

**Male Narrator:** [00:00:00] Hey, Wyoming. [MUSIC] Welcome to the Lawn and Garden podcast with the University of Wyoming extension specialist, Jeff Edwards and co-host Jerry Erschabeck. Originally aired on KGOS and KERM in Torrington. Join Jeff, Jerry and all their special guests as they talk all things gardening in the great State of Wyoming. From plant variants, to weather events, to pesticides, and pollinators, our lawn and garden podcasts help you improve your home garden as well as your small acreage. Let's welcome Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabeck. Happy gardening folks.

**Jeff Edwards:** Good morning everybody. This is Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabeck for the KGOS, KERM lawn and garden program. Our guest today is Bernie Lewis. We will be talking about lawn and garden things that you can do in January and February and March. Let's listen to a few words from our sponsors, and we'll be back right after this.

**Female 1:** UW Extension is excited to announce another session of the very popular online Master Gardener training. This extensive training focuses on successful gardening and landscaping in Wyoming's uniquely challenging growing environment. The 14-week class runs from February 10th through May 12th, and costs \$75 plus the book. Topics include botany, soils and composting, extending the growing season, growing vegetables and herbs, fruit trees, berry crops, trees and shrubs, annuals and perennials, lawn care, pest management, diagnosing plant problems, and entomology. Live classes are held online Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 09:00 PM. Live classes allow instructors to interact with you and other gardeners across the state. If Wednesday classes don't fit your schedule, no problem. Classes are recorded so you have the ability to attend when it's convenient for you. Visit [uwyo.edu/mastergardener](http://uwyo.edu/mastergardener) for other details and to register.

**Female 2:** Did you know that hemp seeds are nutritious with 30 percent protein? If you're interested in learning more about hemp and the hemp industry, join us for the Wyoming hemp workshop on February 3rd from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. We will have speakers from across the region in Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and even Canada who will present valuable information on a variety of hemp topics. This will be a hybrid event which will include local meetings at Wyoming Extension sites along with a virtual Zoom conference. If you'd like to attend, please contact our hemp agronomist, John Connett by phone at 307-766-5022 or by email at [jconnett@uwyo.edu](mailto:jconnett@uwyo.edu)

**Jeff Edwards:** [00:03:00] Good morning, everybody. This is Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabeck for the KGOS, KERM lawn and garden program. Good morning, Jerry. How are you doing today?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Good morning, Jeff. I'm doing really well. Happy new year to everybody.

**Jeff Edwards:** Happy new year to everybody. I'm glad we made it.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** [LAUGHTER] Yeah. The weather outside is still frightful just in the fact that the wind shear. Not much in the way of any moisture, but a lot of wind.

**Jeff Edwards:** Pretty cool some of those mornings when my wife and I are out there walking our dog, so yes. Our guest today is Bernie Lewis. Good morning, Bernie. How are you today?

**Bernie Lewis:** I am fine.

**Jeff Edwards:** It is good to see you. We are glad you are able to join us today.

**Bernie Lewis:** I am too.

**Jeff Edwards:** Since I mentioned that we'll be talking about winter activities that you can do in your lawn and garden, I'm going to turn the floor over to you Bernie and let's get started.

**Bernie Lewis:** Well, as Jerry was saying, the weather is still very frightful and right now is a very good time to be watering your trees, you're young trees, even your mature trees because we have not had enough moisture during the summer, in this fall, and even into the starting of this winter. They are in desperate need of water.

**Jeff Edwards:** Those trees and shrubs, right?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah. Trees and shrubs. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** Still out there. The primary reason that we want to water over the course of the winter is not necessarily they have the roots be able to pull moisture up into the stems, but it's mainly to keep the roots from drying out, correct?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yes, it is.

**Jeff Edwards:** If we are watering trees on a cool day, which we're not freezing real hard. But can you give some folks some tips on how to water trees this time of the year?

**Bernie Lewis:** Slowly. I mean, your water pressures. [LAUGHTER] If you're out in a neck of the woods, the water pressure isn't always the best, but probably 10, 15 minutes at the most. But just so that they have enough water, like you said, that their roots don't dry out so they're not stressed when it starts. They have to have some moisture because it is so dry. We tried to dig some fence posts and it's just almost impossible [LAUGHTER] to dig out there [LAUGHTER].

**Jeff Edwards:** Exactly. Previous programs, we've talked about this a little bit. If you have large trees, it's a good idea to go out during the warmest part of the day, whatever time that might be, and start a hose running and maybe let it run about the diameter of a pencil. What is that about, a quarter of an inch or so?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah.

**Jeff Edwards:** [00:06:00] Let it run for several hours and put it on, I guess it would be maybe a clock schedule. Not watering length, but where you're watering on that tree. You want to put the hose out where the drip line is, where the edge of the root ball.

**Bernie Lewis:** [OVERLAPPING] The root ball, before the roots..

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah.

**Bernie Lewis:** Where your canopy is.

**Jeff Edwards:** Thank you. The canopy, that's the word I was looking for. [LAUGHTER].

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah.

**Jeff Edwards:** If it's a large tree, I would set it maybe one day, where you think north would be or the 12 o'clock position would be. Then if you can water again the next day, set it at at 3:00 o'clock and the day after that set it at 6:00 and then set it at 9:00 on the hands of a clock around your tree so that you're getting adequate water in the area that needs it all the way around the tree. Hopefully I made that clear other than confusing people with timing and clock. But run it as long as you think you can or think you should. In our environment, over watering is usually not an issue.

**Bernie Lewis:** Not a problem. [LAUGHTER].

**Jeff Edwards:** Really, what you're trying to do is get the water into the soil. But once it starts freezing, getting below 32 degrees, probably unhook everything, makes sure you unhook that hose from the hydrant or the side of your house, and drain it so that you can use it again the following day. Go ahead, Jerry.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Bernie, when you were digging and those post holes, did you find any frost in the ground?

