

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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January 2014

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OFFICE HOURS:

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

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

Information Booth Locations:

Winter Fruit Tree Workshop

Saturday January 11, 1-3pm
Davis Ranch
7681 Sycamore Slough Rd, Colusa

Rose Pruning workshop in January

Sunday January 26, 1-3pm
Colusa County Fairgrounds, Grandstand



Frequently Asked Question

Dear Master Gardener,

Help, we bought a bare root tree at the nursery, now what do we do?

Your neighbor

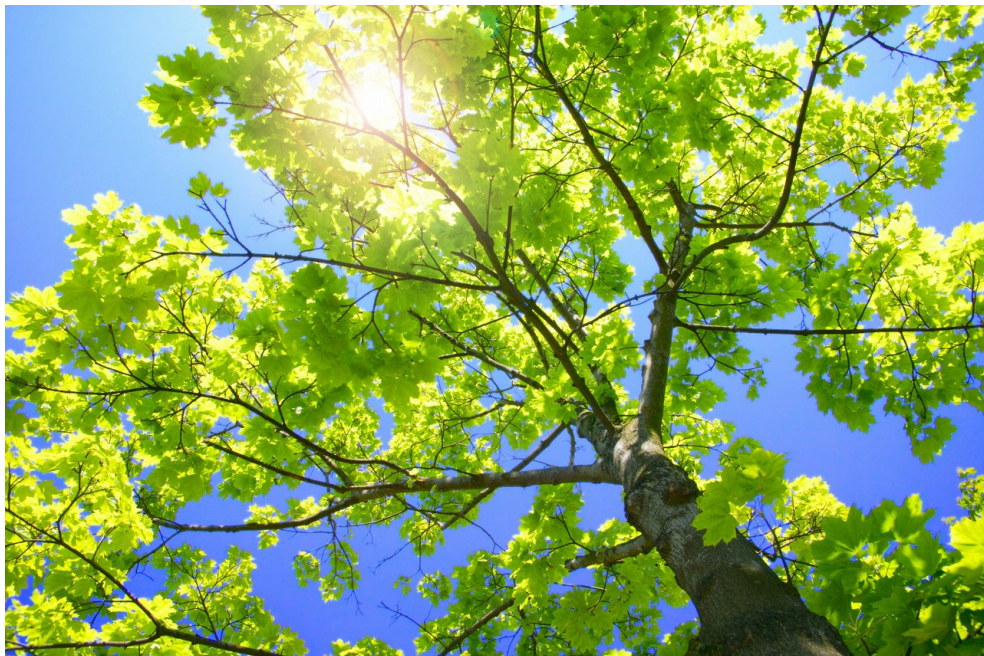
Dear Neighbor,

No matter if it's a fruit tree or landscape tree you will treat it the same for planting, staking and initial pruning.

[Click here](#) to see lots of valuable information.

For fruit tree specific pruning, pests and disease [click here](#).

Your Master Gardener



Winter Fruit Tree Care

Learn how to “winterize” your deciduous fruit trees and citrus trees

- Saturday January 11, 1-3pm
- Davis Ranches, 7681 Sycamore Slough Rd, Colusa
(look for our signs at Hwy 45 & Sycamore Slough Rd)
- We will be talking about Peaches and Nectarines, Apples and Pears, Apricots and Citrus



UC Master Gardeners of Colusa County and Davis Ranches



For more information go to

<http://cecolusa.ucanr.edu>

530-458-0570

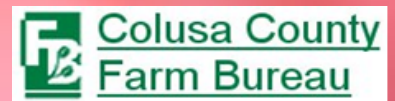
Pre-registration is preferred



ROSE PRUNING WORKSHOP

- **Sunday, January 26, 1-3pm**
- **Colusa Co Fairgrounds, Grandstand**
- **Bring pruners, loppers, saw and gloves**
- **UC Master Gardener of Colusa County**

