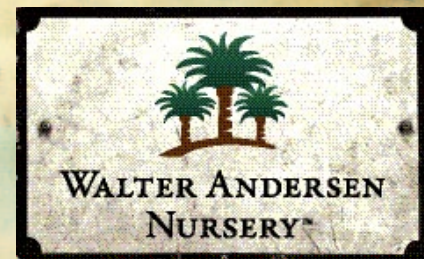


Garden Talk™

San Diego's Garden Resource



San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

Tomato Tips

BY CHUCK MCCLUNG



Tomatoes continue to be one of the most popular backyard vegetable crops. There's simply nothing like the flavor of a homegrown tomato! With a few basic tips, growing your own tomatoes can be easy and fun.

To start, you'll need to decide whether to grow tomatoes from seeds or buy started plants. If you have a larger garden space, you can benefit from starting your own seeds: you initially invest more time and space, but save a lot of money and end up with lots of plants. Buying started plants on the other hand may make more sense if you have a smaller space garden, or want to grow several different varieties, or simply lack the time and space to start seeds.

Always choose the sunniest and warmest location possible. Amend your soil with our Harvest Supreme planting mix. If using containers, select the largest pot your space will accommodate; a minimum size would be a 10 gallon pot. Happy Frog Potting Soil is an absolutely amazing potting soil for growing tomatoes in containers. Use all organic Dr. Earth Tomato, Vegetable & Herb fertilizer when planting.

There are two types of tomatoes: indeterminate and determinate. Determinate tomatoes grow to a "determined" height, about 2-3 feet, fruit all at once—only one time during the season, and should be spaced at least two feet apart. Most varieties of tomatoes, however, are indeterminate with a rambling, vining habit potentially growing to an undetermined length, well over six feet. Indeterminate types continuously bloom, fruit, and grow. They should be spaced at least three feet apart.

Both types of tomatoes must be staked or "caged" immediately upon planting. All vining plants grow faster when provided support. Indeterminate types require a stake or cage at least six feet tall—remember part of stake/cage goes in the ground. Use plastic tie tape (it

continued p2

Container Gardening

BY WALTER ANDERSEN, JR.

Everyone has room to grow something. If you prefer not to bend down or get on the ground to plant, raised beds or planters are helpful. Growing your food and flowers in containers can help save your back, and bring plants to your balcony or patio. Most will do very well with a minimum of 4-6 hours of direct sun.

It is amazing what can be grown in containers. Today, container gardening has become very popular. Almost any vegetable can be grown in tubs, planter boxes, raised garden bins, pots, and larger containers. Containers are made from wood, ceramic and plastics mostly. There are all shapes and sizes and price ranges. Larger 'wood boxes' can come 4' or 5' long. The key to success is to avoid small



continued p2

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Japanese Maples: Naked But Nice Choice For Now

BY MELANIE POTTER



Just in from Oregon are Acers, or Japanese Maples. As I write this article in February, some are leafed out but many are still dormant and are just trunks and branches. Not that it's a bad thing to see them bare as you can clearly spot the interesting and structurally beautiful shapes the tree has. Some will grow upright; others are quite weepy (pendulous).

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March

Garden Tasks

PRUNING

Camellias and Azaleas after blooming to shape. Cut back frost damaged plants and feed with Gro-Power to encourage new growth and regeneration.

FERTILIZE

Roses and shrubs with Gro-Power or Gro-Power for Roses. Feed Citrus, Avocado, and Fruits with Gro-Power or Gro-Power Citrus & Avocado Food.

PLANT

Citrus, Avocados, and tropical and semi-tropical fruit. Start to replace cool season bedding plants with warm season plants. Start planting warm season vegetables like Tomatoes and Squash. Be sure to amend the soil with good organic compost. Ada Perry's Redwood Compost works great for general ornamentals and Harvest Supreme is perfect for vegetable gardens.

LOOK FOR

Azaleas, Spirea, Tuberous Begonias, Caladiums, Calla Lilies and Roses.

Tomatoes Tips *continued from p1*

stretches) and avoid tie-tabs or string that can cut growing stems.

