annual germinating weed seeds. If weeds are present, hand weed the planting thoroughly before spraying.

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You'll find new plants forming soon. By fall you should have a new, well established bed ready for spring production. Keep the planting cleanly cultivated and water during dry spells. Keep the new bed no wider than 24 inches.

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