

**Seeding,
Weeding
and mulch
more**

For the avid gardener

Behind the fence or in a sunny spot beyond the vegetables, plant a cut flower garden this year. No need to pay lots of attention to design or other aesthetics - simply grow neat rows of annuals in the colors and forms you want to decorate your home.

If you have only space for a tiny cutting bed try tall zinnias and snapdragons, suggests Jeff Jabco, Delaware County extension agricultural agent. Their white, yellow, orange, red and pink colors blend well and their forms contrast nicely. Zinnias provide rounds and the straps, vertical lines. Both are long-lasting as cut flowers and the plants will continue to bloom and provide color until frost.

More space? If your color scheme calls for pinks and blues, raise larkspur, canterbury bells,


asters, bachelor buttons, felicia daisies, or stock. In this cutting garden, be sure to add some dusty miller for its gray foliage - most compatible with pink tones.

For vivid reds, yellows and oranges, grow marigolds, plumed celosia, geraniums, gloriosa daisies and gazanias. The taller varieties are best, so read the labels to be sure you're buying tall plants. Coleus makes a fine foliage filler with these flowers.

Poppies - both the Shirley and Iceland types - are great additions to mixed bouquets. They are long

lasting if you sear the stem ends when you cut them. Taking a lighted candle or disposable lighter into the garden in full sunlight may look ridiculous, but any flower arranger will understand.

And for airy fillers, grow some annual baby's breath or dill. The latter plant is dual purpose, useful both in arranging and cooking. You might even allow a few rows of straw flowers, statice and Bells of Ireland to cut and use fresh or dried for continued pleasure and beauty in your home during the winter months.

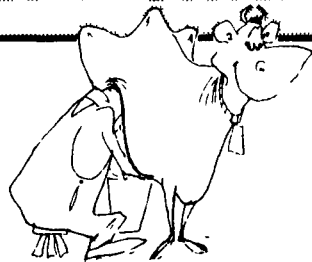


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