As tomato plants grow, remove any side branches on the bottom 12" of the plant. This increases air flow and prevents leaves and stems from touching the ground, which reduces the incidence of disease. Also prune any non-flowering side branches over 18-24" long to increase air movement through the plant. As plants approach six feet tall, cut the stem tops so that the plant puts more energy into flowering and fruiting.

Don't forget to water your tomatoes. If they don't have enough water, the lower leaves typically turn yellow and fall off and the tomatoes often have thicker skins, especially in pots. Irregular watering causes the fruit to split.

Water the ground not the plant. Many diseases like blight and the dreaded powdery mildew are spread from water getting on the foliage of the plant. (For more on preventing powdery mildew, [see my article in our August 2013 newsletter](#)). Organic fungicides like Neem Oil are available for treating diseases on tomatoes, but the culture tips described above help prevent diseases: stake plants; no leaves/stems touching the soil; prune non-flowering side branches to increase air flow; water the ground, not the foliage. In addition, avoid planting tomatoes

in the same location two years in a row.

If you encounter any issues in your tomato growing endeavors, bring in samples or photos of your plants right away, and we'd be more than happy to help you correct the problem.

There you have the basics. For more info, I'll be giving a free class Terrific Tomato Varieties, at our San Diego location March 8, at 9am. We'll talk a lot about different tomato varieties: which varieties perform best on the coast, heirlooms, determinate vs. indeterminate, sweet tomatoes, as well as go into detail on all the tomato growing tips I've described above. A general vegetable class will be held at the Poway store on March 15 at 9:30am that will discuss growing tomatoes. Hope to see you there and happy tomato growing!

CHUCK'S FAVORITES

Large

Better Boy

Kellogg's Breakfast (h)

Mr. Stripey (h)

Medium

Early Girl

Green Zebra

Stupice (h)

(h) = heirloom variety ■

Small/Cherry

SunGold

Yellow Pear

Sweet 100

Determinate

Oregon Spring

Celebrity

Patio

Container Gardening *continued from p1*

containers, such as 8" pots, even 5 gallon size pots. Small containers do not supply enough space for the roots to grow and they dry out quickly. Best would be the 10 to 15 gallon size or larger.

Also important is the mix you grow your plants in. Edna's Best Potting Soil, or Sunshine Planter Mix or potting soils are excellent mixes. These mixes are ready to go, no mixing required. If lifting is a problem, the Sunshine mixes in the bag are lighter in weight. We find these mixes produce outstanding results.

Fill your containers to about 2" from the top and smooth it out. Place your plant directly into the soil mix. Firm the soil just a little, and give a good watering. After about two weeks you should start feeding your plants. DR. EARTH manufactures wonderful organic plant foods. Gro-Power is also one of our favorite brands. Try to get on a schedule to reapply about once a month as long as your crops are growing and producing. In just two

or three weeks, you will notice much new growth for almost instant gratification.

You might consider getting started with one tub or planter box first, then plant the second and third planters about a month apart. This will help you with a continuous harvest from your boxes or tubs. Planting in early spring, is a great time for Tomatoes, Lettuce, Onions, and a whole lot more. Check our vegetable sections as the plants change weekly this time of the year.

As the crops are harvested and the plants start to decline, pull up the plants and put them in a compost pile or bin. You can replant immediately with a new crop of vegetables, but add some fertilizer to the soil first. As the season progresses, the choice of plants changes. With a little planning, you should be able to have fresh vegetables from your containers almost year-round. ■



Words



From Walter

BY WALTER ANDERSEN, JR.

Bromeliads

The Bromeliad family of plants is quite large. They are native to tropical parts of the world. Some grow to only a few inches tall and have tiny blooms, others grow to be quite large, 4' or so across with bloom spikes to 10' tall. Many are grown for the very colorful blooms which come from the center of the plant when mature. The flowers can be quite large on some of them; perhaps 4" to 5" in diameter with brilliant colors. Many are grown just for the foliage which also can be quite colorful. Generally, they are quite easy to grow. Many will grow outdoors. Some like shade; others prefer a sunny location outside. Pineapples are in the Bromeliad family and can be grown here in frost-free or protected areas in San Diego.

