



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

A Garden Runs Through It

In This Issue:

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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:

Plant Clinic

Williams Nursery
Sept 25 12-2pm

Arbuckle Pumpkin Festival

October 4

Colusa Harvest Festival

October 11

Fall Fruit Tree workshop

November 1



Interested in becoming a UC Master Gardener of Colusa County?

Applications for the 2015 training class, commencing in January 2015, will be accepted soon.

Classes will be in Yuba City starting in January.

If interested please go to our website and fill out an interest card. When applications become available we will email you an application.

cecolusa.ucanr.edu



Frequently Asked Question

Dear Master Gardener,

Could you re-cap the water conservation tips?

Your neighbor

Dear Neighbor,

We would be happy to re-cap our water conservation tips. Many items on the list can be achieved in the fall such as putting in a drip system, mulching and planting. You can add a new flower bed using water-wise plants in the fall.

Your UCCE Master Gardener of Colusa County

CONSERVE WATER

1. Create drought resistant soils

- A. By incorporating 2-4 inches of compost into the soil you will increase the water holding capacity of the soil
- B. Topdressing compost around plants will reduce water needs but not up to the plant base. *Space @ the base.*
- C. Mulch all exposed soil to reduce evaporation with bark, leaf litter or rocks

Benefit:

Reduced water usage

2. Grow California or Mediterranean natives

Check out the UC Arboretum All-Stars

- A. Plants thrive with little irrigation
- B. Planting in the fall allows the roots to grow without competition
- C. Irrigate until established
- D. Minimize high water use ornamentals

Benefit: Reduce watering, trimming, fertilizing and spraying

3. Minimize the Lawn

- A. The use of native groundcovers, grasses, shrubs and trees make an eye catching garden
- B. Reduce the size of the lawn and plant Tall fescue. It is a cool season grass that does well in summer. Most cool season grasses need a lot of water to look good.
- C. Avoid slopes

Benefit: Conserve water, energy and labor

4. Hydrozoning

- A. By grouping plants together by water and light needs plants tend to be healthy
- B. When you group your plants together by water and light needs then you can properly water each micro-climate
- C. Use California natives

Benefit: Healthy plants, conserve water and less pruning

5. Irrigation System

- A. Use an automatic controller on your irrigation system
- B. Use drip for your flower beds
- C. Replace old sprinkler heads with high efficient ones. If your system is over 10 years old check out the new sprinkler heads at your local garden center
- D. Use multiple run times if you have a lot of run-off before the timer shuts off.. For example; you should irrigate every other day for 20 minutes but after 15 minutes the water is running off the lawn. Instead run the system for 10 minutes, wait 1 hour and run for another 10 minutes. This works especially well on slopes.

Benefit:

Limit evaporation and run-off
Limit disease
Limit weeds

6. Irrigate according to the season

- A. Know your watering needs (use the can method for turf)
- B. Adjust watering to the season, use chart in Lawn Watering brochure
- C. Water early
- D. Water slowly
- E. Water deeply

Benefit:

Appropriate watering slows plant growth
Promotes plant health
Reduces pruning and mowing
It is estimated that overwatering causes 85% of all landscape problems

7. Make every Drop Count

- A. Mulch
- B. Repair leaks and broken sprinklers
- C. Reduce overspray areas
- D. Adjust the system frequently to the season

Benefit:

Conserve water
Save money
Urban landscape water use can be reduced by 50%

What to Read this Month

Diane Vafis

Where do you get your gardening information/inspiration?

We used to get information and/or inspiration from books, gardens we visit, and other gardeners. Today I suspect we don't turn so often to books. The Internet is such a huge resource for information, we don't really need to go to books any longer. There is still a place for books, to be sure, but when you need to know something right now, the Internet is where you will find it.

Many on-line vendors have websites that are very helpful in many ways. They are of course on-line to primarily sell something. But the information is there whether you buy anything or subscribe to something. Many sites include very well-done videos showing how to do something. Of course, there are also many still shots of whatever the topic of the piece happens to be.

