

Post Register

Idaho Falls

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SHOPTALK

Green garden company expanding locally

While I'm on the subject of spring's imminence, here's something of interest to the people who use Save-a-Tree, a fine product from the Zamzow family, which has been in business in the western part of our state since 1993.

Jos Zamzow, son of "Dr. JimZ" Zamzow, will be in Idaho Falls Tuesday to train C-A-L Ranch store employees from all around eastern Idaho and northern Utah.

The company started national distribution of its organic fertilizer and related products last year. They're already sold through a chain of nurseries in Texas, but the link-up with C-A-L Ranch happened last year at a trade show in Reno, Jos Zamzow said.

Originally, the family had hoped to sell its products to farmers interested in better-quality crops. But because it's yield that

matters most, the company shifted its focus to gardeners who want tangier tomatoes or sweeter strawberries.

Save-a-Tree has been available for years at Town and Country Gardens. Statewide, its claim to fame was the 1999 rescue of the Harrison Tree, planted near the Idaho Statehouse in Boise in 1891 by President Benjamin Harrison.

The tree was drying and scheduled to be cut down. Zamzow donated Save-A-Tree, and that tree returned to health and grew more in one year than it had in the past three years.

Despite this organic gardening success story, the tree, unfortunately, was cut down last year to make room for the Capitol building's expansion.