If you choose a plant for indoors, be sure to place it where the plant will get good indirect light and good air circulation. Water them when they start to get a little dry; they don't like to be in soggy soil. Also try to keep some water in the cups where the leaves attach to the plant and the center cup. To feed them, liquid fertilizers used half strength work fine. There are also dry plant foods that will keep them growing as well. Gro-Power tablets work very well in container plants. Outdoors, they can be grown in the ground or containers. Be sure the soil drains well; and have a good amount of



orchid bark and humus mixed into the soil for best growth. About 1/3-1/3-1/3 is fine.

For plants in containers, a loose well draining mix seems best for most of them. Small orchid bark mixed with a little planter mix or redwood compost should be fine. Some gardeners have had success growing smaller varieties on branches of trees. For this, use some green moss to form a pocket around the roots and 20# monofilament fishing line to attach them to the branches. Be sure to water them about two or three times a week.

After the original parent plant blooms, it will decline and gradually die. They usually produce many smaller plantlets, called pups, off of the original plant. When the pups are about 1/2 the size of the parent plant they can be taken off to start new plants. You can also cut out the old plant with a sharp knife and let the small plants grow into a larger clump. Don't try to separate them when they are too small; it takes too long to get them restarted and some may not survive. Small divisions usually take a couple of years to mature and bloom.

Very few pests are attracted to Bromeliads. However, because mosquitos may breed in the cups of water, it is a good idea to flush those out about every two weeks or so. If they have slugs and snails, Sluggo works well on them. ■

Tool Shed

BY MELANIE POTTER

This is not an early April's Fools prank and by the time you read this, you may already be the proud owner of a pair. A pair of Smart Mud gloves, that is. Wearing a pair of these, you can use your cell phone while gardening. I thought that sounded ridiculous, too, but Emily Drury assures me there are times when she is gardening, wearing gloves, and needs to take a photo. These gloves provide durability as well as an excellent degree of facility. The thumb, forefinger and middle finger tips, all have a special thread woven throughout, allowing access to your smart devices without removing your glove!



So put on a pair of Smart Muds, go out to the garden, answer your phone, change your music, or snap some shots of what you're growing in the garden. ■

Japanese Maples

continued from p1

If you want to grow Japanese Maples in San Diego, you must be sneaky and trick them into thinking they are back in the Pacific Northwest, which is their ideal climate. For that reason, you won't often see them planted in the landscape. These are better kept in containers and used in courtyards or patios. After all, it's a lot easier to emulate their preferred soil and moisture if they are in a pot rather than in the ground.

Why would you want to bother with something so unsuited for our climate? Well, these trees are graceful, with beautifully shaped and colored foliage. Some varieties will have finely cut leaves; others will be larger, well defined, while another variety, *Acer japonicum* 'Aconitifolium' (also called 'Maiku jaku') will have fern-like and feathery leaves that look like an artist carefully cut each one. As for the colors, you may need to sit down for this news: They are just fabulous ranging from beautiful fall colors of red, gold, orange, and yellow to a fresh spring palette of green, cream, and fuchsia to purple-black or purple-red. Leaves unfurl in one hue and as they edge toward maturity then dormancy, you'll be rewarded with a completely different color.

Keep in containers, courtyards, or patios where they can be moved as needed. Plant in well draining and slightly acidic soil and keep it moist. A loose soil consisting of fine silt or sand, peat moss, and organic compost is ideal. Remember, you are duplicating the climate of the Pacific Northwest. Provide shade and be warned that Japanese Maples do not endure heat, coastal winds, or Santa Ana winds well. Feed with an organic plant food; former employee and plant expert Richard Wright recommends Dyna Gro Pro-Tekt to minimize tip burn.

Most varieties will go dormant, but for year round interest, there are Black Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum* 'Nigrum'), or 'Emperor' which is in stock now. Both stores will also have: Butterfly, Senkaki, Oshio Beni, Bloodgood, Coral Bark, Crimson Queen, Garnet, Red Select, and Laceleaf. In addition to the areas already mentioned where you're likely to see these planted, Acers are most welcome in Japanese styled landscapes and Bonsai. ■



Don't Miss These Special Classes



Renee Shepherd

Gourmet Gardening Class

You've seen the seed packs, now meet the lady. **Renee Shepherd** from **Renee's Garden** will present a class April 12 at our Poway store on **Gourmet Gardening** year-round. She is widely regarded as a pioneering innovator in introducing international vegetables, flowers and herbs to home gardeners and gourmet restaurants. She founded Shepherd's Garden Seeds in 1985 (later selling the company) and established Renee's Garden to do what she likes best—searching out the very best seeds from around the world, testing them in her own gardens, cooking and developing recipes around their unique characteristics, and sharing them with other gardeners. The class begins at 9:30am.

