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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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yard/garden
radio briefs

Tip From UM Horticulturist:

(0:20)

Want more color in your spring garden? Nanking cherry, the edible cherry-plums and Moongold and Sungold apricots are flowering shrubs and small trees adding color and variety to early Minnesota springs. Apricots are best suited to southern Minnesota, but Nanking cherry and cherry plums can be grown in appropriate locations anywhere in the state.

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Controlling Cabbage Root Maggots

(0:28)

University of Minnesota entomologist David Noetzel (nate-zel) suggests using diazinon (die-ah-si-non) in the furrow at planting or transplant time to control cabbage root maggots.

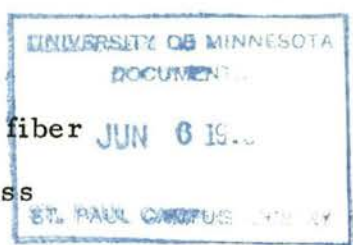
In spring early planted radishes are damaged from cabbage root maggot feeding. About the same time onions also show damage from the onion root maggot fly. These flies and their larvae may be resistant to chlordane, which normally is used for soil insect control.

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Wood Fiber Mulch

(0:28)

Dennis Darnell of the University of Minnesota says wood fiber mulches and compost are as effective in the garden as peat moss and cost less than peat.



Many gardeners overlook fiber-based products and don't realize that raw peat moss contains no mineral substances that are of direct benefit to plants. But up to 10 percent of many bark composts may have the mineral substances that benefit plants.

Darnell is an assistant forest products extension specialist.

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