

Dallas Youth Garden News

May/June 2021

It's been a very wet and cold spring at the Youth Garden. The garden is currently about one month behind. Early spring rains delayed planting by two weeks and a torrential rain mid-June reeked havoc on new transplants which required interns to replant. Our late season did not delay the onset of our favorite plant pest, the cucumber bug. We again have found that best way to control the pests is for me to spray an organic pyrethrin after everyone is gone for the day.

After planting and replanting, interns spread our customary mulch consisting of recycled paper covered by straw. We followed mulching with our first smelly fertilizer day. Each intern puts a "glug or two" of water mixed with fish fertilizer on each squash and tomato plant. The fertilizer gives each plant a good boost for the early summer.

This year we have two senior interns. Chloe and Sophia graduated from Dallas High School in June and were garden interns in prior years. Senior interns assist our high school interns and our supervisors and myself with garden projects. We are lucky to have them! They are also going to have a tomato growing contest to compare production in two different parts of the garden.



First Week of May – RAIN!



Mid May – Planting Begins



Planting and Replanting



Senior Interns – Sophia and Chloe



A big thanks to Polk County, Polk County Family & Community Outreach, Trinity Lutheran, Dallas Community Foundation, Polk County Master Gardeners, The City of Dallas, Wilco Farm Stores, Anderson Mobile and others who's contributions made this garden season possible.

If you have any questions about the garden please e-mail anderson.dean@dallasyouthgarden.org or visit our web page at www.dallasyouthgarden.org.