

Gel stains "put off" refinishing excuses

If you're a do-it-yourself furniture refinisher whose motto is "don't do today what you can put off until tomorrow," have we got good news for you!

Follow these simple tips on how to prepare the wood surface, stain and apply a new finish in less than a day.

First, before placing stain on your furniture, make sure the wood surface is as smooth as possible. Begin by removing the old finish down to the bare wood using medium grade sandpaper or varnish remover.

Once all the finish has been taken off, wash the surface with mineral spirits and let dry for 15 minutes. Sand the surface again with a fine grade of sandpaper. Then, wipe off remaining dust with a slightly damp cloth.

The messiest and most difficult aspect of refinishing comes from applying liquid stains. However, by utilizing a quality gel such as Fabulon Gel-eze Stain, you'll get easier control and virtually no spattering or fumes. An additional benefit is that the product requires no mixing or purchase of brushes.

Start by squeezing a small amount of stain on a clean cloth, tissue or smooth paper towel. Wipe the stain on a square foot of wood in the direction of the grain. Then wipe off excess stain with a clean cloth.

Continue until you cover the entire piece of furniture. If you wish to darken the color, apply a second coat. Otherwise, leave to dry for about four hours.

The final step involves protecting the wood with a new coat of finish. Again, the neatest and fastest results can be achieved with a gel product such as Fabulon's Gel-eze Tung Oil Coat.

Projects involving the application of

stain and finish used to take a long time and could be messy, producing unpleasant fumes. This is now a thing of the past.

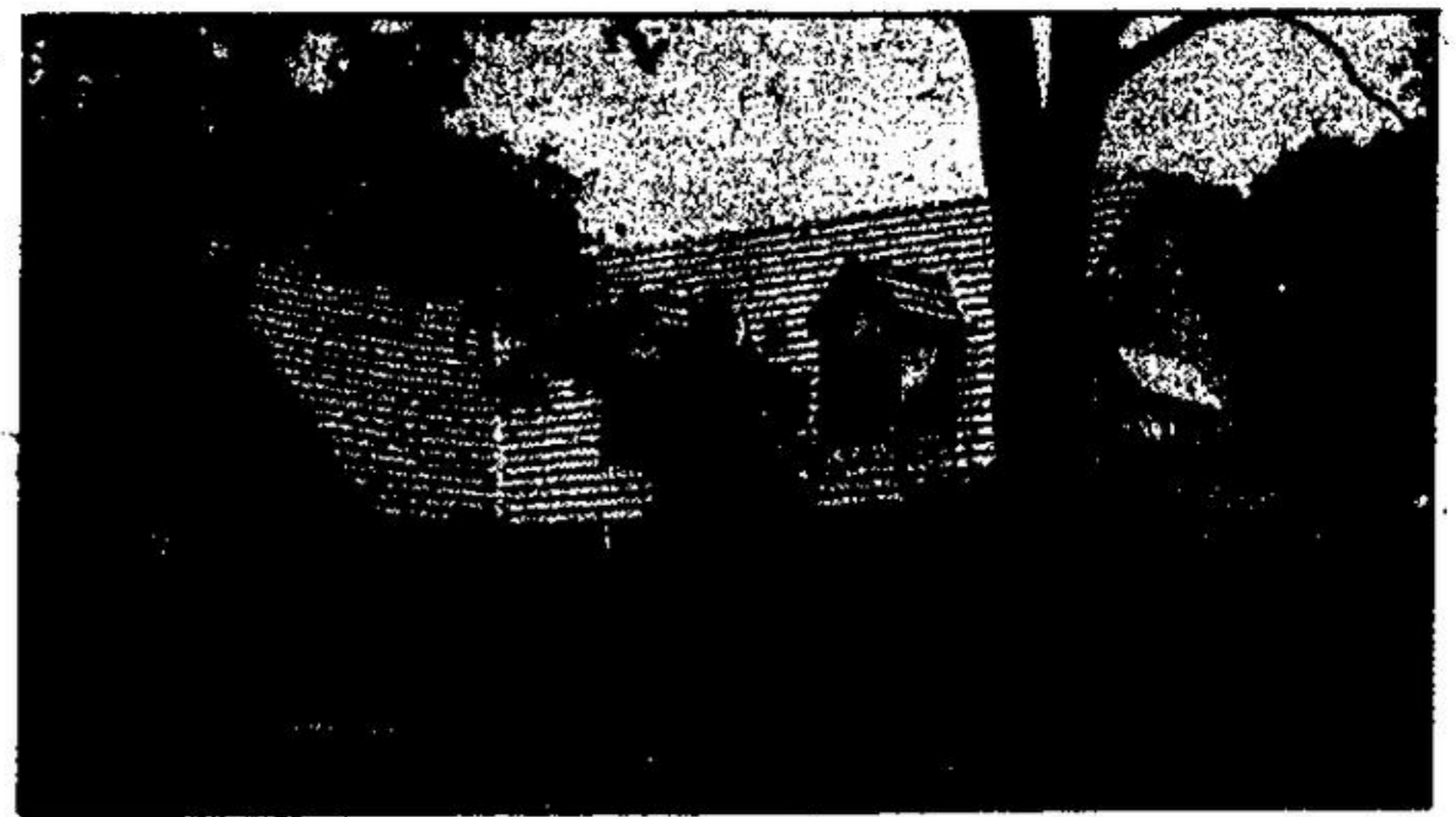
Just squeeze the product on a wiping rag and cover the furniture with a uniform coat. You can apply as many coats of the product as you like without dark-

