

## GREEN THUMB GARDENING



By **CHRISTINE COLE**

### TOMATOES

Tomatoes: Few vegetable gardens would be complete without them. They must be one of the most popular plants for the vegetable garden (technically they are really a fruit). However, they haven't always enjoyed such popularity.

At one time tomatoes were thought to be poisonous because other plants in their family are poisonous. During the last 150 years they have gained amazing popularity. There is also numerous varieties to suit every preference. There is the large, juicy late varieties to the small, cherry type, pink ones, red ones and even low acid ones.

Like other vegetable crops tomatoes grow best in full sun with a rich, well-drained soil high in organic matter. For abundant fruit development tomatoes require a fertilizer high in phosphorus (the middle number). A fertilizer high in nitrogen will produce large, attractive plants but little fruit. Tomatoes must have a constant supply of water. During dry periods they must be watered if natural rainfall is not sufficient. A thick mulch placed around each plant will conserve moisture. The mulch will prevent fluctuations in soil moisture which can cause Blossom End Rot. This is soft, black blotches on the end of the fruit.

Tomatoes are not prone to attack by many pests except occasionally by Tomato Hornworms. They are up to 3 inches long and 3/4 of an inch in diameter with a horn on one end. They are large enough to be picked off by hand and kept under control.

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden show-place!

## TUITMAN'S GARDEN CENTRE

ACTON 853-2480  
GEORGETOWN 375 Guelph St. (Beside Georgetown Motor Inn)

## Ruth Taylor elected to 1993-94 Health Council

Halton District Health Council has elected a new slate of officers for the 1993/94 year.

Ruth Taylor, from Georgetown, and a teaching professor in nursing at Sheridan College, will be the Health Council rep on the Association of District Health Councils.

Shelagh Gill remains chair for her third and final year. She is a college professor at Mohawk College of

Applied Arts and Technology in Hamilton. Deanna Williams-Laws is the new vice-chair. She is a pharmacist by profession and is, at present, working for the Drug Reform Secretariat in Toronto. Don Scott, executive director of Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital, continues as treasurer for a second year, and Cheryl Craig, a Burlington businesswoman, has been appointed secretary.

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\* Compared to St Clair's After Sale Price on Premium, Weather Supreme and Pearlone Paints, Ultimate and Royale Stain and Levolor Premiere Venetian Blinds. After Sale Price in effect Sunday August 29, 1993.

GEORGETOWN

## Northview Centre

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