



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UC Master Gardener Program

Spring Issue, 2025

UC Master Gardeners of Sutter-Yuba Counties Newsletter

Location:

UCCE Sutter-Yuba
142A Garden Hwy.
Yuba City CA 95991
Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Master Gardener Office

Hours:

Tuesday: 9 a.m. to Noon
Thursday: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact:

530-822-7515
sutteryuba@ucanr.edu

Website:

<https://ucanr.edu/syucmg>

Facebook:

<https://facebook.com/>



Donate:

Support our program and make a gift donation online: <https://ucanr.edu/syucmgdonate>

UC MASTER GARDENERS OF
SUTTER - YUBA COUNTIES

2025

WHERE TO FIND US!

MAR 15
Learning Garden Workshop - Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds Gate 7
Healthy Soil | Composting | Vermiculture | 9a - 10a

MAR 21
Home and Garden Show - Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds | 12p - 8p

Mar 22
Home and Garden Show - Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds | 10a - 5p

Mar 23
Home and Garden Show - Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds | 10a - 5p

April 12
Annual Plant Sale - University of California Cooperative Extension, Yuba City | 9a - 1p

April 19
Learning Garden Workshop - Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds Gate 7
Pollinators | 9a - 10a

April 26
Pioneer Day - Downtown Smartsville | 8a - 3p

May 10
Annual Plant Sale - University of California Cooperative Extension, Yuba City | 9a - 1p

May 17
Learning Garden Workshop - Yuba Sutter Fairgrounds Gate 7
Weed Identification and Diagnostics | 9a - 10a

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Advice to grow by ... Ask us!

If you have a plant or gardening question, contact us via phone or email or drop by the office with a sample. Check our website or Facebook for workshop announcements.

UC MASTER GARDENERS OF
SUTTER-YUBA COUNTIES

^{2 0 2 5}
Plant Sale

SATURDAY
APRIL 12TH & MAY 10TH
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

\$4 PLANT STARTS	HARD TO FIND VARIETIES	GROWN BY MASTER GARDENERS
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TOMATOES, CUCUMBERS, HOT PEPPERS, SWEET PEPPERS,
MELONS, SQUASH, PUMPKINS, FLOWERS AND HERBS

All proceeds will go towards the UC Master Gardener Program Learning Garden Expansion.
We will accept Credit Cards, Check or Cash

142 Garden Highway, CA 95991 | 530.822.7515
https://cesutter.ucanr.edu/Master_Gardener_116/

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Agriculture and Natural Resources | UC Master Gardener Program



We're excited about our spring plant sale and hope to see you there! Here is a picture of some of the plants we'll be selling. They're currently residing in our hoop house.

For full details, please see the above flyer.

Aphids

Submitted by UC Master Gardener Marla Pike

Spring is here, which means our roses and other landscape plants have been pushing new leaves. Those new leaves are just what aphids love to eat! Here is a Quick Tip document to show aphid-controlling tips, information on beneficial (good) insects, pesticides, and other great information for home use.

For my roses, I mainly use a blast of water in the morning to remove the aphids. Why in the morning? I want to be sure that the water has dried during the daylight hours, as roses do best when water is not on their leaves overnight.

Quick Tips



Aphids

Most plants have one or more aphid species that feed on it, but feeding usually does not damage or kill established plants.



Rose aphids on young blossom.



Mummified aphids that were parasitized by a wasp.

Jack Kellie Clark, UC IPM

Aphids can curl leaves and produce sticky honeydew that may attract ants and sooty mold. Aphids have many naturally occurring predators and parasites that feed on them. On sturdy plants, aphids can be knocked off with a strong stream of water. When aphid numbers are high and other control methods aren't effective, pesticides such as insecticidal soaps and oils are available.

Aphids are common in gardens and landscapes.

- Aphids feed on soft, new plant growth. Protect young plants. Don't over fertilize; use slow-release products.
- Aphids build up on flowering plums, roses, tulip trees, crape myrtles, apples, and many vegetables. Expect aphids when you grow these plants.
- Most established plants can tolerate aphid feeding and will outgrow any damage.

How can I reduce aphid numbers?

- Prune infested leaves and stems.
- Knock aphid populations off plants by shaking the plant or spraying it with a strong stream of water.
- Protect seedlings with covers or aluminum foil mulches.
- Wait for hot weather; some aphids are heat-intolerant and will be gone by mid-summer.

For more information about managing pests, visit ipm.ucanr.edu or your local University of California Cooperative Extension office.

Are there any good bugs that will eat aphids?

Naturally occurring insect predators such as lady beetles and lacewings will visit plants when aphids are abundant. The larval, or immature stage, of these "natural enemies" most often feed on aphids. Ants protect aphids from natural enemies. Keep ants off plants to help beneficial insects do their job. Encourage natural enemies by avoiding the use of broad-spectrum insecticides that can be toxic to them and by planting flowering plants that provide nectar and pollen for them.

Common natural enemies of aphids include:

- Lady beetles (ladybugs)
- Lacewings
- Syrphid fly larvae
- Soldier beetles
- Tiny parasitic wasps that turn aphids into crusty "mummies"



Lady beetle larva eating an aphid.

Jack Kellie Clark, UC IPM

What about pesticides?

