



2012 Greenhouse Participants' Survey

<p>What were your best successes this summer? What advice for success would you give other gardeners?</p>
<p>1. lettuce, radishes, spinach, carrots did better this year, peas - don't overplant or over crowd your plot. Remember the plants GROW and take up more space.</p>
<p>2. Best successes: earlier - the lettuces and spinach did very well. I Had many feeds. Also basil, cucumbers, cherry tomatoes . My little finger carrots were good as well as the green onions and beets.</p>
<p>3. Loved my spinach. Plant thick-lots of seeds -close together</p>
<p>4. 1st round of mesclun, arugula was great! didn't plant too much, too close.</p>
<p>5. lettuce, spinach, chard, peas, and tomatoes Greens do very well planted early in the season.</p>
<p>6. We planted lettuce, spinach, snow peas, beans, cucumber, mix lettuce, tomato, carrot, kale, chard, radish, beats and pepper. We got lots of cucumbers but it took so many spaces. So I won't plant them again. I loved kale and spinach and chard. They are very good and we could get them almost all summer. I would love to plan them more next summer. The plant we put next to the cucumber didn't grow well. I notice that tomato is better grow if we plant in the plot not in the hanging plot.</p>
<p>7. Swiss Chard, lettuce, arugula (early – before July)</p>
<p>8. The best was the chard and the spinach.</p>
<p>9. My best success this year was beets. I purposely planted thick at the start so I could have lots of beet greens early on for salads, etc. and then thinned and transplanted as they grew larger. I found that peas grew leggy this year, as did others. Not sure why. My carrots did pretty good, but needed to have been thinned sooner for optimum growth. The best advice I RECEIVED was to water cucumbers lots and frequently.</p>
<p>10. tomatoes outside of plots, hanging baskets is best. beans, bok choy and beets were hits with me.</p>

11. The most important thing is that we had no aphids or anything like that this year. In regards to the crop #1 Bock Choy #2 Turnip #3 Beet #4 Cucumber

12. spinach, mesclun, green beans, peas.

13. Kale, Spinach, Lettuce. Learn which plants do well in spring and summer and do 2 plantings, The leafy greens and radishes are great first crops, but don't do so well in the summer heat.

What were your disappointments? Can you provide some details?

Peppers, they just didnt happen, my cucs. I got the same variety as last year and they still didnt work this year. But there were two different varieties that we planted and the other kind worked well for some. We didnt distinguish b/w the two. The Sasha's pride tomatoes didnt go as well as I had planned. I would have liked them to be bigger.

- The peppers did not do well for me. - Peas grew extremely well, but got so big and overcrowded everything else. I had a few peas but not enough considering all the greenery that grew! - Also beans, I had a few beans but again I think they were crowded out and got so big with little produce

Salad choices not varied enough, did not enjoy the peppery stuff -too much of it

wished we had more arugula seeds for second planting. tomatoes in hanging baskets were disasterous. basil with black spots - but still good harvest = good pesto.

cucumbers, carrots, peppers; My cucumber vines and leaves browned and were spindly, my peppers didn't mature. I think that when I was gone for a week late in August, my caretaker didn't take care. My tomato plant in a pot didn't do well at all.

I totally satisfied. It was my first year to have a plot and I got many fresh vegetables more than I was expected.

Tomatoes – I grew them in the hanging baskets and it didn't work.

- I was gone for most of August, so my cukes did not thrive like some. (see above advice)

cucumbers in hanging baskets, second crop and onions.

green onions, beets, cucumbers, carrots

Arugula, Basil and baby carrots, just wouldn't take in my plot. i tried basil 3 times and it never worked. The hanging baskets hold a lot of water and are small so they need small amounts frequently. Also the peppers, they just didn't seem to grow. They survived but only bore one fruit late in the year.

What would you do differently next time?

Not do peppers, different variety of beets, - mine were better the first year actually, Different cucs and plant them in the plot not hanging basket,

- Cucumbers - I would not put them in a hanging basket next time They did produce a few fruits but not as good as the ones in the plot Same as tomatoe - wouldn;t put them in the hanging planters next time. My basil did very well in the hanging planter so I would do that again. - next time I would avoid planting peas, beans and peppers. - would plant less at a time to avoid overcrowding.

Re-seed spinach sooner-plant basil in a pot

not put tomatoes in hanging baskets.

Plant less tomato plants and keep them together in one area.

Also keep the peas in one area not throughout the plot and make sure they have something to grow up onto.