The following links are to pages that give access to many topics. Use the menu bars to navigate to the item you want. Many of them have a list of videos on many different gardening topics. They have information about how to grow just about anything. They all invite you to subscribe to their newsletter or blog, so if you don't get enough e-mail they will send you something regularly.

Have a good time exploring these sites:

<http://www.kitchengardenseeds.com/tips.html>

<http://blackgold.bz/category/help/>

<http://www.finegardening.com/>

<http://www.reneesgarden.com/articles/articles.html>

<http://www.groworganic.com/organic-gardening/videos>

Ornamental Plant of the Month

Plumbago for summer to fall color

I've frequently looked at the leggy plumbago and thought it too much trouble for the garden. But after seeing the one called *Ceratostigma* my opinion changed.

It's an 8-12 inch tall and 12-18 inch wide perennial that puts up with most any conditions in our zone. It does stay more vibrant in a filtered shade but it can put up with plenty of sun as well.

In the spring it will be slow to emerge and blends well with bulbs that lose their luster after the bloom is done. Plumbago will camouflage the spent bulbs. It will also do a decent job of keeping weeds down since it forms a very thick lush cover. If it gets too aggressive simply trim it back to the size you want.

The blue flowers show up in midsummer and look a bit like phlox. The flowers sit just above the foliage in little clusters and require no deadheading. It sends out rusty red calyces that provides an almost fuzzy look.

As fall approaches plumbago develops bronze-red streaks on its leaves. Flowers continue to appear until a hard frost stops it for the year. In our area it might even stay evergreen in a well protected area. In spring cut the stems back to the ground to give new foliage room to grow.

It does like to be in an area that has good drainage and is on the low end of the scale for water. This western China native has adapted well to our area and should be included for a great summer pop up that lasts a long time. It doesn't even mind a bit of clay soil. It has no serious pest issues as well. It spreads by rhizomes and can spread if left unchecked.



Cynthia White

Edible Garden of the Month

Too Much Zucchini?

What do you do when you are overwhelmed with zucchini...you make zucchini bread. So far, we have put 22 loaves in the freezer & have given several away. This recipe was given to me by David's sister, Phyllis many years ago. It is a great recipe, freezes well, & is wonderful toasted with butter or cream cheese or served just as a nut bread .

Zucchini Bread

2 C sugar	1 C oil
3 C flour	3 eggs
1/2 tsp salt	3 tsp vanilla
1 tsp soda	2 C grated zucchini
2 tsp baking powder	1 C chopped walnuts
2 tsp ground nutmeg	

Pre-heat oven to 325 for 60-70 min. in 2 greased & lined loaf pans

Mix all dry ingredients well. Add oil, vanilla, eggs & mix well. Add zucchini & mix.

Add nuts.



David Dennis

Smart Gardening Practices

GROW YOUR OWN FOOD

Edible Landscaping

- A. There is no need to have a separate vegetable garden.
- B. You can combine edible and ornamental plants as long as they have the same water and light requirements.
- C. Here is a list of 10 striking edibles to add to your edible landscape.
livinghomegrown.com
 - 1. Swiss chard
 - 2. Eggplant
 - 3. Italian summer squash
 - 4. Kale
 - 5. Strawberries
 - 6. Colored peppers
 - 7. Colorful beans
 - 8. Lettuce
 - 9. Unusual basil
 - 10. Sage

Urban Orchard

- A. If you are going to plant a tree, consider a fruit tree.
 - 1. Fruit trees can easily be kept small for your yard.
 - 2. Peaches and citrus are great for urban orchards.
- B. Blueberries and other edible shrubs make a nice hedge.
- C. Grapes and other berries make a nice trellis.



