

**Seeding,  
Weeding  
and mulch  
more**

*For the avid gardener*

fastened to the top of a horizontal tree branch, the little nest is so well camouflaged that it is rarely discovered. The female usually lays two tiny white eggs.

Tatnall says homeowners can encourage hummingbirds to visit their gardens by growing garden plants known to be especially attractive to them. "Certain flowers have special appeal to hummers," he explains. "They prefer trumpet-shaped flowers that yield an abundance of nectar. And they particularly favor flowers that are bright red or orange." Fortunately, there are many flowering plants that meet these requirements.

He suggests growing the following plants both for their landscape beauty and their ability to attract hummingbirds:

- Annual and perennial flowers: bee balm (Monarda), cardinal flower, columbine, coral bell, daylily, flowering tobacco (Nicotiana), foxglove, nasturtium, petunia, scarlet sage (Salvia), snapdragon and spider flower (Cleome).
- Shrubs and vines: azalea,

beautybush, bush honeysuckle, flowering quince, trumpet vine and weigela

- Trees: mimosa and red horse-chestnut

In addition to natural plants, artificial feeders can be used to attract hummingbirds.

special devices are designed to resemble flowers and dispense sugar-water or honey-water solutions

"Here's hoping the little hummers accept your invitation to dinner real soon," Tatnall concludes

### Can blue ribbon fruits this summer

YORK — Is there a blue ribbon in your future? Pennsylvanians are famous for their summer fairs and farm shows. A highlight of the show is always the judging of home canned foods. Whether or not you are going to enter you specialty, you may want to win at home by following the advice of experts.

A. Joan Lamberson, home economist with the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, offers these guidelines which are used by judges at fairs and farm shows. Use them to perfect your canned fruits:

All canned food products, including canned fruits, must be exhibited in standard canning jars, sealed with vacuum or self-sealing lids, but with screw or ring bands

removed

The texture of canned fruits should be firm, yet tender-characteristic of tree-ripe fruit. The edges of the fruit should be smooth; it should be free from the mushiness of fruit pulp

Canned fruit should be uniform-pieces should be of the same size, shape, and color throughout. It should have the characteristics of ripe fruit and the syrup should be clear

Pack canned fruits with a good proportion of liquid to solid, with the liquid covering the fruit to within 1/2 inch of the top. Single pack for peaches, pears, and apples. The jars should be relatively free of trapped air

#### Attracting Hummingbirds To Your Garden

"Of all the bird people try to attract to their gardens, none is more interesting than the diminutive hummingbird," says University of Delaware extension garden specialist Dave Tatnall. "These little feathered gems bring special life and color to the garden as they dart from flower to flower, probing each blossom for nectar

and tiny insects."

The only species in the eastern United States is the ruby-throated hummingbird. Measuring less than four inches long, it has brilliant metallic green feathers on the upper part of its body. The male has a bright red throat, the female a white throat.

Their nest is a tiny cup of plant down, covered on the outside with lichens and bits of moss. Securely

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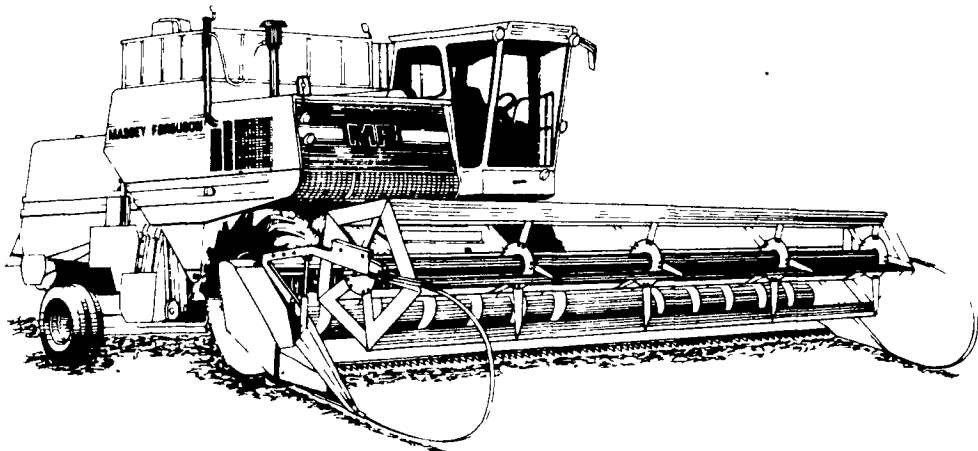
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