# Introduction to Edible Landscaping

Edible Landscaping

> Barbara Poff Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension

#### **Overview**

Definition:

Edible landscaping is the use of food plants as design features in a landscape. These plants are used both for aesthetic value as well as consumption.

Important Note:

Edible landscapes encompass a variety of garden types and scales but do not include food items produced for sale.

#### **Overview** *Combining Form and Function*



Image Source: Rosalind Creasy

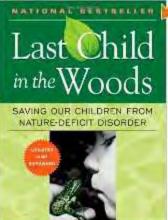
#### **Overview** *Combining Form and Function*



Image Source: Rosalind Creasy

#### **Importance of Edible Landscaping**

- According to the EPA, only 1% of our 285,000,000 person population claims farming as an occupation. What does this mean? Our children are growing up in a world farther and farther removed from agriculture.
- So few US children can answer where milk comes from that it prompted the USDA to create initiatives to connect children with the source of food.
- A general dissociation from the natural world is Nature Deficit Disorder, an issue identified by Richard Louv.



#### **Importance of Edible Landscaping**

- Promoting gardens in parks, on rooftops and in front yards will help both youth and adults re-connect with their food and nature.
- Horticulture therapy is the use of gardening to provide mental and physical healing and wellness. In young people, horticulture therapy has shown to decrease violence and behavioral issues. It has also proven effective in improving memory and attention span in diagnosed ADHD patients (University of Minnesota, 2012).



Image Source: Carmia Feldman



Image Source: Rosalind Creasy

The Pros

- Environment decreased food miles, reduced reliance on fossil fuel supported calories
- Health food security, horticulture therapy, healthy food choices

In general, edible landscaping promotes sustainable gardening practices that maximize water efficiency, support wildlife and reduce the use of chemicals in the landscape.

The Cons

- Time increased maintenance requirements, seasonal planting, regular garden planning
- Inputs increased water needs
- Practices increased plant waste typically requires healthy compost pile

#### **History of Edible Landscaping**

Integrating food growing with other landscape uses (recreational, aesthetic, etc.) is not a new concept



proght by N. B. Washinsa

ON HISTORIC GROUND Besten Common was condited with having one of the forest demonstration way gardens in the United States in 1918. This shows the quarter-stre section given over to potation, with Girl Boyuts assisting in the collivation. The gardens were playted by the Woman's City Club, with superior of hand to give instruction and advice to visitors.

# History of Edible Landscaping parterres & kitchen gardening



Image Sources: <a href="http://www.nationaltrust.org/uk/">www.nationaltrust.org/uk/</a> & C. Napawan

#### History of Edible Landscapes Horticultural practices



Image Sources: C. Napawan

# **Designing Edible Buildings**

**Rios Clementi Hale Studios** 

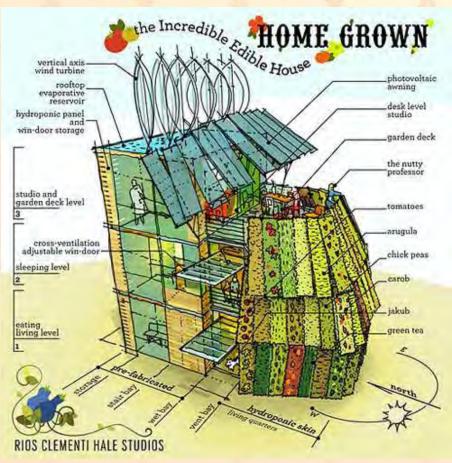


Image Source: http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/

# **Growing Food Movement**



Image Source: AP Images

#### **Growing Food Movement**



Image Source: http://livinglivelier.blogspot.com/

# Site Preparation and Maintenance Challenges and Opportunities

Edible Landscaping

> Geoffrey Wood Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension

#### **Diverse and Complex Plant Systems**

Apply knowledge in crop production to planting and maintaining an integrated, multi-functional landscape system.





# **Diverse and Complex Plant Systems**

- Increases diversity
- Eliminates monoculture
- Creates habitat for beneficial organisms







#### **Diverse and Complex Plant Systems**

Plant species and varieties for yield and aesthetics

Consider pollination requirements







#### Sun and Shade Effects



# Crops need full sun and can produce attractive shade





Affects performance and yield
 Need at least 6 hours of sun per day

Plan for seasonal variation in shade and sun angle

# Soil Management

- Limitations compared to traditional gardens
- Raised beds can still work
- Mulches are useful anywhere







#### **Inputs Required**

Time and labor
 Attention, training, maintenance

Fertilizer

- Frequency and nitrogen
- Natural vs. synthetic
- Water
  - Amount

Variation in application methods





Planting and Re-Planting Annual Crops Among Perennials

Increases diversity

Difficult to prepare soil for annual crops

Woody roots interfere

Disturbs perennial root systems

#### **Maintaining Ornamental Function**

Ornamental value of some food crops wanes

Remove crop debris

Harvest ripe fruit and mature produce



#### **Green Waste Management**

Crops can increase plant debris and green waste
 Debris can be composted



#### Pests and Weeds

#### Pest management often more demanding with edibles

#### IPM more complex







#### Weed management without herbicides



# Edible Landscaping

#### Site Preparation and Maintenance Soils

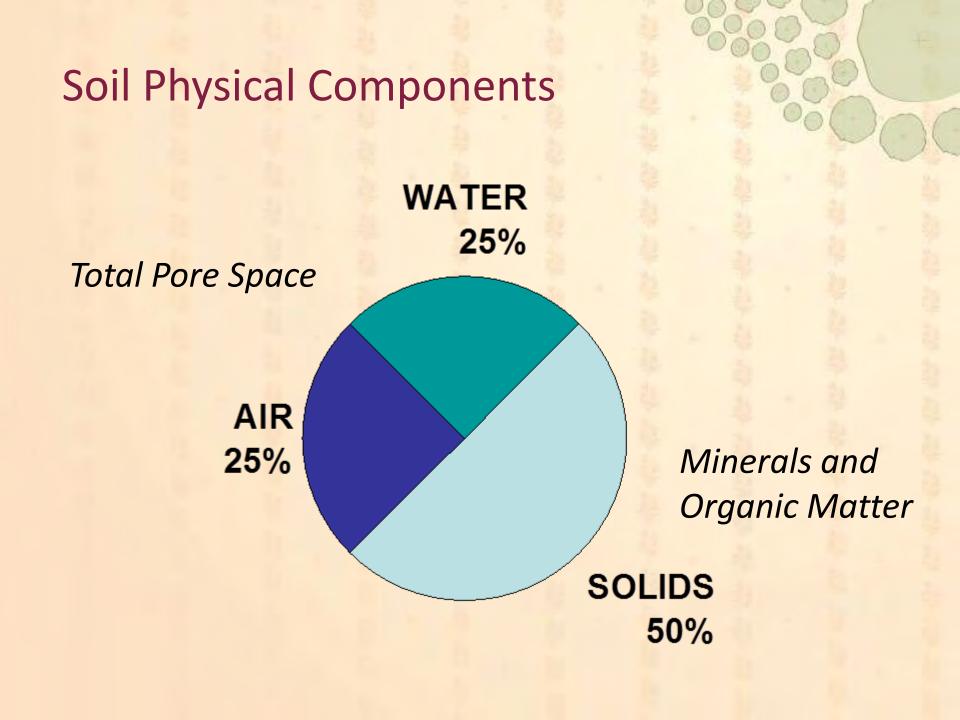


#### Physical support for plants

#### Water reservoir

#### Nutrient reservoir

Air reservoir



#### **Soil Properties**

- Physical Properties
   Texture
  - Structure
- Chemical
  - 17 essential elements (N, P, K and friends)
  - Soil reaction (pH)
  - Salinity (EC)
  - Toxic ions (sodium, boron)

# Soil Structure

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The arrangement of soil solids into aggregates and the relative pore space created

Good structure:

- Forms small granules readily
- Mix of large and small pores
- Influences:
  - Aeration
  - Drainage
  - Root growth



#### Soil Structure – Organic Matter

Organic matter (plant debris, humus, etc.)

- Provides binding agents
- Improves structure
- OM breaks down over time

#### Soil Texture

Percentage by weight of sand, silt, clay

#### Influences:

- Water holding capacity
- Water movement
- Nutrient holding capacity
- Tillage and workability
- Major textural classes:
   Sands, silts, loams, clays



# Soil Reaction - pH

- Acidity or Alkalinity of Soil Solution
- 7.0 = neutral

+

- <7.0 = acidic;</pre>
- >7.0 = alkaline
- Crops grow best at 5.5 7.5

MINERAL SOILS						
5.0 5.5	6.0 6.5	TO TO	7.5	8.0	8.5	9.0
RANGE OF ACIDITY			RANGE OF ALKALINITY			
	NI	ROGEN				
	PHO	SPHOR	us			
	PO	TASSIU	М			
	S	ULFUR				
	C/	ALCIUM				
	MAG	INESIU	И.			
		IRON				
	MANGAN	IESE				
	E	BORON				
	COPPE	R AND	ZINC			

# Soil Management Considerations in Edible Landscaping

Routine replanting annual crops

Inter-planting edible crops into existing landscape areas

Fertilizer management for edibles vs. ornamentalsContainer growing

# **Routine Replanting Annual Crops**

Dedicate bed space if possible

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- Amend before planting with OM, perlite, etc.
  - Difficult to amend area after landscape site is established
  - Eases transplanting



# Inter-planting Edible Crops Into Existing Landscape Areas

- Can be difficult to inter-plant seasonal crops routinely among established ornamentals
  - Difficult to dig and cultivate soil
  - Disturbs roots of established ornamentals
- Do soil conditions meet needs of seasonal or perennial edible plants being added?

# **Container Growing**

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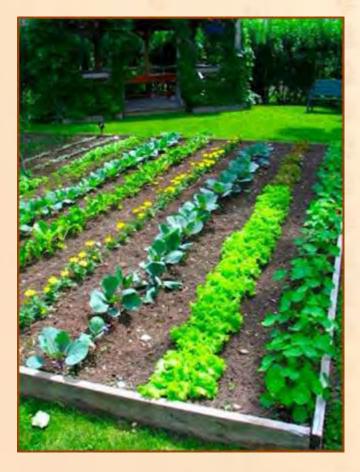
- Avoids soil management issues
- Select quality potting media
  - Bark, forest products, coir
- Leach before planting
- Assure good drainage
  - No gravel in container bottom



# Edible Landscaping

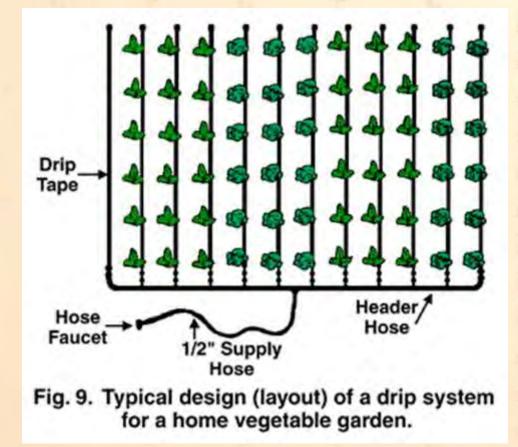
#### Site Preparation and Maintenance Irrigation

# **Traditional Garden Layout**





# **Traditional Garden Layout**



# **Edible Landscape Layout**









# Edible Landscape Layout

Think of the possibilities!



