

## Review 2022-2023 Garden

Last year I was a dry season, we had difficulty keeping vegetables watered enough to keep them growing. All the watering and my poor health kept from optimum production. In 2022. A large area was not used and used by the chickens or fallow.

We did some seed production for the seed coop, 1 kilo curly kale and lettuce seed also a kilo with very good germination rates

Danielle was a big help in autumn 2023 when she replaced me with organizing the vegetable bags and deliveries after my operation. Niels was employed since the autumn and started working 3 days a week instead of 5 from September onwards. He and his Iron fork are a great help in the battle of the root weeds.

In the winter we decided that half of the garden needed ploughing as it was too overgrown. Andre did plow with the ford tractor and we could start with a clean slate. We also could get rid of large areas of creeping thistle. A contractor came to power harrow the whole area, after that we could start to make new beds again.

The winter months were also used to build the second polytunnel at last, as investment in that was halted when the Covid started. We had regular help from volunteers, Lance and Gary did a lot of carpentry. You would not believe it now, but in early spring many areas were too wet to work the earth.

We had it ready to plant in May and the tomatoes went in soon after. We have had a dry and till recently a cold spring with constant North easterly winds, which made many crops only grow slowly. From May onwards we had to increasingly water all the crops, not only after sowing or planting, but also to keep them growing. We started this week with ca 30 veg bags.

We are grateful for all the volunteers who make our work lighter and more fun.

For the gardening team

Monique