Everyone Welcome



Book of the Month

Backyard Winter Gardening

By

Caleb Warnock

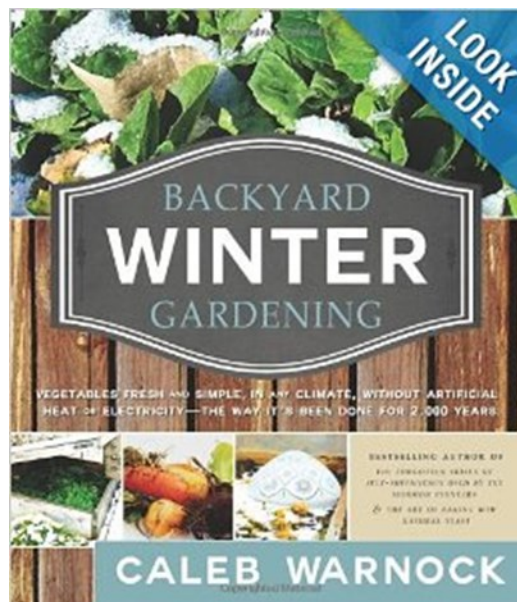
The idea of harvesting lettuce from our own garden in the middle of winter got us to open this book but the plans for a geothermal greenhouse led us to buy it. Since the author lives on the slopes of the Wasatch Range in Utah we will modify the plans to suit the milder climate found here in Northern California. Cold frames and hot beds are also explained as to function and construction.

The author lists different vegetables and explains in some detail the special needs they have in order to be grown for winter use. In addition he describes the benefit of the different kinds of manure to be used for heat and at what stage of decomposition is best for each application. Watering needs and time of day best suited are also covered.

A short section near the end of the book is titled "Caleb's Winter Garden Journal" and is a delightful insight into the labors and rewards of growing your own food.

In conclusion, we enjoyed this book very much and it will be sitting on the working section of our library.

David and Penny Dennis



Ornamental Plant of the Month

Camellia

Theaceae

Camellia sasanqua 'Setsugekka'

Evergreen Shrub or Tree

I was looking for an evergreen shrub to give me some winter color and fill a large empty spot on the south east corner of my flower bed. The plant would also need to thrive next to the shade of my mature Orange tree. When I saw the Camellia sasanqua 'Setsugekka' with its shiny dark green leaves and semi-double white flower in bloom in December I knew it would fit the bill.

Cold hardiness:	Zone 7-10
Light needs:	Filtered Sun
Water needs:	Water regularly, when top 3" of soil is dry
Average size:	Moderate growth rate 8 to 10 ft. tall & wide, with Upright and rather bushy growth habit
Flowers:	Semi-double white flower with golden center. Cut flowers hold well in Water
Blooms:	Fall through winter
Prune:	Winter to spring after flowering.
Fertilizing:	Feed with a commercial acid plant food after bloom.

Submitted by Sherry Maltby



Edible Garden of the Month

John and Diane Vafis

JANUARY PLANS

January is a quiet time in the garden. However, there are still things that can be done:

- Welcome the seed catalogs that come in the mail in January. This is a good time to plan what you will grow in the coming year. The selections are much better than what you will find in the garden centers. Remember you are going to plant veggies that your family likes to eat.
- Consider planting a fruit tree or two (if you have space.) This is the time of year to buy and plant bare-root trees. If it will be your first fruit tree, look at peaches and nectarines, which grow easily in our area. Apples, pears and cherries are nice, but they are challenging to grow in our climate.
- Spread mulch over your empty garden beds. This will enrich the soil for next year's crops.
- If you have a compost pile, keep working it to speed up the process. Also, keep it covered in the event it rains. You don't want the nutrients to be washed out of the compost.

With their leaves gone, your trees show their structure, and it is time, especially with young trees, for you to create a strong and healthy framework by pruning. The Master Gardeners and Davis Ranches are offering a Winter Fruit Tree Workshop that will give guidance for the process. It will be held January 11 from 1-3 pm at Davis Ranches, Sycamore Slough Road, Colusa. [Click here to pre-register.](#)

The University of California and the UC Master Gardeners of Colusa County have free publications about care of many types of fruit trees. These will be available at the workshop and are at the Cooperative Extension office, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Ste E, in Colusa.

[Click here for fruit tree information](#)

[Click here for landscape tree information](#)



Problem of the Month

Pruning Roses (Grandiflora and Hybrid Tea)

Why prune your roses?

