

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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Email us at
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November 2013

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- ◆ Garden club activities



Information Booth Locations:

None at this time

Rose Pruning workshop in January
Watch for the date!



Frequently Asked Question

Dear Master Gardener,

At the Garden Club of Colusa County meeting they handed out a black and white copy of Invasive plants and their alternatives. Do you have a color copy?

Your neighbor

Dear Neighbor,

Yes we do! See the next 2 pages or go to the website. www.plantright.org

Your Master Gardener

Forsythia is an alternative for Brooms



Invasive Horticultural Plants of California and Recommended Alternatives

Nineteen plants have been identified as invasive by the steering committee for the PlantRight campaign. The steering committee identified numerous, alternative plants that are commercially available and safe for the environment. Please choose the non-invasive alternatives to beautify your garden while protecting California's wildlands and wildlife.



INVASIVE PLANT	Areas Where Invasive	RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES	Areas Where Recommended
Arundo / Giant Reed <i>Arundo donax</i>	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Clumping bamboos (e.g. <i>Bambusa multiplex</i> , <i>B. oldhamii</i> , <i>Fargesia nitida</i>) New Zealand flax (<i>Phormium tenax</i>)	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Blue Gum Eucalyptus <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Bald cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>) Fernleaf Catalina ironwood (<i>Lyonothamnus floribundus asplenifolius</i>) Non-invasive eucalyptus (<i>Eucalyptus</i> species)	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast
Brooms Bridal veil (<i>Retama monosperma</i>) French (<i>Genista monspessulana</i>) Portugese / striated (<i>Cytisus striatus</i>) Scotch (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) Spanish (<i>Spartium junceum</i>)	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Forsythia (<i>Forsythia x intermedia</i>) Shrubby cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i>) Yellow bush daisy (<i>Euryops pectinatus</i>)	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Capeweed (fertile and infertile) <i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	North & Central Coast	African daisy (<i>Arctotis hybrids</i>) Dymondia (<i>Dymondia margaretae</i>) Manzanita groundcovers (<i>Arctostaphylos edmundsii</i> , A. 'Emerald Carpet')	North & Central Coast
Chinese Tallow Tree <i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Central Valley	Chinese pistache (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>) American sweet gum / liquidambar (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>) Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i> 'October Glory')	Central Valley
Green Fountain Grass <i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	South Coast, Desert, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Blue oat grass (<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>) Deer grass (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Sedge (<i>Carex</i> species)	South Coast, Desert, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Iceplants highway (<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>) crystalline (<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast	Beach strawberry / woody strawberry (<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i> or <i>F. vesca</i>) Myoporum groundcover (<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i> 'Prostratum') Non-invasive iceplant (<i>Delosperma cooperi</i>)	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Jubata Grass <i>Cortaderia jubata</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Giant rye (<i>Leymus condensatus</i> 'Canyon Prince') Deer Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Pink Muhly Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast
Myoporum <i>Myoporum laetum</i>	South Coast, North & Central Coast	Griselinia (<i>Griselinia littoralis</i>) Sweet bay (<i>Laurus nobilis</i>) Toyon / Christmas berry / California holly (<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast
Pampas Grass <i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Giant rye (<i>Leymus condensatus</i> 'Canyon Prince') Deer Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Pink Muhly Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>)	South Coast, North & Central Coast
Periwinkle <i>Vinca major</i>	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Hardy geranium (<i>Geranium</i> 'Rozanne') Star jasmine (<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>) Sweet box groundcover (<i>Sarcococca hookerana humilis</i>) Serbian bellflower (<i>Campanula poscharskyana</i>)	South Coast, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Russian Olive <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Desert, Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Arizona cypress (<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>) Fruitless olive (<i>Olea europaea</i> 'Swan Hill', 'Majestic Beauty', 'Little Ollie', 'Wilsoni')	Desert, Central Valley, North & Central Coast
Saltcedar <i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast	Australian willow / geijera (<i>Geijera parviflora</i>) Western redbud (<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>) Desert willow/ Desert catalpa (<i>Chilopsis linearis</i>)	South Coast, Desert, Central Valley, Sierra & Coastal Mountains, North & Central Coast
Scarlet Wisteria <i>Sesbania punicea</i>	Central Valley, North & Central Coast	Brazilian flame bush (<i>Calliandra tweedii</i>) Crape myrtle (<i>Lagerstroemia</i> species) Gold medallion tree (<i>Cassia leptophylla</i>) Serbian bellflower (<i>Campanula poscharskyana</i>)	Central Valley, North & Central Coast

