GET READY TO SOW

Really, Spring isn't far away! Especially when we start to think about starting seeds for the upcoming season. If you have never done it before you will be amazed at how easy and enjoyable it is. Just follow the guidelines below for success with seeds.

*Gauge depth of planting by the size of the seed itself

- Larger seeds plant 2-3X depth as their diameter
- Small seeds no covering, but check package, some need darkness to germinate. If so cover tray with a few layers of newspaper.

*Very small seeds that need a thin layer of covering can be covered with sand or vermiculite - this way you can "see" the depth of the covering and can see if you wash it off when watering.

*After sowing seed - use fine water spray to keep the seed bed damp (but not soaking wet) until seedlings have 4 true leaves. From then on, water only when soil surface becomes dry.

Germinate the seeds in a warm location (on top of fridge is ideal), then grow them on in a cooler location that is sunny.

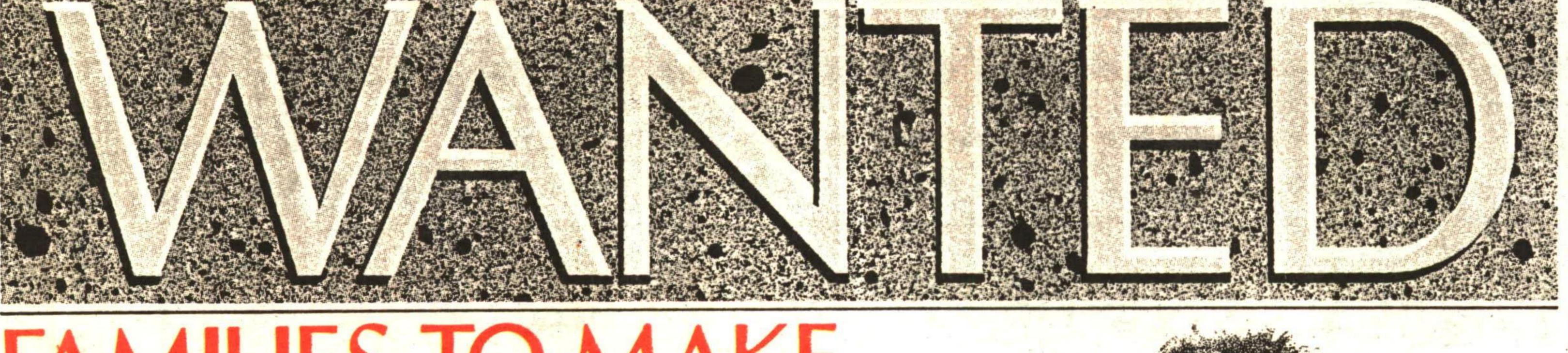
*Thin out the seedlings when they are at the 2 to 4 leaf stage. Snip them off with scissors, do not pull them out by hand.

*When seedlings have reached the 2 to 4 leaf stage, fertilize on a regular basis.

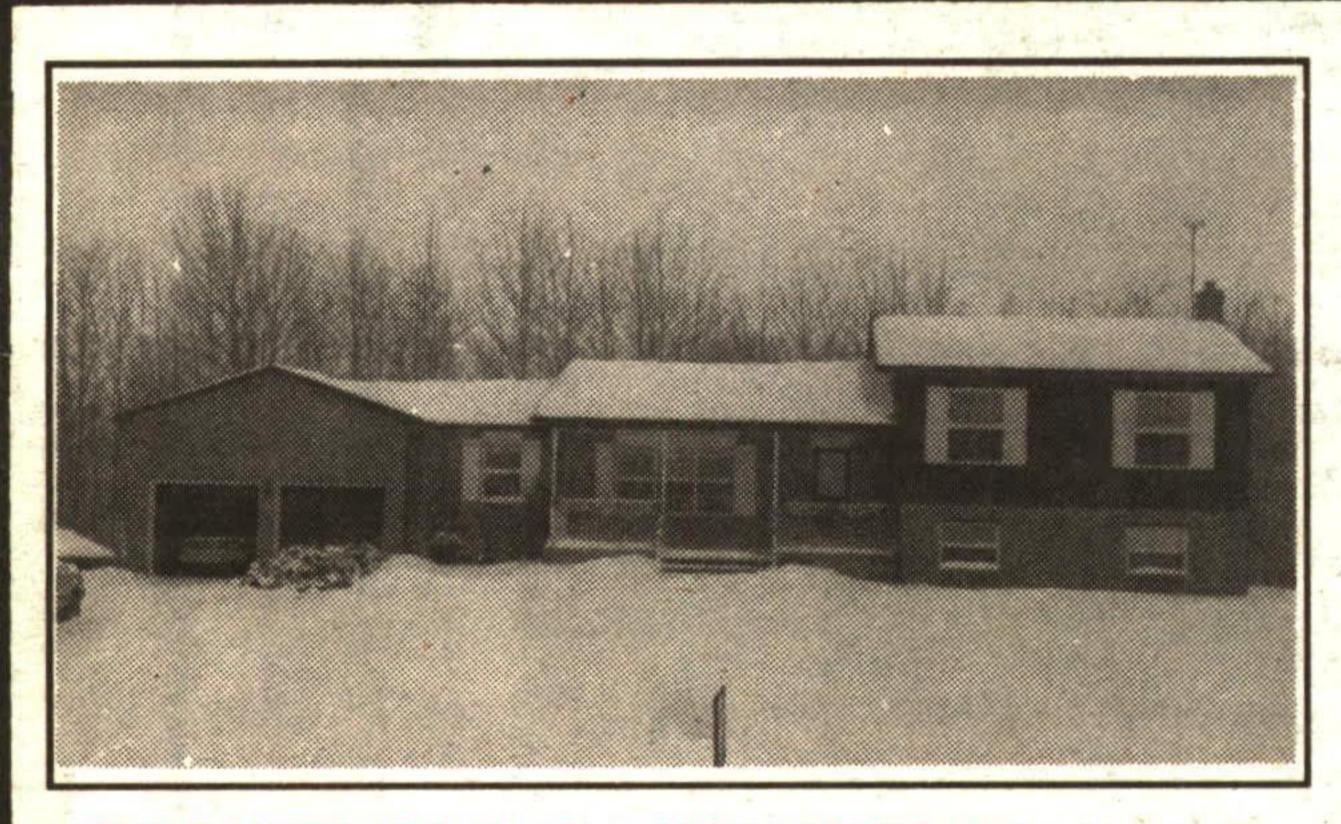
Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace!

