



GARDENING

WELCOME

Welcome to the 4-H Gardening Project! Please read through this Guide carefully, as it contains information and suggestions that are important for your project. **4-H leaders can obtain a Leader Project Guide and other resources from the PEI 4-H Office.** Hopefully you, as a member, will “Learn to do by Doing” through hands-on activities that will encourage learning and enjoyment. If you have any questions, contact your District 4-H Officer or your 4-H project leader.

4-H YEAR COMPLETION

You complete a project by:

- completing the project Achievement Day requirements
- completing a communication project
- completing a community project
- completing an agriculture awareness project
- taking part in Achievement Day

You must complete all of the listed aspects in order to show at Fairs and Exhibitions.



ACHIEVEMENT DAY REQUIREMENTS	
Leader’s Inspection	25
Poster	15
Garden Plan	15
Weed Collection	15
3 Vegetables displayed at RYF	<u>30</u>
	100 Marks

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENT
Poster

NOTE: This project differs from other projects in that it is not completed at your Club Achievement Day because your vegetables will not be ready until early September. You will be presented with your 4-H certificates and ribbons at the Rural Youth Fair.

In this gardening project you are required to display a poster at your Club’s Achievement Day and then display your vegetables, poster, Leader’s inspection, garden plan and weed collection at this fall’s Rural Youth Fair in September.

Ages for 4-H members as of January 1st of the 4-H year:	
Junior:	9-11 years
Intermediate:	12-14 years
Senior:	15-21 years

Check out the PEI 4-H Web Site
www.pei4h.pe.ca

HELPFUL RESOURCES!

www.backyardgardener.com

www.markcullen.com

www.canadiangardening.com

A variety of books are available at the PEI 4-H Office which can be borrowed for a two week loan period. To book these, call 368-4833 or drop by the PEI 4-H Office at 40 Enman Crescent, Charlottetown.

BE A GOOD SPORT!

In the spirit of learn to do by doing, all those involved in 4-H are encouraged to practice good sportsmanship, use common sense at all 4-H activities and the work in any 4-H project should be the member's own work.

PLANTS REQUIRE...



Light - all plants require some light. If planting indoors, sunlight from a sunny window in your house is usually enough, although artificial light is sometimes used.

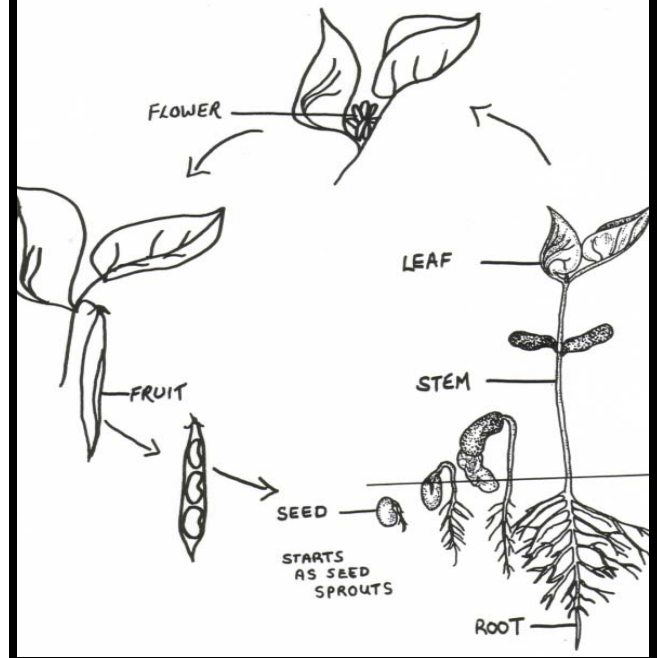


Soil - good soil for most plants consists of two parts top soil (garden soil), one part sand and one part peat moss.



Water - how often and how much water you give depends on many factors. For example, violets need more water than cacti. Plants in a humid area require less water than those in a dry area.

