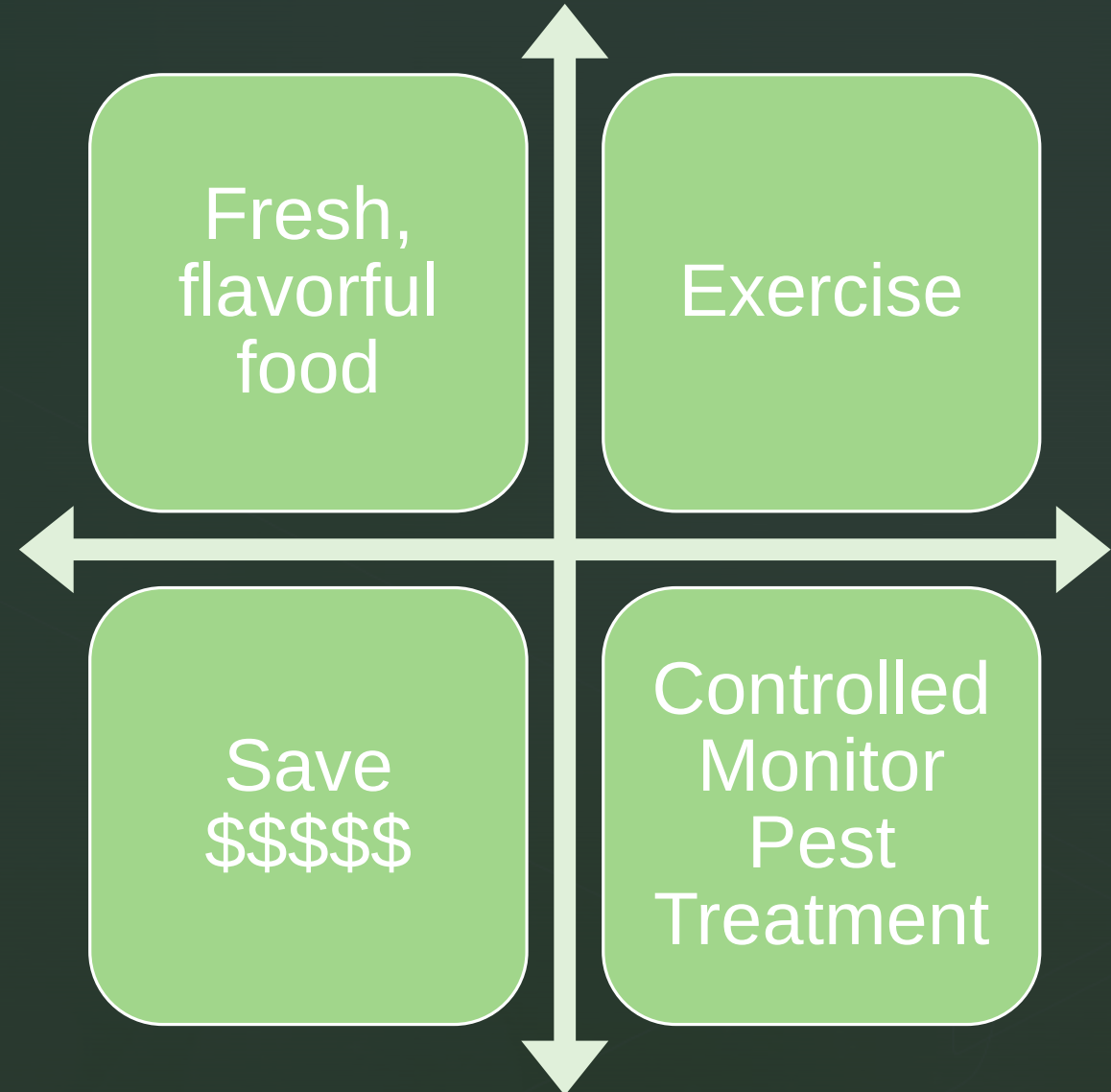




Raised Bed Gardening
Randy C Forst
Pulaski County Extension Office

Why Should We Garden?



