

It has only just begun

It has started. I received my first seed catalog of the year. It is part of the New Year and winter I really enjoy. They send my mind reeling with ideas and hopes for spring and with that all the plans I make that I vow “This year I will...”.

I am going to take a different tack this year and stop trying to make an Oregon garden grow in Texas. The ten year learning curve has finally made me understand that gardening in Texas is much different (and harder) than gardening in Oregon. For example, garden hoses aren't only for water fights, as we used them in Oregon. They are actually to be used to water plants. Now that I have learned that, it is time for me to learn about what actually grows well down *here*.

I am starting by selecting plants that are proven winners in Texas. There is a website, www.texassuperstar.com, that has plants which are highly recommended by the Texas A and M Agriculture Program. Another great website is <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu> and click on Extension Service for the Public. There is so much information on what varieties grow well in Texas and how to manage a garden.

So for now, I am tossing my seed catalogs from Oregon, California and Washington aside and working on a Texas garden. My plans are big, enthusiasm high; alas, I am a lazy gardener and have my doubts on my success for my own garden, but I can dream, try and perhaps succeed.

Update on the Master Gardener Program. There has been positive feedback on creating a Master Gardener Program in Brownwood with Keep Brownwood Beautiful working with our local Extension Office. If you are interested in the program, please email or snail mail your information to me so I can put you on our list and keep you updated on the progress. You can email me at kbwdb@verizon.net or snail mail to KBB, P.O. Box 1105, Brownwood 76804.

As a final note, KBB would like to congratulate the second graders of Woodland Heights Elementary School on being the group who brought in the most recycling on Texas Recycling Day. Mrs. Mayo's third grade class hosted the event. It was a great success. Thanks Woodland Heights' students, parents, and staff for making the event a great one.