**Bernie Lewis:** No. There just to was no.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Just pretty dry.

**Bernie Lewis:** I lost my garden shade this last spring.

**Jeff Edwards:** Oh, no. Due to the wind?

**Bernie Lewis:** To the wind. [LAUGHTER] Wendell was building me another one, and so he had to take some fence posts to get to it. He wasn't real happy by the time I got home from teaching school trying to dig up the fence posts.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** My dad would always put water in his holes to put in a fence post if he could. We would horse water. You'd put a little dash in. He always found that to be easier to tamp those posts in a little tighter.

**Jeff Edwards:** He just [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** [OVERLAPPING] Wendell ended up putting water in there to try to make the fence posts, or to make the hole because it was that [LAUGHTER] hard.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Dry.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah.

**Bernie Lewis:** It was very dry. People are starting to get their seed catalogs and stuff and [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** Looking at all the pretty pictures and dreaming about the produce that they're going to eat?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yes. People need to be getting those seeds ordered by now. I wouldn't start any tomatoes right [00:09:00] now, but I would start some perennial flowers, things like that, that have a longer date before they bloom. Your perennials, you can start now.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Could you do marigolds and zinnias as well?

**Bernie Lewis:** No. Because your bloom date on those what? Twenty days. [LAUGHTER] Marigold and zinnias, I'd plant them outside.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Okay.

**Bernie Lewis:** But you can start those probably in March and April and then to transplant them. But your perennials are, they usually have a longer date for them to bloom, and they are a woodier plant usually.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Like a person that has just a grow light, would you put the grow light fairly close to your pots or?

**Bernie Lewis:** They need to propagate first. I mean, they need to germinate through this.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** [OVERLAPPING] Through the soil.

**Bernie Lewis:** You transplant them into a bigger thing [NOISE] and then put them in different pots and put grow lights on them.

**Jeff Edwards:** When you plant them, first when you're waiting for them to germinate, do you need to grow light on them or not?

**Bernie Lewis:** You have to look.

**Jeff Edwards:** It depends on what it is, right?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah, it does. Some of them need light and some of them don't like light. You just have to read on your package.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Now, like many people, I would think have extra seeds that they didn't use the year before or the year before that or the year before that. I know that as the seeds age, the germination rate goes down. How would you go about seeing if these seeds would even try to germinate?

**Bernie Lewis:** I'd put them in damp paper towel, and put them in paper towel and put them on the top of the refrigerator where it's warm or if you have a heating grow pad and see what the germination, what the percentage would be.

**Jeff Edwards:** Percentage. Take 10 or five seeds out of the packet, wrap them in damp paper towel, throw it up on top of your refrigerator, check them in about five days, see what happens. Bernie would you transplant those plants to soil?

**Bernie Lewis:** You can.

**Jeff Edwards:** Okay.

**Bernie Lewis:** You can. This is mostly so you know what your germination will be.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah.

**Bernie Lewis:** The percentage of germination would be.

**Jeff Edwards:** If it was a plant that you really liked, it's hard for, well, do I run a germination [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** I can't throw things away. [LAUGHTER]

**Jeff Edwards:** Running your germination test is a really good thing to do if you're not planning on planting the survivors. [LAUGHTER] Very good.

**Bernie Lewis:** It was very hard for me to throw any little plant away.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes. You bring home all of the ones that nobody adopts before the end of the year, don't you?

**Bernie Lewis:** A lot of them.

**Jeff Edwards:** [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** [00:12:00] My husband Wendell goes, "We don't need anymore."

**Jeff Edwards:** [LAUGHTER].

**Bernie Lewis:** Your garden will not hold anymore.

**Jeff Edwards:** [LAUGHTER].

**Bernie Lewis:** Just walk away from them.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Just walk away [OVERLAPPING].

**Bernie Lewis:** Walk away.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I like to plant a lot of sunflowers. Sometimes, it's difficult to thin them out because, "Hey, well, you'd look pretty healthy." You wind up taking some healthy ones out and I'm not sure how they would transplant once they're a foot high.

**Bernie Lewis:** No, they don't.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** They're not very good?

**Jeff Edwards:** Not well.

**Bernie Lewis:** I hear Jeff, you have an experiment that you are working on that sounded very interesting.

**Jeff Edwards:** Last fall, Diane and I were talking about the possibility of keeping tomatoes going throughout the winter months. In warmer climates, tomatoes are considered a perennial, unfortunately, not here. [LAUGHTER] What I did is, of the ones that we liked, I took some cuttings and dipped those cuttings in growth hormone and then put them into potting soil mix and kept them moist. I think I started with nine and I ended up with three. I had pretty high mortality out of those but I have tomato plants blooming right now. [LAUGHTER] I have been trying to keep them trimmed back and I really do not have any interest in allowing them to bloom and try to produce fruit in the house. I'm just trying to keep them alive until April so that I can get them in the ground and the high tunnel.

**Jerry Erschbeck:** That was just a clipping, that wasn't the actual tomato plant that you had had before.

**Jeff Edwards:** Correct. It was just a clipping so it was 6-8 inches of terminal shoot. I peeled off all the lower leaves and then dipped it into growth hormone and then put it right in the soil.

**Bernie Lewis:** Well, I can't think of what they are called, the little two. You just pinch them off and [OVERLAPPING] I've heard you can re-root those too.

**Jeff Edwards:** Really? [BACKGROUND] I know what you're talking about. I'm trying to think of [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** [LAUGHTER] I can't think of the name.