Life Cycle of a Plant



GARDEN PLAN (Achievement Day Requirement)

With your leader's help, plot your garden on scrap paper.

Include N-S-E-W directions and vegetable names.

Remember to do a good copy of this, place it in a duo tang and bring it with you to Rural Youth Fair!

N		
CORN		
CORN		
W	ZUCCHINI	PEAS
	POTATOES	
	CUCUMBERS	SQUASH
	CARROTS	
	TOMATOES	
ONIONS		
S		

WEED COLLECTION

(Achievement Day Requirement)

Start a weed collection from your vegetable garden of weeds at the seedling stage and have your leader help you identify them. The seedlings may be easily pressed between the pages of an old catalogue or phone book. Lay them out flat, carefully close the pages of the book over them so as not to disturb them and weight the book down with other heavy books. The seedlings will be dry and ready for mounting in a few weeks.

For display at Achievement Day...

Select three pressed weeds, mount and identify them. To keep your specimens from bending and breaking, mount them on a piece of stiff cardboard. You can cover them with a plastic protective page or wrap the cardboard with plastic cling wrap.

GARDEN INSPECTION

(Achievement Day Requirement)

Keep your garden area neat. Remember there will be a surprise inspection of your garden during July or August. This inspection by your leader is worth 25 marks towards your final project mark.

Your leader will be looking for the following during the inspection...

- Neatness, attractiveness of the plot (might include sign, border)
- Freedom from weeds and disease
- Productiveness as shown by good growth of plants, health of plants and uniformity of garden
- Garden plan and arrangement of vegetables, location of the garden and convenience for working

POSTER

(Achievement Day Requirement)

Topics might be

1. Parts of a plant
2. Life cycle of a plant
3. Starting plants indoors
4. Class of vegetables
5. Topic of your choice

Be sure to

- Use "4-H Poster Book" as your guide
- Use a whole sheet of Bristol board
- Use quality, not quantity information
- Use your imagination, drawings or pictures and creativity
- Write your name, club and age on the ***back***, not the front

EXHIBITING YOUR VEGETABLES

Exhibiting your vegetables at the Rural Youth Fair will be a fitting climax to your busy summer's work and fun. Follow the vegetable exhibiting requirements such as standard number, size and preparation of your vegetables.

You will choose three of your best vegetables to take to the Fair. Place them on tin foil or paper pie plates according to the following Vegetable Judging Standards and label as required.

VEGETABLE JUDGING STANDARDS

Whether you are selecting vegetables for the Rural Youth Fair or storage, quality is the first thing to consider. While there are some differences in preparing vegetables for storage or exhibition, this rules always applies:

SELECT THE VERY BEST!

Here are the general qualities you should look for:

- Colour** Colour should be bright, clear and attractive. A dark, rich colour usually indicates the condition and care given to the vegetable.
- Condition** This refers to freedom from blemishes caused by insects, disease, dirt, sunburn or injury. Also, properly cleaned (many vegetables for exhibit are to be wiped and not washed. For exhibit, vegetables should be properly trimmed.)
- Size** The size should be moderate, but not too large. Oversized vegetables are usually tough, coarse in texture and of low quality. Undersized vegetables are often a results of poor growing conditions and also tend to be tough and of poor quality.
- Trueness of Type** All specimens should resemble the variety as closely as possible
- Uniformity** All the specimens in the group should be as uniform as possible in colour, shape, and size.

These are the five qualities the judges will be looking for when they judge your exhibit, so keep them in mind when selecting your vegetables.

In addition to the above five qualities, each vegetable must be prepared in a certain way for exhibit. On the next pages are the specifications for the vegetables which you have grown. These specifications are standard across Canada at all fairs and exhibitions.

BEETS

Exhibit a plate of five roots.

- Diameter at top should be 5 - 7.5 cm (2" - 3").
- The crown should be free from splits, scaling, scabs and sunburn. The inside should be free from light colour.

