

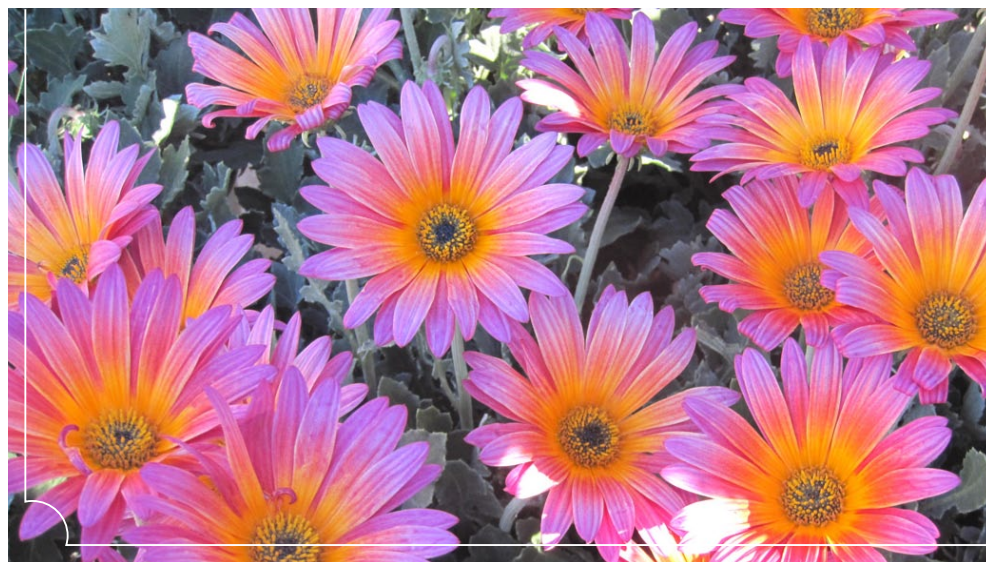


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Great Spring Color For Sun And Fun

By Melanie Potter



'Arctotis' Pink Sugar

We love the spring here at Walter Andersen Nursery because we see more and more plants in bloom, and this spring is no exception.

We found some great performers we thought you would be interested in and are putting them on sale!

This month, look for **Arctotis** and **Senettis** from Proven Winners.

Arctotis have a compact habit, silver foliage, and an impressive color range. Look for Pink Sugar with its hot pink and orange color combination. It doesn't stay in the store for very

[continued p2](#)

Getting Kids Excited About Gardening

By Roy Wilburn



Hello there gardeners! I'm Roy Wilburn (aka Farmer Roy), Horticulture Manager at Sunshine Care in Poway. Our facility is spread over 32 acres nestled in the hills behind Pomerado

Hospital and even has a farm! Our farm consists of five organic gardens, two areas of fruit trees, a memorial rose garden, and greenhouse which

combined produce over 20,000 lbs of fresh organic produce annually for our residents and for families in need in the Poway and Rancho Bernardo areas. On site, we also sponsor a set of food bank gardens where local volunteers grow even more fresh produce for families in the area. We also help with school gardens, low-income housing gardens, community gardens, and gardens at religious centers in the neighborhood.

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Red Apple, There Is A New Bully In Town

By Walter Andersen Nursery Staff



When we've been asked to recommend a tough groundcover that spreads quickly and is attractive, we include Red Apple or Aptenia in our list of suggestions. It has always been tough and hard to kill. But now, that has changed.

It began last July or August after one of our heavy summer downpours.

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Great Spring Color continued from p1



'Arctotis' Cherry Frost



'Senetti' Blue Bicolor



'Arctotis' Hearts & Tarts



'Senetti' Violet Bicolor

long because it is quickly snapped up. On sale will be these varieties: Cherry Frost, Hearts & Tarts, and Pink Sugar.

Senetti® is the trade mark for this new collection of plants made up from pericallis hybrids. Commonly called cineraria, Senetti® is renowned for its garden performance and reblooming capability. It is able to cope with temperatures down as low as 35°F and high as 85-90°F. Look for Blue Bicolor, Magenta Bicolor, and Violet Bicolor.



