

*Ida's  
Notebook*

by  
*Ida Risser*



After a dry spell, we've just had some much needed showers.

Now I am hoping that the seeds that I put in the garden will

finally sprout. Most of my flowers are grown from seed and so they bloom later in the summer. June is the month of roses and some of ours did not make it through the winter. However, my old-fashioned double pink rose looks fine.

When I was planting peanuts in our garden, I saw a blue bird but it was not a bluebird but rather an Indigo Bunting. It is entirely blue and does not have a chestnut brown breast as bluebirds do. Occasionally, we see American Goldfinch in our nearby meadow. My husband made a

birdbath out of recycled material and the birds really use it so that we must constantly refill it.

Recently we had the privilege of touring the Reist Seed Company in Mt. Joy. This company has been in the Reist family for three generations. At the present time it has evolved into a major producer of popcorn. They contract 2,000 acres in Ohio and haul it to Lancaster County in a 26-ton dump truck. It goes through many screenings

to removed cracked grains, tiny stones, and other dirt. Finally it is bagged in 2,100-pound white plastic bags to be trucked to a processor. The computerized equipment is quite expensive.

The grandchildren helped to make hills and plant seeds of cantaloupe, pumpkins and squash. Of course, they look forward to the candy that I keep in the glove compartment of my car for them. Why, they've even helped themselves to some when I didn't even know it

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