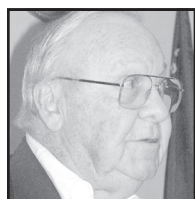


Gardener plans to enjoy first fresh vegetables

By Kay Melia
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This weekend, I shall enjoy my first fresh garden harvest of the new gardening season! And I can hardly wait. It's a garden crop that presents itself very early each spring and one that I planted almost 50 years ago. In just a few days I will harvest a few fresh green onions.

You can call them winter onions, or tree onions, or Egyptian onions or even Egyptian Walking onions. Whatever name you prefer to use to describe them, they offer one of the first fresh garden flavors of the new season. But their fresh taste is only one of the reasons why they are



kay melia
• the gardener

so gratifying in the garden. Their growing habit and seeding method is difficult to describe. But I'll try.

Egyptian onions are the absolute first sign of edible green of spring. Their green shoots begin to appear in late February and are nearly always harvestable by late March or early April. They grow in clumps of 4 or 5 and are pulled from the ground

just like any green onion. Their taste is very mild and highly agreeable to those who love fresh onion flavor.

The plant itself is seeded from the preceding year, when the groupings of onions that you DON'T harvest, grow to a foot or two tall. During the summer, they form clusters of very small bulbs, called bulbils, at the top of each stalk. When winter arrives, the stalks fall over, the little bulbils take root and grow into next spring's crop of green onions. Of course, the stalk always falls a foot or two from

where it had been growing; hence the name of Egyptian WALKING onions.

Wayne Winterrowd, the late garden designer and author who wrote for Horticulture Magazine, described the tiny, perfectly formed onions sprouting on top of the tall stalks as "something like a fanciful tree that Dr. Seuss would grow." He preferred to call them Egyptian onions because of the exotic sound of the name, although their origins seem to be nowhere near Egypt. I've always called them just plain winter onions, a name my parents applied to them when I was very young. I got my clusters of bulbils

from my Mother's garden nearly 50 years ago, and I have given many of them to friends and neighbors who wanted a "start" in their own gardens. They are also readily available in most garden catalogs.

Even if you grew these things only because of their unique growing habit, they would make a nice addition to your garden. But the taste of a freshly harvested green onion in late March only makes this remarkable plant worthwhile. They grow quickly and are generally too large to eat when they begin to form their bulbils in 5 or 6 weeks. By then, the green onions you have planted when you planted the radishes and

peas are about ready for the dinner table.

Egyptian onions should probably be started in a bed of their own because of their "walking" habit. To plant, just force the entire cluster into damp soil and watch them take off. Let them grow the first year and they should be ready to harvest next year. And one other note. Always be sure to leave a few stalks unharvested each spring, and they will be the ones that will furnish the seed for the future. Otherwise, you'll have to beg a pocketful of bulbils from from somebody else to restart the process.

Wheat has broken dormance; freeze could hurt

The fairly good topsoil moisture levels and unusually warm temperatures so far this spring have caused wheat to break early dormancy and green up. In fact, it seems like this last week the wheat grew an inch! This is a scenario reminiscent of other early spring years, in which freeze injury was a problem. Hopefully we will avoid that this year!

The wheat actually began to grow when we were seeing daytime temperatures for several days above 60 and the nighttime temperatures above freezing. The last week with temperatures in the 80s only further pushed the wheat. It would be much better if temperatures were cooler, especially the nighttime temperatures.

Plants growing at this time of year use valuable soil moisture. Even though topsoil moisture is fairly adequate, we would like to see the



jeanne falk
• extension district

moisture used later in the growing season.

In addition, plants will have lost some of their winterhardness. This won't be a problem if the weather doesn't have an extremely cold snap or if temperatures cool down gradually, so the plants can regain some of their winterhardness. If the wheat is green and growing, however, and temperatures suddenly go from unusually warm to extremely cold, freeze injury could occur. That being said, if the temperature dips to 24 degrees for two hours, wheat can be injured at the jointing stage. As the wheat continues to

grow, the wheat can not handle as cold of temperatures. At the boot stage, 28 degrees causes injury.

At heading and

flowers, 30 degrees causes injury.

