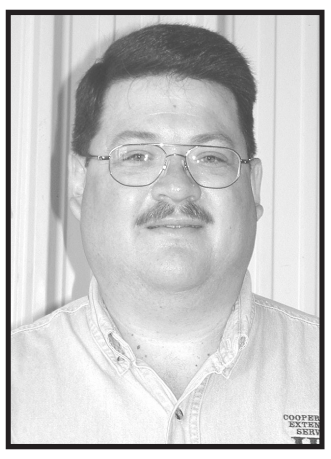
Ordering Seeds for Vegetable Gardens



Eric Baker
Estill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

Winter is not over but we can pass the cold, gloomy weather by focusing on spring garden planning. Looking through a seed catalog, store rack, or online product offering can be overwhelming, since there are so many varieties available for each crop. So, how do we choose from the mountain of options?

Aside from tradition, one of the reasons to select a particular variety is disease tolerance or resistance. Tolerance is the ability of the plant to endure disease, while still producing some yield. Resistance is the ability to prevent or slow disease development, by way of naturally occurring plant properties. Many varieties have been "improved" through natural breeding methods for these traits. Selection of resistant cultivars can reduce the impact diseases may have on plant vigor and yield, as well as reduce or eliminate the need for other cultural or chemical management practices. Disease resistance is especially important for the home garden, which many either cannot or prefer not to spray.

No single cultivar is known to have resistance to all diseases of concern, and resistance is specific to a particular disease. Thus, gardeners should select varieties with resistance to diseases that are most common for their area, or those that have been diagnosed as an issue in the past. Common diseases of major vegetable garden plants are listed below.

Seeds may be purchased from a variety of sources, including online, through a seed catalog, or in-store. Information about which disease(s) a variety is resistant to can be found on seed packets or in catalogs. Disease names may be listed as an abbreviation. For example, the letter 'V' may be listed for tomato, indicating resistance to Verticillium wilt. Seed catalogs and online retailers may detail disease resistance codes on a separate page. Take care to thoroughly read seed packets if purchasing in-store.

Some disease resistant cultivars to consider are listed below:

Tomato - Early blight is arguably the most common disease of tomatoes in Kentucky. Tomatoes with some resistance to early blight are 'Matt's Wild Cherry' and 'Sun Gold' (small cherry tomatoes), 'Juliet' and 'Plum Regal' (Roma size), and 'Mountain Fresh Plus', 'Defiant', and 'Iron Lady' (slicing size).

Pepper - The bacterial spot pathogen is the most common disease of peppers. Varieties with resistance to multiple races are 'Allegiance,' 'Hunter,' 'Islamorada,' 'Naples,' 'Regiment,' and 'Vanguard,' among others.

Cucurbits(Cucumber, Squashes, Muskmelon, Watermelon, Pumpkin, and Zucchini) - Downy mildew, the most devastating disease of cucurbits, can eliminate plants in a matter of days under wet conditions. Cucumber varieties with partial downy mildew resistance include 'Sassy,' 'Calypso,' and 'Eureka' (pickles) and 'Poinsett,' 'Turbo,' and 'Thunder' (slicers). 'Sunray' summer squash, and 'Ambrosia' and 'Honey Brew' muskmelons are partially resistant to downy mildew, but few varieties with downy mildew resistance exist for watermelons, pumpkin, winter squashes, and zucchini. Many powdery mildew resistant varieties of picklers, slicers, pumpkins, and squash are available. Varieties that are less susceptible to bacterial wilt include the pickle cukes 'Cross Country' and 'County Fair,' 'Howden' pumpkins, and 'Waltham Butternut' squash. All watermelons have natural resistance to bacterial wilt.

Seed catalogs are generally available free.