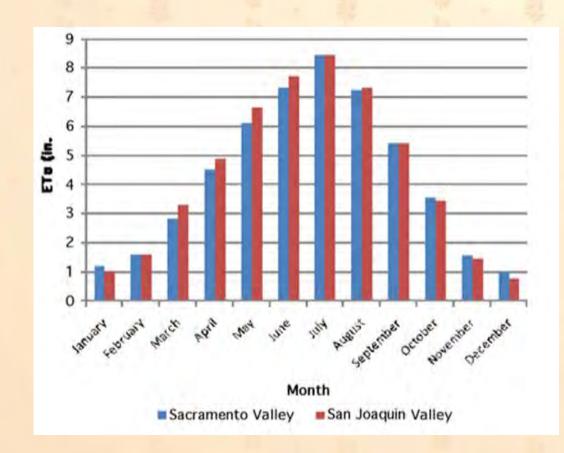


What drives water use of plants?
 Plant species (ET = Eto x Kc)
 Planting density
 Microclimate factors

# Water Use - Hydrozone



#### Evapotranspiration Rates



# New Legislation! MAWA\* = (Eto)(0.7)(LA)(0.62)

Eto = Reference evapotranspiration (inches per year)

0.7 = ET adjustment factor

LA = Landscaped area (square feet)

0.62 = Conversion factor (to gallons)

\*Maximum Applied Water Allowance = \_\_\_\_ gallons/year



Example of Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA)

- Sacramento area (annual historical ETo = 52 in)
- Hypothetical Landscape Area = 5,000 sq ft
- MAWA = (Eto) (0.7)\* (LA) (0.62)\*\*
- MAWA = (52) (0.7) (5,000 sq ft) (0.62)
- MAWA = 128,400 gallons per year

\*ET Adjustment factor

**\*\*** Conversion factor from inches to gallons

#### Higher density = greater water requirement





## Varying Microclimates





Conserve water in your edible landscape by:

- Hydrozoning
- Scheduling irrigations based on plant needs
- Making sure sprinklers/drip systems work properly
- Using mulch and soil amendments effectively

# Hydrozone: Place plants with similar water needs together and irrigate them accordingly

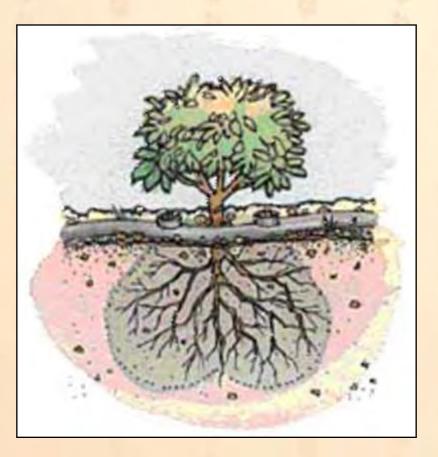




- Use Efficient Systems
  - Hand watering can be very efficient!
  - Drip (low flow, low volume and includes mini-sprinklers, tape, soaker hoses, etc.) also efficient



Drip Irrigate Edibles to Reduce Soil Evaporation and to Apply Water Directly into Root Zones



# Many Types of Drip Systems









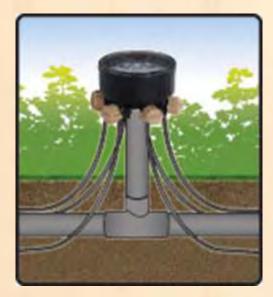


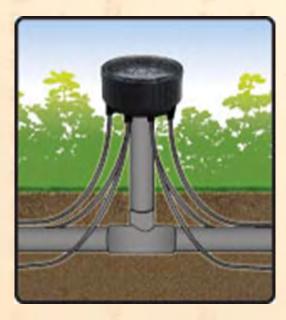


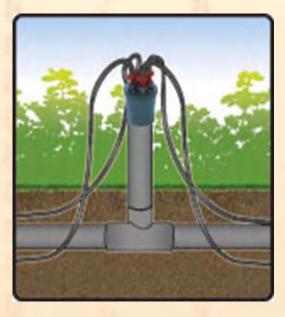
# **Sprinkler System Retrofitting**

Retrofit a sprinkler system to use or convert an existing 1/2" riser or sprinkler head to a 1, 4, 6, or 12outlet drip system without disrupting the flow through the rest of the line

# **Sprinkler System Retrofitting**







### Improve water-holding capacity and/or drainage with compost mixed evenly into soil (6 inches to 1 foot)



#### Apply mulch around plants





# Other Methods to Conserve Water In and Around Edible Landscapes

- Remove weeds to reduce competition for water
- Irrigate established plants deeply and infrequently
  - Avoid watering every day
  - Water a few inches below the current root system during each watering to encourage deep rooting
- Avoid over-fertilizing
  - Creates flushes of weak growth
  - Increases water requirement

#### **Graywater Systems**

# Laundry-to-landscape systems do not require a permit if they:

- direct flow back to the sewer (eg: a 3-way valve)
- have valves and direction of graywater flow clearly labeled
- supply graywater to landscape plantings only on the home owner's property
- include an operation and maintenance manual
- discharge graywater underneath a 2-inch cover of mulch, plastic shield, or stone covering.

NEVER use graywater on edible plants. If using graywater near edibles, be sure not to splash on them.

# Edible Landscaping

Site Preparation and Maintenance Green Materials Management

# **Green Materials Management**

Important uses for organic materials in edible landscapes:

Soil Amendments (mixed into the soil)

Mulches (applied on top of the soil)







Improves water and nutrient holding capacity

Improves drainage in heavy soils

Prevents/reduces erosion

Improves soil aeration

May decrease chemical fertilizer requirement
 Increases number and range of microbes

## Waste Management

The CA Waste Management Act (Assembly Bill 929)
 Divert 25% of organic matter destined for landfills by 1995
 Divert 50% of organic matter destined for landfills by 2000

#### A.B. 341 (passed 2011)

 75% solid waste landfill diversion through source reduction, recycling and composting by the year 2020



Compost is not a fertilizer but does contain small amounts of:

- Nitrogen and phosphorus (mostly in organic forms)
  - Released slowly to plants
  - Not readily leached from the topsoil
- Micronutrients that are essential for plant growth



- How do you make high quality compost?
- Pile should be 3' x 3' x 3' or larger
- Maintain correct C:N ratio (30:1) by adding equal volumes of both 'greens' and 'browns'
- Turn pile weekly
- Keep pile moist but not soggy (aeration)
- Maintain a high enough temperature (135°F/3days)
- Cure before using

## **How to Amend Soil with Compost**

- Amend entire planting site or bed when possible, adding at least 30 percent compost (by volume) to original soil
- Thoroughly mix compost 6 inches to 2 feet deep (depending on depth of expected root zone)
- Seed edibles directly into garden soil amended with compost or transplant seedlings/container plants into amended soil at same depth they were in their containers
- Irrigate immediately and maintain a moist root zone through establishment

# Avoid Adding Compost/Soil Amendments to Tree Planting Sites

Roots may circle the planting hole resulting in a root bound plant not able to support the upper structure





- Reduces water evaporation from soil Prevents/reduces erosion Buffers soil temperature Reduces weeds Prevents mechanical weed whip/lawnmower damage to tree trunks





Mulch Volcano excavated to expose buried trunk. Mulch should not be touching the trunk. Some trees develop girdling roots and/or disease problems.

- **Compost Criteria when used as a Mulch**
- Apply 2.5-3.5 inches of mulch on top of the soil
- Carefully spread compost around the base of plants using a shovel or rake
- Avoid applications around tree trunks
- Apply outward toward dripline of trees

#### **Bark chips or nuggets**

- Bark nuggets (½ to 1 ½ inches) are more stable than smaller bark or woodchips and do not break down as quickly
- The larger the particle size, the greater the depth to provide adequate weed control



#### **Fabric Mulch**

- Also called geotextiles or weed barriers
- Woven and non-woven polypropylene polymers (synthetic material).
- Some polypropylene polymers oxidize and degrade under ultraviolet light (cover with bark or woodchips)

## Fabric Mulch (cont'd)

- Best used around shrubs and trees (long-term plantings)
- Cut slits in fabric and add it after adding edibles to your landscape
- Allows water, fertilizer, and oxygen to penetrate soil
- Excellent weed control agent
- Bark or wood chips may be added on top



Landscape fabric



Landscape fabric under mulch

# Edible Landscaping

#### Site Preparation and Maintenance Pest Management

# Integrating Pest Management into your Edible Landscape

#### "Integrating"

- What IPM techniques have been mentioned so far?
  - Choose well-adapted species and variety selection
  - Avoid over-fertilization and overwatering that can lead to pest problems
  - Weed control use of herbicides and mulches







### Integrated Pest Management www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

- Same IPM approach for Edibles and Ornamentals
  - Expectations are important
- Correct Pest Identification Vigilance!
   Beneficial insect identification
- Cultural and Mechanical Controls
- Conservation of Biological Controls
- Chemical controls as a last resort





# **Cultural Controls for Pests in Edible Landscapes**

- Select low-pest species
  - Hint: Do you see chard in the list below?
- Timing
- Rotation? Biofumigation
- Pulling plants to break pest cycle

low to Manage Pests		
Pests in Gardens and La	andscapes—Vegetables and	Melons
Search vegetables:	Go	
Vegetables and melor	าร	
<ul> <li>Artichokes</li> <li>Asparagus</li> </ul>		• Eggp • Lettu
• <u>Beans</u> • <u>Broccoli</u>		• Onior • Peas
<ul> <li>Brussels sprouts</li> <li>Cabbage</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Pepp</li> <li>Potat</li> </ul>
<u>Cantaloupe</u> <u>Carrots</u>		<ul> <li>Pump</li> <li>Spina</li> </ul>
Cauliflower     Corn		• <u>Squa</u> • Toma

Cucumbers

- lant ce
- ns and garlic
- ers
- toes
- okins
- ach
- ish.
- itoes
- Watermelon

# Pest Management in Edible Landscapes

Pesticide and Label Information
 For edible plants

 Limited number of applications per year
 PHI – Pre-Harvest Interval

 For ornamental plants

 May or may not limit applications per year

Generally do not include PHI

# Pesticides in Edible Landscapes

#### Pay attention to label!

- Applications per Season
- Minimum Days to Reapply
- Pre-harvest Intervals

#### Example Label for edible plants - spinosad

Crops	Pests Controlled	Maximum Number of Application s Per Season	Minimum Days To Wait Before Reapplying	Minimum Days To Wait From Last Application To Harvest
<b>Cucurbits</b> including cucumber, summer and winter squash, muskmelons (cantaloupe, honeydew, etc.) pumpkin, edible gourds, and watermelon	Leafminers Thrips Worms (caterpillars)	6	5	All except cucumber 3 days Cucumber 1 days

# **Pesticides in Edible Landscapes**

Pay attention to label!

