



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

# A Garden Runs Through It

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July 2014

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## OFFICE HOURS:

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

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

## Information Booth Locations:

### Harvest Day

July 19, 9am to Noon  
Davis Ranches

See flyer for details



# HARVEST DAY

**Saturday July 19, 9-12:00**

## Speakers

- Invasive Insect Species in our Area
- Cooking with Fruit
- Water Conservation in your Garden
- Drip/Micro Irrigation

## Activities

- Fruit Tasting
- Vendors

**DAVIS RANCHES**

**7681 Sycamore Slough Rd, Colusa**

**UCCE MASTER GARDENERS OF  
COLUSA COUNTY**



## Frequently Asked Question

Dear Master Gardener,

Wow my tomato has this beautiful mosaic pattern on it. What is it?

Your neighbor

Dear Neighbor,

Your tomato has tomato spotted wilt virus. The following is from the IPM website.

Infected plants exhibit bronzing of the upper sides of young leaves, which later develop distinct, necrotic spots. Leaves may be cupped downward. Some tip dieback may occur. On ripe fruit, chlorotic spots and blotches appear, often with concentric rings. Green fruit show slightly raised areas with faint, concentric zones.

The tomato spotted wilt virus is transmitted by thrips. Control thrips with applications of insecticidal soap. Removing and destroying infected plants can help control the spread of virus.

Your UCCE Master Gardener of Colusa County



## What to Read this Month

Diane Vafis

# REIMAGINING THE CALIFORNIA LAWN

Concerns about the persistent drought and even the size of water bills are causing more and more people to consider replacing all or part of their lawns. Those green expanses use just about half of all the water flowing to urban and suburban uses. A modest-sized suburban front and backyard lawn uses 45,000 gallons of water a year. That's a lot of bathtubs full of water.

Helpful and informative, *Reimagining the California Lawn* has inspiration for anyone interested in replacing some lawn. Authors Carol Bornstein, David Fross and Bart O'Brien are professional horticulturists, growers and instructors who provide a chapter on garden design, one on how to manage, reduce or remove your lawn. The third and final chapter, which fills half the book, is a listing with photos of each plant suitable for use in replacing California lawn.

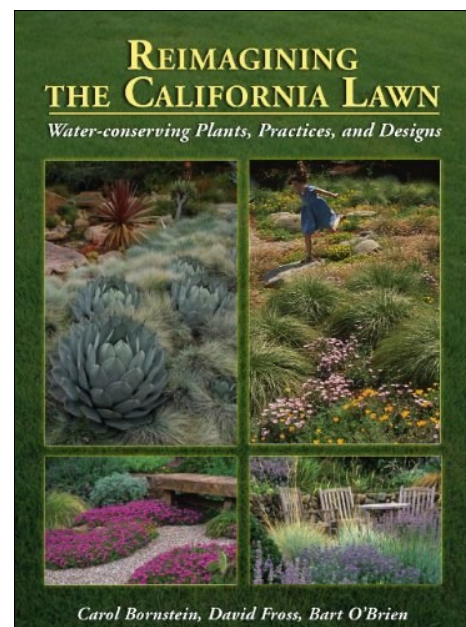
Suggested designs include meadows, rock gardens, succulent gardens, carpet and tapestry gardens, kitchen gardens and even green roofs. For these design options the "Plant Profiles" chapter contains horticultural information about a wide variety of plants suitable for use as lawn alternatives in California climate zones.

Try another look at your lawn and imagine a new view with inspiration from

C. Bornstein, D. Fross, C. O'Brien, *Reimagining the California Lawn*,

Cachuma Press, Los Olivos, CA

ISBN 978-0-9789971-2-0





# Ornamental Plant of the Month

## Echinacea

I am so excited because after many attempts, I have finally gotten Echinacea to grow and bloom. After seeing them growing almost wild in the Lancaster area of Penn. I have been anxious to have them do the same in my garden. The Echinacea, commonly known as Cone Flower, is drought tolerant once established, but does need watering during the dry season until well established. It likes full sun, but tolerates partial shade, with at least 6 hours of sun.

Echinacea can be a long lived perennial, liking well drained soil, and attracting butterflies with its attractive flowers. It can be grown from seed, but not all Echinacea hybrids come true from seed, so it is best to purchase plants of the newer varieties. Some nurseries have them in 6 packs, or single plants in 3 or 4 inch pots are commonly found.

Echinacea blends well with other companion plants, such as Coreopsis, yarrow, and ornamental grasses in borders or in perennial beds.

I look forward to finding volunteer Echinacea plants throughout my gardens, as the wind will help spread the seed from the dried flowers at the end of bloom.