- To produce larger flowers
- To maintain shape and appearance
- To remove dead and diseased canes
- To encourage new buds to push at the base and renew the canes

Tools

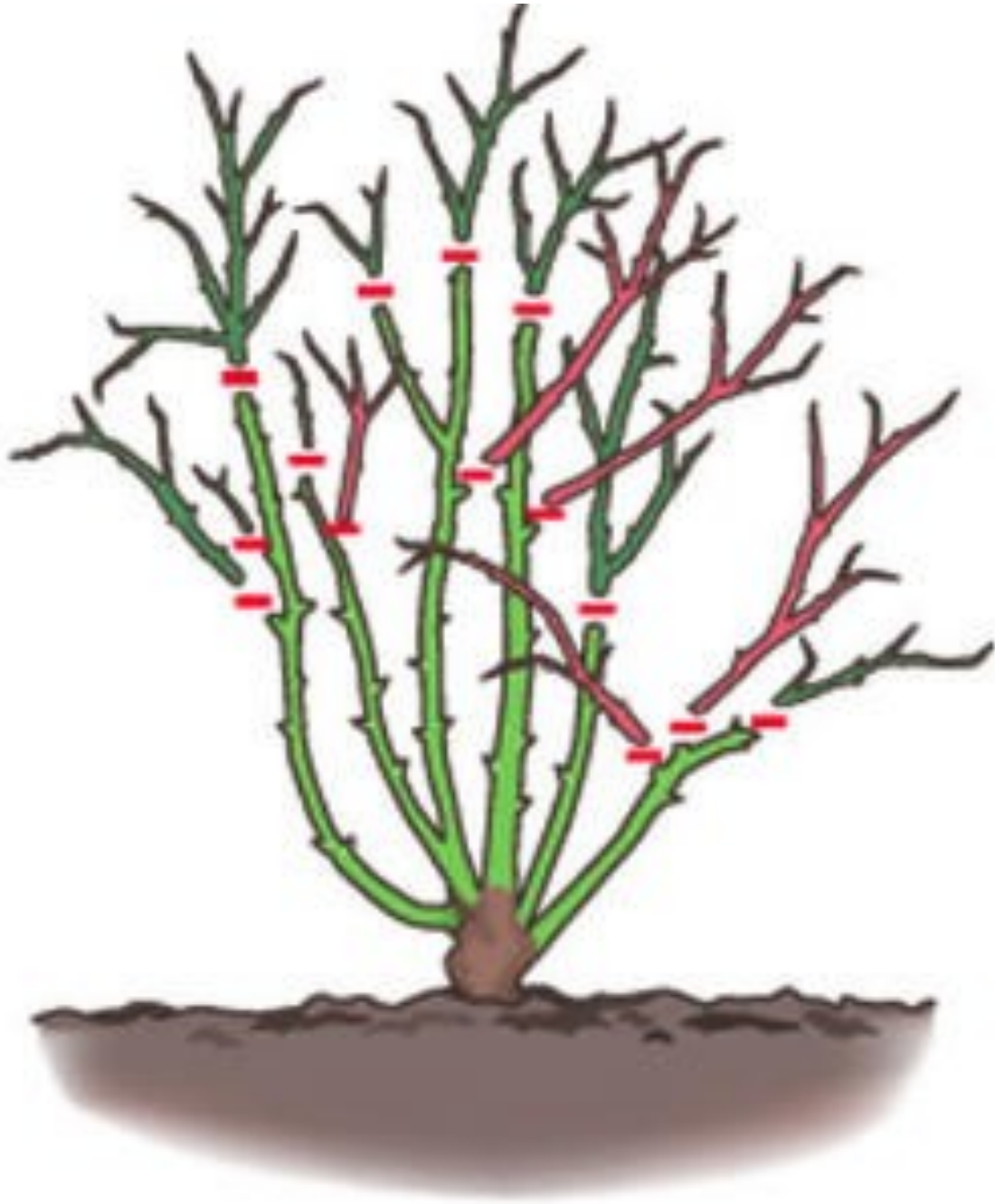
- Pruning shears
- Loppers
- Saw
- Leather gloves
- Long sleeved shirt



Pruning

- Ideal time is late in the dormant season, January is good for our area
- Begin by cutting away all dead and twiggy growth
- Prune out twisted and intertwined canes
- Select 3 to 7 healthy and vigorous canes that for a vase shape (if you are looking down on the plant it should look like bicycle spokes)
- Prune out the rest of the canes
- Shorten the remaining canes to about 2 ft above the ground
- Be sure all cuts are above on outward facing bud, neither too close or too far away. Ideal cuts are at a 45 degree angle.
- Use sharp pruning shears to make a precise clean cut.