I would like to plant tomato and pepper in the plot instead of plant them in the hanging. Also I would like to plant carrot and radish first. I found it will grow better when we plan them early. And I would like to plan more kale, spinach and chard. Some plants we planed second didn't grow well, I would like to know which plants are better to plan second term.

More intensive planting

My disappointment was that the second growth of spinach and chard didn't grow at all. Oh, and next time I would plant my tomatoes in the plot instead of a pot..hardly got any and could see they were doing well in the other's plots. Also my lettuce etc. did flourish in the hanging baskets.

- Not use the old dirt in the hanging pots. Results were fair to poor. e.g. 8 little tomatoes.

put all of the tomatoes in hanging baskets, plant lettuce

Tomato, just didn't grow well at all this year...

I would like to try starting with radishes and spinach. Bigger crops and just go for each. Pass on the green beans, maybe give stuff more room to grow. Beets, green peppers & cucumbers need to have as quick a headstart as possible. Tomatoes should be in the plot, not hangers.

I tried to stagger the plants so i'd always have something going, it worked but not great. Just go for a full spring crop and then a full summer crop. I also learned which plants i liked and didn't. See below.

Did you plant a second crop, how did it go?

I tried to do a later chard with no success and the 2nd spinach didnt work so well

No I did not plant a second crop because I didn't have enough room and I saw how badly the lettuces and radishes did for most because it was too hot.

see above

2nd round of lettuce - mesclun did well. spinach, peas didn't work.

yes, I planted radishes and lettuce. Not well at all – in part because my tomatoes over ran the space and possibly I waited until too late.

Second crop of lettuce and other greens did not do very well.

Yes. I sowed a second (and third) crop of peas, and a second crop of greens. (The one bean plant disappered somewhere in the mix.)They grew well and I think would have matured, if I had noticed the blocked open window sooner, as the plants closest to the window got cold toes. I was happy for the handful of peas I got, even though it snowed earlier this fall.

second crop didn't grow at all

Perhaps plant second crop sooner. Second crop didn't grow fast enough.

Don't think any second turns did well.

Yes, it went pretty well, even tried to squeeze in a third but it got too cold. Just ask around about what plants do well in the summer heat.

In terms of your overall greenhouse experience: How did it work for you?
How could we improve its operation?

It all worked well this year. I was a bit disappointed that people took it upon themselves to plant things like corn and bring in their own tomatoes. We didnt end up having trouble with pests but the whole point is teamwork to prevent this from happening and its not fair to those who were diligent in following "the rules"

Overall I think it was a huge success. Improving the dirt was definitely beneficial. I believe not bringing in bedding plants was smart idea so as not to bring in bugs. Again I would suggest start planting seedlings earlier and handing them out at planting time. The trick is to find a gardener who has proper light and space to do it. Can't think of anything else regarding improvements other than having easy access to water for early and late growing. And as suggested in the meeting, having a compost bin nearby would be beneficial.

I planted too much chard

It was great. Happy to have a second year to try again.

It was a delight again to watch both my plot and other's grow.
A constant learning experience.

Overall, I'm so glad that we got a plot this summer and I really enjoyed it. I didn't have any idea about plant, green house. I learned many things and I would like to learn more about it. Thank you so much to give us an opportunity to have a plot. I hope I will be able to have one next year.

Greenhouse was great, except the early season water.

- The overall idea of everyone keeping the doors open when they worked in the greenhouse in the warmer months was good. Together with the better air circulation, some natural insect predators and better soil, I think everyone had better results. The rain barrel was a great idea for the weeks when we had no town water. It would have been nice to have it filled in the fall too, but that may have been a question of freeze-up.

The plot worked for me. I would take tomatoes out of my plot and put them in hanging baskets.

The overall experience was very positive and encouraging, specially considering last year's experience where there was a lot of work for very little if any rewards.

I can't think of any improvements at the moment other than perhaps coordinating proper communication with the Town of banff the use of water supply from the park to the greenhouse in the off-season as they were very particular when we were "hauling" water with the hose into the barrel. Thank you so much for everything!!!

Everything was very good. To encourage everyone to take a turn at emptying the recycle bins and filling the water barrel, we might put a schedule up and/ or sign up sheet.

i really liked my first summer at the greenhouse. i learned which plants worked well and which didn't. I don't think i'll try the sugar beans (took up too much space and didn't really eat them), baby carrots (too small), full size carrots would be nice. the cucumbers went well but they need support to bear fruit and it'd be nice to know what variety they were. i think i'll have a better idea of where to start this spring.

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