

**All Gardens
Great & Small**
by
York Co.
Horticultural Agent
Tom Becker



**THE FAMILY GROWS
ALONG WITH VEGETABLES**

By 1945, optimists saw the end of the war but not the end of "gardening for victory." Even President Roosevelt had to ask people to continue gardening.

Was Victory Gardening successful? In 1944, 40% of all the fresh vegetables in the United States were grown in Victory Gardens. In 1995, vegetable gardens are not nearly as common. Today, less than 18% of the gardening public grows vegetables.

Victory Gardens had the whole family involved including the

children. Here's two victory gardening memories of children working in the garden.

The children did help in the Victory Gardens — there was no laying in bed. The sun rose and you got up and put on your old boots and clothes and went out and helped in the garden. One of the more trying times was when the potato bugs were bad. We got up before the dew was off the plants. My father would put lime in a burlap sack and we dusted each potato plant. The lime would get in our noses and eyes. We'd be sore before the potato patch was com-

pletely limed.

Being a child in elementary school during the war, my parents moved to a Northern York County home with a 1½-acre truck patch. I remember feeling like Alice in Wonderland. I had aisles going down the middle of tall corn and sections of peas, beans, and whatever. You could go out and break a pod open and wow: a black-eyed pea. I remember going into a neighboring corn field and following a trailing pumpkin vine to a huge jack-o-lantern.

Victory gardeners of all ages did a lot of raking. They started by raking out lumps of dirt or stones that might hinder seedling growth and development of plants.

When planting small seeds, Victory Gardeners needed to make sure their rows were straight and uniform. They used a string as a guide. Also, they used the handle of a hoe and covered the seeds lightly with ¼ inch or so of soil. Use a hoe or scuffle hoe to remove weeds while they are small. Onion sets are sown as early in the spring as possible. Place them about 4 inches apart in the row.

A paper collar around the base

of plants like tomatoes, sunk in the ground about 1 inch will help to keep cutworms from cutting the plants off at ground level. A small piece of paper layed flat on the soil around cabbage kept cabbage maggots from attaching the roots. Large insects like Colorado potato beetles can be crushed between the thumb and forefinger.

Interested in staking? Tie beans to poles so they climb naturally from left to right; otherwise they may slide down the pole. Tomatoes trained on a 6-foot pole set firmly in the ground will produce earlier, firmer fruit that is cleaner and disease-free. Fasten ties to the stakes every 12 inches. Allow blossoms to swing free of the stakes.

Packard Joins Adams County Extension

GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — Terri Lynne Packard has been appointed to the Penn State University Cooperative Extension staff as 4-H/youth agent and assigned to Adams County.

A native of Troy in Bradford County, she prepared for college at Troy High School and earned her bachelor of science degree from Penn State in June 1993, majoring in dairy and animal science.

While in college, Packard was active in the Dairy Science Club, served as an advocate for the College of Agricultural Sciences, and was president of Sigma Alpha, a

