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AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE

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Gardening in the Big Horn Basin

Gardening can be challenging in the Big Horn Basin. Our native soils are low in organic matter; the arid climate causes salts to accumulate in the soil; an unexpected late or early frost can kill plants. But we also have some advantages here like the long hot summers, low humidity, and relatively little wind compared to much of Wyoming.

Please be sure to come visit the [Worland Community Garden](#) this summer, and sign up for our [Horticulture email list](#).

Here are some resources that will help you get off to a good start, and hopefully inspire many years of fun and productive gardening.

Articles by Dr. Caitlin:

- [Growing Healthy Soil in the Garden](#)
- [Fall Soil Prep](#)
- [Saline Soils Present Special Problems](#)

Getting Started:

- [UW Extension: Vegetables in Wyoming](#)
- [UW BnB: Garden Economics](#)
- [UW BnB: Strawberries](#)
- [UW BnB: Raspberries](#)

Raised Beds and Containers

- [UW Extension: Container Gardening](#)
- [WSU Extension: Strawbale Gardening](#)
- [USU Extension: Raised Bed Gardening](#)

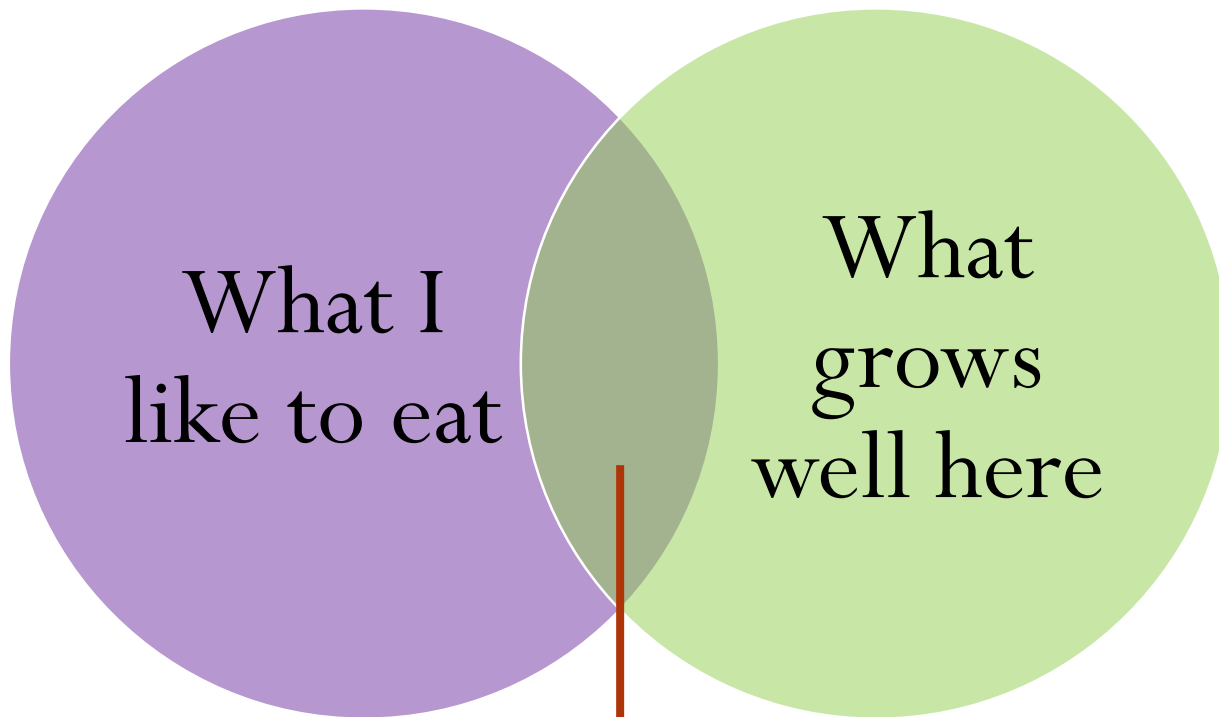
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Caitlin Youngquist
Extension Educator
Washakie County Office
(307) 347-3431
cyoungqu@uwyo.edu