See diagram on next page for guidance



Thank you to Sunset magazine for the above diagram

Come to our Rose Pruning workshop on Sunday January 26th from 1-3pm at the Colusa County Fairgrounds Grandstand area to learn more.

Recipe of the Month

7 CAN BEAN SOUP

3 cans Italian stewed tomatoes

1 can S&W chili beans

1 can black beans, rinsed

1 can garbanzos

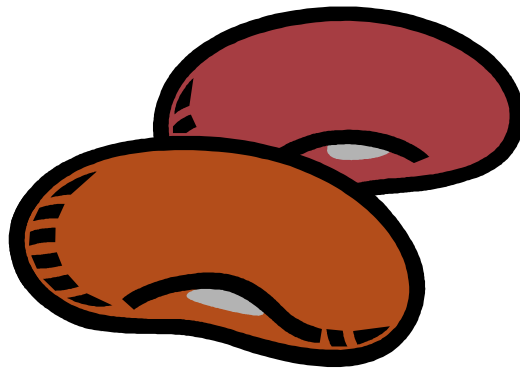
1 can kidney beans

1 pound of kielbasa, cut up

Mix together and cook on low in crockpot for 6-7 hours. Serve with favorite garnishes: sour cream, corn chips, green onions, cheese, etc.

Barbara Scheimer

Cynthia Peterson



Smart Gardening Practices

CONSERVE ENERGY

1. Plant Trees

- A. Plant trees to the west of your home
- B. Select evergreen trees for a windbreak. Especially if you live in the countryside
- C. Plant large trees at least 20 feet from the foundation

Benefit: When properly placed mature trees can reduce your inside temperature by 20 degrees

2. Shade paved areas

- A. Driveways and paved areas are huge sources of heat
- B. Choose trees with root systems that do not sucker or damage the surface

Benefit: Patios and cars are more comfortable, cooling cost may be lowered

3. Shade the air conditioner

Benefit: Reduced utility cost



January in the Garden:

In the Garden:

Plant rhubarb, strawberries, and cane berries. Plant seeds for broccoli, cabbage, parsley, turnips, peas, radishes, lettuce, and spinach.

This is the time to plant bare root roses, trees, artichoke crowns, grapevines, and other vines.

You can still plant pansies, violas, snapdragons, and fairy primroses.

Plant gladiolus every 2 weeks for a succession of blooms.

Later in the month you can divide Shasta daisies, daylilies, chrysanthemums, and other perennials.

NOTE: Beware of digging in soggy soils. All plantings should be well-drained; the new plants might rot if soil is soggy.

Pruning:

Roses, fruit trees and other perennials can be pruned this month.

Do not prune spring flowering shrubs until after they bloom.

Prune berry canes that bore fruit last year to the ground.

Prune grapevines back, leaving 2 to 3 buds per side shoot.

Pest and Disease control:

Spray horticultural oil on pruned fruit trees to control scale, mites and aphids. Thorough coverage will kill over-wintering eggs.

Later in the month, spray neem oil on roses to control mildew, rust, and black spot. Do not apply oils unless there will be 24 hours of dry weather following application.

Be sure to clean up debris (leaves and twigs) around roses and fruit trees to help prevent disease.

Order seeds for this year's vegetable and flower garden.



Science word of the Month....

Respiration—The controlled process in cells in which carbohydrate is biologically broken down (oxidized) and energy is released.

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

- Next meeting Monday, January 27 6:30pm
- 642 Fifth St. (St. Stephen's Episcopal Church)
- Using Native Plants, Alicia Funk

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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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.

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