ening the wood.

Now, your job is done. You need only wait overnight for the piece to dry. In the meantime, kick your feet up on your lounge chair and think about what to do with all the free time you've just acquired.



NO MORE TOMORROWS—The excuses for not refinishing household furniture have run out, now that the project can be completed in a single day with the use of high-quality gel stain and coat products.



YOU PURCHASED YOUR HOME AS AN INVESTMENT. That's why it makes sense to find a roofing product which will add to your home's value today and for the years ahead.

Invest in your next roof

Is your home's roof showing serious signs of wear and age? Temporary roofing materials cost you money and worries from the moment they're installed.

Only permanent building materials give your family long-term economy and investment value. Few roofing materials, however, are permanent.

Asphalt, composition, fiberglass and wood shingles are vulnerable to the weather cycle. They dry out, curl and crack during hot weather, while cold weather makes them brittle and weak. Wet weather causes such materials to soften and harbor insects and fungus. Clay and concrete roofs attract mold, which causes deterioration and requires cleaning.

Aluminum, however, still is protecting roofs on which it was installed in the 1800s. Aluminum's unique combination of permanency, heat reflectivity, low weight and high strength makes it widely respected by many industries.

Rustic Shingle was engineered to provide these advantages along with the sought-after look of wood shakes. This product has such a successful track re-

cord that its manufacturer backs it with a 40-year limited warranty. Coated with Glidden's Ultralast finish, Rustic Shingle achieves the peak of residential roofing performance.

Rustic Shingle is also energy-efficient. Because aluminum reflects radiant heat, homes are kept naturally cooler in summer and warmer in winter. This makes it particularly popular in the Sunbelt, where it has been proven to reduce home cooling loads by up to 34 percent or more.

And, as you know, aluminum is fire resistant, so Rustic Shingle carries a Class A Underwriters Laboratory fire rating. This provides top-grade protection for your home. In addition, Rustic Shingle's light weight encourages its installation directly over most existing roofs.

Rather than a temporary fix, Rustic Shingle is a permanent investment to protect, beautify and distinguish your fine home. When applied by a qualified professional installer, Rustic Shingle will provide unmatched home security and long-term economy.

How to grow a "happy" garden at home

DORCHESTER —In the plant world, some plants enjoy each other's company, others are allies and some are downright enemies.

If you can recognize which plants make good "companions" and which ones don't, you can actually increase the amount of fruit, vegetables, flowers and herbs your garden produces.

"Most of the information on companion planting comes from garden lore; science doesn't have a firm answer for all the cases yet," says Master Gardener Grahame Killeleagh of Dorchester, Ont.

Master Gardeners are gardening enthusiasts who have received formal horticultural training through the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's Master Gardener program.

Once trained, Master Gardeners are available to answer questions from the public.

The beneficial effects of companion planting may be caused by root exudates that stimulate growth of one or both companions; or to some protective factor in one plant that suppresses soil diseases harmful to the other; or even to a beneficial shade, thrown by one on the other.

"Companion planting also disrupts an insect's ability to find its favorite vegetables," Killeleagh adds.