Directions for application to ornamentals can be very different

No pre-harvest intervals

Example Label for ornamental plants - spinosad

**Outdoor Ornamentals** (herbaceous and woody plants) Gall midges Leaf feeding beetles Leafminers Sawfly larvae Spider mites Worms, including Loopers, webworms, Bagworms, gypsy Moth, and tent caterpillars

Mix the amount of concentrated pesticide recommended per pint, quart or gallon of spray and uniformly spray foliage to point of runoff. Uniform coverage of upper and lower leaf surfaces is essential for effective insect control

Drift/Runoff from ornamentals to edibles

# Edible Landscaping

Site Preparation and Maintenance Fertilizing the Edible Landscape

# Fertilizer Management for Edibles vs. Ornamentals

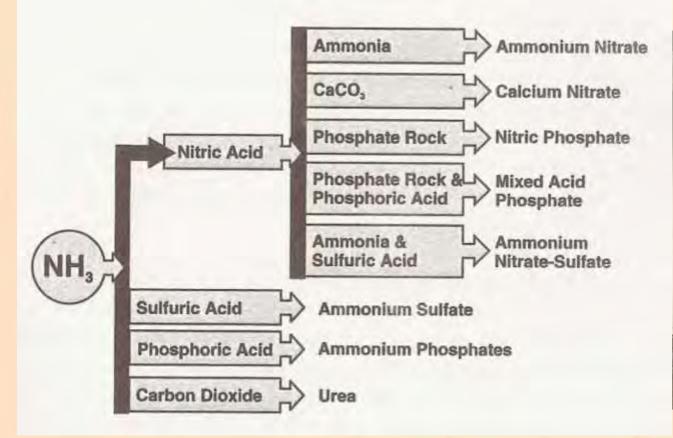
- Edibles often have greater fertilizer need
  - Especially N
  - Special nutrient needs for some crops to produce well
- Edibles often require more frequent fertilization
  - Sidedress N on seasonal crops
  - Annual fertilization of perennial crops
- Consider using slow-release N



# Fertilizers and the Edible Landscape: Natural vs. Synthetic Fertilizers

Natural Fertilizers	Synthetic Fertilizers
Feed the microorganism in the soil which break it down for the plants	Provide nutrients immediately available to plants but may not help soil ecosystem
Nutrient content may not be known for manures and other organics	Precise nutrient content known
Slow release, hard to damage plants	Can burn plants with too much too fast; can also leach out quickly
Bulky – uses more resources to ship but derived from renewable resources and can even utilize "waste" products	More compact thus more efficient to ship, but made from non-renewable resources
Often more costly	Usually less expensive

# Conversions of Ammonia to Various Nitrogen Fertilizers





# Examples of Synthetic Nitrogen Fertilizers

Ammonium sulfate (21-0-0-24S)
 Ammonium nitrate (34-0-0)
 Urea (46-0-0)
 Highest %N; protein substitute in feeds

### **Animal-Based Natural Fertilizers**

#### Animal Products

- Blood meal (12-0-0)
- Bone meal (1-13-0 to 4-12-0, +22% Ca)
- Feather meal (12-0-0)
- Fish products (4% to 11% N)
- Animal Waste Products
  - Bat guano (3% to 10% N, up to 12% P, 1% K)
  - Manure/compost (1% to 4% N)

#### **Plant-Based Natural Fertilizers**

- Alfalfa meal (about 2-1-2)
- Cottonseed meal (about 6-2-1)
- Soybean meal (7-2-1)

Kelp/seaweed (used for micronutrients, hormones, vitamins, and enzymes)

# Mined Natural Fertilizers Phosphorous

Phosphorous

- Soft rock phosphate (16% P and 19% Ca)
- Natural deposits in N. America, China, Morocco, & former Soviet Union
- Potassium
  - Various forms
  - World reserves deposited when water from ancient inland oceans evaporated
  - Canada is the #1 Producer
  - U.S. has reserves in New Mexico, Utah

# Nutrient Costs of Selected Fertilizers Local Nurseries, January 2011

Product	Analysis	\$/Lb. of N (3-5 lb. bag/box)
	CHEMICA	L
Azalea/Camellia	4-8-5	\$6.46
Rose	5-10-5	\$5.49
Multi-Purpose	16-16-16	\$2.29
Citrus	12-8-4	\$4.58
"NA	TURAL" B	RAND
Azalea/Camellia	4-5-4	\$17.31
Rose	5-7-2	\$16.07
Mult-Purpose	4-4-4	\$18.75
Citrus	7-3-3	\$11.25

Nutrient Costs of Selected Fertilizers Local Nursery vs. Peaceful Valley Farm Supply (Box vs. Bulk)

Product	Analysis	\$/Lb. N	
NUF	RSERY (3.0 to 3.5	5 lb.)	
Alfalfa meal	4-8-5	\$40.00	
Blood meal	13-0-0	\$16.81	
Cottonseed meal	5-2-1	\$21.43	
Bat guano (1.5 lb.)	10-3-1	\$38.10	
	PVFS (50 lb.)		
Alfalfa meal	2.4-0-0	\$18.33	
Blood meal	13-0-0	\$9.23	
Cottonseed meal	6-2.5-1	\$7.37	
Bat guano (25 lb.)	10-6-2	\$16.66	
Nutri-Rich	4-3-3	\$2.80	

# Nutri-Rich Pelleted chicken manure





# Thank you!

#### Any Questions?

# Edible Landscaping

#### Harvest and Storage of Edible Plants

Rebecca Niec Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension

## Why Pay Attention to Harvest?

Resources go into producing a crop

Allows harvest to suit personal ripeness and preferences

Plan to be available to process harvest



# **General Rules of Harvest**

- Each crop has optimum harvest period and method
- Variations are based on:
  - Individual taste preferences
  - Socio-cultural orientation
  - Physiological characteristics of fruit
  - Varietal differences
  - Planned use of crop

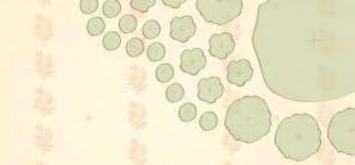
Harvest during cool temperatures



# **Stages of Ripening**

#### Fully tree ripe

- Full maturity and optimal stage for harvest
- Best for fresh eating and drying
- Firm ripe better to freeze or can
- Some important qality factors
  - Taste
  - Color
  - Firmness
  - Size
  - Minimal defects





#### **Sanitation and Harvest**

Use only clean, sanitized buckets and bins

- Wash hands prior to harvest
- Wear clean cotton gloves to reduce contaminants on fruit

Do not stack bins/buckets



## Clip - Twist - Layer

- Fruits such as persimmon, pomegranate, quince and grapes require clipping
- Avoid damage to skins of tender fruits by layering with newspaper
- Tomato family can be twisted or clipped
- Squash family
  - Winter squash best cut above stem
  - OK to twist summer squash



## Harvesting Herbs and Veggies

- Clip using sanitized clippers, kitchen shears, knife or fingers
- Cut main broccoli head, then harvest side shoots and leaves for 6 to 8 weeks
- Pinch off basil flowers to prolong leaf production

Sustain harvest of leafy crops by harvesting outside leaves frequently





# Storage and Preservation Considerations Short-Term and Long-Term

- Large trees/vines can produce several hundred pounds of produce
  - Do you have time to process? Can, dry, ferment, pickle or freeze?
  - Check your available freezer space
  - Air dry (herbs), oven dry, sun dry or use dehydrator (tomatoes, cantalope)
  - Consider short-term refrigerator space before harvesting begins



### Key Storage Requirements

Depends on product:

- Store in refrigerator: most fruits, vegetables and herbs
- Ripen on counter, then refrigerate: primarily stone fruits and avocados
- Store at room temperature: many tropicals, basil, some vegetables
- Most produce will store longest if harvested in the cool AM hours



### http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/datastore/234-1920.pdf

### Storing Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Better Taste

Storage Location	Fruits and	Melons	Vegetables		
Store in refrigerator	apples- Imore than 7 da apricots Asian pears (n blackberries blueberries cherries cut fruits figs grapes raspberries strawberries		artichokes asparagus green beans lima beans beets Belgian endive broccoli Brussels sprouts cabbage carrots cauliflower celery cut vegetables	green onions herbs (not basil) leafy vegetables leeks lettuce mushrooms peas radishes spinach sprouts summer squashes sweet corn	
Ripen on the counter first, then store in the refrigerator	avocados kiwifruit nectarines peaches	pears plums plumcots			
Store only at room temperature	apples- (fewer than 7 days) bananas grapefruit lemons limes mandarins mangoes	muskmelons oranges papayas persimmons pineapple plantain pomegranates watermelons	basil (in water) cucumberst dry onions' eggplantt garlic' ginger jicama	pepperst potatoes' pumpkins sweet potatoes' tomatoes winter squashes	

\* Store garlic, onions, potatoes, and sweet potatoes in a well-ventilated area in the pantry. Protect potatoes from light to avoid greening. † Cucumbers, eggplant, and peppers can be kept in the refrigerator for 1 to 3 days if they are used soon after removal from the refrigerator.

### What about Storing Vegetables?

#### VEGETABLE GARDENING AT A GLANCE: HOW TO PLANT AND STORE

Vegetable	Recommended planting dates <sup>a</sup>				General planting requirements			Storage conditions			
	North and North Coast	South Coast	Interior Valleys	Desert Valleys		Amount to plant (4 persons)	Distance in inches <sup>c</sup> between plants in rows (cm)	Distance in inches <sup>c</sup> between rows (no treds) (m)	Best temp °F (°C)	Time length (weeks)	How to ) preserve <sup>d</sup>
artichoke <sup>e</sup>	Aug-Dec	May-Jul	Jul	Sep	С	3–4 plants	48 (122)	50 (1.5)	32 (0)	1–2	freeze whole, can, dry, or freeze hearts
asparaguse	Jan-Mar	Jan-Feb	Jan-Feb	Feb-Apr	С	30-40 plants	12 (31)	60 (1.5)	32 (0)	3-4	can, dry, or freeze
beans, lima <sup>f</sup>	May–Jun	May–Jun	May–Jun	-	W	15-25-ft row	6 (15) bush; (4.5-7.5-m row	30 (0.8) 24 (61) pole	40 (4)	1-3	can, dry, or freeze
beans, snap <sup>f,g</sup>	Jul; May–Jun	Mar-Aug	Apr-May; Jul-Aug	Jan-Mar; Aug	W	15-25-ft row (4.5-7.5-m row)	3 (7.5) bush; 24 (61) pole	30 <sup>h</sup> (0.8)	45-55 (7-13)	1–2	can, dry, or freeze
beets <sup>f.g</sup>	Feb-Aug	Jan-Sep	Feb-Apr; Aug	Sep-Jan	с	10–15-ft row (3–4.5-m row)	2 (5)	18 <sup>h</sup> (0.5)	32 (0)	3-10	can, dry, or freeze
broccoli <sup>e, f.g</sup>	Feb–Apr; Aug–Sep	Jun-Jul; Jan-Feb	Dec–Feb; Jul	Sep	c	6-10-ft row (2-3-m row)	12–18 (30–45)	6 (0.9)	32 (0)	1–2	dry or freeze
brussels sprouts <sup>e</sup>	Feb-May	Jun–Jul	-	-	С	15–20-ft row (4.5–6-m row)	24 (61)	36 (0.9)	32 (0)	3-4	dry or freeze
cabbage <sup>e, f</sup>	Jan–Apr; Jul–Sep	Aug-Feb	Jul; Feb	Sep-Nov	C	10–15 plants	24 (61)	36 (0.9)	32 (0)	12-16	dry or freeze
cabbage, Chinese <sup>f</sup>	Jul-Sep	Aug-Oct	Aug	Aug-Nov	С	10–15-ft row (3–4.5-m row)	6 (15)	30 <sup>h</sup> (0.8)	32 (0)	2-3	dry or freeze

