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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
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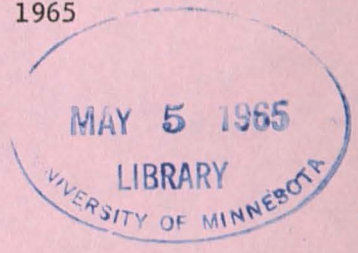
Yard'n' Garden



C. GUSTAV HARD ORRIN C. TURNQUIST
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ST. PAUL, MINN. 55101

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TAKING THE WORK OUT OF GARDENING

Tending the home landscape can be a pleasurable and relaxing task -- or it can be sheer drudgery. With the new concepts and garden aids available, the home gardener should have more time to enjoy his garden.

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One common error in gardening is to increase the size or quantity of plants as time-saving devices are used. Don't increase the size of flower beds when time is already the limiting factor. If you resort to power equipment, use it to make existing work easier and to save time, not to enlarge your plantings. Select equipment on the basis of the job to be done.

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Weeding the lawn can be done with chemical weed killers. Most of the broad-leaved weeds will be killed with 2,4-D chemicals. Be careful when using all chemicals. Be sure to read the label for instructions on timing, rates of applications and special precautions. Chemical crabgrass killers should be applied this spring. Hand weeding can be laborious this summer.

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Tired of weeding the flower garden? Then consider a summer mulch. A mulch layer of 2- to 3-inch thickness will control the weeds, as well as conserve moisture and reduce watering. Mulch materials such as commercial peat, sphagnum moss, ground corn cobs, compost or well rotted manures are effective.

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One suggestion for watering the flower garden is to use semi-permanent watering devices. Have them distributed so that the garden is watered uniformly at one time. This eliminates the moving of hoses and movement in the flower beds.

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