**Jeff Edwards:** You have shoots that come where the main stem of the plant branches and [OVERLAPPING].

**Bernie Lewis:** The suckers.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes. The suckers.

**Bernie Lewis:** Aren't they called suckers?

**Jeff Edwards:** I believe so. How would you root those? Would you use rooting hormone, Bernie? Or just. [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** I don't think you even have to root. I really don't think you have to do rooting hormone because every place, when you are planting your tomato plants, if you can get them just so that their little head is sticking up, [OVERLAPPING] all those hairs are roots, will make roots. I've heard people just sticking them and [00:15:00] not even putting them in the hormone, just sticking them in potting soil.

**Jeff Edwards:** Just take a cutting and putting them in potting soil. That'll be next year's experiment. The other thing I'm, well, thinking about doing. Two years ago, my mom had a bunch of apricots that were really tasty. She had them again last year but the wind blew them off [LAUGHTER] before she was able to harvest the majority of them. I have pits from those apricots that I'm going to try to germinate. I was doing a little research and found out that it would work better if you could chip them out of the pits and

[OVERLAPPING] just have the seed portion but I'm a little concerned that I haven't had them go through a cold period long enough to see if they will even work. I'm talking about your germination test. It's going to be a big one. [LAUGHTER].

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Jeff, my neighbor has an apricot tree and she was just eating a few and then chucking the pits out and voila, next spring [OVERLAPPING] she had trees coming up. That's where my brother got his trees. His apricot trees but I have not seen any of the apricots because they normally fall, they get overripe, they fall and but I haven't seen any trees coming from those. I don't know what it was about our neighbor, that after she had eaten them and chucked them out onto the grass that they got those to grow. I'm not sure. [OVERLAPPING] Like walnuts, they say to give a bucket of them to a squirrel and he'll plant them for you [OVERLAPPING] They've got the big husk on them.

**Jeff Edwards:** They do. Here's an interesting thing that's going on in the neighborhood that happened over Christmas. We had that really strong wind, 60-mile an hour or whatever that happened. I believe it was between Christmas and New Years, if I remember correctly but I could be mistaken, anytime anyways, sometime, during that time, we had this big wind. Well, Diane and I go for a walk every day and we were picking up black walnuts on one of the roads near our house and there are no black walnut trees anywhere near us. I've started asking people how far do you think a black walnut could travel in a 60-mile wind? [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** Well, over on Trevor's land there's black walnut.

**Jeff Edwards:** There is?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yes.

**Jeff Edwards:** All right. That still would be a half a mile. [LAUGHTER] That's a long way to go.

**Bernie Lewis:** It is very nice pretty wood.

**Jeff Edwards:** It is.

**Bernie Lewis:** It is.

**Jeff Edwards:** They're really nice trees but I am not a fan of the walnuts themselves.

**Bernie Lewis:** [00:18:00] No.

**Jeff Edwards:** They are just, to me, they [OVERLAPPING] are a sweet, yucky nut. The squirrel is going to have them as far as I'm concerned.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Now, do you have a problem with English walnuts?

**Jeff Edwards:** No. I like English walnuts.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Just black walnuts.

**Jeff Edwards:** The flavor of the black walnut. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Out at Hawk Springs, they have an ice cream. [OVERLAPPING] One of their hamburger fries. They have an ice cream making and one of them is black walnuts. I swear that that's pretty good stuff.

**Jeff Edwards:** I would not be choosing that one.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yes. [LAUGHTER]

**Jeff Edwards:** Some people don't like broccoli. I'm not [OVERLAPPING] I'm not a big fan of black walnuts [LAUGHTER] or beets.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yellow beets are the best. [OVERLAPPING] [LAUGHTER] You cut them in half. You put a little olive oil on them and put some sear marks on them, get them nice and hot, they're really good. They don't taste like red beets at all.

**Jeff Edwards:** I believe you. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** You haven't had them the way I fix them. [LAUGHTER] Haven't you heard that before?

**Jeff Edwards:** No. [LAUGHTER] Maybe I have. [OVERLAPPING] Maybe we have on this program. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** [LAUGHTER]

**Jeff Edwards:** Jerry, what have you been doing gardening wise this winter?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Well, my brother-in-law gave me some elephant ear bulbs.

**Jeff Edwards:** Elephant ear garlic?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** No, elephant ears.

**Bernie Lewis:** Elephant ears.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Elephant ears, okay. It's a huge big bulb. Well, not quite that big. [LAUGHTER] That blows up and I think there's like five or six of them, and I put them down into the well shed hole because it goes down about 10 feet and stabilizes. I put that with my Canna Lilies and my Gladiolus and one other thing. We are thinking that that might be a really good thing to do. I tried to grow an elephant ear in the garage, starting it in a larger peat pot, and it didn't do very well at all.

**Jeff Edwards:** Was it getting any sunlight in the garage?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I have a grow light. That's why I asked earlier if the grow light should be pretty darn close to it. Mine is a couple of feet above.

**Bernie Lewis:** But some things don't like grow lights. I know when we do onion seeds, [OVERLAPPING] they germinate better out in the greenhouse than they do under grow light.



**Jeff Edwards:** Interesting.

**Bernie Lewis:** It is very interesting.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. So Jerry, have you ordered [00:21:00] your seeds yet?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** No, I have not. [LAUGHTER] [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** That's one thing we probably remind people to do.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Absolutely.

**Jeff Edwards:** We've been receiving our seed catalogs ever since the first day before our Thanksgiving. Things are still funny out there. Last year, there were shortages of things, if you waited too long. I am anticipating that the seed industry have recognized that and maybe have stored more back, but that doesn't mean that they might run short again this year. [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** Do you still have a hard time finding jars?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. There are going to be some supply issues. Well, I can't say it definitely, but personally, I think they probably will be and continue to be into the year. A little forward dot and planning and preparing and you might even [OVERLAPPING].