Invasive Horticultural Plants of California

			
Arundo/Giant Reed (<i>Arundo donax</i>) Poaceae Family	Capeweed (<i>Arctotheca calendula</i>) Asteraceae Family	Highway Iceplant (<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>) Aizoaceae Family	Pampas Grass (<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>) Poaceae Family
			
Jubata Grass (<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>) Poaceae Family	Scotch Broom (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>) Fabaceae Family	Portuguese / Striated Broom (<i>Cytisus striatus</i>) Fabaceae Family	Russian Olive (<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>) Elaeagnaceae Family
			
Blue Gum Eucalyptus (<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>) Myrtaceae Family	French Broom (<i>Genista monspessulana</i>) Fabaceae Family	Crystalline Iceplant (<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>) Aizoaceae Family	Myoporum / Ngaio Tree (<i>Myoporum laetum</i>) Myoporaceae Family
			
Green Fountain Grass (<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>) Poaceae Family	Bridal Veil Broom (<i>Retama monosperma</i>) Fabaceae Family	Chinese Tallow Tree (<i>Triadica sebifera</i>) Euphorbiaceae Family	Scarlet Wisteria (<i>Sesbania punicea</i>) Fabaceae Family
			 PLANT RiGHT <small>KEEP INVASIVE PLANTS IN CHECK</small>
Spanish Broom (<i>Spartium junceum</i>) Fabaceae Family	Saltcedar (<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>) Tamaricaceae Family	Periwinkle (<i>Vinca major</i>) Apocynaceae Family	

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The Master Gardeners of Colusa County will be conducting a training class with the Master Gardeners of Glenn County in 2014.

Classes will start Wednesday January 15th and will continue on Wednesdays until May. Trainings will be conducted in Orland.

While the intent of the Master Gardener program is to provide service at little or not cost to the public, there is a cost for training new Master Gardeners.

- The tuition fee for the training class is \$175. The Fee will be collected after your acceptance. Limited scholarship is available.
- The fee includes all lectures, handouts, CA Master Gardener Handbook, name badge, lanyard and loupe.

Now that the formal information is over....

What do Master Gardeners do?

Teach classes. Answer gardening questions. Provide information in planting and maintaining home gardens. Learn from each other. Access gardening information from UC research. Volunteer in community gardening projects.

Who are the Master Gardeners?

Men and women who love to learn and to share their knowledge are offered the opportunity to serve the Colusa County community. All you need is some gardening experience, interest in serving the public, and time available to volunteer in Master Gardener activities.

How do I find out more about becoming a Master Gardener?

- [Click here](#) for the information letter and application
- Ask a current Master Gardener of Colusa County
- Call our office, 458-0570
- Come in to our office, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Ste. E, Colusa



UC Master Gardener Calendar

Yes, the UC Master Gardeners of Colusa County will be selling a 2014 calendar for \$10! It will include monthly tips and tricks.

You can purchase the calendar at our office (100 Sunrise Blvd., Ste. E, Colusa) and at all UC Master Gardener of Colusa County events.

A great gift for all your gardening friends! This calendar is suitable for climate zones in the Sacramento Valley.



UC MASTER GARDENERS OF COLUSA COUNTY
2014

What kind of gardener are you? The information provided in this calendar is appropriate for growers of ornamental and edible gardens. Sustainable gardening practices are reinforced.

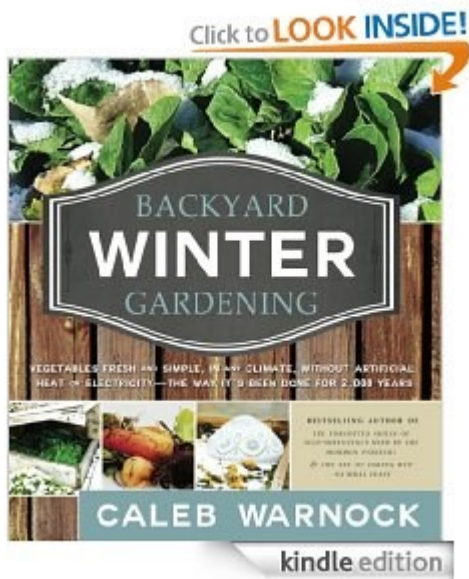
This calendar provides information for all levels of gardeners.