TUITMAN'S GARDEN CENTRE

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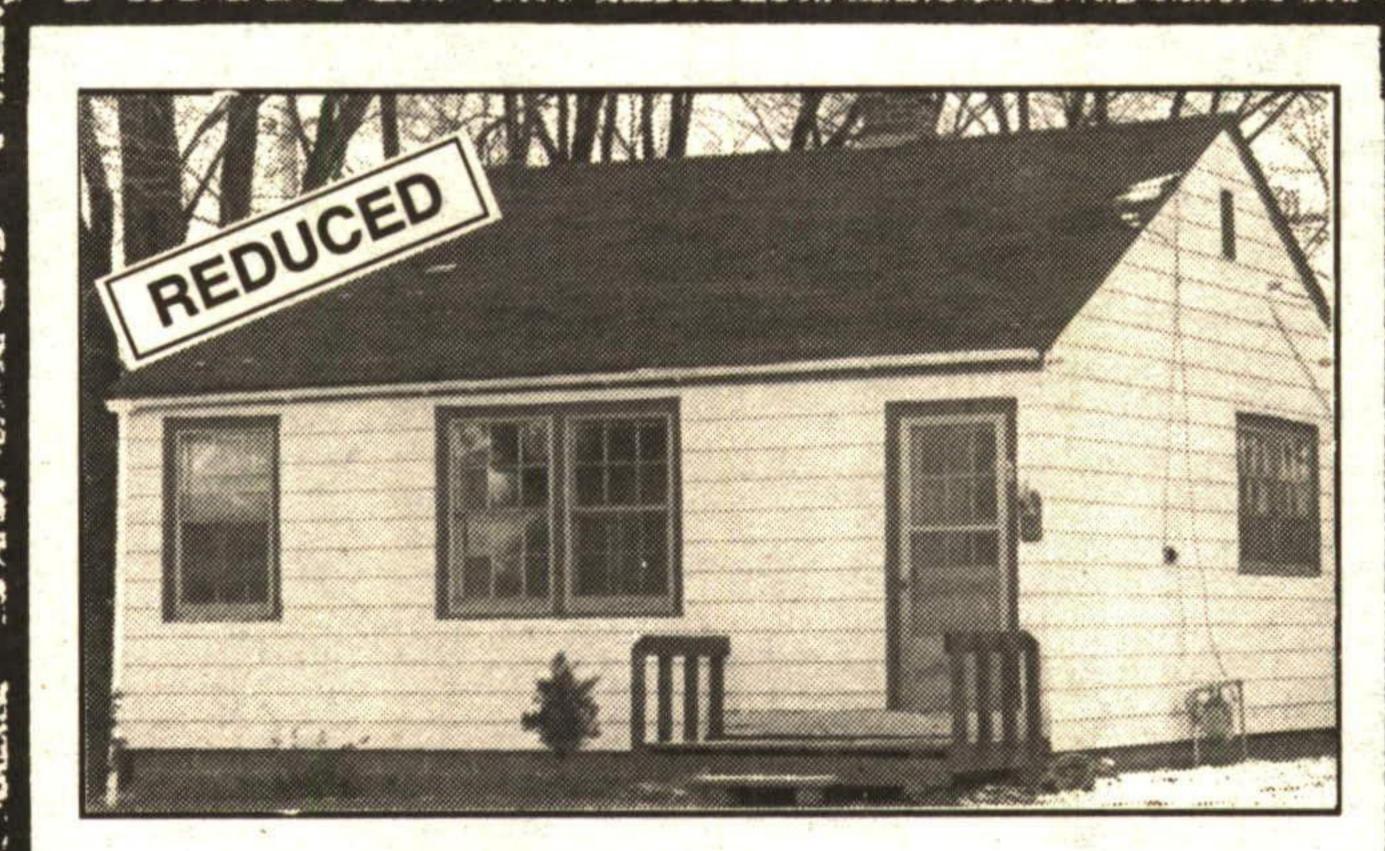


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