Raised Beds Are Versatile



Livestock Protein Tubs remember to drill holes for drainage



Curly Leaf Kale, Swiss Chard, Turnip Greens





OK, so How Do I Start a Garden?

Choose
a site

Plan

Build

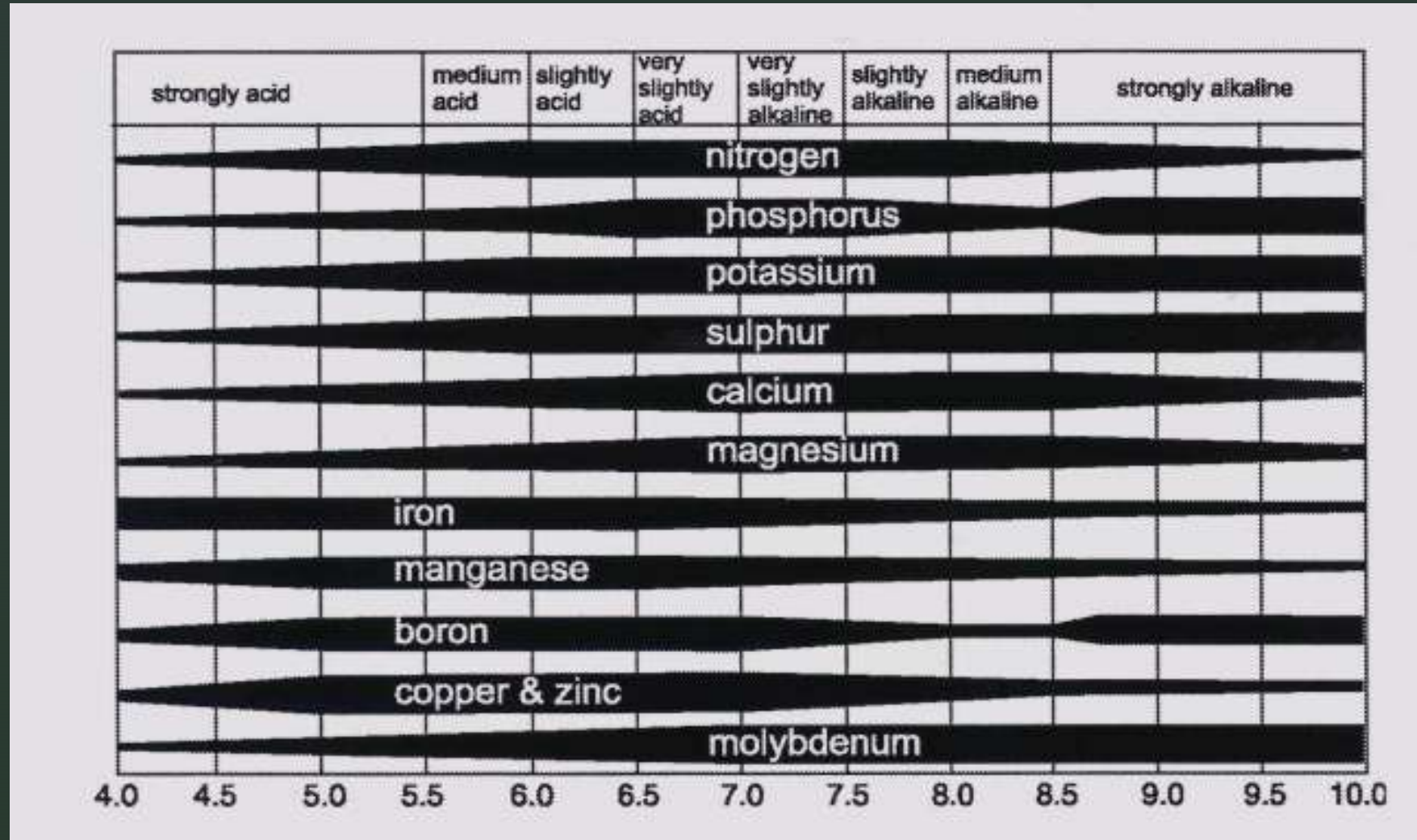
Site Selection for the Garden

- Choose a good soil type – sandy loam
- Know the soil fertility
- What is the internal soil drainage?
- Do you have enough hours of sunlight?
- Are there soil borne diseases from previous gardens?

