University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

Making a Difference for California



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Whether it's a vegetable garden, house plants or a landscape...

A Garden Runs Through It

This newsletter is produced by:

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This month's links:

- May 2011
- Roses-Cultural Practices
- Roses-Diseases
- Roses-Insects

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday,
9am—12pm
1pm –4pm
UCCE office,
100 Sunrise Blvd,
Colusa
458-0570

Information Booth Locations:

Visit us at the

Colusa County May Surprise
Saturday May 7th
9am—2pm
10th and Parkhill, Colusa

Have a question? Email us at mgcolusa@ucdavis.edu





Frequently Asked Questions:

I have aphids. How do I get rid of them?

Since becoming a Master Gardener I am trying different methods and this is also true for aphids.

Almost every plant has one or more aphid species that occasionally feeds on it, but low to moderate numbers of aphids are usually not damaging in gardens.

- Aphids like lush new growth.
- Ants protect aphids from natural enemies.

To reduce aphids:

- Prune out infested leaves and stems
- Knock populations off by shaking or spraying with a strong stream of water.
- Wait for hot weather; most aphids are heat-tolerant.
- Protect natural enemies.

If insecticides seem necessary, start with the safest.

- Insecticidal oils and soaps, soap-pyrethrum mixtures and neem oil.
- Systemic insecticides can be used on non-food plants.

For more information click here.



Be a Composter

Try these composting tips:

- Add brown material if the pile is too wet
- Chip or grind larger material



Composting Just add water and stir! No fancy contraptions needed

- Compost happens, but the time varies with your level of labor
- Backyard composting allows you to recycle your yard clippings and kitchen scraps into valuable soil amendment.

For upcoming events and classes:

Statewide Gardening Classes

For more information about gardening in California:

California Gardening

For more information about water wise plants:

UC Davis Arboretum

For water saving tips:

Save Our Water

The Colusa County Master Gardener Volunteer Program is a partnership among the University of California, USDA, Colusa County and the Colusa County Farm Bureau. Master Gardener volunteers extend horticultural information and offer educational programs and garden-related demonstrations in Colusa County.

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University of California, United States Department of Agriculture, Colusa County Cooperating. For special assistance regarding our programs, please contact us.