## Food Safety





## Key points

- Fruits and vegetables are a very important part of a healthy diet
- Fruits and vegetables can be a source of foodborne illness

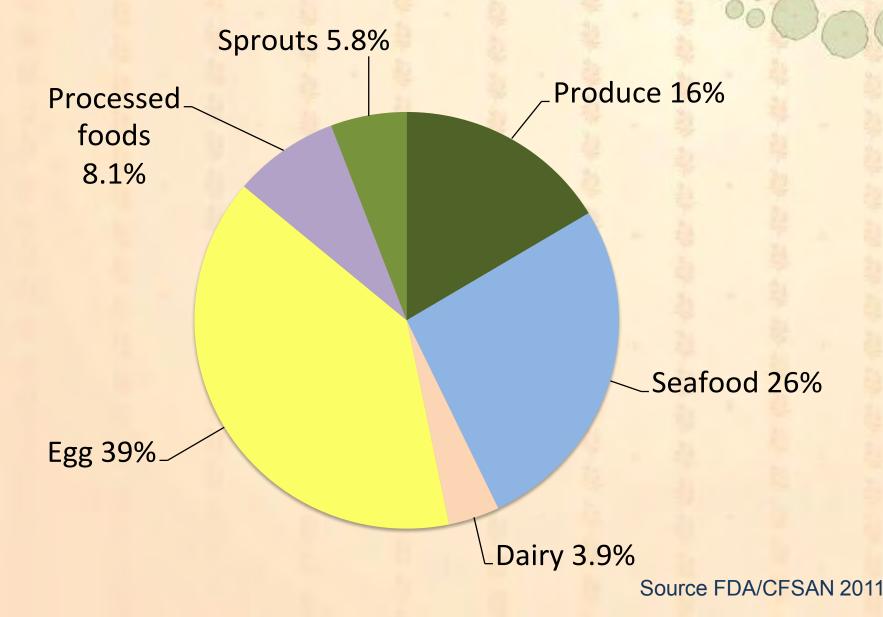


- Common sources of foodborne pathogens (microorganisms that cause illness) in produce include:
  - Water
  - Animals: wild and domestic, including humans
  - Soil amendments (especially animal-based)
- Preventing contamination is key
  - Evaluate and mitigate risks from pre-plant to harvest of the of the edible landscape.

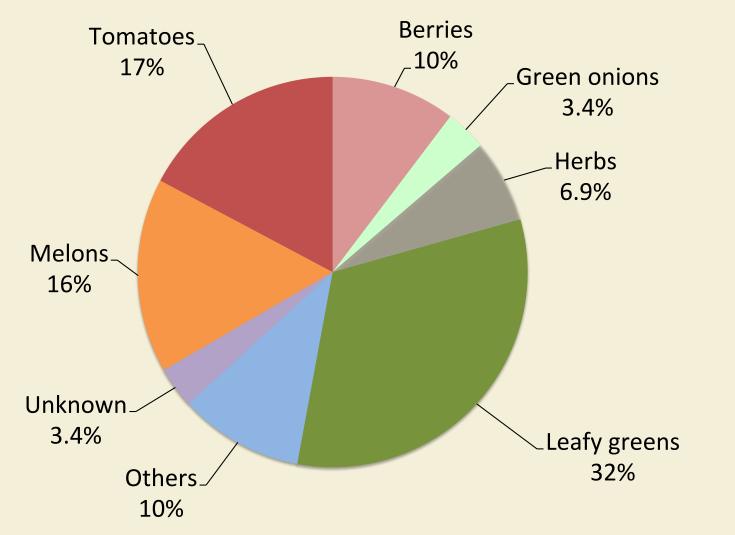




Reported outbreaks of foodborne illness linked to FDAregulated foods by vehicle 1996-2009 (N=532 outbreaks)



## Types of produce associated with outbreaks of foodborne illness 1996-2009 (N=87)





## *E. coli* O157:H7



Salmonella spp.



Listeria



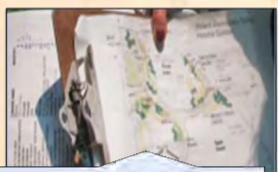
Hepatitis virus

### **Good Agricultural Practices**

## Focus is on RISK REDUCTION

- Prevent contamination where possible
- Main sources of foodborne pathogens
   Water
  - Wildlife and <u>domestic animals</u>, including humans
  - Soil amendments
    - especially those derived from animals

## Microbiological Safety of the Edible Landscape



### Planning

Site Selection

Water Source

• Facilities: toilets and handwashing



### Harvest

Personal Hygiene and HandwashingCleaning and Sanitation



### Growth(PreHarvest)

- Water
- Soil Amendments and Supplements
- Animal access



### Post Harvest

- Washing Produce
- Food Storage and Preservation



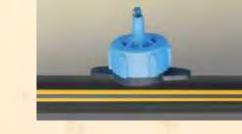
## **Food Safety and Site Selection**

- Know the history of the land Risk assessment of prior use Pesticide, cattle, poultry uses Consider the neighbors Zoning in surrounding areas Present and future use Existing structures/equipment
  - Septic tanks, plumbing access
  - Toilets

### Method of Water Application

Foliar application (spray)
 Water in contact with edible parts
 Use water from a safe source

Soil application (trickle, drip)
 May lower risk, if properly maintained





Water used to mix solutions or chemicals that contact the edible plant must be potable!

### Soil Amendments

### Compost

- Animal sources (manure)
  - Potential source of high levels of pathogens
  - Properly composted or heat treated
  - Manure from pigs, dogs, and cats must not be used
    - parasites may remain viable after composting
- Vegetative matter (no animal manure)

### Green manures

Plant matter grown and chopped and incorporated into soil



### **Un-composted Manure**

# Routes of infection Hand to mouth contamination Consumption of contaminated produce





## Tools, Equipment and Personal Protective Items

- Keep gloves clean and tools well maintained
- Consider designating tools for specific tasks
   Chemical use / Compost / Harvest
- Wash and sanitize <u>harvest tools</u>: (clippers, knives, scissors)
  - Dishwasher, then lubricate
  - Alcohol wipes (Sani Wipes or other brand)
  - IT bleach/gallon water, then lubricate



## **Food Safety and Pesticide Residues**



Just before storing or consuming, wash hands, sanitize brushes, work surfaces, cutting boards and knives.

## How to Wash Produce

Scrub or rub fruits and vegetables with a brush or hands under running water.



Dry produce with paper towels before storage.



Transfer to a sanitary container.

### Long-Term Storage

Several methods of home preservation

- Freezing
- Drying
- Fermentation
- Pickling
- Canning
- Jams and Jellies







UC home preservation and storage publications
 www.ucfoodsafety.ucdavis.edu

## Thank you!

### Any Questions?

# Edible Landscaping

### Planning & Designing Edible Landscapes

Bill Maynard Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension



Image Source: C. Napawan

### Edible Landscape Types: Balancing productive uses with existing landscape uses

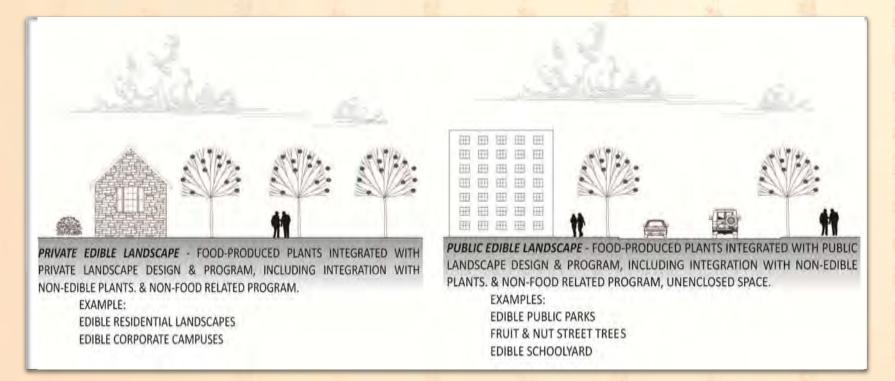


Image Source: C. Napawan

## **Edible Landscape Types**

#### Residential





Institutional

Educational





Public

Image Sources: "Carrot City" by M. Gorgolewski, SWA Group, & C. Napawan

### **Edible Residence**



Edible estates, various locations in US and UK Fritz Haeg, Artist

Image Source: "Carrot City" by M. Gorgolewski

### Southwark, London Council Housing Garden

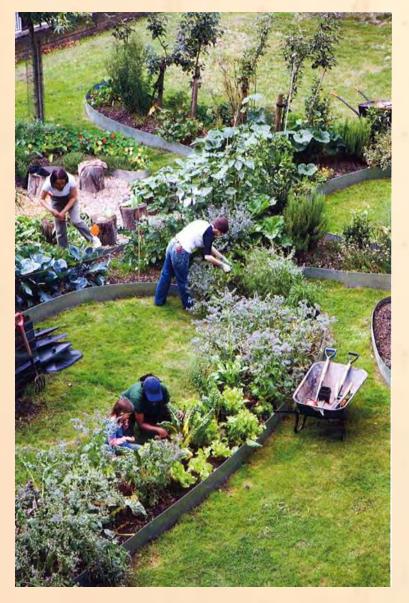


Image Source: "Carrot City" by M. Gorgolewski

### **Edible Rooftop**

Gary Comer Youth Center Rooftop, Chicago, IL Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects

8,160 SF



Image Source: "Carrot City" by M. Gorgolewski

## **Edible Rooftop**

Gary Comer Youth Center Rooftop, Chicago, IL Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects

8,160 SF



Image Source: "Carrot City" by M. Gorgolewski

## **Edible Schoolyard**

Sacred Heart School, Atherton, CA SWA Group, Sausalito, CA

0.25 Acres



## **Edible Schoolyard**

Sacred Heart School, Atherton, CA SWA Group, Sausalito, CA



## **Edible Schoolyard**

Sacred Heart School, Atherton, CA SWA Group, Sausalito, CA



### **Edible Streetscape**

Russell Street olive grove, UC Davis City of Davis, Davis Olive Center

Approx. 1 Mile



### Image Source: Google Earth

## **Edible Streetscape**





### Image Source: C. Napawan

### **Edible Development**

Mixed-Use Development, Stockton, CA SWA Group, Sausalito, CA

137 Acres



### Assessing Client & Users Addressing Client & User Conditions



Image Source: www.dwylandscapearchitects.com

## Addressing Existing Conditions: California's Varied Climates & Growing Regions



Image Source: Adapted from Vossen, 2002

### Addressing Existing Site Conditions: Resource Availability

Soil – Identify if adequate soil exists on-site; confirm safety of soils for edible plants by soil testing, if located in potentially contaminated site; identify appropriate plants for soil type & condition (soil amendments discussed in forthcoming section).