Book of the Month

Backyard Winter Gardening

Caleb Warnock

I have this book coming to me through Amazon.com for a total cost of under \$20.00 for the paperback edition. The reviews are generally very favorable but mention it is an easy read and I hope it is not too basic. The subtitle caught my eye---"Vegetables Fresh and Simple, in Any Climate Without Artificial Heat or Electricity the Way It's Been Done for 2,000 Years". I have an eleven-year-old grandson who wants to plant a small winter garden and this could be perfect for him.



Dave and Penny Dennis

Ornamental Plant of the Month

Clivia or kaffir lily, St. John's lily, bush lily, or fire lily

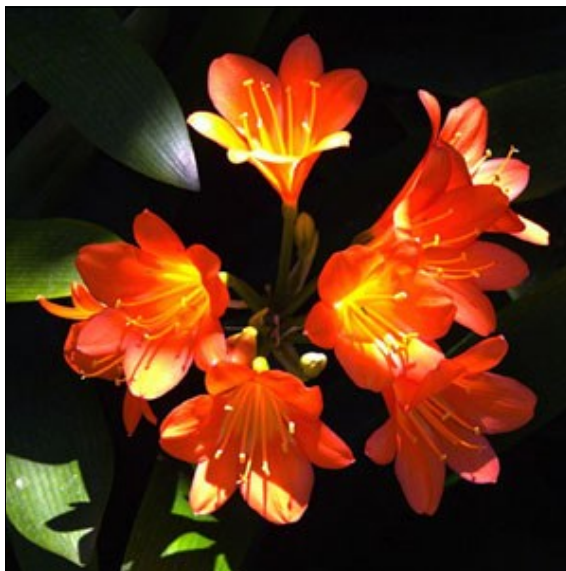
Little did I know that one of my favorite plants had so many names. The genus was named for Lady Charlotte Clive, Duchess of Northumberland during a time of great plant exploration in Britain in the early 1800's. Its colors go from bright yellow to orange to salmon and red. There is also a variety that has variegated foliage. The leaves may reach 24 inches in height and the stout flower stalks emerge from the leaf bases.

The clivia belongs to the amaryllis family and is native to shady spots in the subtropical forests of Southern Africa where the highly organic soil consists mainly of decomposed leaf litter. Think about that when you plant it and keep it in loose soil. The plant contains poisonous alkaloids that can cause gastric distress so consider this when you are placing it around your home.

Because of our mild climate we are lucky to be able to grow the clivia in pots close to covered areas with bright indirect light or in the ground in an area on the south or west side of the house with filtered shade. This would help control root rot which is one of the plant's issues.

These tough plants will grow in light shade in free-draining soil amended with compost or other organic material. They are great with other shade-loving tropical like ginger or elephant's ears. The best bloom occurs when the roots are crowded but not overcrowded. Lift and separate the crowns in late winter or early spring before the new growing season.

If you keep your clivia in a pot, repot only when the clivia is root/pot-bound about every two to three years. They will bloom best when the plant is tight. Check regularly for mealy bugs or scale insects. When the leaves yellow trim them away with scissors - it is normal. After the bloom period you may have spherical berries that turn from green to red as they ripen.



Edible Garden of the Month

FALL TREE RELO

Fall is a good time to relocate, i.e., move, a tree in your garden. To do this yourself the tree has to be young with a trunk no more than 2 inches in diameter.

Step 1: Dig a hole where the tree is going to be planted. The depth of the hole will depend on the size of the root ball of the tree being moved.

Step 2: Use a spade to slice the roots in a circle with 14 inch radius from the trunk.

Step 3: At the 14 inch radius dig a trench around the line to facilitate digging up the root ball. The recommended size of the root ball can be found in the American Standard for Nursery Stock which can be downloaded and viewed from this website:

<http://www.anla.org/docs/About%20ANLA/Industry%20Resources/ANLStandard2004.pdf>

Step 4: Dig out the tree with the appropriate root ball size. The ball can be tapered inward since most roots are in the top 6 inches. Pile the excavated soil on a tarp so the hole can be refilled.

Step 5: Lift the root ball out of the hole and onto a sheet of burlap, which is then used to wrap the ball. The burlap can be secured by pinning it to the ball with 2-inch nails pushed through the burlap and into the soil. Tie the burlap near the trunk.