'Senetti' Magenta Bicolor

These (one-gallon size) would regularly sell for \$8.99 but will be on sale for \$4.50. •



Healthy Red Apple

Red Apple continued from p1

We saw some Red Apple that looked like it had mildew on its foliage, and was dying. Fast forward to winter, and we began hearing from many customers that their Red Apple was rapidly 'melting', dying back or completely gone. We thought it was odd that we were seeing so many samples of Red Apple that was clearly deteriorating and we have to admit that we were stumped.

We called the Ag Dept. and they had seen it and subsequently the mildew strain has been identified as *Peronospora mesembryanthemi* by the USDA. We now know what it is and what it does, but little is thus far known about to control it.

If your Red Apple is not completely dead, you might try spraying Physan or Agri Fos, two products we carry that list Downey Mildew on the label. If your Red Apple has completely melted out, you may want to try another vigorous iceplant such as Rosea or Disneyland.

We have had two customers report recently that using Agri Fos has SEEMED to be helping to stop the spread of this disease.

Until we have concrete information, if you are having some success or failure with this new malady, please let us know what is or is not working for you. We will update you in future newsletters as we receive more information on this problem. •



Tool Shed: Ada Perry's Now Available In Two Sizes

Here is a perfect addition to your tool shed; a 5-lb box of Ada Perry's. It is the same formula that we sell in the 20-lb bag, just a tiny version of it. Your tool shed will love it because it doesn't take up a lot of space and your roses will love it because it provides them with the trace elements that supplement the fertilizer you feed them with. It makes a great starter fertilizer as well! Ada Perry's is labeled for general soil conditioning, too! •



Getting Kids Excited continued from p1

One of our passions at Sunshine Care is to educate youngsters how to grow their own produce. Twice a month we have local home-schooled children, pre-schoolers, and even some younger children gather at our facility to learn the basics of gardening. We show the kids that fresh produce doesn't always come from the grocery store! Watching the smiles on their faces as they devour yummy treats fresh from the garden is delightful.

At our facility, we have a garden dedicated to these garden club children where they work the soil, plant crops, culturally maintain them, and harvest a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. Our "Seed to Table" program meets the first and third Thursdays of the month. We get our hands dirty in the garden, wash them, and then we are off to bond with "Grandmas and Grandpas" (our residents) as we sow seeds in the greenhouse. Our residents and these children work together to seed trays of plants that will eventually find their way to the garden. At the greenhouse, we also do some floral arranging with cut flowers grown at Sunshine Care; propagate succulents, care for orchids, and once a month we release ladybugs to help rid the greenhouse of aphids and other insects. At the end of the bonding session, we share the day's bounty with the residents and end with a hug, handshake or high-five. Our grandmas and grandpas are elated to be able to spend time with the little ones. It's truly a heart-warming experience!

At one garden club last year we held our annual Cherry Tomato Taste Test, where residents and the kids harvested and sampled sixteen different tomato varieties.

Here are the winners!

Sun Gold

It's a winner every year with exceptionally intense fruity flavor. These juicy bright tangerine-orange cherry tomatoes bear fruit early and the taste can't be beaten!

Nova

(Limited availability - mid-April)

These beautiful bright orange grape tomatoes are borne on long trusses with excellent size, 15-20 grams, and firmness. This variety also has intermediate resistance to nematodes.

Favorita

(Limited availability - mid-April)

This multiple disease-resistant early variety produces loads of round, deep, red cherries with fantastic taste on long trusses. The fruit can get to be over 1" in diameter.

Black Cherry

These round, 15-20 grams, fruits are almost black in color with a sweet and robust dynamic flavor, much like an heirloom. The plants are very high yielding.

Tomato flavor is extremely complex and as my friend David Ross, Senior Manager of Walter Andersen Nursery in Poway says, "De gustibus non est disputandum", (in matters of taste, there can be no disputes)!

If you wish to tour our gardens or learn more about our Garden Club, contact Roy Wilburn at roy@sunshinecare.com or call at 858-472-6059. •

TO DO LIST: March



PRUNING

Prune 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 sub-tropical fruit. Start to replace cool season bedding plants with warm season plants. Start planting warm season vegetables like tomatoes, peppers, 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. •



Don't Forget!