Soil Testing Recommends Soil Amendments for the Garden

- Agricultural Limestone to Raise soil pH
- Sulfur to Lower soil pH
- Gypsum
- Poultry Litter
- Cover Crops

Effect of Soil pH on Nutrient Availability





Season of Growth

- Cool Season

- Irish Potatoes
- Onions
- Carrots
- Turnips
- Spinach
- Radish
- Garlic
- Lettuce
- English Peas

- Warm Season

- Watermelon
- Melons / Honeydews
- Tomatoes
- Pumpkin
- Okra
- Beans
- Eggplant
- Southern Peas
- Peanuts
- Sweet Potatoes

- Small things go together in small spaces where they are not shaded



Adding Animal Waste Products To The Garden –Use Caution and Common Sense





Here's What You Need:

To make 2 raised beds 4ft. x 8ft.

- 16 screws: 4" galvanized wood screws *\$16*
- 32 small screws: size 1" *\$21*
- 8 metal corner pieces: size 2x2 *\$9*
- 6 pieces of wood P/T: size 2" x 8ft x 8ft *\$48*
- Soil *\$27 for a truck full*
- Seeds or seedlings *\$1-4*
- 2 Cardboard sheets
- *Total cost for 2 beds ~ \$125*

Step 1:

Take 2 - 8ft. long boards.

Cut each board in half (4 ft. long)

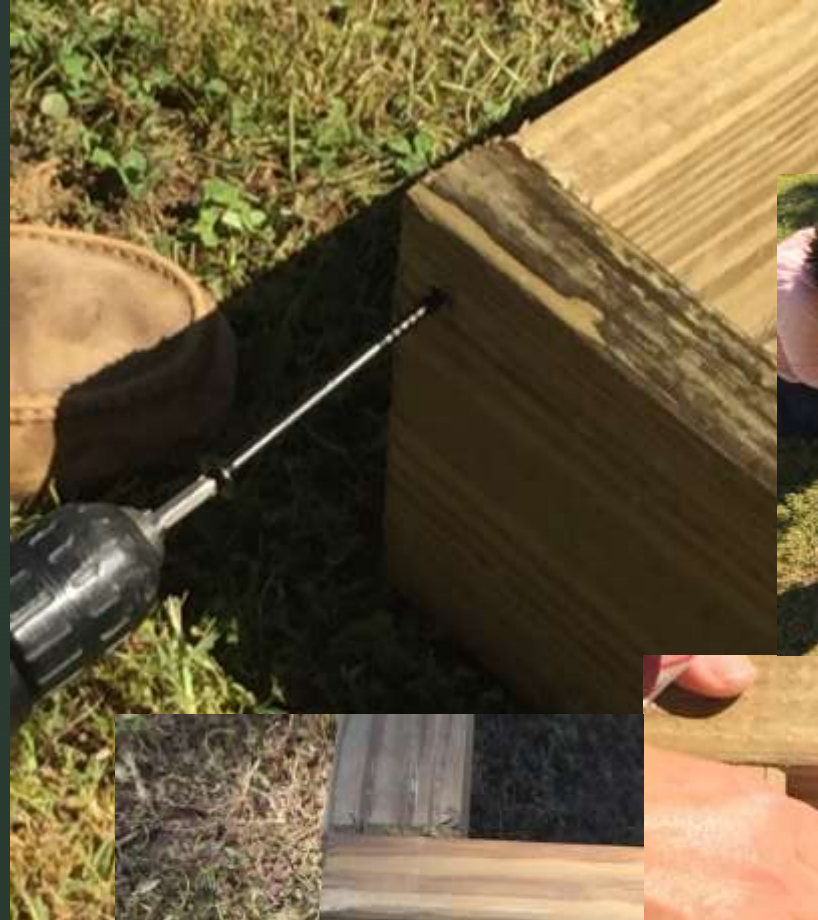


Step 2:

Screw the 8' and 4' boards together, making sure that the edges are straight.