Recipe of the Month

Curried Peach Soup

Serves 5

4 cloves garlic

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 small chopped onion

2 ¼ cups fresh peaches – peeled, pitted & chopped

1 tablespoon Madras curry powder

1/8 teaspoon turmeric

¼ cup packed brown sugar

¼ cup Viognier wine

1 cup vegetable or chicken stock

½ cup coconut milk

½ cup heavy cream

Sea salt and cracked black pepper to taste

- 1. Preheat oven to 275 degrees F. Roast garlic cloves on a baking sheet for about 20 minutes, or until golden but not burned.*
- 2. Heat the oil in a medium skillet over medium heat, sweat the onions and peaches until softened. Season with curry powder, turmeric, roasted garlic and sugar. Cook over low until caramelized, about 30 minutes. Deglaze the pan with the wine, and then stir in stock.*
- 3. Remove from heat and puree the soup in a blender or food processor; strain through a fine sieve. Stir in the coconut milk and heavy cream; season with salt and pepper. Reheat if desired, soup may be served hot or chilled.*

Garnish with any of the following: crème fraîche, sunflower seed sprouts, chives or fresh cilantro leaves.

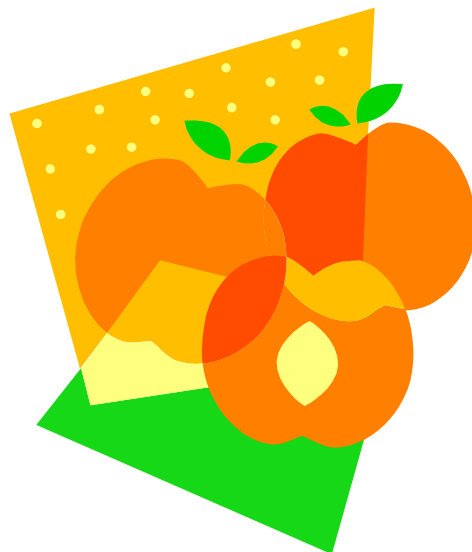
Rachael, Executive Chef

26836 County Road 12A

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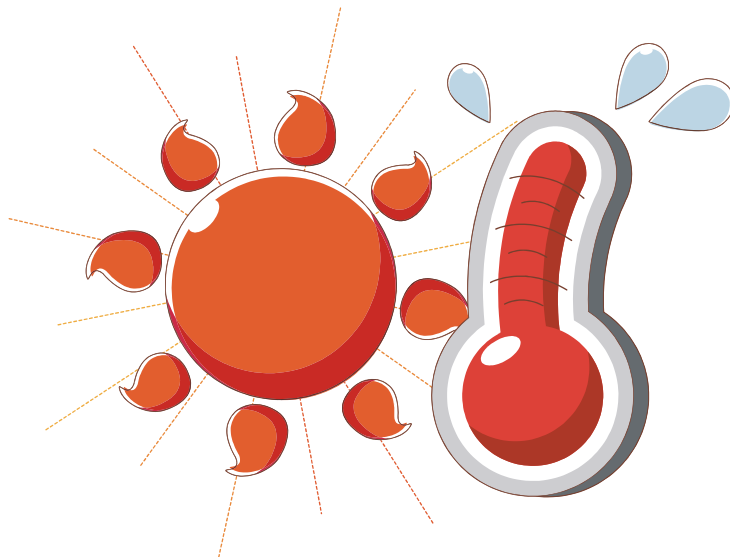
Cynthia White



August in the Garden:

August garden tasks:

- ◆ You can plant directly in the garden seeds of carrots, beets, lettuce, spinach and turnips. Indoors you can start seeds for broccoli, cabbage, kale, bunching onions, and radicchio.
- ◆ Be sure to monitor your watering system. Check for coverage and watch for plugged or blocked sprinklers.
- ◆ Continue to weed. Be especially sure to get weeds before they flower and set seeds.
- ◆ Check the mulch you have spread around and be sure it is thick enough to suppress weeds. (3 to 4 inches)
- ◆ Cut off spent flowers of perennials and annuals for continued bloom.



Science word of the Month....

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

- Garden Club will resume August 25

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 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.