Where

- Soil
- Sun
- Size

How

- Small containers
- Raised beds
- Straw bales
- In the ground

What

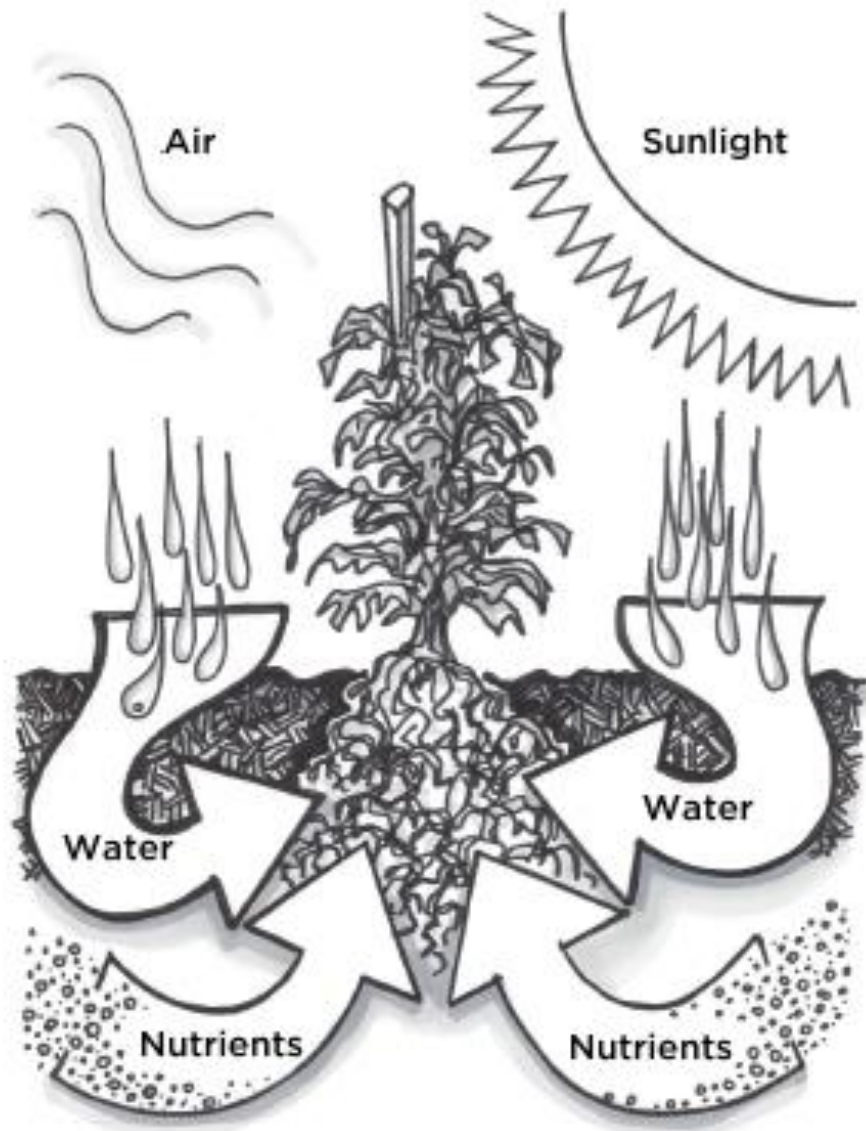
- Veggies
- Fruit
- Flowers

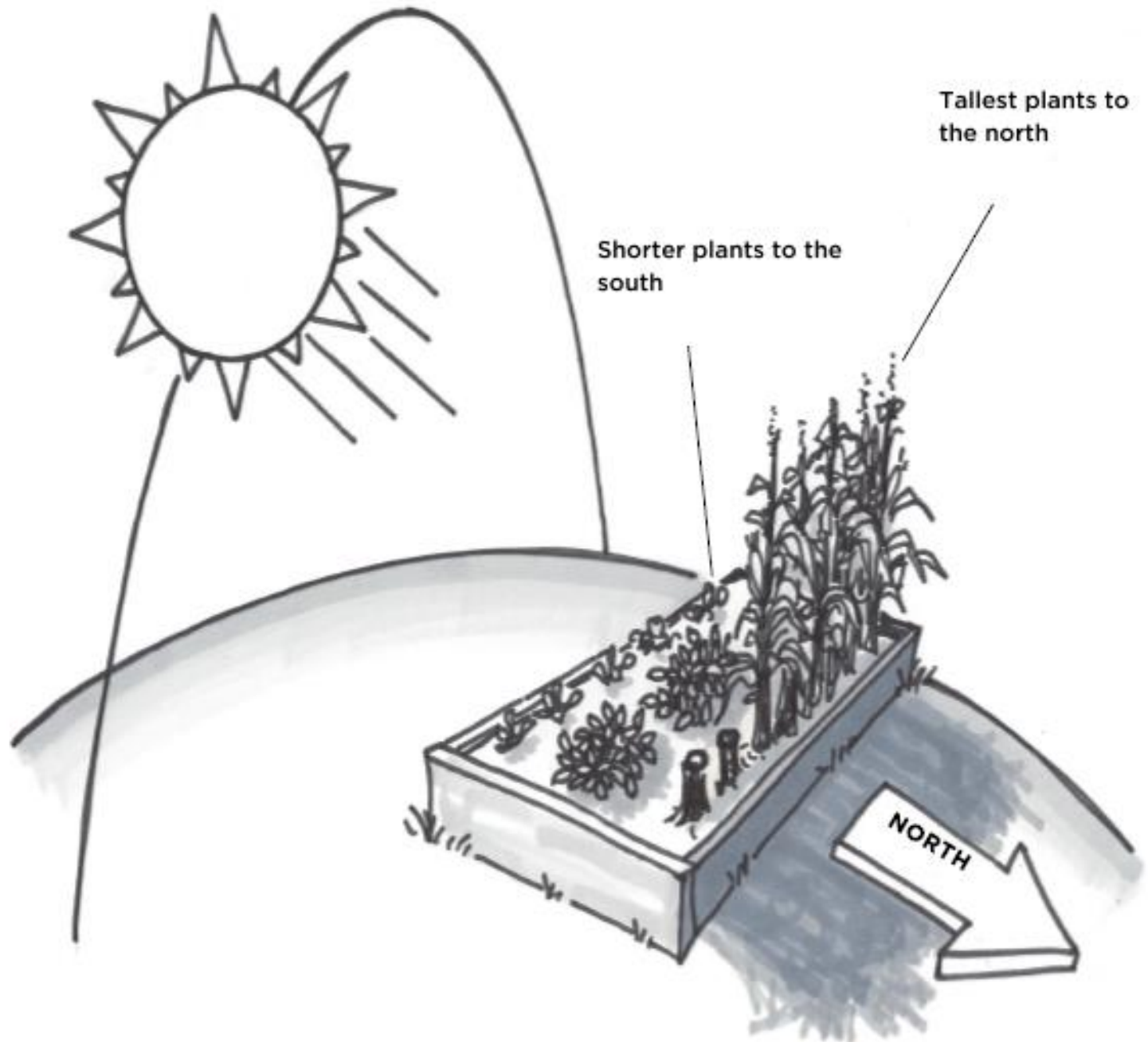


Where

- Soil
- Sun
- Size







Shorter plants to the south

Tallest plants to the north





Vegetable	# Wks start seed before set out	# Wks to set out vs. frost free date	February				March					April				May					June			July				August					September				Oct					
			2	9	16	23	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	##	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11			
Peas	3 - 4	6 - 8 B			SI	SI			FP	FP					#	#	#	#																								
Spinach/Kale	4 - 6	3 - 6 B					SI	SI	SI	SI		FP	FP	FP		#	#	#	#																							
Cabbage	4 - 6	4 B			SI	SI	SI	SI	FP	FP	FP													#	#	#																
Radish*		4 B							FP	FP						#	#	#																								
Beets*		3 B												FP	FP					#	#	#	#																			
Potatoes*												FP																# until 1st frost ----->														
Broccoli	4 - 6	3 B						SI	SI		FP	FP								#	#	#																				
Lettuce	4 - 5	3 B					SI	SI						FP	FP					#	#	#																				
Carrots*		2 B												FP	FP								#	#	#																	
Chard	4 - 6	2 B							SI	SI				FP	FP												# until 1st frost ----->															
Green Beans*		0 - 2 A														FP	FP										# until 1st frost ----->															
Sweet Corn*		0 - 2 A														FP	FP										#	#	#	#												
Cucumbers	3 - 4	1 - 2 A									SI	SI			FP	FP							#	#	#	#																
Summer Squash	3 - 4	2 A									SI	SI				FP							#	#	#	#																
Winter Squash	3 - 4	2 A									SI	SI				FP							#	#	#																	
Cantaloupe	3 - 4	2 A									SI	SI				FP							#	#	#																	
Watermelon	3 - 4	2 A									SI	SI				FP							#	#	#																	
Eggplant	8 - 10	2 - 3 A					SI	SI	SI	SI																	FP	FP	# until 1st frost ----->													
Peppers	8 - 9	2 A								SI	SI					FP																										
Tomatoes	6 - 8	1 - 2 A								SI	SI	SI				FP	FP											# until 1st frost ----->														

Lettuce can have successive plantings based on open space in beds.

