

April showers bring May flowers

April 8, 2023



On April 15, The Dutch Gardener opens for the short growing season in Del Norte County.

Owners Kees Oostra and his wife, Teri McCune Oostra, celebrate 33 years providing beautiful nursery plants for Del Norte's unique climate. Originally serving Klamath's Trees of Mystery in landscape maintenance, The Dutch Gardener initiated its growth at the Farmers Market in the '90s

Since 2000, Kees has operated at 835 Bertch St. On the corner of Roy, The Dutch Gardener began with just a single green house. In 2014, Teri retired as director of rural human services.

Over the years, Kees and Teri have built three additional green houses growing carrots, strawberries, artichokes, tomatoes, zucchini, lettuce, cabbage, pumpkins, cucumbers and assorted peppers. Dutch Gardener grows and sells annuals, semi-annuals, herbs and baskets. Lewesia succulents from the mountains above Gasquet are also featured.

The Dutch Gardener contends with lots of hungry elk, always seeking food. The Oostra's dog Sophie is the alarm system. Kees gently moves the elk along, be it 3 in the afternoon or 3 in the morning.

The Del Norte growing season is a brief one. The Dutch Gardener will begin this week and cease operations by the end of July. Short and sweet. April showers bring May flowers for June and July growth.

The Dutch Gardener can be reached at (707) 954-5373 or dutchgardener.com