Drip Irrigation Class Hosted by DIG

The class will be on April 5, 2014 at 1pm at our Poway store and is limited to 50 attendees. Class is expected to fill quickly; we'll be unable to accommodate walk-ins. Reservations are required. Call 858-513-4900.

Itty Bitty Pretties

BY MELANIE POTTER

Imagine being a plant with a description that boasts all your attributes with a mention of bearing 'insignificant flowers'. That essentially means you are lauded for your foliage but your flowers are small, nearly worthless to look at, and aren't considered as being anything remarkable. Well, there are a lot of such plants out there so let's give a shout out to a few itty bitty pretties.



Wandering Jew

This is a popular houseplant grown for its vibrant purple, white, and silver foliage. Imagine my surprise when walking by, I spotted just a hint of hot pink that was a tiny flower amongst the purple. This is a trailing and invasive plant, so it will look best in a hanging basket. It will need some direct sunlight daily, otherwise the color will be less bright. Water frequently to keep the soil moist and prune regularly, otherwise branches will become spindly.



Photo: Tillandsia International

Tillandsia usenoides or Spanish Moss

Growing up in the south I'd regularly see Spanish moss draped from trees like it was tinsel on a Christmas tree, but I never realized it bloomed. Ken Andersen planted a tillandsia display at home which included the above mentioned and was rewarded with blooms. Flowers are miniature with three petals and a greenish tint, sometimes lightly fragrant.



Mondo Grass

This perennial offers distinctive color and texture for the garden. Dense clumps of purple-black, or bright green, grass-like foliage make an excellent ground cover, edging or border. Flowers, borne on spikes, are followed by black berries and hidden in the foliage. Flowers may be a whitish to pink or lilac color and resemble grape hyacinths. Plant Mondo Grass in partial to full sun and water regularly.



Carex or Sedge

These belong to a large group of grass-like plants grown for their foliage and are at home in borders, rock gardens, containers, or water gardens. Some are evergreen, while others are deciduous, with differing shades of green, bronze, gold, bright yellow, silver-green, even blue-gray leaves. Greenish colored flowers that look like wheat appear on spikes but should be cut after blooming to avoid aggressive reseeding. Sedges can be distinguished from grasses by their solid, 3-angled flower stems (grasses have round, hollow flower stems).



Boxwood

Also called Buxus, it's a genus of 70 species and has become a traditional standby in landscapes

Itty Bitty Pretties *continued from p4*

because it is so versatile. Boxwood shrubs are often planted as foundation plantings because of their unique growth pattern and dense foliage. The tiny flowers, greenish-yellow, with no petals, along with the dense texture, provides an excellent opportunity to shape these shrubs into beautiful forms and patterns. Generally, boxwood shrubs are used to make hedges and garden borders. Boxwoods grow in full sun, but do well in partial shade, and selecting a site that fits these requirements is important. During its growing phase, the boxwood needs frequent watering.



Heuchera

This plant gets loads of attention for its brilliant foliage colors and combinations. When it blooms, flowers will appear on tall spikes. They are tiny, bell shaped flowers and while they take a back seat to the scalloped shaped leaves, one gracious description of the

flowers said they sometimes create another area of interest on the plant. Grow in fertile, well-drained soil in sun to part shade.

Phormium or Flax

You might be hard pressed to walk your neighborhood and not find some sort of Phormium, whether it be the Jack Spratt that grows to 18" to Yellow Wave that reaches 7'. Sword-like foliage comes in an array of colors and color combinations which makes it sought after for landscapes. Mature plants will flower and while the bloom isn't an itty bitty one, it's usually not the reason you include this plant in the garden. The flower spike will be long and have yellowish-orange color that looks somewhat like a large Kangaroo Paw bloom. You can use the flower spike in cut flower arrangements, but when I notice them, they already have a dried, spent look.