Preparation: leave roots intact and remove tops 1.3 cm (.5") above crown.

Score: Colour (exterior - 10, interior - 15); Uniformity - 25; Condition - 20; Quality - 20; Type - 10.

CUCUMBERS (slicing)

Exhibit a plate of three fruits.

- At least 15 cm (5") long and of proper colour for type. Flesh should be deep and show a minimum of seeds.

Preparation: remove any withered blossoms on end.

Score: Quality - 25; Condition - 20; Uniformity - 20; Colour - 15; Type - 10; Size - 10.

CORN (sweet)

Exhibit a plate of five ears.

- Ears should be evenly filled from tip to base, with rows of kernels long and closely set.

Preparation: exhibit ears with 1/3 husk removed.

Score: Quality - 35; Uniformity - 25; Condition - 15; Colour - 15; Size - 10.

ZUCCHINI

Exhibit a plate of two fruits.

Preparation: show in pairs with stem left intact.

Score: Quality - 30; Uniformity - 20; Condition - 20; Colour - 15; Size - 15.

CARROTS

Exhibit a plate of five roots.

Long types: length 20 cm (8") and over.

- The crown should be free from sunburn.
- Roots should be slender, distinctly pointed and free from side-roots.

Intermediate types: length not over 18 cm (7").

- Roots should be stump-rooted or pointed according to variety.

Preparation: roots intact and tops removed 1.3 cm (.5") from crown.

Score: Colour - 25; Uniformity - 25; Condition - 20; Quality - 20; Type - 10.

TOMATO (red or green)

Exhibit a plate of five fruits.

- Size varies with variety but usually should be approximately 8 cm (3") in diameter. The more globular forms are preferred. They should be firm and in cross-section flesh should be thick both in the outer wall and in the sections.

Preparation: stem left intact.

Score: Quality - 30; Uniformity - 25; Condition - 20; Colour - 10; Size - 10; Type - 5.

ONIONS

Exhibit a plate of five bulbs.

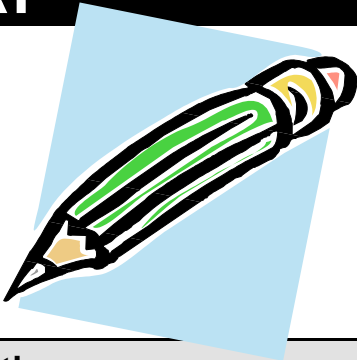
- All bulbs should be hard and mature. No double-nosed or thick-necked specimens are allowed. Small varieties should be 8 cm (3") in diameter, large 1 cm (4.5").

Preparation: Remove any roots. Remove tops 1.3 cm (.5") from bulb. Remove only jagged and dirty outer scales.

Score: Quality - 30; Uniformity - 20; Condition - 20; Colour - 15; Size - 15.

PROJECT MEETINGS DIARY

Most projects will require at least six to eight project meetings to complete the project.



Meeting Date	Location	Time	At this meeting, we...

Community and Agriculture Awareness Projects

COMMUNITY PROJECT

Each year you are encouraged to provide a service to your community as a 4-H member. This introduces you to the responsibilities of citizenship. You must participate in your club's plan for a community project and you should have a role to play. Describe your involvement with your club's community project this year.



Our Community Project was _____

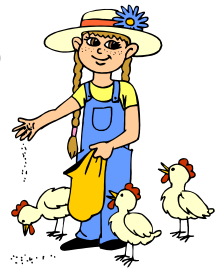
I helped by _____

It was beneficial because _____

I learned _____

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS PROJECT

Agriculture is one of PEI's main industries. You are expected to participate with your club to complete a project (or provide a service) which helps your club or others become aware of the importance of agriculture in our lives. As in the community project, you should actively participate.



Our Agricultural Awareness Project was _____

I helped by _____

It was beneficial because _____

I learned _____