

Observations in the Garden

From Welcome Wednesday, May 6, 2015

(Wednesday Walkovers are at 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday in May)

Our first Welcome Wednesday in the Garden for the 2015 season had many members running around like little chickens....they were the real ones observed at least two, but it was hard to get an accurate count due to all that herding. Bed #80 Plot Holders can now finish their sprouting.

Here are several observations I made while walking around with the

- There are several plantings of peppers and tomatoes. I hope for a good harvest due to the continued warm weather. But I caution you to keep an eye on them. Those warm season vegetables will begin to howl if either temperatures get to 50 degrees or lower.
- There will be opportunity to thin! Already there are several plants that might benefit by some thinning. Be brave! Plants that are thinning well. Eat your thinnings!
- There was only 0.1" in the rain gauge, although there is a chance of rain used to fill the beds seemed fairly dry. Don't be stingy with water at your first sowing or planting transplants. Remember to water regularly.
- Although we didn't spot any insects, there was evidence of them on some bok choy. Flea beetles were right at home in our garden. Get them again this year! Last year we tried growing a trap crop of radishes attracts the beetles (and several other hungry insects) and the radishes were relatively untouched. A donation of radish seed packet would be yours to use!
- The peas planted early in the season look wonderful....they should have a bumper crop. Sharing the harvest is a kind of a tradition, don't you think? Mmmmm.

- There are several plots still sporting fall cover crops. The ones that haven't been winter killed and may start growing again. Time to get fall cover crops back into the soil where they belong.
- Soon it will be time for getting those warm season transplants to the consumer! Buy only stocky, short, healthy looking tomatoes. Check their roots...there should be plenty, but not potatoes that are already in bloom!

I'll try and do this type of summary after every walkabout....in the future, email me with questions (jabartsch@att.net).

Jo Ann Bartsch