Japanese Maples

It was only by chance that I noticed the tiny flowers on some that are just leafing out. Shaped like lobster claws, these little blooms sure take a back seat to the eye catching foliage shapes and colors on these trees. ■

New To The Stores

New to the stores is Dr. Earth all organic sprays in two formulations; Final Stop Dr. Earth Weed & Grass Herbicide kills and controls a broad spectrum of weeds and grasses. Use both directly on plants and walkways and every part of the yard and garden, wherever you want weeds dead. (Remember not to spray weeds in your lawn). It controls crabgrass, foxtail, all broadleaf weeds, poison ivy, poison oak and every [non-desired] plant you want to kill from the top down. For fruit trees, try Final Stop Fruit Tree Insect Killer for killing and controlling insects on all fruit trees, citrus, avocados, deciduous trees and every part of the yard and garden. It controls aphids, scale, whiteflies, mites, earwigs, caterpillars, spiders, flies, ants, leafhoppers,



beetles, mealybugs, pillbugs, crickets and many other nasty insects. ■

Did You Know?



Podocarpus

It's Not A Flower

It looks like a flower, but this is actually an example of candling. This is what new growth on a Podocarpus looks like. What looks like a flower are very prominent terminal buds that emerge on pine trees and some shrubs in spring, as they push out their new growth. The upright, long slender buds appear like candles on a candelabra.

Osmocote

If you loved this wonderful fertilizer in the 3 lb. jar, now it is available in a 2 lb. size.

Discontinued

Gro-Power has discontinued 3-3-3 Pure & Natural. If you miss it, we suggest substituting with either Dr. Earth Premium Gold 4-4-4 or Dr. Earth Vega 2-2-2.

Did You Know?



What Colors Are The Roses?

It's the end of bare root season and the roses already have begun to bloom. Now you can see first-hand what colors the blooms are, rather than relying on photos. It's also a great time to start or expand your citrus grove.



Almost Too Cute To Garden With

How about a bypass lopper and pruner set? We have these in apple green, turquoise, and purple, and they are priced at only \$14.99. The combo kit includes a 15-inch bypass lopper and an 8-inch bypass pruner. Both are made with high carbon steel blades to cut with a clean, scissor-like action. Heat-treated blades stay sharp longer. Perfect size for small hands and close work. The pruner has an adjustable tension safety lock and a 5-year warranty.

When In Drought...

BY TOM PERKINS

National Sales Director Lawn & Garden
Xtreme Gardening/Reforestation Technologies
International

The governor declared that we are in a **drought emergency**. You probably already are aware that we have had record low rainfall and as we look at the hillsides around us, we already know water may be in short supply this year. **Water restrictions** may be in our future as well. If you are planning a garden this year, you face a bit of a quandary. On one hand, you want to grow fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs for your family. On the other, you want to do your part in reducing your water usage (and your water bill). The answer to this dilemma may very well be found under the microscope in the form of a fungus called mycorrhizae. This beneficial fungus lives in your soil and on your plant's roots.

Mycorrhizal fungi (specifically Glomus intraradices) form an association with plant roots that is beneficial to the plant and the fungus. The plant provides the fungi with needed nutrients in the form of Glomalin, a carbohydrate rich solution which causes the fungi to grow hyphae which act as microscopic straws that help draw up and store nutrients for the plant. It is a "win-win" for both the plant and the fungi. Think of the fungal growth as a giant sponge-like mass in the soil holding vital water and nutrients at the ready, right at the root zone. This in turn, helps extend the period between watering.

Adding mycorrhizal fungi to plants is easy. At time of planting, amend your soil with a good, long lasting soil amendment (like peat moss or a soil conditioner that does not have much raw wood fiber). Then, apply a mycorrhizal inoculant (Such as MYKOS™) directly to the roots. This not only helps to reduce transplant shock, but it begins building a network of microscopic bonds with your plant's roots that help the plant collect more water and nutrients. This not only helps reduce the need for frequent watering, but it also helps your plants acquire and hold fertilizer right at the



root zone where it is needed most. Mycorrhizal fungi also help plants ward off bad soil fungi as they occupy all of the available "sites" on the roots before root rot can set in. You can expect earlier, more abundant harvests, tastier, more nutritious fruits and vegetables, and an overall more resilient plant.