B = Before, A = After	FP = First Planting	Last Spring Frost	First Fall Frost
* = Seed Outdoors	SI = Start Indoors	# = Produce Ripening	

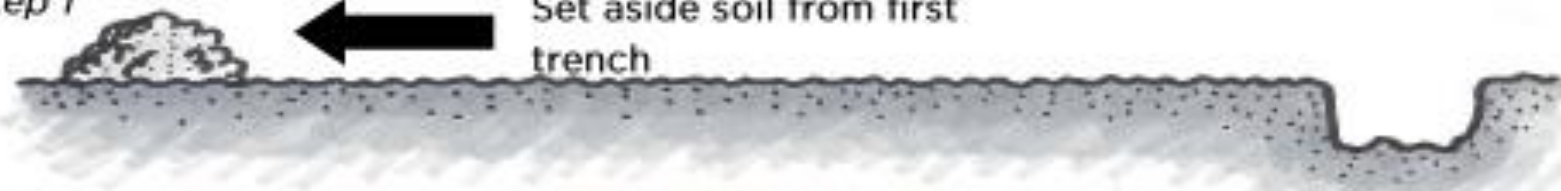
How

- Small containers
- Raised beds
- Straw bales
- In the ground





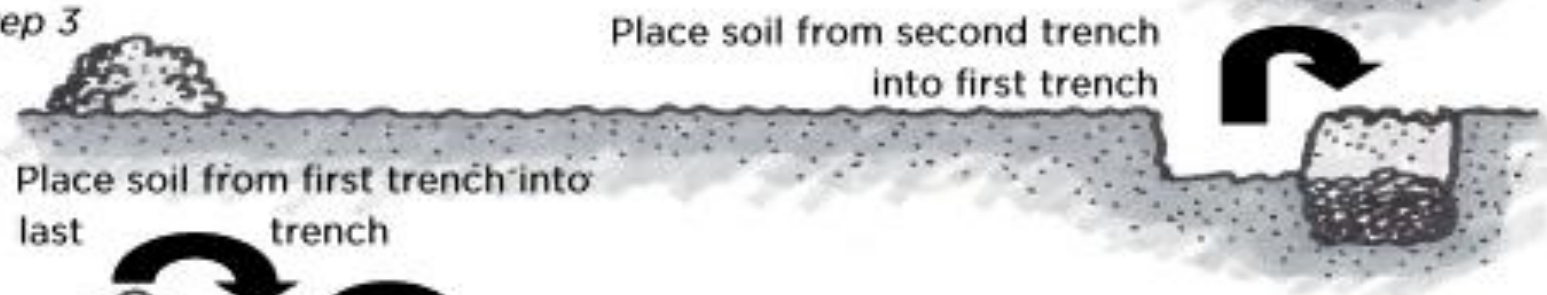
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4









Remove mulch and turn with a shovel



Hay
Straw
Leaves
Compost
Grass Clippings
Aged Manure
Woodchips/Sawdust
Cardboard/Newspaper

**Not enough
mulch**



**Lots of mulch
in the fall**









Straw bale Garden









Potting Soil

- For use in (small) container gardens, or house plants
- Not economical for use on a large scale
- Re-use next year, add a little fertilizer
- Can be used for starting seeds, depending on quality



ACE
Composted Manure
 DIRECTIONS AND USES

FLOWER & VEGETABLE GARDENS
 Broadcast 10 lbs. of Ace Composted Manure per 100 sq. ft. before planting. Mix well into soil.
 For trenching use 3 lbs. of Ace Composted Manure per 100 linear feet and mix with soil in bottom of trench.

SHRUBS & TREES
 Mix 1 part Ace Composted Manure with 3 parts soil and place in bottom of hole when planting or transplanting.

ROSES
 Place mixture of 1 part Ace Composted Manure and 3 parts soil in bottom of hole when planting. Cover mixture with layer of soil then set plants.

POTTING
 Mix 1-part Ace Composted Manure with 4 parts soil.

HOUSE PLANTS
 Use one level tablespoon of Ace Composted Manure for every inch of pot diameter. Mix and water.

INGREDIENTS:
 Derived from Composted Manure, Forest Products and Compost

Guaranteed Analysis:
 Total Nitrogen (N) 0.5%
 Available Phosphoric Acid (P₂O₅) 0.0%
 Soluble Potash (K₂O) 0.0%

Soil Amendments

For mixing into soil
 Provides long-term nutrients
 Improves soil health

What

- Veggies
- Fruit
- Flowers

Table 1. Differences in quality, production, and value between common home-grown and store-bought vegetables in Washington as an example (adapted from Antonelli et al. 2004).

