

Episode 330

Hello and welcome to episode 330 of the veg grower podcast. My names RICHARD AND I AM ON A MISSION TO GROW AS MUCH FOOD AS POSSIBLY CAN IN MY allotment and garden. Today is the 11 June 2020 and cominh up in bit im going to design my ideal allotment site but firstly what have I been up to today.

- Diary
- Today is the 11 June 2020 im still at home today. This morning I looked at the weather report and it was predicted to rain all day so I decided to stay home again and not head to the allotment. Weater at the weekend looks good so perhaps we can go then.
- First thing I did today was to do with the scarecrow I started building yesterday. You might recall yesterday I said that I made a base using some old postcrete but the postcrete was old and might not be anygood. Well this morning I drained off the excess water and it seems to be slowly drying and becoming solid. Im still not sure itll be good enough but at then end of the day its just to hold a scarecrow in place so it might be good enough.
- After that it started raining so I headed into my potting shed and sowed a few more seeds. Today I sowed some muzua, cabbage, spinach and some basil. I also sowed some swede. I usually struggle with swede because I don't get it into the ground early enough. This year however I am hoping to get these in the ground after my garlic is harvested along with the cabbae sown today.
- While I was sowing my seed I was getting a little frustrated with how unorganised my seed collection has become again. I start of the season with a semi organised seed collection all the seeds organised in a way that makes them easy to find. Unfortunately as we go on through the season it loses the organisation what with using seeds from a packet and just throwing the packet on top instead of where it should go or new packets being added to the collection.
- Well given it was still raining I thought it would make a lot of sense to reorganise these seeds yet again so I spread all my seeds over the kitchen table and started reorganising them getting all the same types of seed packets together. I really want to find some sort of

seed storage organiser thingumabob so that I can really get this organised.

- Well that's what I've been up to today but what have you been up to? Get in touch to let me know
- bumper
- Well it has been nice to get some rain today even if it has hindered what I can do outside today. Anyway today I wanted to design my ideal allotment site a bit of a thought process but I would like to hear your thoughts on what you would have in your ideal allotment site.
- In an ideal world every allotment would of course be perfect and have all the same features but reality is every allotment site is different and many sites have good points and bad points
- Access is probably a important feature of any allotment site. Something I really like about my current allotment is the fact that I can drive right up to my plot and park there. My old allotment this was not possible which made it hard work to carry items such as plants or compost. So yes definitely the ability to drive up the the allotment is pretty important. However where my site falls down is that over winter it can get very muddy and I have got the van stuck a couple of times which is something I would want to avoid.
- Next on my imaginary allotment is that everyone is allowed a shed and greenhouse or polytunnel. I know there's some allotments that don't allow this and I think that the ability to have a shed to store tools which we need is pretty damn important in my book. These buildings also provide some where to shelter and continue working in if it rains
- Added to that the shed and greenhouse could also have water butts fitted so as to collect rainwater to use on the allotment for watering our plants. which brings me nicely to water being available on site. Now I am an extremely big believer in that we should all use rainwater for our plants if available.
- But if we run out we need water on site to make up for this so I would have every single allotment plot has its own tap for use. Every plot will have its own tap so that there's no arguments when it comes to some allotmenters hogging the tap.
- Next I would want a toilet on the site something I wish my site would have because of the amount of times I need the toilet while on site it can get really annoying. I would also have drinking water available in this toilet block so everyone can get some water and fill up there kettles.

- This imaginary allotment site would allow chickens and in fact have some communal chickens which can be placed on empty plots in order to help keep weeds down when vacant and the eggs would be available for all allotment holders on this site or donated to a local charity.
- Of course in this imaginary allotment site all allotmenters would be friendly and get on with each other which in turn would mean that there is very few rules and the rules that would be there would be for communal areas. Each allotment holder can pretty much do what they like on their own plot as long as they pay the rent.
- I would also have no restrictions on what can be grown on each plot providing it doesn't affect any other plots.
- Well that's my thoughts on my ideal allotment site but do you have anything you would add or change?
- If you do get in touch you can email me Richard at the veg grower podcast
- Website
- Social
- Thank you
- goodbye