**Bernie Lewis:** I always make a plan because I try to rotate the seats in my garden. Right now, it's a really good time to be looking at those catalogs, giving your diagram of your garden out and planning on what you want and where you want it [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** It's a good mental health exercise too.

**Bernie Lewis:** Yes, it is.

**Jeff Edwards:** Dreaming about what that garden is going to look like in four or six months. [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** That's really going fast by fast. I told Wendell this summer when I was canning, I'm like, "Oh, I'm really getting tired of this," and he goes, "Don't wish it away because it's going to be the first to jack [inaudible] before we know it," and it was.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** [OVERLAPPING] I know in the summer, everybody puts like a little bit of fertilizer in a jug and sprinkle stuff about every two weeks. Would it be wise or unwise to start fertilizing your ground now and just letting the weather put some age on it and start sinking in?

**Bernie Lewis:** We try to, usually, in the fall, when you're raking up your leaves and your leaf molds on your garden and let it set because those worms really like to have something warm. They just like to mulch everything down. [OVERLAPPING] Putting manure or leaf mulch is a good thing to do in the fall and early winter.

**Jeff Edwards:** For commercial fertilizers, I would like to apply a little bit more towards when I have planted things, that when I know the things that are [00:24:00] going to be growing are going to get the most advantage of that fertilizer. My tomato experiment, I'm watching it, and monitoring it, and babying it, and probably talking to it more than I should. If I see that the leaves are looking a little off-color, I have been sprinkling on a granule or two of fertilizer, trying not to overdo it because I know that that can happen, and they definitely respond. One of the other things that we've done this year is trying to keep basil going in the house. That's been a nice addition to our diet as we go along, but they really struggle to begin with and needed a shot of fertilizers. If you're pulling leaves off, you need to probably augment with a little fertilizer here and there.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** My new niece-in-law has one of those little plugin garden units that has little grow light. She's grown basil and chives, a few other odds on the ends.

**Jeff Edwards:** Herbs?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Some of whom get real leggy and some of them don't. But there's a fertilizer packet to put into the water and it recirculates the water so it's a hydroponic style of growing.

**Jeff Edwards:** Interesting.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** It's self-contained little unit. It's probably 14 inches wide, nine inches deep, and probably a foot and a half high.

**Jeff Edwards:** There's a lot of things available out there for people who are newer gardeners or even those of us who have been doing it awhile to try to encourage people to grow your own.

**Bernie Lewis:** Yes, there is. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I think that there's going to be more people who are first-time growers and growing their own fruits and vegetables, or at least more of their vegetables. Even just the simple ones, like, zucchini and well and tomatoes. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** There's nothing wrong with keeping it simple, Jerry. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Maybe a pepper too. Yeah, no kidding. Maybe a winter squash, you plant a blue hubbard.

**Jeff Edwards:** Our role is only grow the stuff you like to eat. There's plenty of other things out there. Diane would really like me to grow beets, but [LAUGHTER] she's going to have to sneak them into the garden if that's the case. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** [LAUGHTER] Or she can buy them.

**Jeff Edwards:** Or trade for them. Last year, [OVERLAPPING] she traded something somebody, maybe traded some eggs for some beets last year. I don't know what it was. [LAUGHTER] Hey, let's take a break and let's do some messages from our sponsors, and we'll be back in a few.

**Female 3:** [MUSIC] The University of Wyoming Extension and the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program share educational resources across Wyoming. We want to hear from you! How do you find information on your favorite topics? What social media platforms do you use? What's the best [00:27:00] way to get our resources into your hands? We want to know. Take our survey and earn an awesome multi-use kitchen tool and help us get the best information to you in the way you want it.

**Female 4:** Are you interested in learning more about agronomy, healthy soil, no till farming, and current climate conditions and outlooks? Please join us for WESTI Ag Days in Worland on February 9 through the 18th. Lunch will be provided courtesy of our sponsors. Please call 307-347-3431 for more information and to register.

**Jeff Edwards:** All right, good morning everybody. This is Jeff Edwards and Jerry Erschabeck for the KGOS KERM Lawn and Garden Program and our guest today is Bernie Lewis. We've been talking about wishful thinking, I guess. [LAUGHTER] What we can think about in our garden and how to keep us occupied this winter. Bernie mentioned planning out your garden a little bit ago. Diane and I need to do a little better job at this. We never really write it down, we discuss where things are going. I don't know, do you have a map, Bernie, of where you [OVERLAPPING]?

**Bernie Lewis:** I do, I have a little notebook. It's a little spiral notebook that somebody gave me. I do. I plotted out and do that because you don't always remember. I don't have a greenhouse, I just have a garden plot. Sometimes you forget, "Did I put the tomatoes here or did I put them in this row?" Because I ditch mine, we flood it so it's pretty easy to be able to tell where you're planting and stuff, as to where your rows are. I do try to keep track of it so I'm not planting more than one-year rotation.

**Jeff Edwards:** Sure.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Do you save your map from year to year?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah, they're in a little spiral notebook.

**Jeff Edwards:** She has about 40 years of them. [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** No, I don't have 40, I only have 10.

**Jeff Edwards:** Oh, okay. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I agree with you. You forget exactly where you put stuff, because you think that's where [OVERLAPPING] I had my tomatoes. Myrna will say, "No, that's where we had them last year."