- Water Identify availability of water on-site; confirm average volumes of available water; identify appropriate edible plants for water availability; determine appropriate irrigation method for water availability & desired plants (irrigation techniques & water policies discussed in forthcoming sections).
- Solar Energy Evaluate the site's cardinal orientation and immediate adjacencies; identify appropriate plants for solar conditions present; for more detailed information on sun/shade studies:
- Waste Management Evaluate sites' ability to handle green waste through composting; identify

### Addressing Existing Site Conditions: Solar Energy

http://www.nrel.gov/midc/solpos/solpos.html

http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/AltAz.php

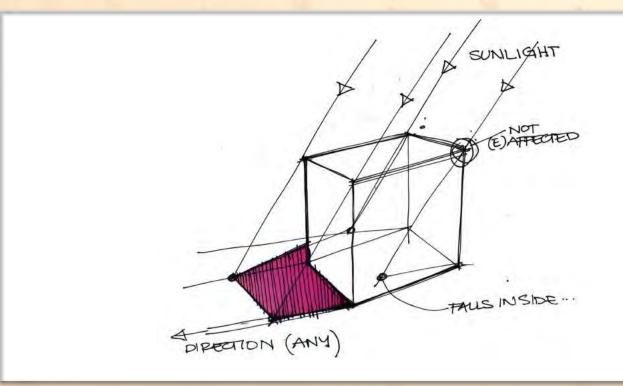
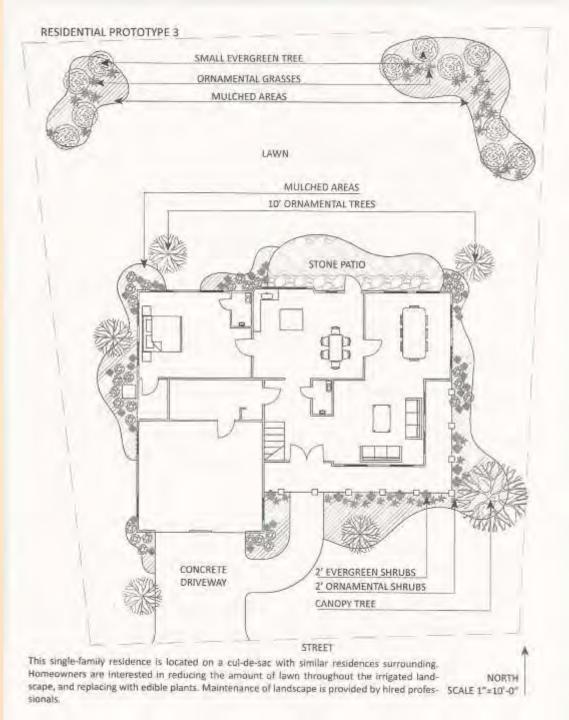
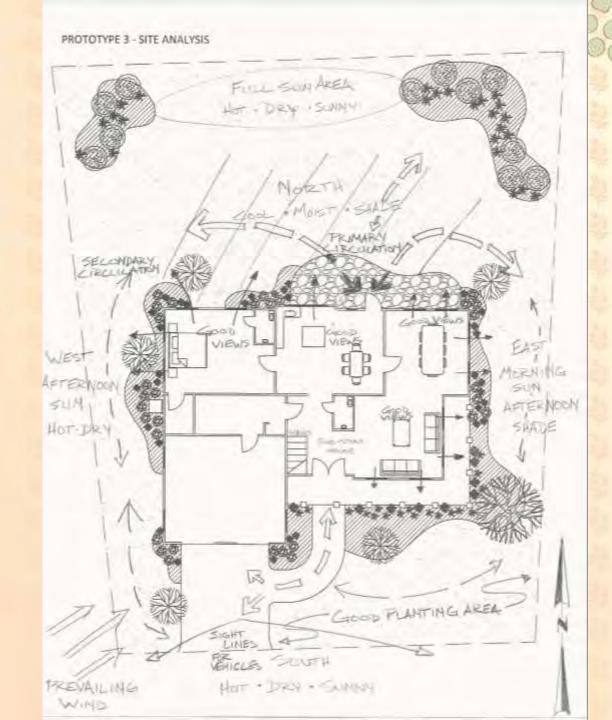


Image source: http://www.idsketching.com/basic/toolbox-shadows/

Assessing Site, Client & Program Addressing Existing People and Place Considerations





Assessing Site, Client & Program Developing Alternatives



#### Designing for What You Want Using Space to Inform Use, Improve Function and Create a Sense of Place

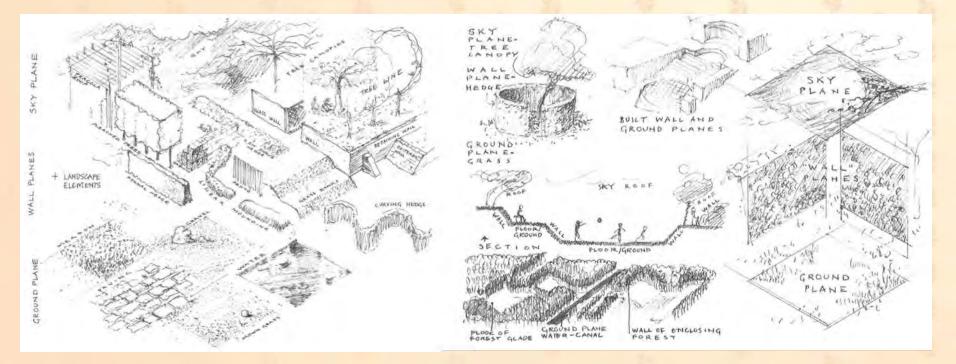
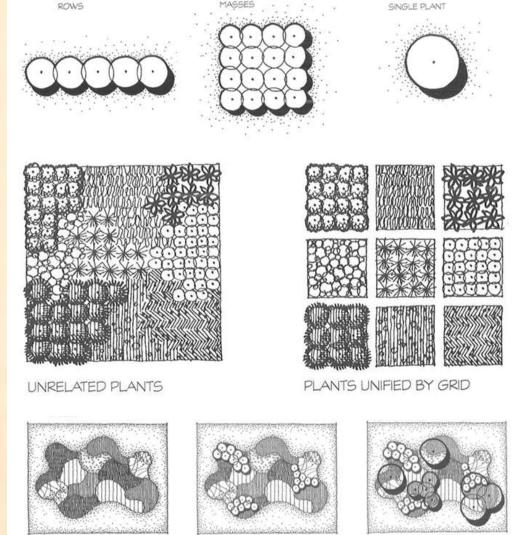


Image Source: "Form & Fabric in Landscape Architecture" by C. Dee

Designing the Layout Using Plants to Define Space



GROUND COVERS & PERENNIALS

TREES

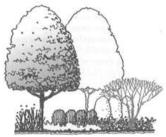


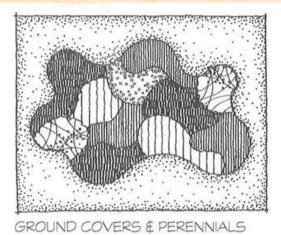
Image Source: "Form & Fabric in Landscape Architecture" by C. Dee

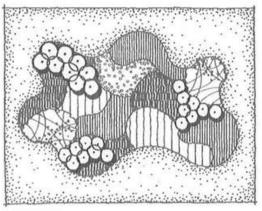




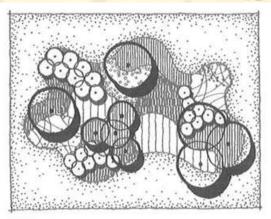
SHRUBS

### Designing a Planting Palette Reconnecting to Site and Program Assessment





SHRUBS



TREES

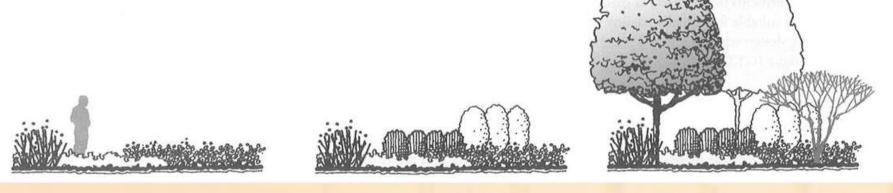
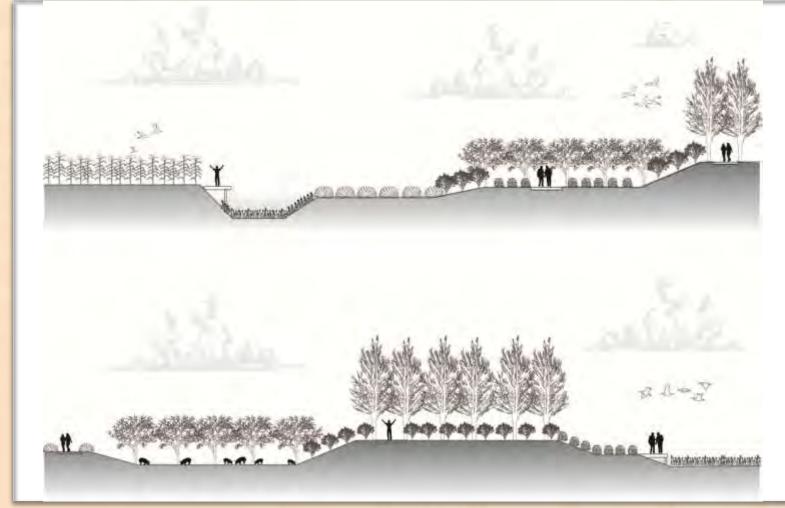


