



Info Sheet: Seasonal planting and Garden planning

Seasonal Planting:

Reading the seed packet is not enough for deciding what to plant when in Kyneton's climate. Our short, hot summers and long frosty winters present special challenges. So here are some good information resources to use:

- Gardenate: This site provides information on a large range of edible plants and climate zones. You can sign up for emails for your climate zone so you get a regular reminder in your inbox of what you should be planting. www.gardenate.com.
- Diggers Club: If you are a member you can access articles as well as a search tool to find what you should be planting at any particular time for your climate zone. www.diggers.com.au.
- Sustainable Gardening Australia: Has monthly "in your patch" guidelines for what to plant and also what other garden activities are recommended. These are split into different climate zones. <http://www.sgaonline.org.au/monthly-guides/>.
- Urban Food Garden: This site is based in Ballarat, which has a very similar climate to our own. Their planting guide is based on over 20 years' experience. <http://www.urbanfoodgarden.org/main/seed-planting-and-propagation/ballarat-seed-planting-guide/ballarat-seed-planting-guide.htm>.
- Talk to locals about their experience of gardening in Kyneton. And perhaps contribute to a Kyneton planting guide we'd like to prepare and distribute.

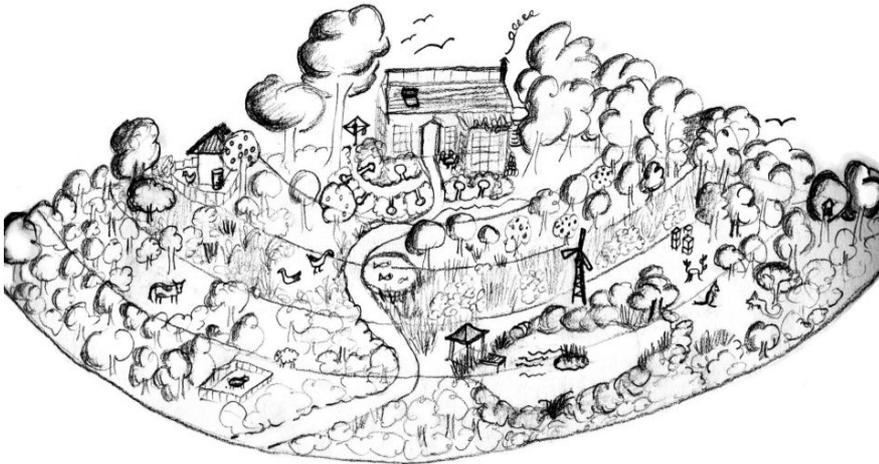
Another consideration is our short summer growing season, so choose plants that are quick to mature.

Garden Planning and Design:

Observations:

It is important to start with understanding your land: area, slope, shade/sun, wind direction and intensity, temperature highs and lows, frost patterns, rainfall, drainage, sunrise and sunset, soil, microclimates. By understanding the conditions in different parts of your garden you can divide your garden into sectors depending on the external energies such as wind, sun, fire, noise, and dust. Also work with any microclimates in your garden or use your design to create microclimates.

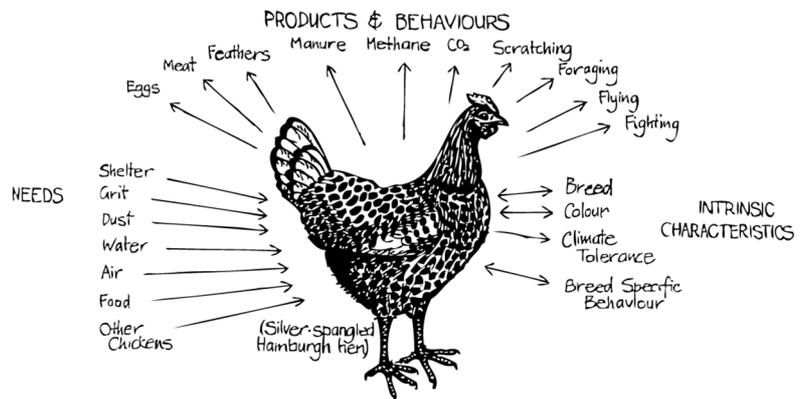
Permaculture Zones:



Just outside your back door plant the items you use most frequently in the kitchen such as herbs and salad. This is zone 1. Your key productive area is zone 2 so includes your main vegie patch and perhaps also chickens. Zone 3 to 5 may not be present in a standard backyard, or may be compressed. The basic principle is to plan according to how frequently you will be visiting each area.

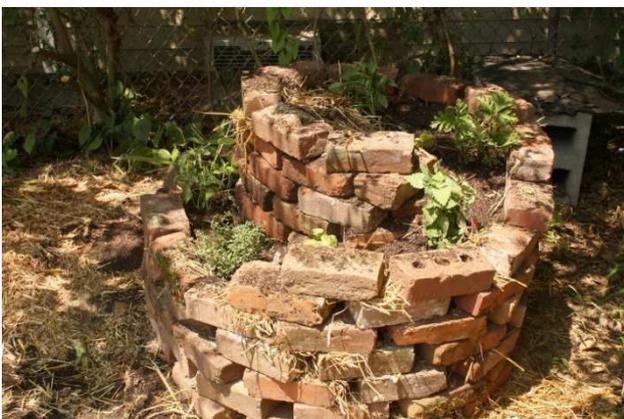
Plant and Animal Guilds:

Each plant or animal you add to the mix has multiple products, behaviours, needs and characteristics. Permaculture design takes this into account and uses guilds to group elements. For example, by putting chickens into an orchard you fertilise the trees and reduce pests as fallen fruit and the pests themselves are eaten by the chickens.



Some Design Ideas:

To make the best use of space and to be sustainable, there are many innovative designs for your garden. This includes: keyhole gardens, herb spirals, wicking beds.



If you want more information or would like to see a demonstration please contact Kyneton Transition Hub
 - KynetonTH@gmail.com or www.kynetontransitionhub.com -
 or phone Julie on 5422 3023.