**Jeff Edwards:** That's where we had them a [OVERLAPPING] couple of years ago and it's still not ready to be put back there. [LAUGHTER] We try to rotate, but right now it's a mental game for us. [LAUGHTER] [OVERLAPPING] Go ahead.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** We're using some hog panels, I think that they're just about four foot tall and they're 16 feet long, and we've made specified walkways. Some go around a corner and one goes around the corner another way, so it makes it a specific walk pattern. We've done that and this is our second year for that, and I think we're going to keep things there, but we grew peas on one of them. For people who haven't grown peas, peas are one of those kind of things you really have to watch them. If you don't,

they could overripe. [OVERLAPPING] [00:30:00] Yeah, pick them. [LAUGHTER] Then if you don't, they to get overripe and they're not tasty at all.

**Jeff Edwards:** Well, I might have mentioned this last year at some point in time, but we do the same thing. We grow peas on our hog panel and allow them to climb on our hog panel. When you're first plant them, you think, man, I only got 10 of those plants to germinate. By the time you're done picking them, you're thinking thank god, I only had 10 of those plants germinate. [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** You're lucky because I can't grow peas up here.

**Jeff Edwards:** Oh, really?

**Bernie Lewis:** I can't. I try.

**Jeff Edwards:** Well, we do put them in the high tunnel. One of the things that we noticed last year before we were opening the sides, so we planted them very early, and it was still getting very warm before we open the sides up to get it to vent a little bit. They grew up to be about three feet tall, and anything above three feet just got burnt off. So that was our indicator that said, "Hey, you need to be opening up the vents." [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** It's a little warm in here.

**Jeff Edwards:** But they bushed out. So where those points stopped growing, they bushed from there and we had gobs of peas. [LAUGHTER] More than I needed. [LAUGHTER] The other thing, Jerry, is turning one of those hog panels on its end [OVERLAPPING] and then bending it over. So about four feet apart or maybe wider actually. It's a 16-foot panel, you could go up to six feet or eight feet wide I think, and just make an arch with it. You can still grow things on it, so cucumbers or peas or whatever, and just use it as a walkway underneath and go through and pick things that way.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** You bet, and it makes it more architecturally beautiful.

**Jeff Edwards:** Sure.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Sure. [LAUGHTER] Well, my wife has to have color coordination and make it look pretty.

**Jeff Edwards:** Sure.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** So we have a plan this year to have a dirt profile in our garden, and let me tell you what that was all about. We bought an electric weed-eater and Myrna kept the weeds down.

**Jeff Edwards:** That Myrna loves.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** By weed-eating between her rows. It doesn't stop those really small weeds from gaining a seed head, and of course, the weed-eater spews out the seed and replants it, but yet it came down. It was almost like a carpet of stuff.

**Jeff Edwards:** Green stuff.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Great stuff. So what we want to do this year is have an actual dirt profile. We have too many voles, V-O-L-E-S, to put plastic down. I think that that would just become a haven for them.

**Jeff Edwards:** Sure.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** But we want to do better on our weed containment, and I think [inaudible] after.

**Bernie Lewis:** Have you thought about putting Preen [00:33:00] down in your walkways?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah. On some things we do. I don't really think about doing that on edibles. Preen is okay for edibles?

**Jeff Edwards:** You'd have to look at the label. I can't recall. [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** If it's just in your walkway.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah. I don't know.

**Bernie Lewis:** [OVERLAPPING] Mulch it with some wood chips or something.

**Jeff Edwards:** The product in Preen, it's a pre-emergent [OVERLAPPING] that affects root growth. So you would know if it affected your plants. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Anyway, that's our plan.

**Bernie Lewis:** Or mulch it.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah.

**Bernie Lewis:** You mulch your walkways.

**Jeff Edwards:** So Jerry, how big is your garden?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Fifty by fifty. But we put in two raised beds, four by four by eight. So we take up a little, and then we added a sitting area, so that's a twelve by twelve. We're slowly reducing our garden size.

**Jeff Edwards:** My dad did exactly the same thing. Kept getting smaller and smaller. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** But it still is able to open the gates because we put a chicken wire fence around it to ward off any deer that may or may not be into our garden. They have to be a very dedicated deer if they want to be inside of our garden because we have bushes on the outside, bushes on the inside a little bit as well. So they have to be really dedicated if they want to get in. So the gates are wide enough to get my tiller through there easy enough.

**Jeff Edwards:** Of course they are.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Of course they are. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** I was going to ask Bernie, are you a rotary tiller?

**Bernie Lewis:** No, Wendell just takes the spring-tooth harrow through mine.

**Jeff Edwards:** So basically, you are not ripping up your furrows each year.

**Bernie Lewis:** No. Well, [OVERLAPPING] not with the rotary tiller. He just runs the spring-tooth harrow through it and then he packs it down with the packer. He has a little packer.

**Jeff Edwards:** All right.

**Bernie Lewis:** I might be the gardener, but he is the farmer.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I have never done that. [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** We did put a rabbit fence around our garden because I'm like Mrs. McGregor, I don't like the rabbits in my garden because they eat my beets and they eat everything. [LAUGHTER]

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes, they do.

**Bernie Lewis:** I'm just like no, I don't want chase them out with my hoe because I might have to hurt them.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes. So Jerry, you mentioned voles with a V.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yes.

**Jeff Edwards:** Voles are one of the things that are issues in high tunnels or greenhouses because they feed on plants and insects and basically anything that they can find. [00:36:00] They are hungry little guys. But in the spring, I really try to run a baiting program in my high tunnel just to try to get them under control because in the past, two years ago, maybe it was three years ago now, every time I planted sweetcorn one night, the next night, they would be just little divots where the corn were because [LAUGHTER] the voles just walk down the row and pick them out and eat them. So if I plan on having a crop, I have to manage the vole population that occurs inside the high tunnel.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** So on our raised beds, we turn them over and put on hail screen, I think it's quarter by quarter. Maybe it's half by half. Hail screen or hardwired tack.