### Crop Rotation

If you grow the same family of vegetables on the same ground year after year, soil-borne pests and diseases will build up, reducing yields. The easiest way to avoid this on permanent vegetable plots and beds is to use a crop rotation system over three or four years. This method of gardening also has the advantage of using your time in the garden efficiently. For example, a plot can be heavily manured when it is dug in the autumn, providing ideal conditions for cabbages. The following year the plot can simply be dug over, ready for planting root crops which do not like the soil to be too rich. There are four main groups of vegetables: Brassicas (broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbages and radishes), Legumes (peas, green beans, broad beans), Onion family (shallots, leeks, garlic, scallions and onions) Root crops (potatoes, parsnips, rutabaga, carrots and turnips). If you are working on a four-year rotation you can use a different bed for each family, but if you use a three year rotation system, combine the legume and onion crops in one bed. Whether you adopt a three or four year rotation , make sure that brassicas, in particular, are moved every year.



David Dennis

# Smart Gardening Practices

## SUPPORT BENEFICIAL WILDLIFE

### Diversify

- Select a rich array of plants that includes many California natives
- Select groundcovers, shrubs and trees that provide nesting sites
- Select flower and fruit producing plants for food
- Do Not plant invasive plants [www.cal-ipc.org](http://www.cal-ipc.org)



### Choose California natives first

- Select a variety of appropriate natives (that is natives to our area)
- Group plants together of at least 16 square feet
- Let some plants go to seed for food

### Provide water and shelter

- Place a birdbath or pond with circulating water in your garden
- Select groundcover, shrubs and trees to provide nesting sites
- Install birdhouses – The size of the hole indicates which bird will nest there
- Consider leaving wood materials or a downed tree for shelter

### Eliminate pesticide use

- Use IPM [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu)
- Always read the label, even for organic products



## Recipe of the Month

### Juicy Peach Crisp

6 fresh peaches, peeled, pitted and sliced

½ tsp. almond extract (or a tablespoon of lemon juice)

1 c. all-purpose flour

1 c. white sugar

½ c. brown sugar

½ tsp. ground cinnamon

¼ tsp. salt

½ c. butter

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease an 8-inch square baking dish. Place the peaches in the bottom of the baking dish and sprinkle them with the almond extract. In a bowl, combine the dry ingredients and cut the butter into the flour mixture with a pastry cutter until mixture resembles crumbs. Sprinkle the flour mixture over the top of the peaches and bake in a preheated oven for about 40 to 45 minutes, or until the peaches are bubbling and the topping is browned. Serve warm or cold, with or without ice cream. Try this simple recipe with other fruit such as nectarines or combination of fruit such as blueberries and peaches.

*Recipe from Amador County Women's Network Cookbook*

**Barbara Scheimer**  
**Cynthia Peterson**





## July in the Garden:

- You can still plant seeds of annuals: zinnias, marigolds, sunflowers and alyssum will grow and bloom this year.
- Be sure everything is well mulched for the heat of summer. Water before 10 am to avoid fungal infections and to minimize water loss to evaporation.
- If you have blackberries in your garden, cut the canes that bore fruit to the ground. Tie up 3-5 of the new canes and fertilize to promote new growth.
- Cut canna stems to the ground as they finish flowering to encourage new stems to grow.
- Dig and divide bearded iris that have not been divided for 3 yrs. Cut the foliage on the divisions to 6-8 inches, replanting only new rhizomes and discarding the old rhizomes.
- You can dig and divide other bulbs after the foliage has died off.
- Deadhead blooming plants as they finish flowering to promote continuing bloom. Fertilize roses after each burst of blooms.
- Cut back lavender after flowering to promote a second bloom. You can prune by half to keep the plant in bounds.
- If you have fruit trees, be sure to pick up dropped fruit to prevent brown rot from developing and leaving spores for future infection.



## Science word of the Month....

**Primocanes**—One year old (or less) stems in blackberries and raspberries that do not bear fruit.

## Garden Club of Colusa County activities

- Garden Club will resume August 25

## Additional Links

Integrated Pest Management [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu)

UC Davis Arboretum [www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu)

McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens [turtlebay.org](http://turtlebay.org)

Invasive Plants [www.cal-ipc.org](http://www.cal-ipc.org)

Plant Right [www.plantright.org](http://www.plantright.org)

PG&E [www.pge.com](http://www.pge.com)

Save Our Water [www.water.ca.gov](http://www.water.ca.gov)

The UCCE Colusa County Master Gardener Volunteer Program is a partnership among the University of California Cooperative Extension, 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 ANR's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Linda Marie Manton, Affirmative Action Contact, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1318.

*To simplify 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.