In the following list, "companions" are those vegetables that, when planted

together, are mutually beneficial; "allies" are the herbs and flowers that provide protection or improve the growth of certain vegetables; and "enemies" are other vegetables, herbs and flowers that can cause detrimental effects when planted near certain vegetables.

Asparagus: "companions": basil, parsley, tomato; "allies": pot marigolds.

Beans: "companions": beets (bush beans only), cabbage family, carrot, celery, chard, corn, cucumber, eggplant, peas, potatoes, radishes, strawberries; "allies": marigolds, nasturtiums, rosemary, summer savory; "enemies": garlic, onions and shallots.

Cabbage family: "companions": beets, celery, chard, cucumber, lettuce, onions, potatoes, spinach; "allies": chamomile and garlic, catnip, hyssop, rosemary and sage, dill, mint, nasturtiums, thyme; "enemies": kohlrabi and tomatoes.

Carrots: "companions": beans, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, radishes and tomatoes; "allies": chives, rosemary and sage; "enemies": dill.

Chard: "companions": beans, cabbage family and onions.

Cucumbers: "companions": beans, cabbage family, corn, peas, radishes and tomatoes; "allies": marigolds, nasturtiums, oregano; "enemies": sage.

Lettuce: "companions": beets, cabbage family, carrots, onions, radishes

and strawberries; "allies": chives and garlic.

Onions: "companions": beets, cabbage family, carrots, chard, lettuce, peppers, strawberries and tomatoes; "allies": chamomile and summer savory; "enemies": peas and beans.

Parsley: "companions": asparagus, corn and tomatoes.

Peas: "companions": beans, carrots, corn, cucumbers, radishes and turnip; "allies": chives and mint; "enemies":

garlic and onions.

Peppers: "companions": carrots, eggplant, onion and tomatoes.

Potatoes: "companions": beans, cabbage family, corn, eggplant, and peas; "allies": horseradish (plant at corners or potato patch to provide general protection), and marigolds; "enemies": tomatoes.

Radishes: "companions": beans, carrots, cucumbers, lettuce, melons and peas; "allies": chervil and nasturtiums;

"enemies": hyssop.