In an effort to **conserve water**, you might reevaluate your watering habits. Most plants don't like to have "wet feet"—they need a little time to dry out between watering. Often times we think, "If some is good, then more is better", but that is not always the case. A good deep watering rather than daily short sprays is what most plants prefer. Keep an eye on your plants and they will tell you when they need watering. Temperature, humidity, wind and soil preparation all play a big role in this process. Consider converting to **drip irrigation**. It reduces evaporation and run off and may well help prevent some diseases.

Mulch! Mulch! Mulch! Adding a layer of mulch to the top of the soil around your plants will help to reduce evaporation, improve soil fertility and reduce the number of weeds you will have to pull. Mulching your garden will reduce evaporation by protecting the soil surface from the sun's rays and drying winds. Organic mulch provides more food for worms and microorganisms as it breaks down. You may want to re-apply mulch a few times throughout the year as it continues to break down and enhance the soil. Tip: Leave a little space around the stem/trunk of your plant so as not to smother the plant. ■



15th Annual
Poway Rose Show
May 24-25, 2014

Rose Show Prep Class
May 17, 2014

Keeping Company With Chickens

BY OLD BEN



On March 8th, I will hold a class in the Poway store on "Why Chickens?" The first 50 attendees will receive a 19-page guide entitled, "My Pet Chicken Guide to Chicken Care." Did you know that there are more than 400 varieties of chickens?

Why Chickens?

In case you're not sold on chickens yet, here are 10 good reasons to call them your own:

Great-Tasting, Nutritious Eggs

We all love our dogs, cats, and fish, but do they actually produce something edible? Do they pay their own way? Chickens do, and once you've dined on their eggs, you'll never reach for a dozen in the supermarket again. They're so much more flavorful, in no small part because you'll eat them when they're only minutes or hours old, not weeks or months. You'll even see the difference in the yolks, which are a healthy orange—not the pale yellow you're used to.

You will feel good about the organic eggs you'll be feeding your friends and family. All it takes to get organic eggs is organic chicken feed! Research shows that chickens roaming freely and eating grass lay eggs that are higher in Omega-3 fatty acids and Vitamin E, and at the same time, lower in cholesterol than store-bought, too.

Chickens Have Personality Galore—Seriously!

Each chicken has their own completely unique quirky, kooky and endearing personality. They're stunningly beautiful too, parading around in a variety of colors, patterns, shapes and sizes. You'll name them, spoil them with treats, and pick them up and hug them every chance you get.

Get One Step Closer to Sustainable Living

Do you find it disconcerting how far removed we all are from the animals and plants we need to survive? How our fast-paced lives and ever-increasing demands are trashing the planet that sustains us? Believe it or not, keeping a few chickens in your backyard equates to taking a stand against all this. How? Read on...

A Healthy Lawn without the Chemicals

Chickens LOVE to range freely, and allowing them to, kills the proverbial two birds with one stone: they'll eat any garden pest they can get their beaks on (earwigs, grubs, beetles, even moles) and they'll turn it all into treasure in the form of fertilizer. Say goodbye to toxic, costly, pest control solutions and wasteful bags and bottles of store-bought fertilizer. Chickens will even cut down on the amount of mowing you do because they love to eat grass. That's right; you sit in a lounge chair with your mint julep while they do the hard work for you. Editor's Note: If you let them roam, be aware that they will forage freely and destroy mulch areas around plants and plantings in flower beds. Lawns are less susceptible to damage caused by foraging chickens.

One Man's Unappealing Leftovers are another Chicken's Feast

Chickens can eat almost anything people can, and they adore "people food". You can throw those unwanted leftovers into the chicken run. No more feeling guilty about letting them rot in the fridge or throwing them out! Watch out for the garlic and onion, though, unless you want your eggs tasting funny.