Image Source: "Form & Fabric in Landscape Architecture" by C. Dee

## Designing a Planting Palette Space-Making Through Edible Plants



## **Space Considerations**

Beacon Food Forest, Seattle, WA Harrison Landscape Architects

7 Acres

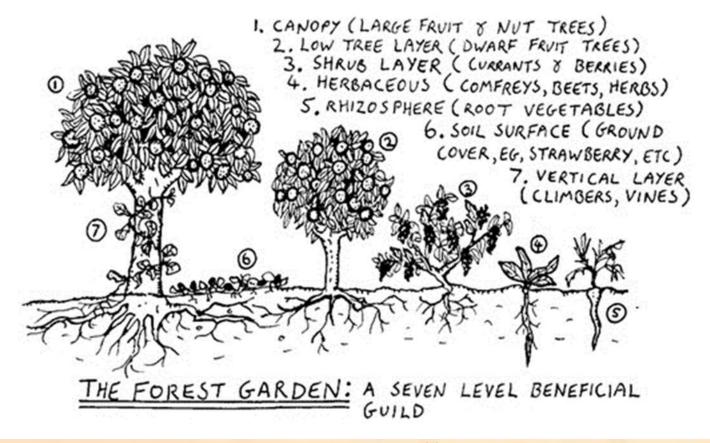


Image Source: http://beaconfoodforest.weebly.com/

## **Edible Public Park**

Beacon Food Forest, Seattle, WA Harrison Landscape Architects

7 Acres



#### Image Source: http://beaconfoodforest.weebly.com/

# **Edible Public Park**

Beacon Food Forest, Seattle, WA Harrison Landscape Architects

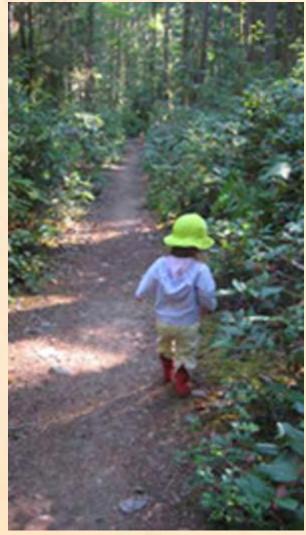




Image Source: http://beaconfoodforest.weebly.com/

## Edible Landscape Components: Recognizing Plant Forms and Symbiotic Design Opportunities

ROW CROPS	ROWS OF MONO- OR POLY-CULTURAL EDIBLE PLANT TYPES & COMPANION PLANTS, PLANTED IN-GROUND IN LONG ROWS TO FACILITATE ACCESS FOR WATERING, WEEDING, AND HARVESTING	HEDGES & HEDGEROWS	MASSING OF 1 OR MORE EDIBLE PLANTS, OCCASIONALLY MULTI-SPECIES, TO CREATE A BARRIER WITHIN THE LANDSCAPE: EMPLOYED TO PROVIDE PHYSICAL BARRIERS, WIND BREAKS, OR SHADE
RAISED PLANTERS	ROWS OF MONO- OR POLY-CULTURAL EDIBLE PLANT TYPES & COMPANION PLANTS, PLANTED ABOVE GROUND IN CONTAINERS, TYPICALLY TO ADDRESS EXISTING SOIL CONDITIONS, TOPOGRAPHY OR TO FACILITATE ACCESS FOR WATERING, WEEDING, AND HARVESTING	GREENHOUSE	ENCLOSED STRUCTURE THAT ALLOWS SOLAR ENERGY TO RAISE INTERIOR TEMPERATURE IN ORDER TO GROW PLANTS IN SEMI-CONTROLED CLIMATE
y for Awstersh GROUNDCOVER & FIELDS	MONOCULTURE PLANTING OF EDIBLE PLANTS; EXAMPLES INCLUDE GRAIN FIELDS, STRAW BERRY PATCHES & OTHER GROUNDCOVERS	ANIMAL ENCLOSURES	ENCLSOURES THAT HOUSE A RANGE OF FARMED ANIMALS OR ANIMALS BENEFICIAL TO FOOD PRODUCTION; EXAMPLES INCLUDE PENS, COOPS, AND BEE HIVES
VINEYARDS	CLIMBING EDIBLE PLANTS & VINES TRAINED TO GROWN ON WALLS, TRELLISES, OR FENCES: EXAMPLES INCLUDE GRAPEVINES & ESPALIER TREES	AQUACULTURE	RAISED ON IN-GROUND POOLS FOR RAISING FISH FOR CONSUMPTION, OCCASIONALLY WITH WETLAND PLANTINGS
DRCHARDS	FRUIT OR NUT BEARING TREES PLANTED IN FORMAL OR INFORMAL CLUSTERED ARRANGE- MENTS; PLANTING VARIATIONS INCLUDE GRIDS, ALLEES, & QUINCUXES	COMPOSTING	PLANT-BASED (INCLUDING PAPER) WASTE PRODUCTS; STORED IN PILES OR IN BINS TO INCREASE COMPOSITION SPEED, ROTATION REQUIRED; EVENTUALLY COMPOST IS APPLIED TO IMPROVE SOIL GROWING CAPACITY

# **Container** Planting

Malustal.

RAISED PLANTERS







# Carpets

No. Construction of the second

**GROUNDCOVER & FIELDS** 



A Star A Star

# Walls





# **Columns and Canopies**







## Designing for Beauty A Garden Loved is a Garden that Lasts





# Integrating Edibles into Common Areas

**Descano Public Demonstration Garden** 



Image Source: "Carrot City" by M. Gorgolewski

#### Educational Role Shaping Space, Informing Use, and Changing Habits



#### Educational Role Food can build Community: Davis Farmer's Market



#### Image Source: http://ucanr.org/

# Thank you!

#### Any Questions?

# Edible Landscaping

#### Fruit Trees and the Edible Landscape

Patricia Petersen Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension

# Fruit Tree Considerations in Edible Landscapes

- Allow enough room to prune, thin, and harvest
- Roots will spread 2 to 3 times the width of the canopy
- Consider effects of sprays on adjacent plants
- Consider clustering fruit trees and keeping them small
   Similar irrigation, bird netting, mulching, pollination

## **Low-Maintenance Fruit Species**

Cane berries and blueberries

Citrus (for now)

Plums and pluots

Pomegranates

Persimmons

Figs

Jujubes

#### Persimmon

# Serious Problems with Some Fruit Trees

- Apples and pears Fire blight, codling moth
- Apricots Brown rot, bacterial canker
- Cherries Spotted-wing Drosophila
- Citrus Asian citrus psyllid, citrus greening, scale insects, frost
- Peach/nectarines Peach leaf curl
- Grapes Powdery mildew



# Fruit Problems – Solutions Tested



Agribon row cover for spotted-wing Drosophila on cherry

#### Row cover on branch – Peach leaf curl trial



# Peach Leaf Curl Trial – Individual Branches Treated



Sprayed individual branches



Untreated

Lime sulfur

## Results Control of PLC severity compared to untreated

Agribon alone: < 60% control</li>
Liquicop: 70% control
Copper soap: 80% control
Nearly complete control:

Agribon + Liquicop
Lime sulfur / Microcop

# Fruit Trees: Aesthetics vs. Production

Depends on your interests; should be a balance

Tall vs. short

- Short trees easier and safer to manage
  - Use genetic dwarf or dwarfing rootstock
- Tall trees aesthetically pleasing, provide fruit for wildlife too
  - Weight of fruit may bend branches down, may break
  - Pests harder to manage, spraying difficult
  - Fruit drop may become problematic

# Standard Trees Often Get Too Tall!



Fruit tree incorporated in landscape, but not well thought out

#### High branches in tall fruit trees are often unmanaged, and often break



# Persimmon Tree in Yard





#### Before pruning

#### After pruning

## Site Selection

6 to 8+ hours of full sun
Shelter from high winds
Some trees may benefit from warm south wall
Avoid planting where fruit falls on walks or driveway
Soil should be at least 2 to 3 feet deep

# A Fenced "Front Yard" Orchard – Productive, but not so attractive



# Incorporating Fruit Trees into Designs







## **Site Selection Issues**



Wind protection, full sun, fruit falls on walkway



#### Some shading, bird netting



# Site Selection Issues – Dwarf Peach





Wind protection, warm south wall, blends into landscape

Full sun, a bit out of place but still works

# Site Selection Issues – Large Trees, Frost Protection







Front entrance orange tree – too big to cover, fruit falls on walkway Pomegranates do best with plenty of room

# Sculpted Fig Tree in Parterre Garden



### Espalier Pruning Growing Season





Source: Pruning & Training (American Horticultural Society)

# Dwarf Citrus Espalier (Mandarin)





# **Custom Espalier Fence**



# Fig Espalier



# **Planting Fruit Trees**

- Check roots, cut off dead or damaged
- Hole size: wide, and deep if compacted
- Plant on mound to keep crown dry
- Plant high! reduces chances of crown and root rot
  - Graft union well above soil
  - Previous soil line at or above soil level
  - Allow for soil settling

# Planting a Bare Root Tree

#### Dig hole to fit roots

#### Lightly tamp soil

#### Emitters 1 foot away

# **Planting a Containerized Tree**

Pull out wound roots

> Don't cover soil in pot



Water in

# **Post-Planting Care**

- Head tree at 18 to 36 inches (bare root only)
- Cut back a few well-placed laterals to 3 to 8 inches, remove all others
- Paint trunk white
  - Interior latex paint and water, 50:50
  - Entire trunk plus 2 inches below soil
  - Prevents sunburn and borers



# Thank you!

#### Any Questions?





#### Citrus and Grapes in the Edible Landscape

Bill Krycia Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension

Citrus

History

Requirements

Care

Selection and use



#### History

 Citrus have been used in landscaping for hundreds of years
 In California for over 100 years



#### Requirements

- Minimum of 8 hours of sun
- Appropriate irrigation
- Good drainage
- Nitrogen, micronutrients
- Heat, but not too much
- Space



Preferred areas South facing side of house Most sun and warmth West side second warmest Not in a lawn or other incompatible planting Cold air drainage Plant preferably not in the lowest spot in the yard Plant upslope on a south facing slope

Adequate irrigation
 Check below surface
 Too much water encourages a host of problems, including phytophthora root rot
 Mulch

Drainage

Ideally, check before you plant

Selection







■ Taste! Something you like and will use Citrus provide Form Full season foliage Color accents Blooms Fruit

Selection:
 UC Riverside Citrus Variety Collection website
 Photos give you an idea of the general tree shape, an idea of what the fruit looks like





UC ANR Publication 8472: Tried and True or Something New, selected citrus varieties for the home gardener.