Vegetable	Garden & Store Difference in Quality	Production per Square Foot	Relative Monetary Value
Asparagus	high ¹	medium	high
Bean, Green	medium ²	high	medium
Beet	medium	high	medium
Bok Choy	low ³	medium	medium
Broccoli	medium	high	high
Brussels Sprout	medium	low	high
Cabbage	low	low	low
Carrot	medium	high	medium
Cauliflower	low	medium	high
Celery	low	medium	medium
Chard, Swiss	high	high	medium
Collards	medium	medium	high
Corn, Sweet	high	low	low
Cucumber	medium	medium	high
Edamame	high	medium	high
Eggplant	medium	low	high
Kale	medium	high	high
Kohlrabi	low	medium	medium

Lettuce, Leaf	medium	medium	high
Lettuce, Head	low	low	medium
Muskmelon (Cantaloupe)	low	low	medium
Onion, Bulb	low	medium	low
Onion, Green	high	high	high
Parsnip	low	medium	medium
Pea	high	medium	high
Pepper	medium	low	high
Potato	low	medium	low
Pumpkin	low	low	low
Radish	low	high	medium
Rhubarb	medium	high	high
Spinach	medium	medium	medium
Squash, Summer	high	high	high
Squash, Winter	low	medium	low
Tomato	high	medium	high
Turnip	low	high	medium
Watermelon	low	low	low

¹High indicates this home-grown vegetable is far superior to the store-bought version.

²Medium indicates this home-grown vegetable is somewhat superior to the store-bought version.

³Low indicates there is little difference between the home-grown and store-bought versions.

Choosing seeds or transplants		
Direct seed		
Large seeds	Deep taproots	Others
Corn	Radishes	Garlic (cloves)
Beans	Beets	Leaf lettuce
Peas	Turnips	Arugula
Squash	Carrots	Mustard
Pumpkins	Rutabaga	Potatoes
Cucumbers	Parsnips	(called "seed" potatoes)
Melons		
Transplant only		
Long-season crops		
Tomatoes	Tomatillos	Eggplant
Hot peppers	Bell peppers	Basil
Direct seed or transplant		
Cabbage family	Beet family	Onion family
Broccoli	Chard	Onions
Cauliflower	Spinach	Leeks
Collard greens	Quinoa	Chives
Cabbage	Herbs	Others
Kale	Parsley	Head lettuce
Kohlrabi	Cilantro	
Bok choy		

CORN
Peaches & Cream

Peaches and Cream is an exceptional bicolor variety that holds its flavor up to 14 days after maturity. Ideal for canning, freezing, or right out of the garden "fresh". Sweet corn is a warm-season crop growing best in average daytime temperatures of 70 degrees. Adequate moisture at time of tasseling is probably the most important factor for abundant filled ears.

Planting Depth	Thin to	Sun/ Shade	Height
1/2"	8"-12"	Sun	6'-7'

Direct Sow
After Danger of Frost

Garden Fresh
Livingston Seed... Where good things grow!

Packed for 2017



RADISH
Sparkler White Tip

Sparkler White Tip Radish has gourmet appearance and quality. A small, round radish, scarlet red in color with a white lower third. This variety has sweet, mild, fine-textured flesh. Keep the plants growing with consistent moisture to prevent their being hot and pithy.

Planting Depth	Thin to	Sun/ Shade	Maturity
1/4"	1"-2"	Sun	25 Days

Direct Sow
When Soil Warms in Spring/Late Summer for Fall

Garden Salad
Livingston Seed... Where good things grow!



PCKD FOR 12
SELL BY 12/12 12

7530

California Wonder
PEPPER

Crisp, sweet and large, these dark green peppers are meaty and average 4 inches. Disease tolerant plants. Fruits ripen red. Harvest in 75 days.

Packet Plants	Plant Spacing	Planting Depth	Days to Germination	Seedling Identification
10 ft.	Row: 2 ft. Plant: 18 in.	1/4 in.	10-12	

Planting Tips:
Early harvest, start seed indoors 6-8 weeks before planting outdoors. Grow in a sunny window. Transplant outdoors when plants have 5-6 leaves. Performs best planted in full sun. In cooler climates, seed directly in the garden. Keep fruits picked to encourage production.