Step 6.: Before placing the tree in its new hole, measure the depth of the ball and the depth of the hole. The base of the trunk should be slightly above the surrounding gradient. If the tree is planted too deep, it will not thrive or even survive. After the tree is placed, check that it is vertical and adjust as necessary.

Step 7: Peel back the top of the burlap and leave the burlap in place (it will rot away.) Backfill the hole with the excavated soil, soaking with water as you go to keep the roots moist and to remove air pockets.

Step 8: Secure the tree with short stakes on two sides tied to the trunk with plastic tape. These should be removed after a year or two.

This article is based on a piece by Adrian Higgins of The Washington Post

John and Diane Vafis



Problem of the Month

Peach Leaf Curl

November is the first month to spray copper on your peach and nectarine trees. Symptoms will not show up until spring but now is the time to start a preventative management treatment. The rule of thumb is to spray at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Valentine's Day. See the following for information.

MANAGEMENT

To prevent peach leaf curl, use resistant peach and nectarine varieties where possible. (See the Resistant Varieties section below.) For nonresistant varieties, treat trees with a fungicide every year after leaves have fallen. In cooler northern locations leaf fall usually is in late November. In warmer southern locations leaf fall can be as late as early January. Generally a single early treatment when the tree is dormant is effective, although in areas of high rainfall or during a particularly wet winter, it might be advisable to apply a second spray late in the dormant season, preferably as flower buds begin to swell but before green leaf tips are first visible.

Resistant Varieties

A few peach varieties are available that are resistant or partially resistant to leaf curl. Currently available resistant varieties include Frost, Indian Free, Muir, and Q-1-8.

The peach cultivar Frost is reportedly very tolerant but must receive fungicide applications the first 2 to 3 years. Redhaven peach and most cultivars derived from it are tolerant to peach leaf curl, whereas Redskin peach and cultivars derived from it range from susceptible to highly susceptible to the disease. There are fewer resistant nectarines, although Kreibich is one such variety.

Fungicides

Copper

Historically, the most commonly used fungicides available to home gardeners have been the fixed copper products. For all copper-containing products, the active ingredient, copper, is listed as "metallic copper equivalent," or MCE, on the label. Various product formulations differ widely in their metallic copper content. The higher the MCE, the greater the amount of copper and the more effective the product will be. However, other factors such as coverage, use of additives as such stickers and spreaders, and frequency and duration of rain, which can wash off the copper, also will impact product effectiveness. In all cases, the copper is active only when it is wet, when the copper ions are in solution.

See next page for more information.

Peach Leaf Curl, continued

Fixed copper products include tribasic or basic copper sulfate, cupric hydroxide, and copper oxychloride sulfate (C-O-C-S), but currently only liquid products containing copper ammonium complex products with 8% MCE (e.g., Kop R Spray Concentrate [Lilly Miller brands] and Liqui-Cop [Monterey Lawn and Garden]) are available to consumers. The most effective copper product, 90% tribasic copper sulfate with a 50% MCE (Microcop), is no longer available to retail outlets, because the manufacturer withdrew the product in 2010, although remaining supplies still can be sold.

The copper ammonium complex products can be made more effective by adding 1% horticultural spray oil to the application mix; the oil also aids in controlling some aphids, scale insects, and mites. Copper soap (copper octanoate) fungicides are also available, and preliminary research indicates they may provide some protection of trees.

Be aware that repeated annual use of copper products over many seasons can result in a buildup of copper in the soil, which eventually can become toxic to soil organisms, and if it moves into waterways, can harm some aquatic species.

This is only an excerpt from the IPM article. For more information [click here](#).



Symptoms of Peach Leaf Curl

Recipe of the Month

CHOCOLATE ZUCCHINI BREAD

2 cups grated zucchini, drained
3 eggs
2 cups sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
3/4 cup oil
3/4 cup cocoa
1 cup chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease two 8x4x2 inch pans. (I use 5 small loaf pans) Combine all dry ingredients, except chocolate chips, in a bowl and set aside. Combine zucchini, eggs, oil, vanilla, and sugar in a bowl; mix well. Add dry ingredients. Batter may become stiff. Mix until combined. Fold in chocolate chips. Divide batter between pans. Bake for 1 hour or until toothpick comes out clean. Smaller pans take less time. Cool 10-15 minutes in pan before removing to wire racks.

