

My Garden in Photos for the Summer of 2024

This summer the weather has been mostly hot and HOTTER! I took to watering the garden one evening (towards dusk) and the next evening the front yard, then switch back again. That helped quite a bit, but with it been too hot outside until 7-8 pm, there were some evenings when I gave up even that time for weeding and watering. As I couldn't bear the heat.

Still, God was gracious and He provided some beautiful flowers and even some veggies! Here's a quick photo tour for you.

First I called a man named Rob, in May, who cheerfully told me he'd had a knee injury but his son, (a football coach), would come along and till my garden for me.



Here they are beginning on the east side/half of my garden. They go over every row 3 times, just like Dad did! So my soil is quite fluffy when they are done.

It is quite sandy too, so it is rather thirsty for water most of the time.

In April/May there are some things growing and blooming already.



Notice, along the east side fence, the old fridge-container is already filled with sorrel, an herb for making Suma Borscht! I have harvested from it several times. Even once just for the seeds.

So you like lilacs? In May there is a scent of fresh, clean laundry on the air... which is what the lilac scent reminds me of. I have about 4 or 5 lilac bushes, and one that blooms only on the neighbour's side of the fence.

This first one left side) is in front of my shed.

This second one (right) is at the back alley fence.



This third one is between my tent garage and the neighbour's wooden garage. (There is also a hedge of raspberries between the garages, but it is hard to get a good photo of that.)

When I moved here in 2007 I brought along 9 of Mom's lovely irises, and I planted them under the tree on the other side. But there was too much shade there, and they got crowded. When I had a man come to work on that tree I dug them up and spread them out along this fence instead. Guess what:



When I dug up those 9 irises they had turned into 42! So I spread them all over the garden edges, and in the front yard too. About when the lilacs are blooming so are the irises! Lots of mauve or lilac around my place!

To the left are Mom's Kaiser Kronen, (Emperor's Crowns) lilies that grow in rings. By the time they're blooming lots more of the garden is up and thriving! Also the hollyhocks alongside the fence closer this way.

My brightest delight has been the Marigolds along the cement path through the garden! They have bloomed non-stop as if they just couldn't believe the garden was a failure!

Below is another view almost the whole path through the garden.



This pink flowers to the left are zinnias. Because I was not watering often enough at the beginning of the hot summer, they were weak and small. Later when I increased my watering time and frequency, they grew bigger.



But then, there are also the Hollyhocks and the Kaiser Kronen (Emperor's Crowns)...at bottom of the second page.





I have 3 shades of pink hollyhocks, but they were also uncommonly small at first. But once I started watering the garden every other evening, the rosy pink hollyhocks took off especially well and grew bigger!



Mom's Prize Lilies, the **Kaiser Kronen** (Emperor's Crowns) come up every year and do quite well. Especially the ones by the west fence! There are also some behind the back porch. (see above)



There are also a few under this tree in the front yard. But they got the least sunshine.

Last September I had a fracture in my back, so I was not able to clean up the garden as well as I would like. It would have included taking the dried Morning glory vines off the neighbours' mesh fence.

This spring I did not get to it right away either. Since seeding on Victoria Day did not go as I had hoped, the rows seeded in this section didn't come up. I tried re-seeding but it was too late.

Morning Glories Page

While I was busy weeding in the front yard the morning glories decided to spread all over the ground in this section. I didn't know how many flowers were in this section until one Sunday morning as I was heading to the car to drive to church. I quickly pulled out my camera and got a shot, for I know by afternoon this area is in shade and the flowers will fold up until the next morning - with sunshine.



These morning glories on the south side of the shed have enjoyed the most sunshine and thrived under it!

There are multiple vines under those leaves, and when I tried to pull them off for the winter they were NOT ready to let go!

I'll check again in a couple of days and see if I tore enough vines to kill them. But of course, I'll save the seed pods.

Want some seeds?



Now on to a few vegetables... This Pumpkin patch by the back fence is doing very well, and I should get some large ones here.

Behind the L row of Pumpkins were a few watermelon plants that came up. - Probably because they had too much shade this side of the fence, they didn't bear any Sugar Baby melons like last year!

However, I have a big basin of large pumpkins ripening now under my kitchen table! Plus a bucket with 6 small ones.



This is my most pathetic patch of carrots and parsley I've ever had! I don't know if my soil just can't grow them or what is wrong.



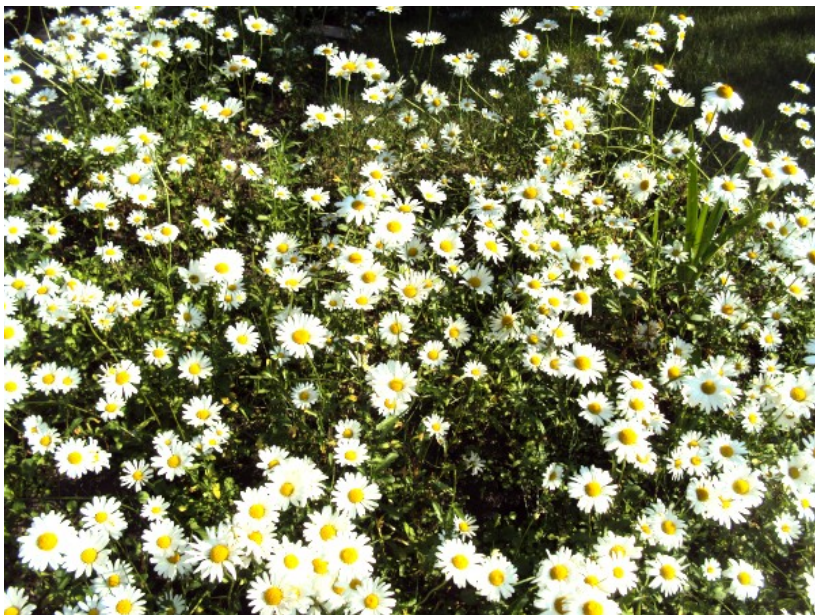
The two bottom photos show my bumper crop of cherry tomatoes now showing up from the assorted seeds sown on Victoria Day. They make great snack food!

Say! What about the front yard? Shall we do another photo tour there? Okay. Let's go!

In the front yard, the main theme this summer was all the many daisies!! And the compliments I received for them!



I'll bet you can't stop smiling back at this host of smiling daisies!



Do you see those little mushrooms that have burst open and look like wee flowers now?

This was taken while sitting this side of the daisies, weeding there, and looking out across the street and up Ave. I. North.

Honestly, I can't help smiling whenever I see sunny daisies.

One young woman riding by on her bike called out, "I LOVE your daisies!"

I yelled back, "I do too!"





Here there are daisies all around Mom's red Peonies. I should really have planted them in the sunshine, but they have done well in on the shady north side of the house.

There is also a pink Peony here under the window. It never has more than 3-4 blooms, but I'm okay about that. The daisies make it fine as it is!



I trust you have enjoyed this year's Garden Tour! I wish YOU God's Blessings, Joy & Peace. *Ruth*