Producers should watch their wheat crop for insects and diseases and make every effort to get on their top dress nitrogen before the crop reaches the first hollow stem.

Other than that, there's not much that producers can do to stop the development of the crop. Grazing the wheat can hold back its development, but grazing may not be possible much longer this winter.

Cattle should be pulled off before first hollow stem. The longer temperatures remain above normal, the more susceptible the wheat will be to a sudden temperature drop to the single digits or below.

birth

Ellie Bristol Hawkins

Ellie Bristol Hawkins was born Monday, March 19, 2012 at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches.

Her parents are Michael and Kelsey Hawkings of Colby and her grandparents are John and the

late Beverly Brannick of Colby, the late Don and Helen Hawkings of Brewster, Anita and the late Keith Focke of Colby and Sherry and the late John Nickel of Tucson, Ariz.

She is welcomed home by sister Hadlie, 9, and Brother Kash, 5.

Worship warms the heart



Calvary Gospel Church

Pastor: Randy and Mary Payne

Fourth & College • 890-3605

Sunday: Kid's Church: 10 am

Morning Service: 8:30 and 10:30 am

Prayer and Praise: 5:00 p.m. except last Sunday of the month

Wednesday: Royal Rangers, Missionettes 6:30 p.m.

during school year

Youth @ the Rock House, Sixth & Caldwell: 6:30 p.m.

Life Groups - Call for information

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Goodland United Methodist Church

1116 Sherman 899-3631

Pastors: Dustin and Shelly Petz

Saturday: Worship: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 a.m.

Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live

5:45 - 6:45 p.m. Simple Supper "Free will Offering

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

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Rt. 1, Box 180 • 3190 Road 70

(785) 694-2807

Pastor: Perry Baird

Sunday: Worship Service: 9 a.m.

Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Promiseland Baptist Church

Pastor: Rick Holmes • 890-7082

225 W. 16th

(785) 890-7944

Sunday: Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Morning Service: 11:30 a.m.

Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study Service 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: Adult Bible Study 7-8 p.m.

Bible Baptist Church

Pastor: Clifford Middlebrooks

Fifth & Broadway

890-7368

Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Morning Service: 10 a.m.

Evening Service: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO

(719) 346-7984

Sacrament Meeting: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 a.m.

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo

La Luz Del Mundo

Spanish Speaking Church

Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.

1601 Texas • 899-5275

Daily Prayer: Sunday thru

Saturday: 5a.m. & 6 p.m.

Sunday: Sunday School: 10 a.m.

United Methodist Church Brewster

Pastor: Dorine Chambers

Worship Service: 10:45 a.m. CST

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. CST

Winona:

Minister: Sheryl Johnson

Worship Service: 9 a.m. CST

Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor: Rev. Carol Edling Jolly

Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233

Sunday: Church School - All ages 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group: 1st and 3rd Sundays 5-7 p.m.

Thursday: Prayer Class - Noon

Pastor Carol's Class: 5:30 p.m.

www.goodlandfccdoc.org

Kanorado United Methodist Church

Pastor: Leonard Cox

399-2468

Sunday: Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene

Pastor: Bob Willis

Third & Caldwell

899-2080 or 899-3797

Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:50 a.m.

Evening Service: 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Celebrant: Father Don Martin

13th & Center

Church 890-2115 or 890-7245

Services: 5 p.m. Saturday evening

First Baptist Church

Pastor: Travis Blake

1121 Main

890-3450

Sunday:

Coffee fellowship: 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.

Wheatridge Center

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Celebrant: Father Norbert Dlabal

307 W. 13th • 890-7205

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

5-5:45 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am

Spanish Mass:

Sunday: 12:30 pm

Harvest Evangelical Free Church

521 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-6423

Pastor: Brian Fugleberg

Sunday: Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday:

Senior High: 6:30 p.m. at the church

Junior High: 6:30 p.m. at the church

www.goodlandefree.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church

1160 Cattletrail

Pastor: Jerry Nowack

Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

13th & Sherman • 890-6161

Pastor: Darian Hybl

Sunday: Christian education/fellowship:

10:15 a.m.

Worship Service: 9 a.m.

Church of Christ

401 Caldwell

890-6185

Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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