

Grow a garden as if your life depends on it!

I often here many people confidently say that if times get tough, "I'll throw some seeds in the ground and reap my harvest. It's actually quite amusing to hear that, since hunger is probably inevitable for that person. But even hobby gardeners are slack in many ways, not worried if the onions or the potatoes don't get enough water, or if the weeds over take them because there is always the grocery store. A bountiful harvest is not going to result.

So, adopting the principal that "your life is dependent on the outcome of the garden, will change how you work and nurture the garden. This is how our ancestors lived. They carefully planted each seed, being certain to not loose or misplace one. The seed is everything. The seed they so carefully saved from last year's bounty is what is going to save them from starving the coming winter. It is very easy to believe the grocery store is always going to have what you need.

So, for the last several years, I have grown my gardens and given them endless amount of time in weeding, watering, cultivating and plain ole nurturing. Picking off insects and bugs, adding some fertilizer tea, or compost. It has to be consistent. Daily. Looking for something harmful that could diminish the outcome. From this garden you will make all your tomato sauce, salsa, pickles, relishes, frozen diced peppers, carrots, frozen spinach, zucchini, breaded eggplants slices, pureed pumpkin, plus all the squashes, white and sweet potatoes, onions, garlic, herbs and so on. It does not come easy and comes from hard work and nurturing. Consistent watering is so important as well as healthy compost and humus rich soil. Often times it looks like they have had plenty of water, but scratching the dirt reveals that it is only on the surface. Make your gardens as large as you can, tilling up unused lawn areas or cover the areas with the Poly Max grow tubes. The [Poly Max grow tubes](#) can grow more vegetables on the deck, on the driveway, on the roof! Having to many vegetables is not a problem, not having enough is. Always grow extra, more than you think you will need, to compensate for the bad weather,

animals and disease that can overcome a crop. Buy extra seeds each year and seal some of them in Mylar bags with oxygen packets and keep in the refrigerator for next year, ensuring you have at least next year's seeds. Build compost piles year round, gathering leaves and manures. The more compost, the more vegetables. People do not get the name "master garden" very easily. It will take a lot of work and dedication but having enough to eat of quality food will be the reward.