- Highlights some of the newer selections of citrus
  - Seedless!
    - Seedless Kishu
    - Tango
    - Gold Nugget
  - Extended season

Rootstock

Dwarf (Flying Dragon, Rich 16-6) Tree size approximately half of full size 6 to 8 feet for large trees 4 to 6 feet kumquats, smaller citrus Semi-Dwarf (C-35, trifoliate) Tree size approximately three quarters of full size 15 feet Full Size (Carrizo, others) ■ 20+ feet

#### Pruning/shaping

- Most citrus require little pruning, but...
  - Some mandarins may benefit from a light pruning, reducing the tendency for alternate bearing
  - Lemons seem to enjoy a light pruning
  - Pruning the lower section of the tree will reduce fruit load, watch out for sunburn
  - Espaliers can be done

Frost Protection/tolerance
 Certain varieties are more frost sensitive
 (think either containers or access to power for lights)



# Use Specimen plant Hedge or border Think about what you're going to do with the fruit Accent



Container citrus

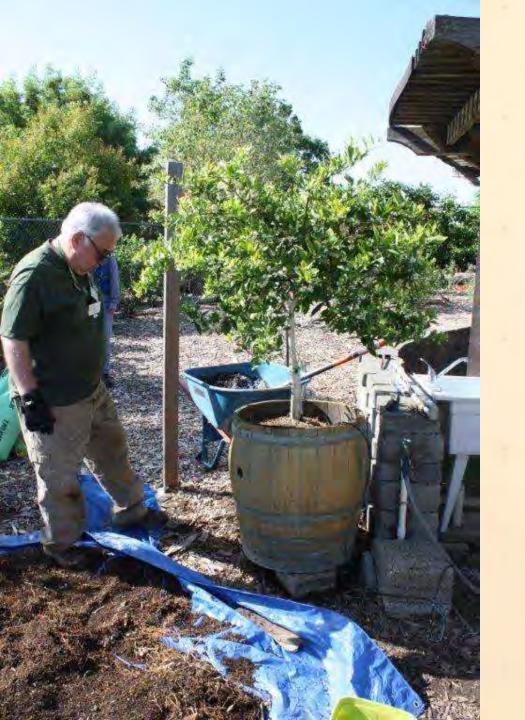
Portable

Containers as accents

Opens new areas











In Ground Shaping Tree form Skirt or no skirt Shrub form Limequats and kumquats Espalier "Against" Hedge 6 to 9 foot centers on trees



# Fruit Tree Considerations in Edible Landscapes

- Allow enough room to prune, thin, and harvest
- Roots will spread 2 to 3 times the width of the canopy
- Consider effects of sprays on adjacent plants
- Consider clustering fruit trees and keeping them small
   Similar irrigation, bird netting, mulching, pollination
   Similar frost protection requirements

# Fruit Tree Considerations in Edible Landscapes

- From Craig Kallsen's "Growing Citrus in Kern County":
- Citrus trees are relatively large trees and should be planted at least 12 feet (more is better) from fences, walls and buildings. This rule is good even semi-dwarf citrus (which really can grow into a large tree).
- True dwarf trees on 'Flying Dragon' rootstock can be planted 6- 8 feet from structures. Trees planted too close to structures will often lean and grow into light, become unbalanced, develop stress cracks in the trunk, and break or fall over.

# Serious Problems with Some Fruit Trees

Citrus – Asian citrus psyllid, citrus greening, scale insects, frost











Questions and Discussion



#### Edible Landscaping, Grapes!

# **Edible Landscaping, Grapes!**

Grapes

History

Requirements

Care

Selection and use



# **Edible Landscaping, Grapes!**

HistoryCalifornia Missions

Well established throughout most of the state



Requirements

- Adapted to a wide range of soil type
- Sun
  - 6 to 8 hours a day
- Irrigation
- Drainage
- Support!
- Care



# **Low-Maintenance Fruit Species**

Cane berries and blueberries

Citrus (for now)

Persimmons

Pomegranates

Plums and pluots

■ Figs

Jujubes



■ Care Staking/trellising Irrigation Fertilizing Pruning/training Suckering Leaf thinning Cluster thinning/tipping IPM/Spraying/Bird control



Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
 Powdery mildew control
 Bunch rot
 Grape leaf hoppers

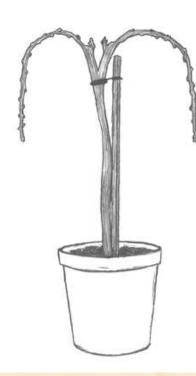




# Selection

- Most grapes are vigorous growers!
- Most table grapes on own rootstock, most wine grapes on grafted rootstock
- Taste
  - Seedless or not?
- Ripening time
  - Varieties from mid-July through October

# Use Arbors Trellised along a fence or structure Specimen planting California head pruned Containers



# Arbors

- Acceptable for either spur or cane pruning
- Should be very durable!
- Consider access for pruning, spraying, etc

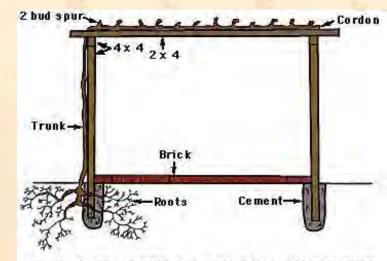
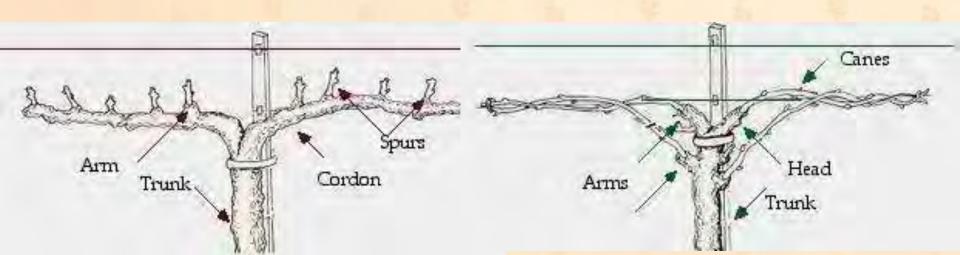


Figure 4. An end view of a grape arbor with a dormant mature vine pruned to an arbor cordon.

Trellised
 Support the plant
 Durable
 Access



#### EDNA VALLEY. VINEYARD

WWW.EDNAVALLEY.COM



Summet Byson trellis system (Side View)



(Front View)

#### Row 3-Symphony

Symphony is a modern varietal developed at University of California, Davis in 1948 by crossing Grenache Gris and Muscat of Alexandria. These grapes make an off-dry white table wine and are also used for sparkling wine. See row 1 for a description of the VSP trellis.

#### Row 4-Viognier (Clone 1)

Viognier is a white varietal originating from the Rhône Valley in France. Difficult to grow, Viognier grapes are prone to mildew, have very low yields and must be picked at the height of ripeness. The result is a wine of heady peach, floral and spice aromas. See row 1 for a description of the VSP trellis.

#### Row 5-Syrah

Syrah is a red varietal from the Rhône Valley in France. Syrah is also known as Shiraz, the named favored by Australian and some American producers. The grape skins are black when fully ripe. The trellis design is a Smart Dyson system, which separates the canopy vertically. The vine is normally spur pruned, with half the shoots trained upwards and the other half positioned downwards, allowing the fruit to receive more sun exposure and reducing the need to pull leaves.

#### Row 6-Pinot Nair (Close 115)

Pinot Noir is the noble, red Burgundy varietal. This grape prefers a cooler climate and is moderately vigorous. The shoots tend to grow in a downward position as the season progresses. Clusters are small in size and cylindrical in shape. Berries are small and blue-black in color.

The trellis design is the Scott Henry system. Similar to the VSP, this design vertically separates the canopy but half the shoots are trained upwards and the other half downwards. The vine is cane pruned, with the upward shoots growing from the top cane while the downward shoots grow from the bottom cane.

#### Row 7 - Merlot (Clone 3)

One of the noble Bordeaux varietals from France, Merlot is a very vigorous vine in fertile soil. The clusters are medium-small and long in shape with reddish-black to black berries.

This row features the Ballerina trellis system, a variant of the Scott Henry trellis in which half the shoots are trained upwards and half downwards. The lower shoots are left to fall naturally, rather than being forced down, providing protection from the sun in areas prone to sunburn

#### Row 8 - Cabernet Sauvignon

Originally from Bordeaux, this varietal has become world renowned for producing fine, long-lived red wine. Vine growth is very vigorous in an upright position. The clusters are small and long shaped and the berries are spherical and black in color. This row features the Lyre trellis system, which divides the canopy horizontally with shoots trained to grow vertically upwards, increasing sun exposure and allowing air movement around the fruit.

#### Row 9 - Sauvignon Blanc

Sauvignon Blanc, also originating in Bordeaux, is a very aromatic varietal that makes some of the world's most popular dry wines. These vines are very vigorous and produce a heavy, dense canopy. The clusters are small, conical and compact with medium-large green berries. This row also features the Lyre system (see row 8 for description), helping to control the vigor and produce a balanced vine without excessive vegetation.

#### Row 10 - Pinot Noir (clone 115)

This row of Pinot Noir (see row 6 for a description) is grown on the Geneva Double Curtain system. Originally developed at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, this design requires the plant to grow two trunks and the cordons are trained CONTINUED ON BACK



Ballerima trellis system (Ron-End View)



Lyre trellis system



Genera Double Curtain trollis system

# Edible Landscaping, Citrus and Grapes

### The spectrum

- Least complex
  - Lowest labor to maintain (one mandarin tree in a pot)
- Most complex
  - Intricate, high maintenance (multi-level, multi-zoned interplantings)
- Please remember, it's all good and worthwhile!
- ...a quick case study:



Questions and Discussion

# Edible Landscaping

# Vegetables, Herbs, and Edible Flowers

Gail Pothour Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension







- Formal style: knot garden
  - Herbs as borders
  - Lettuce and other vegetables
  - High maintenance





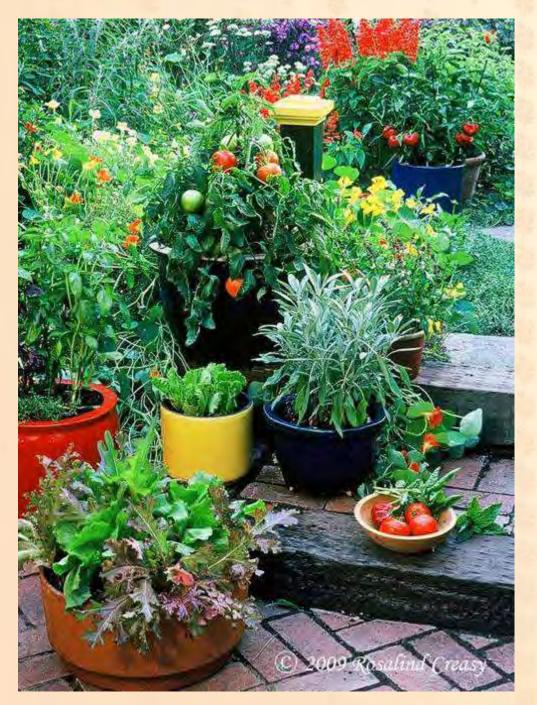




# + Food Can Be Grown in Any Garden

Interplant edibles with your ornamentals







Best of both worlds: edible and ornamental

Inter-planting reduces pests

New textures, forms, colors

Grow what you like best

Fun for everyone

Great conversation piece

# Incorporating Vegetables into your Landscape...

- Make a list of edibles you like and that grow well in your climate
- Realize that some plants may not be compatible with certain areas or existing plants
- Identify the cultural needs of each
  - Sun vs. shade
  - Soil pH
  - Water requirements
  - Nutrient requirements
- Be aware of overall form
  - Size, shape, color, flowers, fruit
- Identify any pests/diseases that are common







# Choosing Varieties That Best Suit Your Needs

Some plants have varieties/cultivars that are better suited in your landscape

- Drought tolerance
- Salt tolerance
- Disease resistance
- Pest resistance
- Striking or more profound colors



# Site Selection

Vegetable crops perform best when well irrigated and receive at least 6 to 8 hours of sunlight

Vegetables can be used as

- Ground covers
- Annual low border bedding plants
- Visual screens
- Trellis vines
- Hanging baskets/containers



# **Planting Your Edible Landscape**

Seasonal temperatures are very important

Warm season crops grow best when average daytime temperatures are between 65°-95°F

Cool season crops grow best when average daytime temperatures are between 55<sup>0</sup>-75<sup>0</sup>F