**Jeff Edwards:** Expanded metal type stuff?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Expanded metal, sure. To try to avoid any voles coming up into it. I imagine that would be cost-prohibitive in a high tunnel to put a wire mesh down below.

**Jeff Edwards:** It just depends on the size of the high tunnel, right?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Sure.

**Jeff Edwards:** Or the geodesic dome or whatever you happen to be growing in.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Who you want to keep in or out.

**Jeff Edwards:** Right. I know a lot of people who put down wire mesh underneath raised beds to try to keep the rodents out. Not just voles, there's a whole lot of other things.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Mice even, wouldn't it?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Mice over winner?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. So the extension office, the high tunnel at the extension office, when we were managing that, I think we trapped three different mice species plus voles. So there were field mice, house mice, and just different types of mice out there that we're wreaking havoc on things. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** When we used to grow pumpkins, you'd go to harvest and cut off the stem and you'd cut one and they'd just be light and you go, "Whoa, hey." You're expecting 12-15 pounds and it just comes right up. You turn it over and there's a little hole and it's all Cinderella again, Cinderella with her carriage. Those mice would just burrow in and just gut the entire pumpkin.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, we grew pumpkins quite a bit, and squash, and never really had problems with mice in those plants until we grew a little green turbine squash. I can't remember the name of it but it was flat and then it had the flower end on the bottom you could see it. The mice would just get inside of those and just clean them out in that one particular variety of pumpkins. OVERLAPPING]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Sounds like a Turks turbine.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, something like that.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Turks [00:39:00] turbine, because it has those little bumps on the top of its head.

**Jeff Edwards:** Sure. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Sure.

**Jeff Edwards:** [LAUGHTER] This question is to either one of you, are you planning on planting anything new and different this year?

**Bernie Lewis:** I'm going to do artichokes again.

**Jeff Edwards:** Oh, yeah?

**Bernie Lewis:** I just like my artichokes. I had one plant that had six up among this year.

**Jeff Edwards:** Oh, okay. I understand that the flowers are pretty, but do you eat them?

**Bernie Lewis:** No.

**Jeff Edwards:** Do you eat your artichokes?

**Bernie Lewis:** Oh, artichokes? Yes. [OVERLAPPING] I'm the only one that does.

**Jeff Edwards:** My brother-in-law had them just for the flower.

**Bernie Lewis:** They are pretty. They are nice, [OVERLAPPING] big purple flower.

**Jeff Edwards:** Traditionally, they are perennial, but there are some varieties that are annual, right, Bernie?

**Bernie Lewis:** Mm-hmm.

**Jeff Edwards:** You can get them to fruit any year?

**Bernie Lewis:** Yes, [OVERLAPPING] the golden globe, yeah.

**Jeff Edwards:** Is there anything in particular you have to do with them?

**Bernie Lewis:** I usually plant three or four of them, and I'm pretty lucky if I have two of them that choke or maybe.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** When you when you hear of artichoke field, could those be considered Jerusalem artichokes or?

**Bernie Lewis:** No, I don't think so. They used to grow Jerusalems around here.

**Jeff Edwards:** Jerry, Jerusalem artichokes, they have a little yellow flower on them, they resemble sunflowers. They harvest the roots of Jerusalem artichokes, I believe to be [OVERLAPPING] an inulin or a basis for insulin, I think. [OVERLAPPING] I could be wrong.

**Bernie Lewis:** I'm not real sure. I knew they harvest them like they do sugar beets.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, it's a root crop.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I'll be darn, yeah.

**Bernie Lewis:** I thought they came back every year once you planted them.

**Jeff Edwards:** I do know that they would be very difficult to get rid of because of the propagation of the roots. But the artichokes that, let's say grow in California or in the south or some place, those are completely different plants. Aren't they in the thistle family, Bernie?

**Bernie Lewis:** I think so, because the plant looks like a thistle and the flower actually looks like a thistle. It's a purple thistle looking flower. It comes from the artichoke, the middle of the artichoke.



**Jerry Erschabeck:** But now your golden globe, does it bloom a golden flower?

**Bernie Lewis:** No, it's a purple flower.

**Jeff Edwards:** It's a misnomer, [OVERLAPPING] just to tease you.

**Bernie Lewis:** It's a misnomer. [LAUGHTER] [OVERLAPPING] You'd [00:42:00] have to plant that seed and have a plant because [OVERLAPPING] they're like a sweet potato. They're a very long-dated plant.

**Jeff Edwards:** Require a lot of days to get to maturity, like 110 or 120.

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah, something like that. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Have either one of you grown sweet potatoes?

**Jeff Edwards:** Not intentionally. The ones that have shown up, there used to be some that were grown at the extension office in the garden there but I haven't grown them personally. The ones that are the decorative sweet potatoes, you can actually eat those.

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah, you can.

**Jeff Edwards:** But they're going to take a lot of sugar or something. [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** Well and they're not very big, they don't [OVERLAPPING] ever really get more than maybe four inches long from the sweet potato vine.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** A friend of mine at the east of town said that he's grown some sweet potatoes, but he starts them by putting a toothpick in them, and much like you would avocado seed and putting it in a glass of water to [OVERLAPPING] start obtaining roots.

**Bernie Lewis:** You need slips of them. [OVERLAPPING] That's how you grow them.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** The slips come from eyes like a regular potato?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. Many times, the sweet potatoes that you can purchase in the store have been, treated is not the right word, but conditioned so that they won't produce slips. You might be able to break that, whatever they've done to it if you put them in water it with a toothpick, hold them in a glass with toothpicks. But usually, you need to order the slips from a producer in the south. Okra. Bernie, do you normally grow okra?

