



# Johnson's Garden Talk

Lawn and garden information for the friends and customers of Johnson's Garden Centers

## Johnson's Garden Talk

May 2002



**WEST 13th STORE**  
2707 West 13th St. N.  
Wichita, KS 67203  
316-942-1443

**EAST STORE**  
6225 E. Shadybrook  
(21st @ Woodlawn)  
Wichita, KS 67203  
316-687-5451

**RIDGE ROAD STORE**  
802 N. Ridge Rd.  
Wichita, KS 67212  
316-943-0494

**LANDSCAPE  
DESIGN & INSTALLATION  
NIGHTSCAPING**  
316-943-6886

**CORPORATE OFFICE**  
316-942-3751

**TOLL-FREE NUMBER**  
888-542-8463

**EMAIL**  
askus@johnsonsgarden.com

**WEB PAGE**  
www.johnsonsgarden.com

## Garden Tips

**Marty Johnson**, *President, Johnson's Garden Centers and Kansas Certified Nurseryman*

### Tomatoes

If you haven't planted your tomatoes, plan to do it ASAP. Now is the perfect time to get tomatoes planted without the fear of having to protect them from frost.

What varieties to plant? I always plant a couple of Jet Star (my favorite and also tops on KSU's list); Big Beef for a plant that produces those jumbo tomatoes; and some cherry tomatoes.

Planting tomatoes into large containers (20 gal. or larger) with ferti•lome Potting Mix (for proper drainage) then adding Start-N-Grow fertilizer (for slow-release nutrition) and Soil Moist (for water retention) will grow great tomatoes. Place the container in a sunny location then stand back and watch it grow.

### Spider Mites

Be on the lookout for spider mites. Last week a customer brought in a small branch of juniper covered with thousands of mites. This seems a little early to see that many mites. You will notice a very small webbing covering the needles or leaves and almost microscopic crawling mites. Use ferti•lome Evergreen Spray or Neem Oil for control on evergreens.

### Bagworms

Be on the watch for bagworms. I usually spray around Memorial Day with Bt (Thuricide). It is a safe and effective way to rid your landscape of these hungry pests. Bt is deadly for certain worms but non-toxic to beneficial insects, man and pets.

### Roses

Start spraying your rose bushes soon with ferti•lome Systemic Fungicide to help keep the foliage disease-free. This spray will stay with the plant even after several rains. Keep the roses fertilized with ferti•lome Rose Food with Systemic Insecticide to keep roses blooming all summer long.

### Drip Irrigation

Think about adding drip irrigation with a timer to water your garden plants. This simple system will water while you are away for a weekend or on vacation. This water-saving irrigation only puts the water where it is needed—at the root zone!

### Summer Bloomers

Stop by to see all of the summer-flowering plants that we've brought in for you. From crapemyrtles to tropical hibiscus, we have it all.