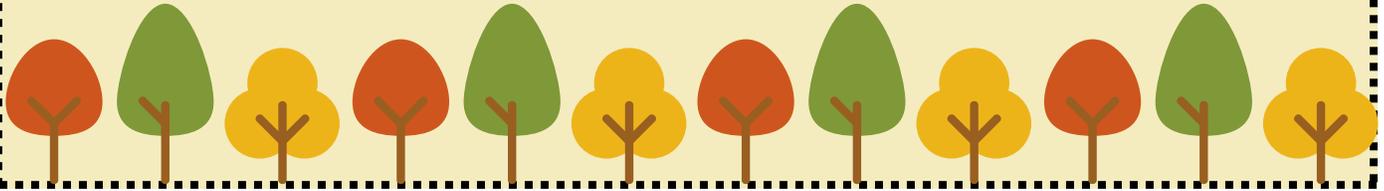


From the Ground Up



Time for Pumpkins!

- Pumpkins are part of the cucumber family along with squash, zucchini, and melons
- The best time to plant pumpkins in Nebraska is mid-May to mid-June
- Bees are a crucial part of pumpkin growth
- To keep pumpkins lasting longer, wash the fruit in a diluted bleach solution, allow them to air dry, and place in a cool and shady spot after harvest
- Pumpkins can range from four ounces to over one thousand pounds!

<https://lancaster.unl.edu/2019-year-pumpkin>

Tree Facts

- Global forests remove about one-third of fossil fuel emissions annually.
- One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people
- In Portland, Oregon, homes with street trees sold for \$7,130 more on average

www.arboday.org/trees/treefacts/

About the Club:



NCTA Plant and Prairie strive to increase our knowledge, skills, and enhance our professional relationship through marketing practices, sales, communications, production practices, conservation of animals and their habitats, and management in order to secure funding for career development

Experimentation on Nebraska Farms for Sustaining Soil Health Management

Ensuring healthy soil is a critical issue for environmental reasons and for the economic viability of farming. A study at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln took a close look at different farms to see which methods were the most effective when it comes to things like conservation.

The main takeaway? Using 'cover crops' (specific plants grown to protect and enrich the soil) had a major impact on improving soil health, particularly its organic content and levels of carbon and nitrogen. This is a big deal because healthier soil can reduce the need for chemical fertilizers, which saves money and is better for the environment.

The study also did a side-by-side comparison of farms that used cover crops against those that didn't.

It turns out there are certain factors that make farmers more likely to adopt and stick with these beneficial soil practices. These include owning their land, feeling accepted and supported by their community, having a tradition of family farming, having an attitude of learning together with others, and being flexible in their farm management strategies. This research sheds light on how we can encourage more sustainable farming practices, which is vital for our food system and planet.

<https://www.proquest.com/docview/2809444986?pg-origsite=gscholar&fromopenview=true>

Meet the Tortoises in the Greenhouse



Sith



Bon Bon



Paco



Escapay



Kim



Kit