**Bernie Lewis:** No. Gretchen usually does, but she grew up in Kentucky, so.

**Jeff Edwards:** I think okra is another one of those things you either love it or you hate it.

**Bernie Lewis:** Yoy hate, yeah.[ LAUGHTER] I guess I've never really eaten at so I don't know.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** The only way I've had it is deep fried. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** Anything deep-fried is good, right? [LAUGHTER] I've had it in soups and stews and it's-

**Jeff Edwards:** Slimy?

**Jeff Edwards:** Let's say gelatinous. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Let's say that. [LAUGHTER]

**Jeff Edwards:** It's different. It's really weird. I don't know if I like this or not. The seeds, the beans on the inside have a different flavor than the flesh. If you pickle okra, you want the plant pods to be smaller, and if you're looking for the gelatinous quality, [00:45:00] I think you want those pods to be a little bit more mature.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** They put that in jambalaya, I believe.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, [OVERLAPPING] I believe so.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Is that a thickener?

**Jeff Edwards:** If it's gelatinous, it's thickened in something. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Slip sliding away.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. So Jerry, the main reason that I brought up asking if we're growing anything new and different is I know on this program we've talked about Cornelian cherries several times.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Several times, I think.

**Jeff Edwards:** Which are a dogwood that have a fruit that you can actually consume. I was able to find some this year and I'm hoping that I get some cornelian cherries to show up at my house this spring. Got a spot picked out where we're going to put them and we're going to see what happens. Apparently when they bloom in the spring, they have taxi cab yellow flowers on them. To get the best fruit, you need two different varieties. I've done that, we'll see what just happens.

**Bernie Lewis:** Great, very cool. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah, you have to keep us updated. [LAUGHTER] Are the cherries bigger than the pie cherries that grow around Torrington?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes, I don't think they're cherry-like. I know that they have a lot of vitamin C in them but I have no idea what the flavor will be like. They don't have a central pit. It's going to be something different. But I'll let you know. Cornelian cherries.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** How do you spell that?

**Jeff Edwards:** C-O-R-N-E-L-I-O-N. Well, Cornelius, Cornelian. I can't spell stuff like this. Don't put me on the spot like that.

**Bernie Lewis:** Yeah, don't put him on the spot. [OVERLAPPING]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** All right, I'll not put you on that spot ever again. [LAUGHTER]

**Jeff Edwards:** Spelling and math, don't ask me to do that. [LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** On your tomato plants, you haven't seen any bugs yet?

**Jeff Edwards:** No bugs.

**Bernie Lewis:** Good. Good.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. I would probably get frustrated and do something rash, like set them outside for [OVERLAPPING]

**Bernie Lewis:** Well, I think Diane would make you do something very rash.

**Jeff Edwards:** Probably.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** What kind of bugs would you expect, Bernie?

**Jeff Edwards:** Well, the ones you don't want to show up are the white flies. [NOISE]

**Bernie Lewis:** White flies is mostly I was going to say. I think they've got some yellow sticky things out.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. Aphids could be a problem, thrips could be a problem. But we don't have a lot of other plants in our house, so I don't anticipate that we'll have any issues. The other thing that can show up would be fungus gnats, which are annoying to say the least, but there are some ways to keep them under control too.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** So the little fruit flies, are the fungus gnats about the same size?

**Jeff Edwards:** Fungus gnats are a little bit smaller.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Wow.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. [00:48:00] To me, being the entomologist, the way to identify a fungus gnat is it's usually trying to fly up your nose.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Oh, yeah.

**Jeff Edwards:** A fruit fly usually leaves you alone. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I think both are irritating.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yes.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Both would be irritating.

**Jeff Edwards:** [LAUGHTER] Exactly. Fruit flies aren't found traditionally in our homes until summertime we have a lot of ripe fruit around, those types of things. So, yeah.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah. So fruit flies I've been told you can put a small lamp with a dish of soapy water underneath. What about those fungus flies, how do you get rid of them?

**Jeff Edwards:** There's a bunch of different ways to take care of fungus gnats. One of them is using potatoes, believe it or not. They're root feeders, the larva are root feeders. If you let the soil dry out and cut up little chunks of potatoes and put it on the soil of the pot that you have, leave it for 24 hours, then pick the potato up, you'll see little maggots on the potatoes. You just throw them all away and you keep doing that until you get them under control.

The other way to try to manage them a little bit is put about one inch of really fine sand over the top of your pot. You normally have the headspace in there and so the adults need some place to lay their eggs and they'll usually try to go through the top and that sand just won't allow him to lay eggs. So that will eliminate some of them too. Then again, you can use sticky traps to control the adults. Although if you have pets, it's highly likely that you'll get stuck in them or they'll get stuck in them, but there are some other things to try to reduce them. I tell folks if the population is too much for you to handle, just set everything outside this time of year for about three days and you won't have a problem anymore. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** The overnight low on one night. [OVERLAPPING].

**Jeff Edwards:** [inaudible] does not like that answer? [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah, my brother made some soup and I said, "Hey, why don't you put it outside to cool off, it's 32 degrees." So it cooled off way, way well and we were able to bag that up and put the rest in the freezer so, [OVERLAPPING]

**Jeff Edwards:** Oh, I thought you were going to say it solidified on you. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** I think it would have had we left it out even further into the evening.

**Jeff Edwards:** Any other things you guys would like to talk about as we get close to wrap-up time.

**Bernie Lewis:** Just that, what do you think the growing season is going to be for this spring and summer? Do you think we're going to have another hot one?

**Jeff Edwards:** Here's my answer. Your guess is as good as mine.

**Bernie Lewis:** That's kind of what I thought.

**Jeff Edwards:** Your prediction will be as good as mine [LAUGHTER].

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Now, it's the Farmers' Almanac out yet for 2021?