A Balanced Compost Pile

Composting is a wonderful way to reduce your ecological footprint, and a nitrogen-rich compost pile is a healthy compost pile. What better to provide the nitrogen than chicken poo? Eggshells are a great addition too, especially in areas where there's lots of clay in the soil. At the end of the composting process you'll have "black gold" soil, so called because it's so rich and fertile.

Handy Leaf, Weed, and Grass Clipping Removal

Leaves, weeds and grass clippings are a treat for Gallus gallus domesticus. They'll happily dig through whatever you give them, eat what they can, and pulverize the rest. Give a small flock a heap of yard and garden debris, and a week later it'll be gone without a trace. No need to bag it and pile it by the curb!

continued p8

Old Ben's Specials!

Sale Prices Valid
March 1-31, 2014

The Orioles Are Coming!

Oriole Feeder w/Food
\$19.99 Reg. \$25.99

Fruit & Jelly Feeder

Includes 2 FREE Jars of Old Ben's Jelly or Marmalade an \$11.98 Value
\$29.99 Reg. \$37.99

Deluxe Fruit & Jelly Feeder

Includes 2 FREE Jars of Old Ben's Jelly or Marmalade an \$11.98 Value
\$31.99 Regular \$42.99

Oriole Food

\$3.99 Regular \$6.99

No Mess Wild Bird Seed

The No Mess Advantage: All seed is hulled, seed will not sprout, birds are able to eat all the seed thus attracting fewer feeder pests!

20 lb. **\$29.99** Reg. \$42.99

5 lb. **\$9.99** Reg. \$14.99

5 lb. Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed

\$6.49 Reg. \$11.99

5 lb. Old Ben's Goldfish & Koi Food

\$9.99 Reg. \$14.99

All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.



March

In-Store Specials!

Valid March 1-31, 2014

25% OFF All Bare Root Fruit Trees

Limited to stock on hand

Buy 2, Get One Free! Decorative Ground Cover Mulch

3 cu. ft. Bag

Buy 2, Get One Free! 5-Gallon Roses

Reg. Price \$24.99

All specials limited to stock on hand.
No special orders. Cannot be combined with
any other discount or offer.

Chickens *continued from p7*

Save a Chicken from a Factory-Farm Life

If you're aware of conditions in factory farms, even in some of the so-called "free range" farms, we needn't say more. If you're not, please research it. Factory farming is terrifyingly cruel. The good news is that by keeping a few pet chickens of your own, you're reducing the demand for store-bought eggs and sending a message to those factory farms that you don't want what they're selling.

The Very Definition of Low-Maintenance

Chickens don't need to be walked, brushed, or fed twice a day. Essentially, all you have to do is gather eggs daily, fill their food and water containers a couple of times a week and change their bedding once a month!

Be the Coolest Kid on the Block

Despite their many merits, backyard chickens are still relatively uncommon. Wow neighbors, friends, and family by being the first person they know to have chickens. Amaze them with the green eggs from your Ameraucana hens. Confound them by scooping up your pet chicken and cuddling it. Astound them when your chicken falls asleep in your arms after you've lovingly stroked its comb and wattles. Make them green with envy at the lawn your flock has made effortlessly fabulous.

Chickens are, after all, the most "chic" pet you could possibly have. And we think it's time everyone knew.

Article reprinted with permission from "My Pet Chicken". ■



March Special! Valid March 1-31, 2014

\$5.00 OFF Ada Perry's Magic Formula

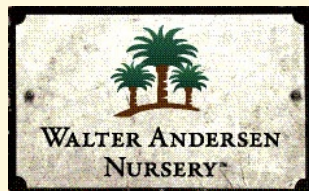
All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders.
Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.

March Garden Class Schedule

Saturday classes are FREE and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Topics are subject to change. See the full schedule at www.walterandersen.com/calendar/.

9:00AM SAN DIEGO NURSERY	9:30AM POWAY NURSERY
3/1 Spring Vegetables You Can Grow!	3/1 Spring Flowers
3/8 Terrific Tomato Varieties Care & Culture	3/8 Backyard Chickens with Old Ben
3/15 Container & Potted Plants, Hangers too!	3/15 Vegetables with Richard Wright
3/22 General Orchid Care for Success at Home	3/22 Spring Rose Care with David Ross
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