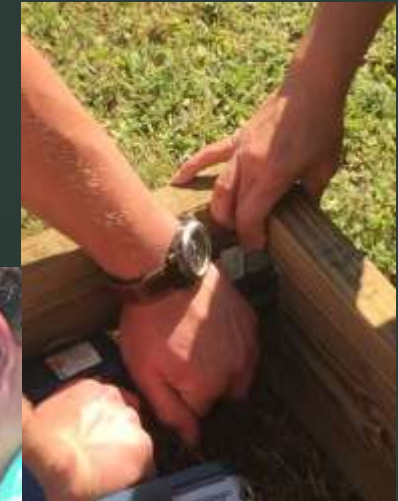
Continue until you have built a rectangular box.

And then follow the same process to make the second box.



Step 3:

Take the corner pieces and place 1" screws into the four corners, screwing them on inside corners of the boxes.



Step 4:

Organic Weed Control.

Place cardboard inside the raised beds before adding soil.



Step 5:
Now add soil!



Step 6:

Last but not least- plant your seeds or transplants, watch them grow and enjoy!



Choosing Quality Transplants

- Root Volume is important



What We Have Harvested

Our total
profits from
one
harvest is
\$112.79
and it's still
producing!



62 lbs.
Eggplant
~\$1.50/lb



8 lbs.
Yellow
Squash
~\$1.25/lb



4 lbs.
Black
Bean
~\$1.00/lb



3 lbs.
Radish
~\$1.93/lb

And it is Still Going Strong!



Cold Frames
and Plastic
Covered
Tunnels Extend
the Season



Open Top on
Sunny Days



Greens in Cold Frame

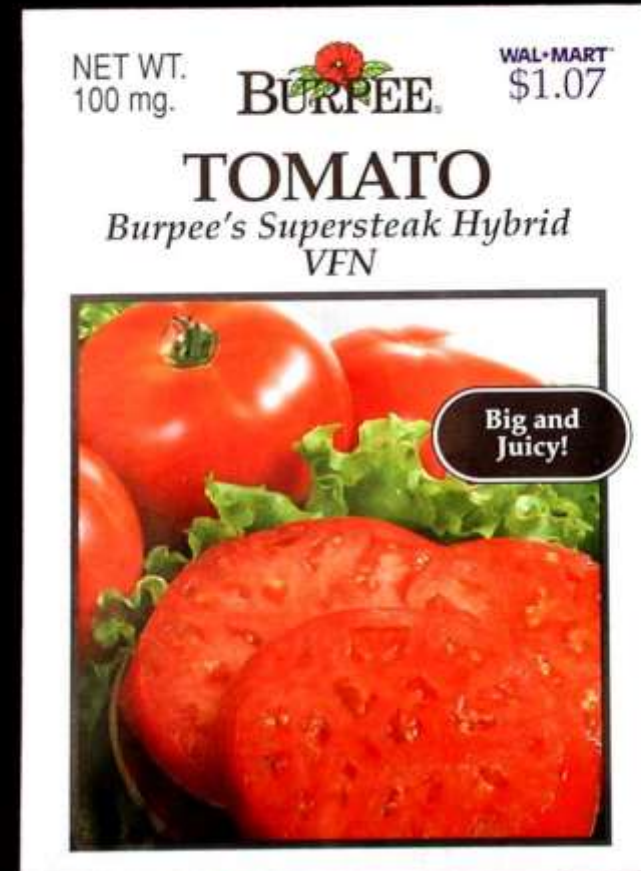


Some Helpful Tips:

