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NEWSLETTER

October 2017

Kiwi Seed, Vickerman Street processing facility has remained busy over the winter months. White wheat and durum for our long term customer Hubbard Foods provides most of the volume. Popcorn, black oats, rye, corn, forage barley, various clovers and lucerne seed make up the balance of throughput.

For the coming harvest we add spelt to this list. A project initiated by Maren our agronomist who is familiar with old grains from her previous life in Germany.

Spelt may be used in place of wheat by people with mild gluten intolerance, **Avoid it if you are celiac!** First things first, we need to ensure the project is economic and viable for all the parties involved. Progress will be updated with field photos as we move forward.

Bruce

Dust of the gloves!

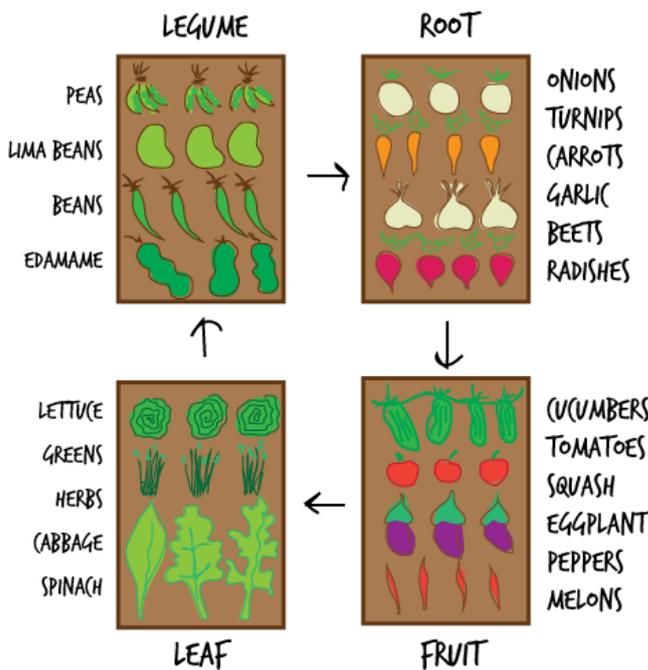
October is the start of the season for "Legionnaires disease".

To reduce the risk when dealing with soil, wear gloves and a disposable face mask.



Home Garden

Spring is in full flow. What to do in the veggie garden?



Beginners can make the mistake of planting all their Veggies in October. All the crops are then ready for harvesting at the same time.

The warm season veggies grow best at temperatures above 20°C. They grow poorly in cold weather and are susceptible to frost. This group includes beans, capsicum, eggplant, potato, sweet corn, sweet potato, tomato and all the cucumbers, melons, watermelon etc.... They are planted end of October to February for harvesting December to May.

You can still plant veggies which are intermediate and grow best at temperatures of 15 to 25°C. This group includes beetroot, cabbage, carrot, celery, leek, lettuce, parsnip, radish and silver beet. Many of these can be grown in cool or warm conditions, but the correct variety for the season must be chosen or they will bolt to seed quickly.

For a good continuous supply of veggies, it is best to plan requirements and sow little and often. At the same time make use of the season changes and rotate your crops, like shown in the picture.

Fertilize:

This is a good month for spreading fertilizer around the entire garden. Kiwi Seed fertilizer mixes consist of both slow and fast release fertilizers to give you the best possible results.

Pre-mixed fertilizers available:

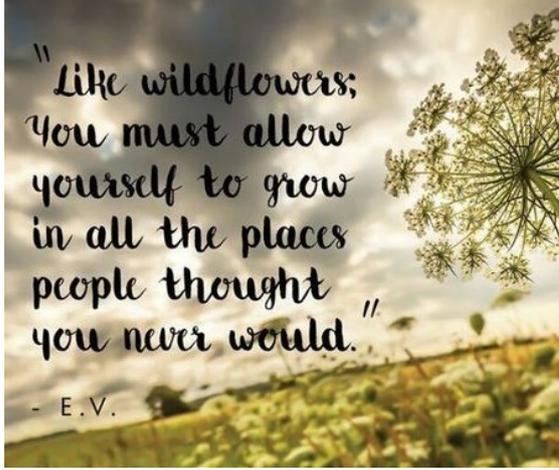
Bulb, General Garden, Rhododendron, Camellia and Azalea, Citrus, Rose, Potato and Tomato.

Treatment time

External parasites such as lice, flies, mites and fleas are a problem.

These pests are more prevalent during spring and summer months.

We have a range of product to combat itchy critters.



Codling moth control October – February

Protect your fruit trees from codling moth. Monitor moth numbers using non toxic traps, remove affected fruit off the tree and ground, put cardboard shields around the trunk to catch climbing up larvae, sow Buckwheat, Alysum and other wildflowers underneath your trees to attract beneficial insects. Attract Birds as they are great at controlling moth and larvae. If you choose to spray pesticide do so after bees stopped foraging and eggs are hatching.

Wild and Wonderful

Wildflowers have the power to turn the most ugliest piece of land into a beautiful, magical scenery. This can be 1 sqm or a full sized meadow and everything in between. Talk to Maren here at Kiwi Seed about your project next time you are in.

Sweet corn

End October early November is a good time to sow your corn into nutrient rich soil. Beans (climbing), Cucumber, Peas, Pumpkin, Squash, Zucchini, Marjoram and Sunflower are great companions for corn. Once the first silks appear, keep your plants well watered, so that you get the juiciest cobs.

Where does popcorn come from? Zea mays everta is the only variety of maize that will actually pop, during the Great Depression it became a popular treat, because it was so inexpensive. The popcorn corn kernels contain air pockets and pop in contact with a source of heat. Nutritious (source of Iron, B6, Mg), low calorie and crunchy, popcorn naturally appeals to all ages.

Next time you are at the Movies you might even enjoy Popcorn produced by Kiwi



Manage your lawn:

Regular lawn Seed: Elite traditional lawn blend, soft, fine and tidy.

Hardy lawn Seed: Drought tolerant, premium wear resistant, dark green colour.

Superfine Lawn Seed: Extra fine, low maintenance, ideal ornamental lawn, good colour retention over cooler months.

Lawn care:

Fertilize the lawn: Feeding is an important part of your maintenance program. Lawns need frequent feeding.

Grass Grub: grass grub adults emerge in October and are active until December. Each female beetle can lay 100 or more eggs in just a month. Sprinkle Neem granules around December when grubs are hatching.

Herbicide: different products in stock

Red thread: When the disease strikes you will see distinct red threads in the grass areas affected. This shows-up a nitrogen deficiency.

Moss: The presence of moss, slime, algae and liverworts is of due of a poor drainage. Iron Sulphate is the moss killer you are looking for.

Also available Pasture Grass Mixes:

Equine Non Ryegrass, Pasture Patch, Stop Bank and custom blends

We would like to do our bit for the environment by sending out our accounts and newsletters via email.

Please subscribe by emailing us at info@kiwiseed.co.nz.

You can also use the same address to unsubscribe from the newsletter if you wish.

Thank you from all at Kiwi Seed.