

## Reader Recipes

### Pumpkin Soup

1 stick butter  
1 onion coarsely chopped  
5 lbs. pumpkin  
1 qt. water  
1 pinch nutmeg  
1 cup heavy cream  
Salt & pepper

Wash and peel pumpkin and remove seeds. Cut pumpkin into 2-in. cubes. Melt butter in large pot and add onions. Cook onions until tender. Add pumpkin and water. Season with salt, pepper, and nutmeg. Simmer for 20 to 30 min. Puree mixture and add cream. If too thick add water.

### Pink Delight

8 oz. softened cream cheese  
3/4 cup sugar  
10 oz. frozen strawberries with juice  
2 bananas, diced  
9 oz. Cool Whip  
Cream the cream cheese and sugar until fluffy. Add the rest of ingredients and fold. May be frozen in individual cups or served chilled in a bowl.

### Waffle Bites

1/2 cup honey  
4 oz. cream cheese, softened  
1 pkg refrigerated crescent rolls  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon

Whisk together honey and cream cheese, set aside. Mix cinnamon and sugar in bowl. Lay out the crescent roll dough on a cutting board and cut each section into quarters. Brush hot waffle iron with vegetable oil. Cook batches of waffle bites until golden brown. As you remove each batch of bites, immediately toss them in the cinnamon sugar. Serve warm with honey-cream cheese dipping sauce.

### Pumpkin Mousse

8 oz. cream cheese  
1/3 cup sugar  
1 tsp vanilla  
15 oz. can pumpkin  
1 tbsp pumpkin pie spice  
3.4 oz. pkg instant vanilla pudding  
1 cup milk  
8 oz. container of whipped topping  
Mix the first 3 ingredients together for 3 min. Then add pumpkin and mix again. Add spice, instant pudding, and milk. Mix all together for 3 min. Mix whipped topping in well. Serve with gingersnap cookies.



Plastic unit has a hole in the center for plant to grow through. Water leaches through 4 spikes down to plant's roots.

## New Way To Garden Smarter

With 5-gal. buckets and a few Garden Angel™ watering devices, anyone can grow vegetables and other plants with minimal labor, less water and get a bigger harvest, says inventor John Momcilovich.

The plastic unit has a hole in the center for the plant to grow through, and a rimmed area that holds water and leaches it through four spikes with tiny holes on the sides that go directly to the plant's roots.

In tests in his Michigan garden, tomato plants grown in a Garden Angel used 28 percent less water and yielded 50 percent more tomatoes. While water is plentiful in Michigan, efficiently using water is important in Nevada where Momcilovich works as a geologist and is successfully growing vegetables with Garden Angel units.

He came up with the idea when he realized snowbirds living in Nevada weren't gardening as they had in their home states. When they said they didn't like weeding, watering or bending over he came up with the Garden Angel concept. "There's nothing like it," Momcilovich says. "It retains moisture and is a barrier for weeds."

Because growing in 5-gal. buckets is popular, portable and easy, his first Garden Angel watering devices are round to slip inside a bucket. They also work well on the ground in a garden. In the future, he plans to offer interlocking square units that will fit in a raised bed.

The Garden Angel comes in three colors, black (for cooler climates), white (hotter climates), and terra cotta. They normally sell for \$19.95 each. For 2020, Momcilovich has a 2 for \$14.95 sale, plus shipping. They are available through the Garden Angel website.

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## Mouth Spray For Dogs

Anyone who has brushed their dog's teeth, knows how challenging and time consuming it can be. Assure mouth spray for dogs is a game changer. Susan Sinclair, who developed the patent-pending spray, says it eliminates plaque and gingivitis, freshens breath, and is totally safe.

"Just lift a side lip and spray to let it spread through the mouth. It has a neutral flavor that dogs don't mind," Sinclair says.

She developed the spray because she wasn't satisfied with available options such as professional cleaning by a vet with the dog under anesthesia. So, with her background in environmental health and much research she came up with a formula that includes ginger extract, colloidal silver, peppermint extract and natural flavors in purified water.

As a dog breeder she tested it on Sugar, one of the Shiba Inu dogs she breeds. After spraying Assure in Sugar's mouth every couple of days for 4 weeks, she compared it to a photo she took when she started.

"You can see where the plaque - the dark color - has gone down. After a year there was no plaque," Sinclair says. "Assure loosens up the plaque so it comes off naturally. And you will notice a difference in the dog's breath within an hour."

Though she did the research for her own dogs, she realized that the spray could benefit every dog, so she started marketing it in 2018. Her veterinarian and other vets sell it and she has other distributors.

Assure sells for \$24.99 for a 2 oz. bottle, which can last 6 to 8 months depending on the dog breed. Small dogs only require one squirt, while larger dogs, such as Great Danes need up to 4 squirts. Sinclair suggests daily doses to knock down gingivitis, but every other day or every third day is enough to take care of plaque.

Sinclair sells Assure through her website and on Amazon and has watched interest grow through her satisfied customers.

"Sales continue to grow. It started as a snowflake and it's a big snowball now," she says.

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Mouth spray has a neutral flavor that dogs don't mind.

# FARM SHOW®

## New Products For The Farm, Ranch Home

### How To "Bag" A Lot Of Beetles

"The Beetle Bagger trap for Japanese beetles works great, but I hated changing the bags out on a daily basis," says Jim Sipp, Williamsfield, Ill., who came up with a way to use components of the trap to "bag" beetles in a large garbage bag.

He wired two pieces of 2 by 6 board to a metal T-post and then screwed the top of the trap to the top piece of wood. He wired a 2-ft. piece of plastic conduit to a lower board and feeds the top part of the trap bag into the top of the conduit. A plastic garbage bag is tapped to the bottom of the conduit to catch the bugs that are attracted by the trap's attractant.

"It works fantastic. No more stinky bag changes," says Sipp.

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Top part of a Beetle Bagger trap bag feeds beetles into plastic garbage bag.

### Motorized "Shelf Cart" Stores Canned Goods

Storing canned goods is an easy job for Martha Martin since her husband Bill built a motorized "shelf cart". It rides on a track installed inside a small storage room in their basement.

The cart is 12 ft. long and 3 ft. wide, which is about the same size as the storage room. It can hold up to 300 quart jars and, when fully loaded, weighs about 700 lbs.

"The cart automatically moves in or out of the storage room and serves as a mobile root cellar. It makes maximum use of the space that's available in our basement to store canned food," says Bill. "Martha does a lot of canning in the basement, making up to 150 quarts of beans, corn and tomatoes every year. The basement has its own kitchen, along with an adjoining storage room that's too small for shelves. At first I built a cart that she rolled in and out of the room by hand. However, once she had shoulder surgery the cart became too difficult for her to use."

The cart is built from 2-in. steel tubing and has a series of built-in shelves that extend up to 4 ft. high. A 1/4 hp. electric gear drive motor is bolted onto the floor at the back of the storage room, and a continuous loop bicycle chain extends from the motor up to a sprocket mounted under the front of the cart.

The motor is wired to a pair of limit switches that determine which direction the cart goes, says Bill. "The operator flips one switch to push the cart out of the room, and another one to pull it back into the room."

The track is made from lengths of angle iron placed on edge. The cart rides on 4 V-shaped nylon wheels, but only the rear wheels follow the track. "I used nylon wheels because they run quiet," says Bill.

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Motorized "shelf cart" automatically moves in or out of a small storage room in Martin's basement.