

Points East

By:
Ike Adams

I fall for the same trick every year even though I know better. The trick is called staggered planting whereby you time putting seeds into the ground a week apart over the course of three weeks so that your sweet-corn won't all come in at the same time.

I am of the opinion that all sweet corn of the same variety, planted anytime in May, will be ready for harvest at precisely the same day in July. At least that's been my experience and this year is no different.

Well, actually this year has been different. I probably should be thanking God that it came in at all because this is the first time in three years that we've had a nice sweet corn crop. The drought and soil conditions that approximate what you'd expect to find under a nuclear waste dump have combined to make my efforts to grow sweet corn in recent years futile and frustrating. The only reason I tried to grow a crop at all this year can be attributed to my stubbornness and the fact that I found seed of a variety that I thought was lost.

For years I ordered a variety of sweet corn from Twilley's Seed Company called Bodacious. They stopped carrying it last year and I wasn't able to find it elsewhere until Loretta stumbled upon it at an Amish farm in Lincoln County early this spring. She actually called me long distance from a pay phone to make sure that she had the name right and I told her to buy all they had.

Turns out the Amish folks have the same opinion of Bodacious that I do and they buy seed in hundred pound sacks to grow commercially and I couldn't have hauled all they had in my pick-up. Loretta settled for a quart and that's enough to last through the next couple of growing seasons.

I timed my three row planting, one fifty foot row at a time—approximately 100 stalks to the row—exactly a week apart. In theory my corn crop would come in over the course of three weeks. When sweet corn is in

season I can and do eat it everyday and I could do so all summer without ever getting tired of it. It's also nice to gather three or four dozen ears at a time and fill a few freezer bags.

Unfortunately my three week planting is all ready to pick today. Never mind the fact that I hoed the first row the same-day I planted the rest. It all incubated at the same time and it is currently in a state of perfection. Three hundred ears of it! If you call my house at 2:00 a.m. tomorrow morning, don't be surprised if a grump answers the phone. The grump going to be up to his elbows in a five gallon stock pot shaving corn off the cob.

As I said already, I should simply be thankful and I am trying very hard to be nothing else than that. I had forgotten how good this stuff is. While waiting on my crop to mature, we've purchased corn from the early birds at the Garrard County Farmers Market and some roadside stands, but there is nothing in the same league as Bodacious in terms of tenderness and flavor. It is so sweet it almost hurts your teeth.

So far I've had Illini Extra Sweet, Kandy Corn, Early Sunglow, Silver Queen and some of those University numbered varieties and I honestly believe that comparing them to Bodacious is like comparing apples to oranges. So write the name and try some next year. It's probably too late to plant it this year, but I have another three rows waist high that should be ready around Labor Day weekend.

You may have to drive to Crab Orchard and follow the signs along Highway 39 to find an Amish greenhouse and seed supplier who will sell you some, but believe me, it's worth the trip. In fact, it's worth the trip even if you don't find any seed corn. Right now the Amish folks have just about any garden vegetable you can imagine for sale much cheaper than you can grow it yourself. And that includes freshly picked Bodacious sweet corn at \$2.25 per dozen.

when it begins to itch and swell. In other words the small problems of life, idling up the house, mowing the lawn, doing laundry, cooking, whether one feels like it or not, trips to the doctor or grocery and doing the thousand and one things that must be done regardless of health or wealth, or lack of it, can be managed one way or another by those who believe, Where there is a will, there is a way. Those problems, like the dust webs, can be overlooked till another time or done piecemeal, one little task or web at a time. But like the spider web with its poisonous art it weaving her web, other things must be taken care of immediately. These things can be: the roof leaking, broken windows, plumbing, electric wiring, and illness. All of which happens unnoticed till the damage has been done. By then it is often too late and the victim can be overwhelmed by the enormity of the consequences.

That is where I am today. The (imagined) spider weaving its web unnoticed until it slipped into my family unannounced and did its dirty work. My brain is in a whirl, or maybe it has become entangled in the webs silently wreaking havoc in the health and well-being of loved ones.