Barbara Scheimer
Cynthia Peterson



Smart Gardening Practices

NURTURE THE SOIL

1. Grasscycling

- A. Did you know that grass clippings have 4% nitrogen. By putting the clippings back into the lawn you are using less fertilizer.

2. Mulch Regularly

- A. Mulch is any material spread over the soil. It can be leaf litter, bark or rocks
- B. You need 2-4 inches at all times to suppress weeds

3. Feed Soils Naturally

- A. Add a thin layer of compost to your soil
- B. Feed turf by topdressing with compost instead of commercial fertilizer
- C. Apply compost 2-4 times a year to your plants instead of commercial fertilizer

4. Minimize the use of Chemical Pesticides

- A. Many pesticides are toxic to microbes and other soil dwelling creatures, worms are great workers and we need to keep them alive
- B. If pesticides are needed chose the least toxic first. Always read the label
- C. Learn IPM www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

Benefit:

Conserve water
Enhance plant growth
Suppress weeds
Improve the appearance of your garden



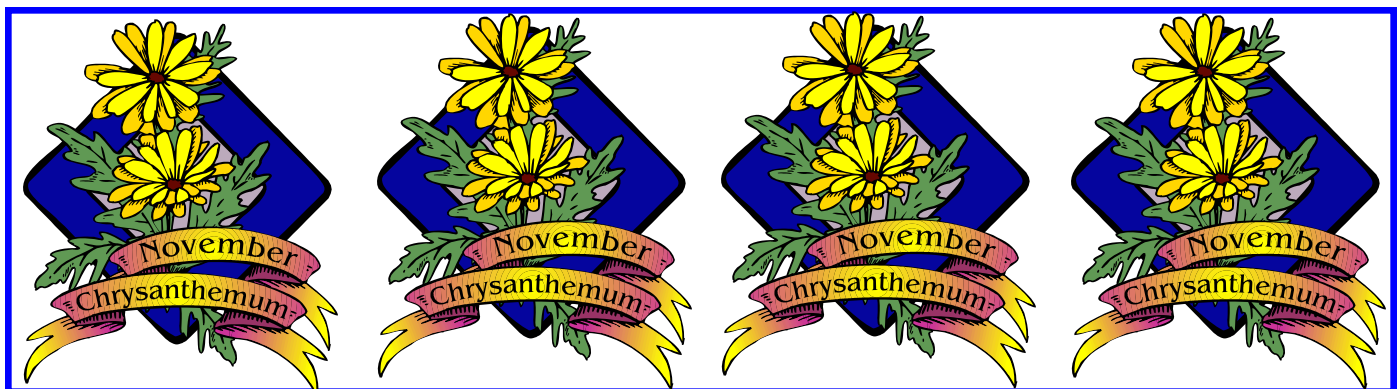
November in the Garden:

Things to plant:

- You can still sow seeds of wildflowers this month. Plant California poppy, calendula, clarkia, and sweet peas.
- In the veggie garden plant seeds for lettuce, mustard, spinach, onions, shallots, chard, radishes and peas.
- If you didn't get your new tree planted last month, it is not too late to take advantage of the fall root growth that will give your new tree a strong start in the spring. Also, see the article on moving a small tree in your garden.

Things to do:

- Look at your camellias and remove excess buds to get larger flowers.
- In the middle of the month fertilize the veggies and flowers that were planted in October.
- Also, this is the time to plant the chilled bulbs, and the spring flowering tubers and corms. Clean up all the fallen/falling leaves and other plant debris and dispose of diseased materials.
- Continue to spread organic mulch so the winter rains can leach the nutrients into the soil. There is no need to dig it into the ground.



Science word of the Month....

Etiolate—To cause stems to become elongated, weak, and pale green in color, usually from insufficient light.

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

- Next meeting Monday November 18 6:30pm
- 642 Fifth St. (St. Stephen's Episcopal Church)
- Speaker, Mary Ann Horton, Iris types

Additional Links

Integrated Pest Management www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

UC Davis Arboretum www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu

McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens turtlebay.org

Invasive Plants www.cal-ipc.org

Plant Right www.plantright.org

PG&E www.pge.com

Save Our Water www.water.ca.gov

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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Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607, (510) 987-0096.

To simply information, trade names of products have been used. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

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For special assistance regarding our programs, please contact us.