Leafy Greens - Many lettuces have been bred for resistance to downy mildew. Consider head lettuces 'Kweik,' and 'Pirat,' green leafed lettuces 'Black Seeded Simpson,' and 'Nevada,' and red leafed lettuces 'Galactic,' 'Red Zin,' and 'Rustica' for their additional resistance to bacterial disease and/or white mold. 'Regal' and 'Samish' spinaches are resistant to downy mildew and white rust. Kale, collards, turnip greens, and mustards are naturally less susceptible to many diseases, so variety selection should rely on purchasing certified or treated seed and choosing varieties that will perform well under site and seasonal conditions.

Legume Vegetables (Beans and Peas) - Most French and green beans have been bred for resistance to anthracnose, but resistance in other types of beans is unavailable. 'Caprice,' 'Espada,' 'Kentucky Blue,' 'Romano II,' 'Volunteer,' and 'Goldkist' are fungal leaf spot and/or rust resistant bean varieties, with additional resistance to various viral diseases. 'Green Arrow,' 'Cascadia,' 'Sugar Daddy,' and 'Oregon Sugar Pod II' are pea varieties suggested for their resistance to powdery mildew, Fusarium, and Verticillium wilts.

Cole Crops (Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kohlrabi, and Brussel sprouts) - Cabbage varieties 'Bilko,' 'Blues,' 'China Pride,' 'Blue Vantage,' and 'Bronco' carry resistance to a broad range of diseases, such as downy mildew, Fusarium yellows, and/or black rot. Broccoli varieties 'Emperor,' 'Pinnacle,' and 'Green Magic', as well as cauliflower variety 'Majestic' are resistant to downy mildew and/or black rot. 'Grand Duke' kohlrabi is resistant to black rot as well.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Estill County Extension Services at 723-4557. Thanks to Kim Leonberger, Extension Associate and Emily Pfeufer, Extension Plant Pathologist for contributing information for this article.

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Wishing Well®

5	7	3	7	8	5	6	5	6	2	6	3	5
E	G	O	R	A	N	I	J	N	R	I	P	O
2	8	6	2	5	6	5	3	8	6	5	8	5
E	S	T	W	Y	I	L	E	U	A	I	N	T
4	6	5	6	5	4	3	5	2	5	7	5	3
B	T	T	E	L	E	N	E	A	P	E	L	Y
4	5	8	5	4	6	3	6	7	2	6	3	5
L	E	N	A	A	N	O	E	A	R	W	U	S
4	7	6	2	5	6	4	3	6	5	2	4	2
T	T	L	D	U	O	E	R	V	R	S	D	A
6	4	5	3	2	3	4	2	5	8	2	3	7
E	N	E	M	R	I	E	E	S	Y	G	N	J
3	2	7	4	2	8	7	2	4	2	7	8	8
D	I	O	W	V	D	Y	E	S	N	S	A	Y

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **D** equals **T**

QCD BARSHW RAJCS BAVBSKVCVF UARS JSKW HMVFSKANU UNXSK-XADSVD YKSPU:

"DQS YMH VSPU YSSKU."

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is **LONGFELLOW**

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

R NDQNCY JLDD YJIVLWJY JSNJ RJ RY QSNJ CAI DLNEW NGJLE CAI BWAQ RJ NDD JSNJ MAIWJY.

— SNEEC JEIXNW

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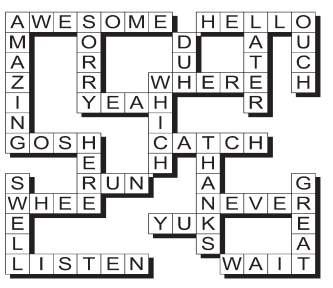
Puzzle Answers