The first indication I had of the silent invader attacking my family once again was when Rod called and told me Helen (his wife) had been in the hospital with infection in her breast. She wasn't responding to medication so a week later she was back for a biopsy. I was anxious of course but tried to be patient and optimistic till the results of the biopsy was completed. The shocking answer a week later was "cancer" and needed immediate attention. Last Friday, one month later, she received her first chemo therapy, which will be followed by three more at the University of Virginia Hospital in Charlottesville, Virginia. Then a mastectomy before a series of other treatments. It was then that I was told about the two spots on her lungs

which will be attended to after the mastectomy. My world was about to crumble, Helen, a model wife, mother and daughter-in-law, was the victim of this vicious destroyer of the human body. Yet I never heard a "why me" or complaint when I spoke to her, she is putting her trust in the doctors ability to help and God's ability to heal.

Then a call this week from Cincinnati that my nephew was having surgery this week for testicular cancer. He has been bedfast with lupus and heart trouble for years. How could he handle this? While I was trying to digest this latest news of the serious illness of this nephew I had held close and cuddled when he was only a few minutes old, the phone rang again and it was my niece in California with other news of her sister-in-law, another nephew's wife being told that she had only a couple months to live. Advanced cancer in both lungs that had escaped detection was so advanced her time was short.

There were other problems for Rod and Helen to deal with that also bothered me. Helen's father, Clayborn Campbell, has been ill for some time but last week he became much worse and has been hospitalized. He had wandered off and was lost for several hours before he was found and is now in critical condition with pneumonia. This fine family of two aging parents, one hospitalized and the other worn out from caring for him needs the support of their two children and their mates. Helen also needs the support of her parents through this trial time of fighting for her life. Now I thought of the prophet Job and his decision.

My answer was to bow my head in prayer and thank God for all the blessings, the blessings he had bestowed upon me, my three children, four grandchildren and my very dear daughter-in-law Helen. I then asked him to keep him arm around us and give us strength to accept his answers to our problems.

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Notice to Voters, Register and Vote Especially this Fall

Gov. Bush is keeping true to form in choosing Dick Chaney for his running mate. This is a dangerous high risk play. Dick Chaney, while in Congress voted no to Equal Rights for Women, to disband the Dept. of Education, to allow the continued sale of Teflon Pot Killer bullets, to allow sale of plastic guns that are undetectable at airports, to stop the free lunch program in all schools, to stop funding and disband the Headstart Program, voted against the Clean Air and Water Act - a very successful program, voted to disband the superfund that cleans up deadly nuclear waste. If within their power to do so, they will 'get rid' of Social Security. At risk of sounding inflammatory, I think I leave the bad stuff to others. If you think not having a dog pound is a problem please don't vote the Bush-Chaney ticket. Much researched has confirmed all my fears.

Paid for by Jim Norton

Announcements

RCMS Membership Drive
The RCMS Parent-Teacher Group will be conducting a membership drive during Open House at Rockcastle County Middle School, August 8, 2000, from 6 to 8 p.m. There will be refreshments and drawings for door prizes. Names for the door prizes will be drawn from among all parents/guardians paying dues in the amount of \$3.00 for a single membership and \$5.00 per couple. All parents of a middle school child are encouraged to attend. Come on out and support your child's school!

Ten Center Fund Raiser
Rockcastle Teen Center located on Williams St., behind Mt. Vernon Elementary School will host a fund raiser Fri. & Sat. 10 to 4. Lots of items including a Roadmaster Bike, Rain or shine.

Class of 1990
We will be having our ten year class reunion on September 2, 2000, at the Rockcastle County Middle School at 7:00 p.m. We will be having a committee meeting on Thursday, August 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Burdette Law Offices. Anyone who is interested in assisting, please come. Thank You!

Classified Deadline is Noon Tuesday

FACT: None Better! None Cheaper!