Use fresh in salads or with dips. Ideal for stuffing. Freezes well.

Planting:
When peppers feel hollow yet firm. To increase sweetness, allow some peppers to ripen to bright red.

Plant Outdoors

	JUNE
	MAY-JUNE
	MAR.-MAY
	FEB.-APR.
	FEB.-MAR.



0 48389 22236 1







\$90



\$500



Nearly free



WATER

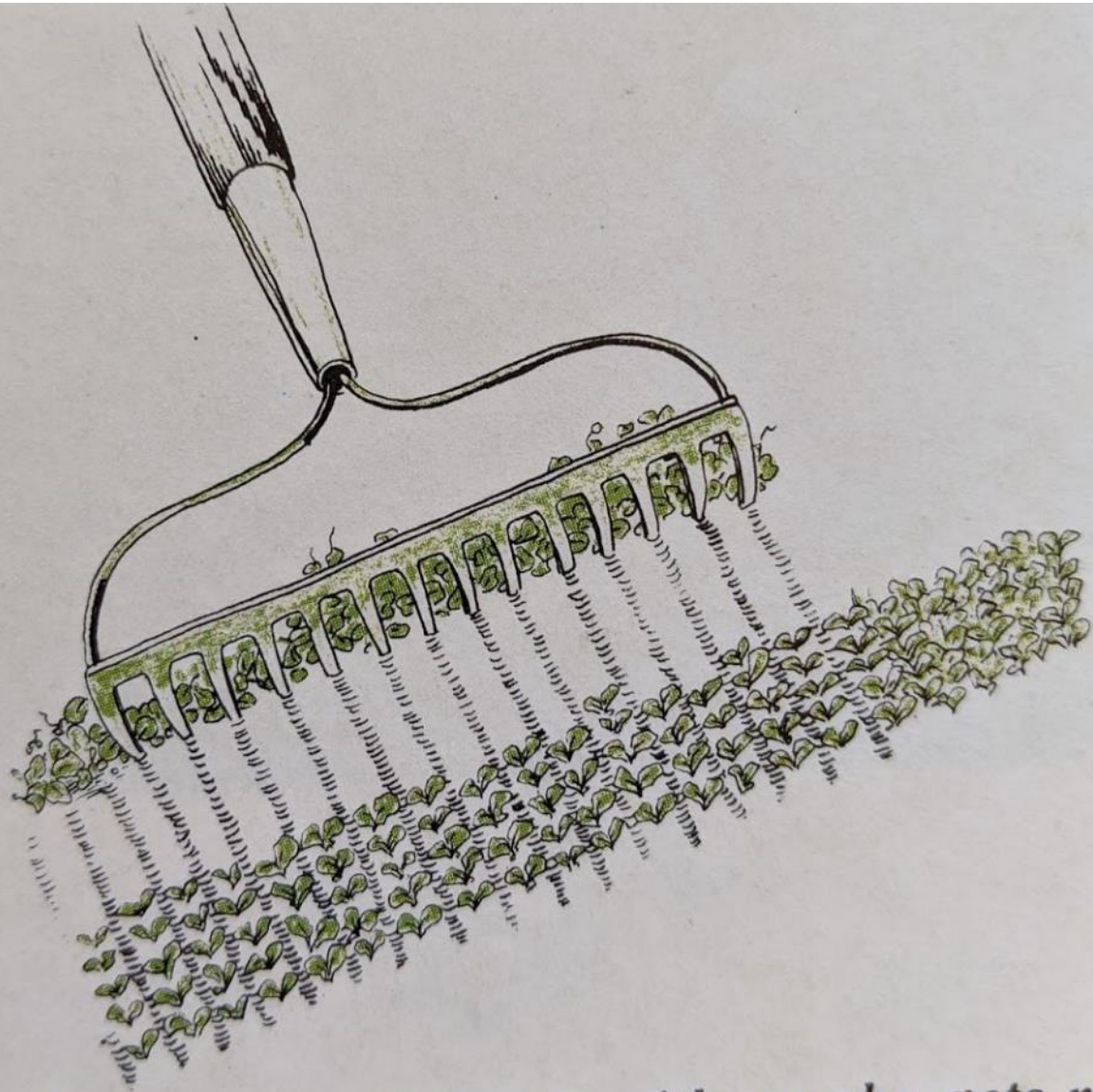








WEEDS



An early pass over the row with a rake gets rid of tiny weeds just starting to grow.

Old carpet
(and less weeds)



Lots of weeds





