

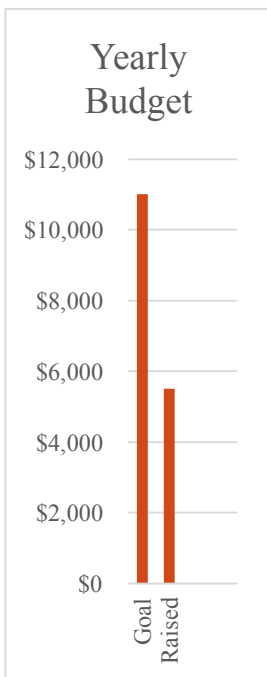
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Acquainting Agriculture Newsletter

“He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.” – Psalm 126:6

Our agriculture program is well under way with God’s leading. All crops are in the ground, tucked under a canopy of frost protection, and thriving. It brings so much joy to see each student’s face light up as they see their personal row of green leaves growing despite the cold weather. The days are getting shorter and growth is slowing down, but we know that all our preliminary hard work will be rewarded with a harvest of delicious produce in the middle of winter!



Planting Time – Students selected a winter-hardy crop from Arugula to Tatsoi and everything in between. Each leafy green is specialized to grow during the cold days of Fall/Winter through a tried and true planting program by Johnny’s Selected Seeds: “Johnny’s Winter Growing Guide” (johnnyseeds.com). Some students planted their seeds directly in the soil, others started their seeds in soil blocks that they later transplanted.

Biggest Need:

100’ Caterpillar Tunnels x3
(Gothic-style to prevent snow accumulation)

\$1,700 per tunnel at
farmersfriendllc.com



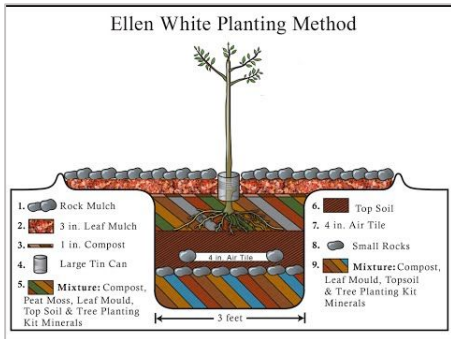
While we were in Australia, we adopted the...plan...of digging deep trenches and filling them with dressing that would create good soil.

Our crops were very successful. The peaches were the most beautiful in coloring, and the most delicious in flavor of any that I had ever tasted.

-E. G. White, 3SM 328.1-3

Planting the “Ellen White Planting Method” – One important aspect of our program is to pass down to the students the inspired planting model called the “Ellen White Planting Method.” The story goes that while Ellen White was in Australia in the early 1900’s, trying to start a God-centered school, which emphasized a practical, hands-on style of learning, she ran into a problem. The soil was poor and the school’s trees were struggling along, barely thriving. Ellen White asked God what to do and in a night dream she was shown a very orderly method of layering soil in a deeply dug hole. She says, “to dig a deep cavity in the ground, then put in rich dirt, then stones, then rich dirt. After this...put in layers of earth and dressing until the whole [is] filled” (3SM 328.2).

Not only does this method work with trees, allowing them to grow 300% faster, but it can also be used for planting berries, grapes, tomatoes, and any other more permanent-like bush. Our program is currently using this method on raspberries.



Tree Planting Kits can be substituted for 20lbs of soft rock phosphate and 4 cups of Gypsum (dry areas) or 8 cups of Dolomite (wet areas). Tree kits can be purchased at: suncountrygardens.com or fixmysoil.com



Special Thanks:

A very special thanks to the local nurseries that donated raspberry plants to our program!