- Use nonchemical methods first to manage aphids.
- If insecticides seem necessary, choose products that are less toxic to natural enemies, such as commercially available insecticidal oils and soaps. When properly used, these materials solve most aphid problems.
- Oils and soaps work by smothering aphids, so apply these products thoroughly. Don't apply them to drought-stressed plants or when it is very hot. Some plants are sensitive to these products.
- Aphids hidden within curled leaves will not be affected by pesticides that work on contact. Prune these out.
- Systemic insecticides can kill hidden aphids, but they are much more toxic and might also harm bees and other beneficial insects on flowering plants.

What you do in your home and landscape affects our water and health.

- Minimize the use of pesticides that pollute our waterways and harm human health.
- Use nonchemical alternatives or less toxic pesticide products whenever possible.
- Read product labels carefully and follow instructions on proper use, storage, and disposal.

UC UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Statewide Integrated
Pest Management Program
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August 2024

Yuba-Sutter Native Plant

Submitted by UC Master Gardener Lesley Harvell

Pedicularis densiflora

Common: Indian Warrior; Warrior's Plume

Family: Orobanchaceae (Broomrape family)

Pedicularis densiflora is a perennial herb native to California and southern Oregon found in chaparral, forests, and California oak/pine woodlands below 4000 feet.



Indian warrior is in the lousewort genus, and like other louseworts it is a root parasitic plant. It attaches to the roots of other plants to get water and nutrition. This species of lousewort, however, is a facultative parasite, or hemiparasite, meaning it does not have to attach to other plant's roots, but it takes the opportunity to parasitize when it can to increase its survivability and vigor. Its "favorite" plants are those of the Ericaceae (Heath) family, e.g. manzanita or madrone.

Indian warrior has stout, green or sometimes reddish or magenta stems up to almost two feet tall and fern-shaped leaves with long spikes of deep red to bright pink flowers with toothed petals. It grows in full sun and needs minimal water. Leaves are mostly basal, becoming smaller up the stem, oblong to lance-shaped, 2-12 inches, divided, toothed segments, lobed with pointed tips.

Indian warrior flowers February through May. The spiked flower head, 2-5 inches long, contains fiery red bracts that are longer than the flowers. The flower is usually hairy, with a tube exerted at flowering, a straight upper lip covering small lower lip. The fruit is a capsule 1/3 to 1/2 inch long.

Native Americans traditionally used *Pedicularis densiflora* for its muscle-relaxing and pain-relieving properties, often used as a tea or tincture for general relaxation. Indian warrior has multiple medicinal properties and is sometimes over-harvested in the wild for herbal medicine.

Pollinated by bumblebees and hummingbirds.



The Learning Garden

The Learning Garden has been cleaned up, the fencing is complete, and we also have a new gate. Two of the older raised beds have been replaced with beautiful new raised beds, and we plan to have two others removed and replaced during April.

There are plantings now of red and yellow onions, garlic, and flowers for the pollinators. In addition, we have four fruit trees in pots along the Franklin Road side of the garden.

The work in the garden will continue so that each of the beds is planted with something good to eat or beautiful plants for pollinators to enjoy.

We've been holding monthly workshops on the third Saturday of each month. You'll find the flyer for March, April, and May on page 1. We look forward to seeing you again at The Learning Garden!



On the left, UC Master Gardener Joel Phelps planting fruit trees.
On the right, UC Master Gardener Barbara Kiernan watering

Photo credit: UC Master Gardener Paul Crittenden

Office Hours

The Sutter-Yuba Master Gardeners have office hours every week, when we are available to help with any home gardening questions you may have.

- Tuesday morning, 9-a.m. to noon.
- Thursday afternoon, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Samples help with identification and diagnosis, and the office hours are a great time to bring the samples and questions to our group.

If you can't make it into the office, please send us an email outlining your question or concerns. If you can also provide a picture, that helps with diagnosis, as well. Our email address is sutteryuba@ucanr.edu and our telephone is (530) 822-7515.

Free UC IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Webinars for 2025

These are a series of webinars that are free and open to the public. Advance registration is required in order to receive the webinar login details. These webinars are hosted by UC experts and are held the third Thursday of every month to help learn about pest identification, prevention, and management around the home, garden, and landscape.

April 17, 2025 - Myth or Fact?: Debunking Pest Myths

We've all heard that opossums eat their weight in ticks, bed bugs are microscopic, and some processed foods contain an allowable number of insect parts. This webinar will cover which "facts" are true and which ones are just popular myths. [Register here](#)

May 15, 2025 - Understanding How Herbicides Work

This webinar will cover the fundamentals of herbicides for weed management around the home and garden. Weed expert Tom Getts will discuss how herbicides work, the effectiveness of various organic and synthetic herbicides, and how to choose the right herbicide for your weed problem. [Register here](#)

June 18, 2025 - Cover, Smash, Trap: Nonchemical Methods for Pest Management

Want to learn how to manage pests without pesticides? In this webinar we will review nonchemical pest management practices as alternatives to pesticides in the home and garden. [Register here](#)

July 17, 2025 - Wild World of Wasps!

Wasps are a very diverse group of insects. Some species can be nuisance pests, creating galls on plants and stinging people, but many others are beneficial pollinators and predators of pests, such as aphids. And some wasps are just cool! In this webinar, we will discuss different behaviors of wasps and some of their roles in the ecosystem. [Register here](#)

Copy and paste URL to learn more and register: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucipm-community-webinars/>

Our Mission:

"To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California and be guided by our core values and strategic initiatives."

- UC Master Gardener Program Mission Statement

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