**Jeff Edwards:** It should be. I have not seen it yet, though.

**Bernie Lewis:** I haven't seen it either, but [OVERLAPPING].

**Jerry Erschabeck:** They are always pretty good about a prediction and, but [00:51:00] we're at least seven inches into the drought meter, and I think into the Eastern Nebraska they're a little bit more, but Gee Whiz, it's dry.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, so my prediction, we're going to be dry, we're going to have to deal with grasshoppers.

**Bernie Lewis:** [OVERLAPPING] High edge on that one.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, I know. But it's going to be the reality of it and we need to be on the lookout for Japanese beetles. Not the one that gets in the tree that we've been talking about, the emerald ash borer, but I think we need to be watching in our neck of the woods for Japanese beetles. Apparently they showed up in Scottsbluff last year. Yeah, they are not a good time.

**Bernie Lewis:** No. No, not at all.

**Jeff Edwards:** So the larva destroy your turf and the adults eat anything they can shove in their mouths.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Hate them. Now tell me [OVERLAPPING].

**Bernie Lewis:** I hear water up in the watershed isn't very good yet either so hopefully February and March we get some.

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Tell me again what the best whether is to get rid of grasshoppers instead of cool, wet spring.

**Jeff Edwards:** Jerry, the best weather that we had for getting rid of grasshoppers, remember the summer of 2012?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** No.

**Jeff Edwards:** Hot, dry. That was the year that we got six inches of rain.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Okay.

**Jeff Edwards:** There's a couple of different things going on. If it's hot and dry in the fall and those egg cases desiccate, that's good news. All right? If we have a wet cool spring, that is usually also good news because as those little grasshoppers are coming out, they are [OVERLAPPING].

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Susceptible?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah, susceptible. There's fungal pathogens that it'll get to them and stuff like that, so it's going to be a challenge. We don't hope for really dry weather, but it could be beneficial.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah. Moisture is always good for somebody and bad for somebody else. "Hey, it could have waited two days, it could have rained a little harder."

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** "It could have rained a little slower." [LAUGHTER] [OVERLAPPING] Yeah, so moisture is a key thing.

**Jeff Edwards:** One of the things I'd like to bring up that extension is doing, University of Wyoming Extension, I believe starting the second to last week of January, on Fridays at nine o'clock, will be a program called Barnyards & Backyards Live!. It's available on the Internet. I believe if you just use your browser to search for it, you can find it. University of Wyoming extension, Barnyards & Backyards Live!. The format is very similar to our radio program, but it's myself and another person co-hosting and we have a guest [00:54:00] and we have many different agricultural topics. They may be livestock related, they may be gardening related, but we are trying to offer those as an alternative to some of the normal in-person meetings that we run in the spring time.

We plan on doing it for about 12 weeks, so it'll run in January, February, March, I think it'll run into April, but every Friday at 9:00 a.m. It's broadcast live on Facebook under the same heading, Barnyards & Backyards Live!. Then the videos are posted out to YouTube later on so if people miss them the first time, they can go watch them later. Just a little educational opportunity if people are interested, so that's what we've got going on in extension that I'm aware of. I'm sure there are many other things that are happening as well. But again, if you need an outlet or you're looking for something to do, just a program for all of you out there.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Jeff, don't we also have a website for Lawn and Garden shows if they wanted to catch those?

**Jeff Edwards:** Yeah. These radio programs are being converted into podcasts that the University of Wyoming is putting up and posting. I'll have to get you that address because I do not have it in front of me right now, but I believe that the guys at the radio station may have posted a link on their website. On the KGUS/KERM website, look for a link there. If you missed us once, you might be able to catch us again. Hopefully people are listening to us more than once. [LAUGHTER]

**Jerry Erschabeck:** We're waiting for syndication.

**Bernie Lewis:** Thank you very much. That was fun.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Thank you.

**Jeff Edwards:** Jerry, do you want to wrap up us today?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah. This is never a time that we can take lightly and I'm going to pitch those pumpkins again, as I always like to. Growing a giant pumpkin is rather fun, it brings families together, it can be a memorable occasion, and then you can weigh your pumpkin at our giant pumpkin weigh off in October. But now is the time to be thinking about getting your seeds for that and I wish you all well. [OVERLAPPING].

**Jeff Edwards:** Planning your seeds in your garden.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah, or at the end of your garden, Bernie.

**Bernie Lewis:** It is at the end of our garden.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah, there you go. But that's my way of world peace, is grow a giant pumpkin seed.

**Jeff Edwards:** A seed for everyone.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Yeah.

**Jeff Edwards:** Okay. Fantastic.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Thank you.

**Jeff Edwards:** Bernie, thank you for being our guest today, we appreciate you.

**Bernie Lewis:** Thank you.

**Jeff Edwards:** Thank you for all of our listeners and our next program will be when, Jerry?

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Our next program is February 16th with Joyce Evans, the Mayor of Fort Laramie.

**Jeff Edwards:** Mayor of Fort Laramie. Yes, she was hesitant, but we'll get her to chat with us.  
[LAUGHTER]

**Bernie Lewis:** That's good.

**Jeff Edwards:** Jerry, thanks a lot.

**Jerry Erschabeck:** Thank you.

**Jeff Edwards:** Thanks for listening everybody and we'll see you next month.

**Male Narrator:** [00:57:00] [MUSIC] You've been listening to Morning Garden with the University of Wyoming Extension Specialist, Jeff Edwards and co-host Jerry Erschabeck. As the snow melts and the sun breaks, the University of Wyoming extension has many upcoming virtual and hybrid learning programs available to you. Listen each weeks for details on new events on how to make your garden flash. Good day, and happy gardening.