

Lawn and Garden Gazette

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Well here we are, the end of August, and it finally decides to get hot. Wasn't sure we were ever going to see a red slicing tomato. Then Saturday, there it was-- the first one of the season. A big, ripe, juicy Brandywine. Sure hope those stains come out... **Cool damp weather** this summer has caused moldy bread inside. But outdoors things can get a bit more frustrating... **Powdery mildew** is what gives the lawn a whitish cast some mornings. Unsightly, but harmless. But the fungus can devastate squash and pumpkins, etc, and there's little to do at that point. Leaves turn pale and wither away. You can try cutting back effected vine or leaves. Mature fruit on the vine should be OK. I've since learned about milk and baking soda mixtures supposed to control it, but they must be applied before significant damage to be effective...**Fire blight** is even worse, as it can kill a mature tree. Effected branches will show leaves dried and looking as though burnt. You want to cut enough of the branch to get all those leaves, occasionally dipping the pruners in bleach... **Where in the world** are all the yellow jackets hiding? No, I don't really miss them nipping at our noses, but I am curious. Oh, and same question about starlings. Which BTW are only in this country because some bozo felt we needed all the birds Shakespeare mentioned. No offense, **Bozo**...**With luck it won't catch** on here, but apparently breed-

ers in England are selling wallabies to keep the grass cut. The catch? Prospective buyers need at least half an acre of land with lots of grass and a fence at least 5 feet high around the property. Doesn't mention if the garden and kitchen table also need 5 foot fences. Tie me kangaroo down sport... **Two fellas intended** to go bear hunting. They came upon a sign by the road reading "BEAR LEFT", So they went home...**Yes, its that time** when just about everything is available at the Farmer's Markets. Corn, chiles, tomatoes, and virtually every kind of fruit and vegetable your little heart desires. So much food, so little time. Heck, the trip is worth it if just to smell the chiles roast... **Which means it's time** for homemade salsa and green chile! Just remember the rubber gloves when handling. Even then be careful what you touch... **Just a matter of time** before we're knee deep in leaves. It's not too late to get on our fall clean up list... **"Bon Appetit!"** The trademark sign-off of a famous chef AND the subject of the movie **Julie and Julia** (a very enjoyable flick, BTW). Name her to get into this weeks drawing... Last month's winner was **Joe Harris**...If you need a card for a hypochondriac who actually gets sick, do you get one saying "get well" or "congratulations"?... **Well it's** wait until next year once again for the Cubs, But the Rockies look primed for a very interesting September. Fingers crossed...

"Harvest time (Break out the canning jars!) Harvest time (Man the pressure cooker!)
Harvest time (You have to take zucchini—we're related!)
Harvest time (Now THIS is a tomato!)"