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NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Again Europe is facing a very hot and dry year. The autumn/ winter rains haven't been able to fill up the ground reservoirs. In time of bushfires and plentiful crop failures due to nil rain, it becomes very obvious that anorganic fertilisers and the industrial way of food production has reached it's limit.

Growing a healthy soil is a very sensible solution to making sure the ground is more capable to hold its moisture and provide enough nutrients for healthy vegetables even during those dry, hot parts of the year. Irrigation will still be required in some parts of the country to ensure your veggies, flowers and fruits are flourishing next summer, just not as often as on dead soil with nil organic matter.



Now is a great time to prep your garden for spring time and set up conditions to build healthy soil over winter. Legumes are great plants for this matter. Broad beans and Peas are legumes, which will fix atmospheric Nitrogen through symbiosis with rhizobia within nodules in their root system. Beans and peas can be eaten and when the plant dies the fixed Nitrogen is released, making it available to other plants. Either dig in on the spot or add to your compost heap. Double winner.

Kiwi Seed have a couple varieties available in store. Also available and great for building healthy soils are Lupins (legume) especially together with Black Oats and Mustard. Sow now and mulch/ dig in on the spot coming spring or add to your compost heap to make great compost.

Spelt Husk

For a couple of years Kiwi Seed has been multiplying Spelt grain for the NZ market. While we are focusing on the grain, we get a very nice by-product suitable for animal bedding, think chicken/ birds, guinea pigs, rabbits and calves.

We will start selling Spelt husk at our shop soon. So keep an eye out for this product.



Bainbridge Supreme Poultry feeder – 5 kg

Unique feeder segregations create significantly lower feed losses from flicking and scratching.

- Heavy duty professional range
- Easy to fill
- Rotate to adjust food level
- Comes with legs
- UV stabilized

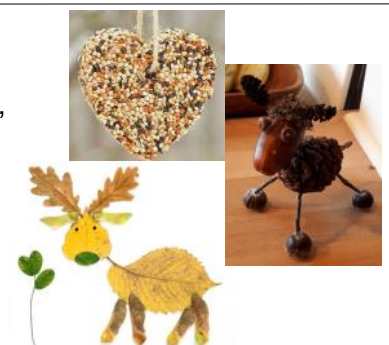
**available
in store**

Take the kids out on a nice autumn day to collect acorns, pine cones, horse chestnuts, alder cones and loads of colourful leaves.

Nature provides an unbelievable amount of different shapes and colours for free, which can be turned into fantastic art work on cold, rainy days even by very small children.

Our Wildbird seed mix also provides plenty of different shapes and colours and is the perfect addition to any craft material collection this autumn.

There are no limits to your creativity.



Seed Garlic now available

Printanor, is a French, white skinned variety that grows medium sized bulbs of garlic that keep well.



How to plant Garlic

Rule 1

Traditional planting time is around the shortest day. Professional Marlborough growers do plant from late July till August. Delayed planting time results in more uniform bulbs due to settled weather. In the Nelson area May plantings have also produced good crops. According to the moon calendar—19th to 26 May is a good time, and again with next full moon in June.

Rule 2

Use seed garlic from nurseries or Kiwi Seed only as this will grow. Garlic on supermarket shelves might not due to temperature treatments.

Rule 3

Best to plant into light soil with pH around 6, provide good levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and calcium

(NPK 12:10:10 as base fertiliser and maybe some Nitrophoska Blue, incorporate fertiliser or good amount of compost couple weeks prior planting.

Rule 4

Don't break cloves of bulbs until the day of planting and soak cloves 20 min in water before planting, this to prevent dehydration of cloves in the soil. Plant big healthy looking cloves only and harvest bigger bulbs.

Rotate your crop to prevent disease build up (follow brassicas), a good companion crop is parsnip.

Plant 2.5 cm deep and keep the ground weed free. Pea straw or Fibre Earth is great as mulch on top **(see in store for more details).**

Rule 5

Don't let the ground get too dry during spring but stop watering from December 10. The top will feed the bottom as the plant shuts down and matures.

Rule 6

Lift Garlic when the tops start to die down.

Rule 7

Hang up straight away in a dry spot with moderate temperature to keep skins intact, this will improve storage.

*Good range of fertilisers including
Lawn, Citrus, Nitrophoska, Blood and Bone, Seaweed etc.
as well as garden mulch, compost, sheep manure and fibre earth
available at Kiwi Seed.*

WORMAMEC

Broad spectrum worm and bot paste for horses.

For the treatment and control of roundworms, bots and nematodes.



Available in store



Samuel Showman

Duck shooting special

Barley, Ryecorn, Oats, Peas 25kg

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Thank you from all at Kiwi Seed.