99 Dodge Stratus, All power, 23K	\$10,500/212 Mo.
99 Pontiac Grand Am, 4 Dr., Loaded	\$11,995/242 Mo.
99 Chev. Lumina, Fully Equipped	\$11,995/242 Mo.
99 Olds Intrigue GL, Alloys, spoiler (2 to choose)	\$14,500/292 Mo.
99 Chev. Cavalier, 4 Dr., Auto, Low Miles	\$9,995/202 Mo.
99 KIA Sephia, 4 Dr., Auto, Air, 19K	\$8,300/168 Mo.
99 Nissan Altima GXE, 4 Dr., Loaded, Spoiler	\$11,995/242 Mo.
99 Chev. Camaro, Auto, Loaded, 13K	\$14,995/299 Mo.
98 Olds Aurora, Leather, Every option	\$17,995/362 Mo.
98 Ford Taurus, SE, Fully equipped	\$9,450/191 Mo.
98 Toyota Camry, LE, 4 dr., sunroof, Alloys, CD changer, (2 to choose)	\$14,995/299 Mo.
97 Olds Cutlass, V6, Alloys, Spoiler, Loaded	\$10,500/228 Mo.
97 Ford Taurus GL, Sunroof, Alloys, 34K, Local, Mint	\$9,995/217 Mo.
97 Chev. Lumina, 55K, Extra clean	\$8,995/196 Mo.
97 Buick Century, Column shift, All power, 27K Emaculate	\$11,500/249 Mo.
97 Saturn SL2, 4 Dr., Auto	\$8,995/196 Mo.
96 Nissan Sentra GXE, 4 Dr., Auto, Loaded, Local	\$5,995/145 Mo.
97 Ford Crown Victoria LX, Alloys, Every option, 35K	\$11,995/259 Mo.

Trucks-Vans-4x4's

00 Chev. Silverado Z71, LS, 4x4, 5.3 V8, 2K	\$21,995/415 Mo.
99 Chev. Tracker, 4 Dr., Auto, 4x4, Alloys, Red, 6K	\$14,500/292 Mo.
99 Ford F150, X-Cab, 4 Dr., 4x4, Auto, V8, 32K	\$17,995/342 Mo.
98 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo, 4x4 Power Group	\$17,250/327 Mo.
97 GMC Jimmy, SLE, 4 Dr., 4x4, Sunroof, CD Loaded, 35K	\$16,995/344 Mo.
97 Ford F150, Flareside, 22K, Sharp	\$11,995/259 Mo.
95 Nissan Pathfinder XE, 4x4, Local trade, Like New	\$10,995/285 Mo.
96 Chev. Blazer LT, 4x4, 4 Dr., Leather, Perfect Perfect	\$13,500/319 Mo.

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Sweet and Sour

By Zi Graves



Cobs webs and spider webs, both a nuisance to a housewife, and especially so if she doesn't know the difference between them, has been clouding my vision when it comes to writing on a particular subject.

Cob webs are those messy accumulations of dust particles that one sees in the upper corners of the room that are to be reached with a broom or dust mop and there comes a time of us can no longer see, much less reach, so they are forgotten. Spider webs are made from a stronger fabric, threads of bodies juicy from the spider itself, and is strong enough to hold the body of the spider as she weaves her home. Then she becomes a hazard to anyone be-

low, so we must clean out these webs or have these little creepy little critters dropping on us. This kind of web my ability to separate the webs in ones life.

The ordinary dust webs can be tolerated but the fine strong web of an invader weaving an intricate piece of art above ones head must be destroyed before the architect herself interferes with your life.

Lets go a little farther and liken them to our lives. The dust webs are the things we can ordinarily take care of with a little work and sharp eyes. Or if left alone they do no harm beyond an eyesore. But the spider or intruder can do damage not noticed till one feels the bite and results of it

Back to School Night When: August 10, 2000 Where: Brodhead Elementary Time: 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Everyone can be a winner - join PTA at Back to School Night and Receive a free gift - Single \$3 • Joint \$5

- Door prize given from Family Resource Center
 - Refreshments • Meet your teacher • Enroll students
- MEET OUR NEW PRINCIPAL

Parent and Student Door Prize Given by PTA

NOTE: A special transportation orientation meeting will be held at 5 p.m. for parents/guardians that pick up or drop their children off at BES.