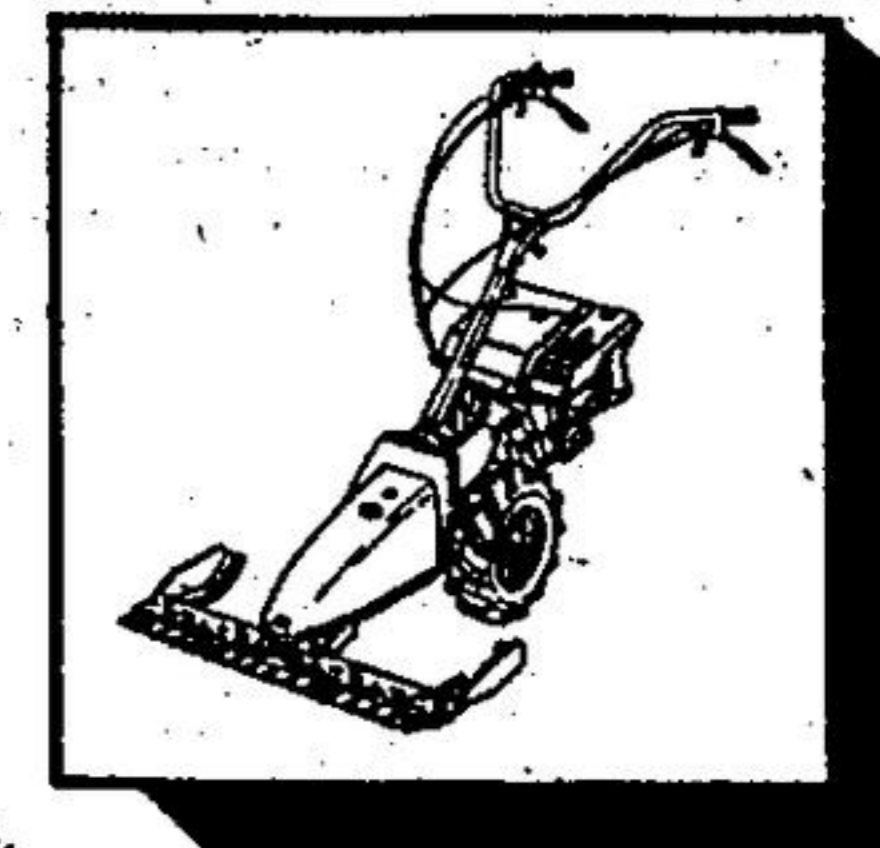
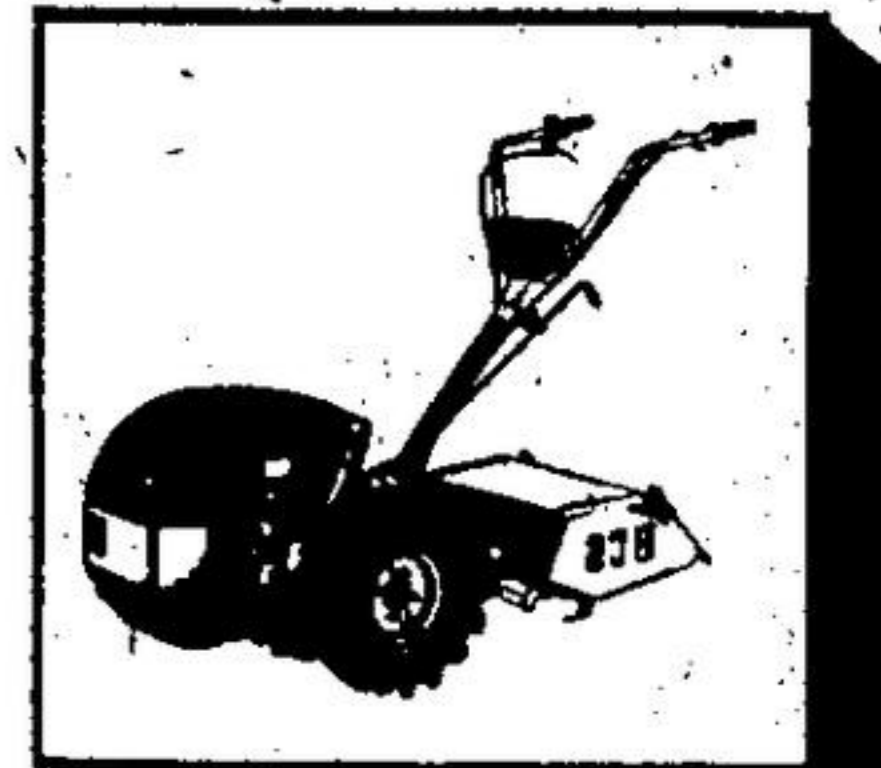
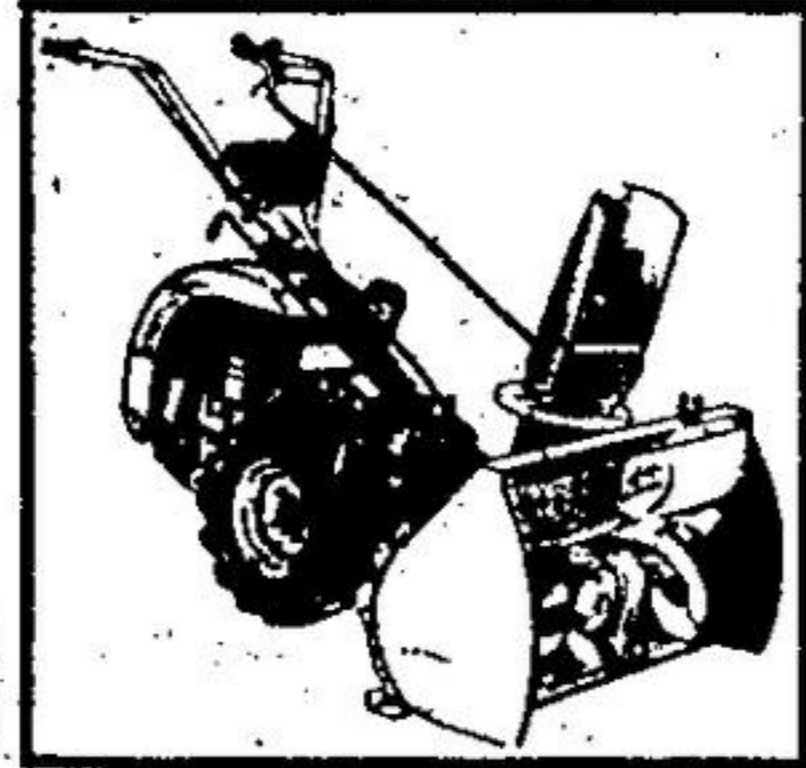
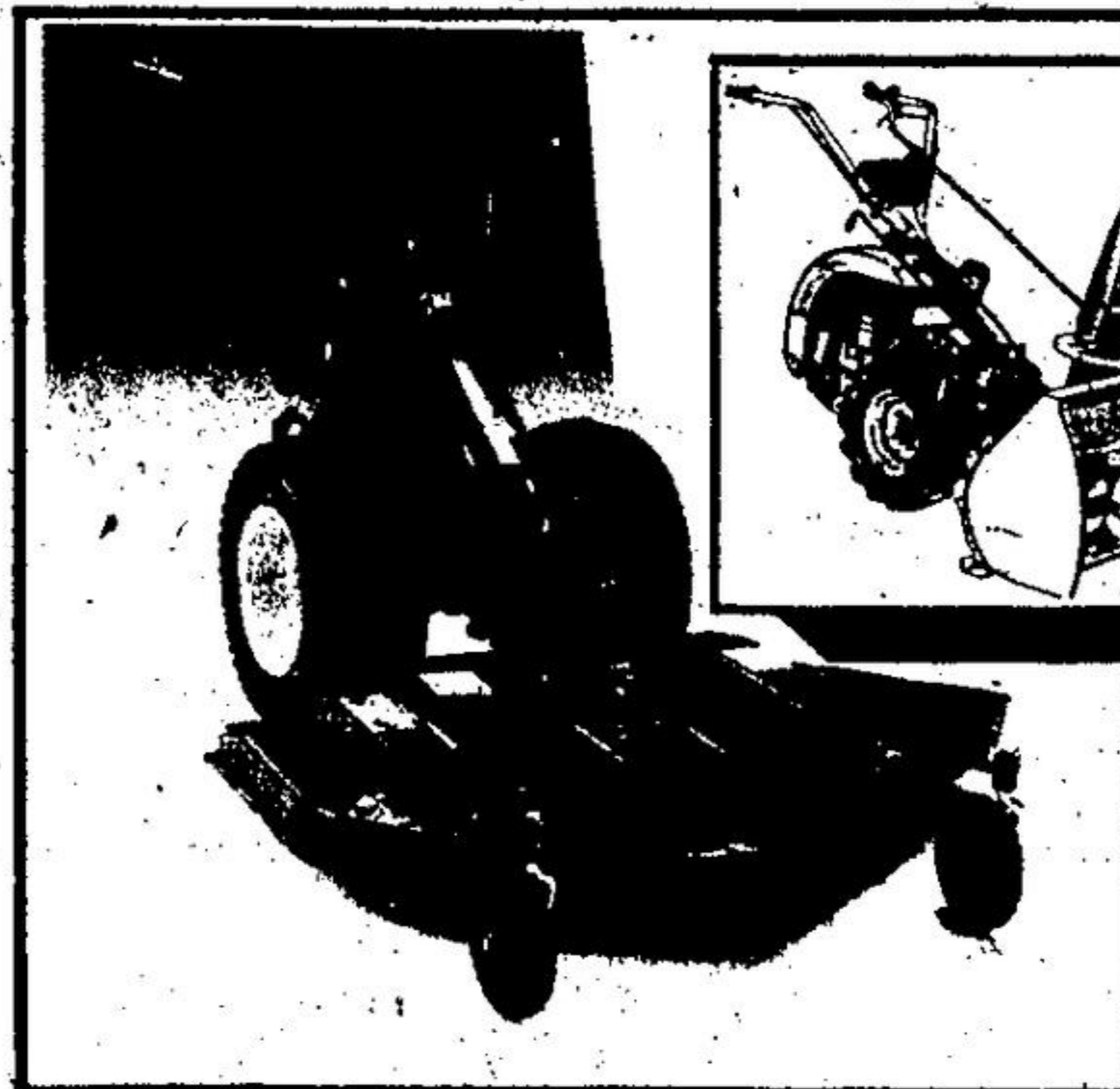
Tomatoes: "companions": asparagus, carrots, celery, cucumbers, onions, parsley and peppers; "allies": basil, bee balm, chives, mint, borage, dill (an ally, only until it is mature);

Once mature, dill stunts tomato growth), and marigolds; "enemies": corn, mature, dill, kohlrabi and potatoes.

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