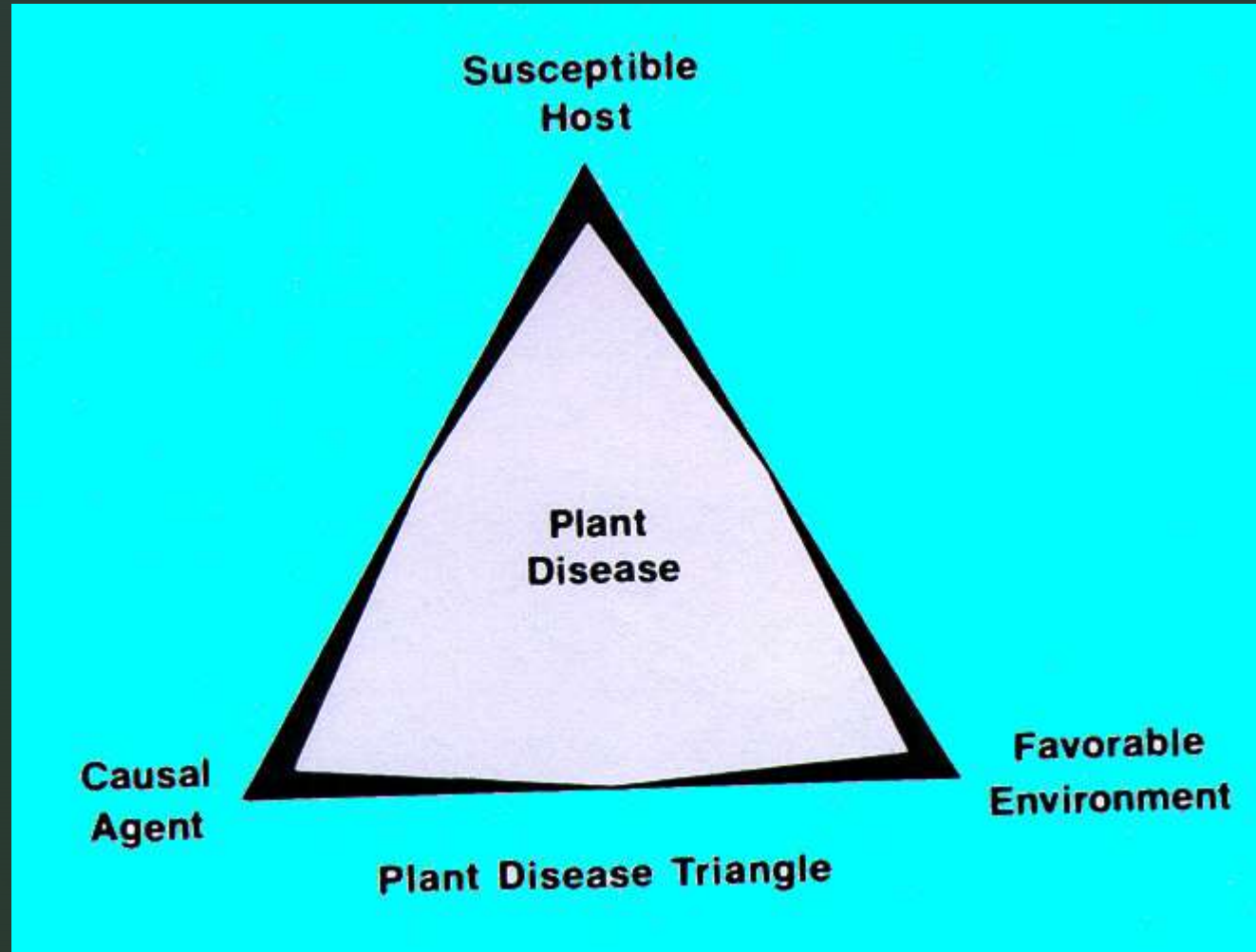
- Practice Crop Rotation.
- Plant vegetables in the same family together in the same bed for future rotation.
- If re-using containers to grow smaller gardens sterilize with a 10% Bleach Solution.



Use the Best Genetics



The Plant Disease Triangle



Blossom Blight on Squash





Disease Control Strategies

- Maintain Good Air Circulation
- Reduce the Hours of Leaf Wetness
- Water Early in the Morning
- Use Mulches to Prevent Soil Splashing
- Remove Diseased Material When Dry
- Improve Spray Coverage

- # IPM in the Home Garden
- ▀ (Integrated Pest Management)
 - Look for the Problem and Identify
 - Know the Biology of Host & Pest
 - Start With Biological Controls
 - Use Host Plant Resistance
 - Adapt the Culture of the Host
 - Then Use Insecticides

Companion Planting to Help Control Insects



Garnet Rose lettuce



Turnips and Mustard Greens



Dinosaur Kale & Carrots



Summer's Bounty



Questions