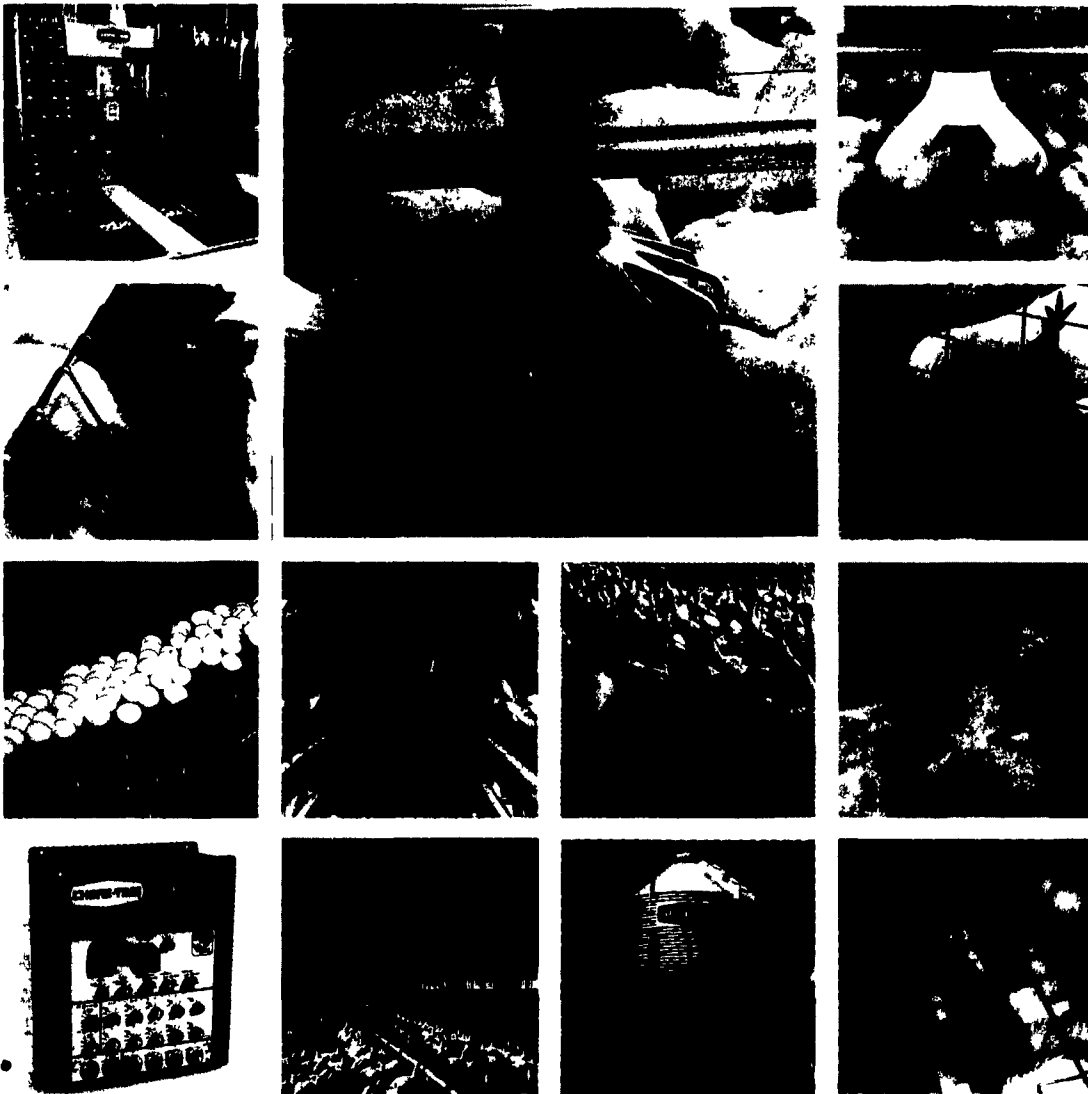
professional agricultural sorority. She served as manager of the student Dairy Exposition and editor of the Dairyman. A member of the Dairy Judging Team, she was named 1991 Distinguished Junior Member by the Pennsylvania Holstein Association and, in 1993, was named Outstanding Senior in Dairy Science at Penn State.

During the summer of her college years, Packard worked on the family farm, Pack-Herd Holsteins, with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Richard Packard and a younger sister and brother, and cared for her own herd of 20 cows.

Following graduation she worked as Marketing Promotion Coordinator for Sire Power, Inc., Tunkhannock, until March 1994, when she assumed the extension dairy agent responsibilities in Bradford County while the agent was on assignment in Poland. Since December 1994, she has filled the dairy agent position in Susquehanna County while that agent took the Poland assignment.

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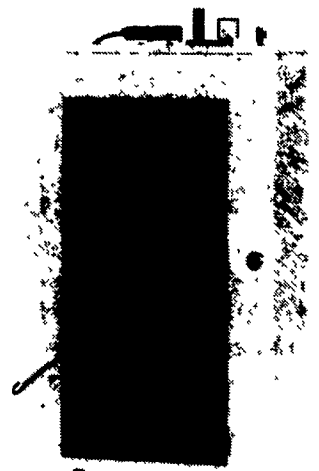


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