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INSIDE & OUT: HOME AND GARDEN FROM THE PLAIN DEALER

How to grow figs, help wet basements and spring cleaning tips: Home & Garden News

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Tony Sarraino is surrounded by his fig tree at his home in Avon in a 2009 file photo. It is possible to grow fig trees in this climate, with extra care.

GROWING FIG TREES: If you're looking for an unusual fruit tree to add to your backyard orchard, consider the fig tree, says [the Ohio Gardener website](#).

Fig trees are a Mediterranean plant that likes hot weather, but it can be grown in hardiness Zones 5 and 6. In colder climates, fig plants living outside must be heavily protected or brought indoors to survive the winter months.

Winter protection surrounding fig trees is paramount for survival in hardiness Zones 5 and 6 (Cleveland is in zone 5), and Midwest gardeners will have better success growing fig plants by thinking ahead on plans for winter protection. Locating a fig on the south side of a building will provide that sunny exposure and, at the same time, give it a wind break against harsh winters. Butting the small tree up against a trellis or



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