# **Planting Your Edible Landscape**

Plants can be direct seeded, transplants, or self seeding

Use direct seeding for large seeded plants: corn, melons, squash, beans and peas; and for root crops: carrots, radish, beets, turnips, and parsnips

Use transplants for crops that you want to get an early start by growing them in the house, a cold frame or greenhouse

Sacramento Vegetable Planting Schedule (EHN 11)

# Food Can Be Grown in Any Garden

Interplant edibles with your ornamentals



# Edible Herbaceous (Non-Woody) Borders

Alpine strawberry Angelica Anise hyssop Artichoke Arugula (perennial) Asparagus Basil Beet Borage Broccoli Cabbage Cantaloupe Celery Chard Chives Collards Corn

Cucumber (bush or trellis) **Edible flowers** Eggplant Endive Kale Lavender Lemongrass Lettuce Lovage Marjoram Mitsuba Mizuna Nasturtium Okra Orach Oregano

Parsley Pea Peanut Pepper Poppy (breadseed) Rhubarb Rosemary Safflower Sage Scented geranium Sea kale Shallot Squash (summer) Tarragon Tomato (determinate)

# + Many Edibles are Attractive Plants

Artichoke

- Kale
- Lettuce
- Mustard
- Rhubarb
- Broccoli and cauliflower

Beets and chard
Jerusalem artichoke
Peppers
Beans and peas
Eggplant
Tomatoes

# Artichoke







# Kale





# Lettuce





# Mustard



Photo by Nancy J. Ondra



# Rhubarb



Photo: Rosalind Creasy

# **Broccoli and Cauliflower**







#### Beets





#### Beets







#### Chard









Photo: Renee Studebaker

#### Jerusalem Artichoke







### Peppers









#### Beans





#### Beans



#### Peas







## Eggplant



#### Tomato













Tomatoes being trained up garden obelisk Photo from http://chiotsrun.com/2011/03/09/structuralelements-arbors-and-trellises/

Peas trained on Backyardcreations Garden Obelisk Photo by Backyardcreationsforyu.com





#### **Edible Ground Covers**

Alpine strawberry Chamomile Cucumber Mint (creeping) Peanut (temporary cover) Rosemary (trailing) Sweet potato (temporary) Sweet woodruff Thyme Wintergreen



### **Alpine Strawberry**







### Chamomile





### Thyme



### Edible Herbaceous (Non-Woody) Borders



### Basil



### Basil





### Lemongrass



### Rosemary





#### **Edible Flowers**

Anise hyssop Apple Arugula Basil Bee Balm Borage Broccoli Calendula Chamomile Chervil Chicory Chives Chrysanthemum Citrus

Daylily Dianthus Dill Elderberry Hibiscus Hollyhock Johnny-jump-up Lavender Lemon verbena Lilac Marigold Mint Nasturtium

Okra **Passion flower Pineapple guava** Redbud Rose Rosemary Sage Scented geranium Squash Sunflower Sweet woodruff Thyme Tulip Violet

## Borage







## Calendula





## Lavender





### Nasturtium





## Squash Blossoms







## Viola, Pansy, Johnny-jump-up, Violet

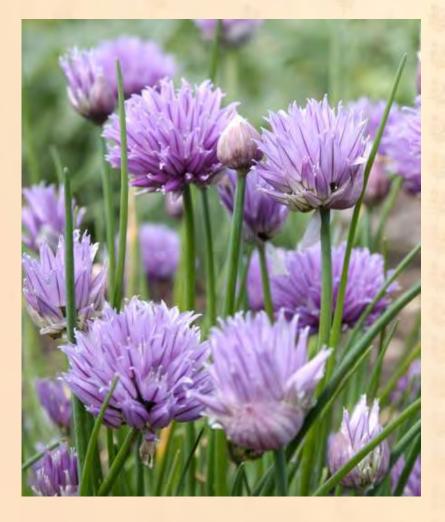


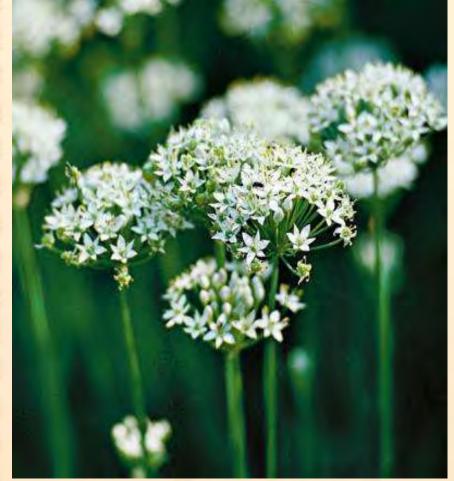
# Daylily





## Chives







#### Corn in the front yard?







# Squash

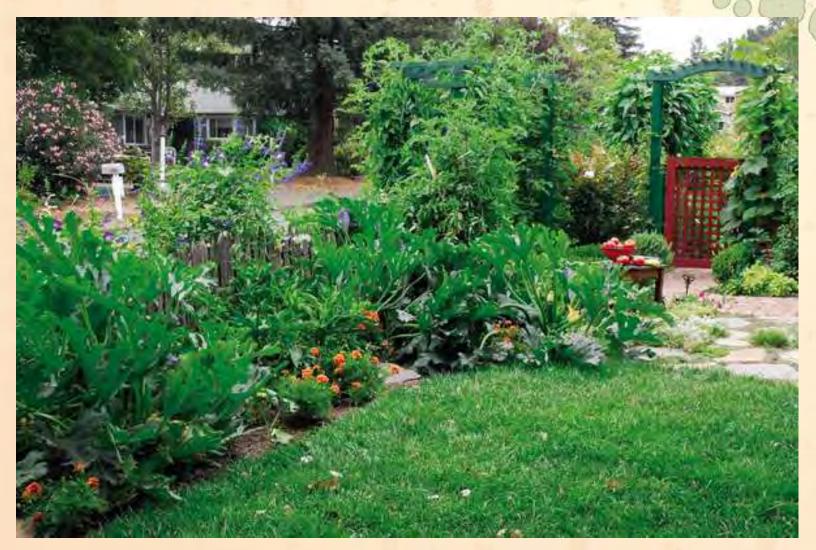


Photo: Rosalind Creasy



Photo: Rosalind Creasy









# Questions



# Edible Landscaping

#### **Berries in the Edible Landscape**

Shenna Mealey Master Gardener UC Cooperative Extension

# **Blueberries, Blackberries and Raspberries**



Blueberries



Boysenberries



Raspberries

## **Blueberries**



Blueberries are an excellent low-maintenance crop that fit well into the Edible Landscape.

### **Blueberry Pollination**

Blueberries are self-pollinating but fruit production will improve and berries will be larger if another variety is also planted.



#### **Blueberries in Containers**

- Excellent choice for containers
- Adequate watering is critical
- Soil level eventually goes down due to high organic matter
- Dwarf varieties available



## **Blueberry** Plantings

Blueberries will grow in most soil types – provided that the soil is porous and well drained.



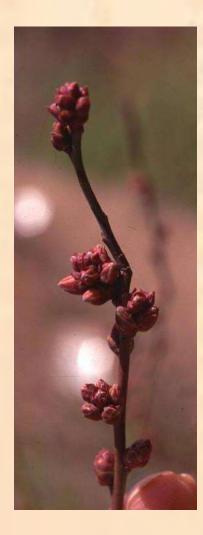




# Soil Sulfur Needed to Achieve pH 4.5 for Blueberries (tsp./cu. ft. of soil mix)

рН	Sand	Loam	Clay
5.0	0.5	1.5	2.3
5.5	1.0	3.0	4.5
6.0	1.4	4.3	6.5
6.5	1.8	5.6	8.4
7.0	2.5	7.5	11.3

#### **Blueberry Blossoms**



# Blueberries have beautiful pinkish-white clusters of flowers in the early spring.



#### Harvesting Blueberries

#### Depending on location and variety, harvest can be in May, June or even July



# Caneberries – Blackberries, Boysenberries and Raspberries

Caneberries are usually planted in the dormant season as bare root plants



Blackberries should be planted 3½ to 4 feet apart in rows 8 to 10 feet apart

 Raspberries should be planted 2½ to 3 feet apart in rows 8 to 10 feet apart





### **Caneberries and Trellises**

- Blackberries, boysenberries and raspberries benefit from a trellis on which to tie or wrap the canes
- Blackberries are usually grown on a 3-wire trellis, at 2-, 4- and 6-feet
- Both the posts and the wires must be strong



#### **New Canes in Early March**





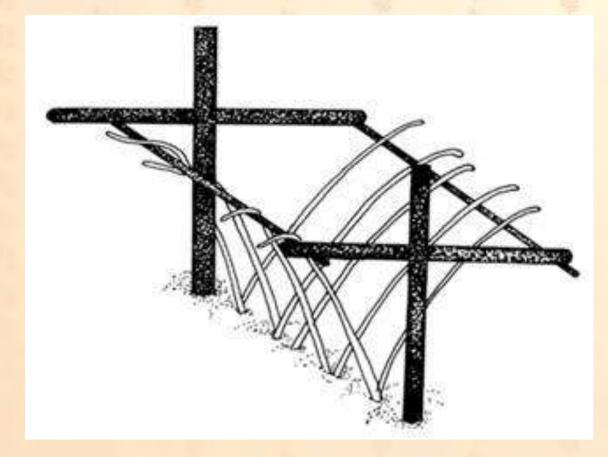
- After summer harvest, old blackberry canes that fruited are cut back to the ground
- About five to eight new canes are allowed to grow and all other new canes are also cut back to the ground.
- In the winter, the new canes are cut back to 5 to 6 feet long. The side branches (laterals) are cut back to 12" inches

# Raspberries





# **Typical Raspberry Trellis**



# New Raspberry Beds at the Fair Oaks Horticulture Center





Connecting the ends



Four new beds with bamboo barrier; about 2 feet by 3 feet each

Planting a bareroot raspberry after installing 6 inch high wooden frame to protect bamboo barrier

Cutting 30-inch wide bamboo barrier in half; 15-inch used for beds

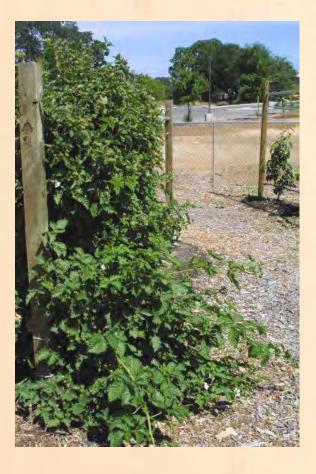


## Caneberries This is NOT how they have to grow



To keep cane berries from getting out of control, they must be properly pruned and trained.

# **Using Caneberries in the Landscape**





#### Caneberries can form a dense screen

# Using Caneberries in the Landscape



#### Not such a great screen in the winter

#### **Strawberries**

#### Strawberries come in June-bearing and ever-bearing varieties

- Strawberries make nice groundcovers
  - Need upkeep to maintain productivity
  - Not suitable for walking on



Alpine strawberries produce smaller fruit but can grow in part shade

# **Bird Netting Over Blueberries**