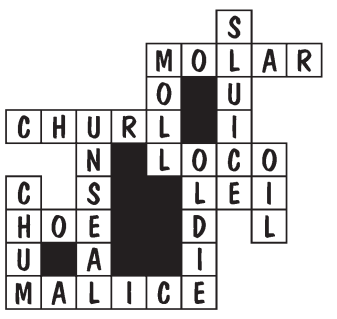
January 23, 2019

Puzzles4Kids

Answer



FEAR NOT answer



Letter Box

Solution

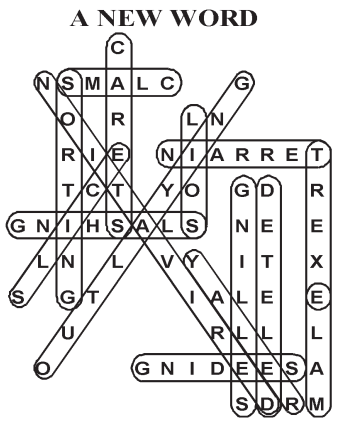
N	T	I	B	H	U	M	L	A
L	U	M	N	I	A	B	H	T
A	B	H	L	T	M	I	U	N
B	N	T	I	A	H	L	M	U
U	I	L	T	M	B	N	A	H
H	M	A	U	N	L	T	B	I
M	L	N	A	U	I	H	T	B
T	H	U	M	B	N	A	I	L
I	A	B	H	L	T	U	N	M

Even Exchange

answers

1. Repeat, Reheat
2. Marry, Maury
3. Audio, Audit
4. Spring, Sprint
5. Crest, Crept
6. Teller, Taller
7. Mortal, Mortar
8. Found, Round
9. Baker, Biker
10. Remove, Remote

INSERT A "P" TO MAKE A NEW WORD



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

1	5	6	8	9	7	2	3	4
8	3	7	4	2	1	5	6	9
9	4	2	3	5	6	8	1	7
4	2	1	9	6	3	7	8	5
3	7	8	2	1	5	9	4	6
6	9	5	7	4	8	3	2	1
5	1	9	6	3	2	4	7	8
7	6	3	5	8	4	1	9	2
2	8	4	1	7	9	6	5	3

CryptoQuip

answer

Hit comedy movie concerning some very dangerous super-potent brews: "The Bad News Beers."

CryptoQuote

answer

I always tell students that it is what you learn after you know it all that counts. — Harry Truman

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

D	O	R	A		R	P	M		O	L	L	A
A	V	O	W		U	S	A		N	E	A	P
M	A	S	H		S	I	D	E	W	A	Y	S
P	L	A	I	D	S		E	L	A	P	S	E
			L	E	I	A		F	R	Y		
S	I	D	E	C	A	R	S		D	E	E	M
E	R	A		K	N	E	E	L		A	L	A
W	E	F	T		S	I	D	E	A	R	M	S
		F	A	A		N	I	G	H			
A	T	O	L	L	S		M	O	O	L	A	H
S	I	D	E	L	I	N	E		R	I	L	E
A	M	I	N		F	U	N		S	L	O	W
P	E	L	T		T	N	T		E	Y	E	S

Bible Trivia Answers

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.

ANSWER: 1) Old; 2) Didymus; 3) Numbers; 4) Tax; 5) Wise; 6) Balaam

The Garden Bug

Winter gardening tasks

- Clean pots, tools and greenhouses in preparation for spring. This will set you up for a great growing season.
- Start planning your garden for the coming year. Now is the time to order seeds and plants.
- Check any winter protection you've set up previously. Survey any coverings, stakes, supports and ties that might have become damaged.
- Put out food for hungry birds. Always leave some areas of your garden uncut for them to shelter until the spring. – *Brenda Weaver*

Source: www.thompson-morgan.com

Birding BITS by Cindy Brook

Fresh Fruit

I know it's cold out there, but if you can put some apples, orange or grapefruit halves, grapes, raisins, cherries, cranberries or blueberries out on a plastic or paper plate, or on a tray feeder, the crows, mockingbirds, warblers, robins, woodpeckers, cardinals, catbirds, tanagers and orioles will thank you.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com

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Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS [sic]. by Terry Stickels

Adding two different numbers at a time, how many different ways are there to total 13 from the numbers listed below?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12

A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
E. 5

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

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