Bare root fruit trees are nearly sold out and what remains is being potted up. If you are looking for bare root fruit trees, give us a call or come in lickety split! •

Malibu Compost To Hold Organic Gardening Class

March 12, 2016 | Poway, CA

Want to grow strong, healthy, organic plants? It all starts with the soil! Come to our Poway store on March 12 at 9:30am for a one-hour class on Organic Gardening. Topics covered will include: How to mimic nature with compost, how to grow beneficial microbes in your soil, what compost tea is and how to use it, how to mitigate pests and diseases without synthetics or chemicals, and how to grow healthy food gardens to feed your family! Matt from Malibu Compost will be here for a fun and interactive class. •



Fuller's Finds Use Less Water By Planting Natives

By Carol Fuller

It's that time of year again. There are several ways to decrease water use in your landscape. Natives are in abundance and, in case you haven't noticed, we're still in a drought. There are several ways to decrease your water use in your landscape. Less grass and more low water use plants and what better way to accomplish this than to use more natives.



'Ceanothus'

Despite popular belief, a native garden is not full of cactus and brown scrub brush. Native areas consist of oak woodlands, alpine forests, fern and orchid river corridors as well as our beautiful Anza-Borrego desert. Native gardens also attract and support local birds and butterflies. Most natives are **disease and pest resistant** and provide a natural weed control after two to three years. They prefer natural rainfall patterns. Irrigation is used to help establish native plants or during times of drought stress. Low maintenance and cost (no fertilizer or amendments) are another reason to go native.

Irrigation for natives is pretty basic. Most, if not all, natives do not like drip irrigation. Xeric natives want diffused moisture, similar to rainfall. Micro sprays are good for retrofitting an existing drip system. Plantings next to a lawn may need no additional water.

Natives go through a period of semi-dormancy during the summer so too much water during the summer will not allow them to thrive. I speak from experience when I say you can kill them with too much water! However, water them well when first planted and set up a system to water approximately weekly to every 10 days for the first year. You may need to water heavily in spring if the winter has been dry. You must be a diligent gardener for the first year with native plants. Trust me when I say it will pay off in the end.

Natives prefer their soil natural and unamended. There is no need for fertilizers or special soil amendments. If, however, you have a heavy clay soil I would suggest adding some organic material (compost) at a 25% amendment to 75% native soil ratio. Natives usually thrive under benign neglect.

To install your natives, just dig a hole and put one in. No fertilizer, no amendments and no deeper than they are in the pot they came in. Just run a finger down the side of the root ball to break any root encirclement. Extensive root disturbance will kill the plant. Native plants have a symbiotic relationship with the surrounding soil. The more you disturb the soil, the more you disturb that relationship which could be disastrous to your plants.

If designed correctly, occasional dead-heading is all that should be required in your native garden. It is important to keep the area weed free, until the natural weed inhibition of the plant community develops in two to three years. Keep a good level of mulch on the soil to help with weed abatement. Do not let the mulch cover the base of the plant.

If you plan on installing a native garden, start with your trees and shrubs



'Anisodonteia'



Baja Fairy Duster



Manzanita

first. **Island Oak**, **Coast Live Oak**, and **Engelmann Oaks** are large spreading trees for shade. **Catalina Ironwood**, **Box Elder**, and **Redbuds** are wonderful accent trees that not only provide shade but create movement in your garden. If you have a heavily watered

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Fuller's Finds Natives continued from p4



Native Ribes Gooseberry

area in your yard, **Desert Willow** or **White Alder** will work wonderfully.

Good screening plant materials are **Elderberry, Current, Toyon, Manzanita** and **Island Mountain Mahogany**. Small to medium-sized shrubs are good

fillers and include **Bush anemone, Woolly Blue Curls, Ceanothus 'Julia Phelps',** and **salvias**.

Some good groundcovers are **Arctostaphylos 'Carmel Sur', Ceanothus 'Centennial'** and **'Yankee Point',** and **Baccharis 'Pigeon Point'.**

Add perennial color with the mother of all **Penstemon, 'Margarita Bop', Yarrow, Bush Morning Glory, Hummingbird Fuchsia, Monkey Flower, Goldenrod,** and **native iris.**

Natives create very stable landscapes by working symbiotically with the local conditions. The local plant palette is massive and can be used to create any garden style. Shade or sun, natural, formal, Japanese, Mediterranean or cottage, the choice is yours. •

DIG Irrigation Class Scheduled

Attendees Must RSVP!

Mark your calendar for March 5 and join the folks from DIG Corporation for an irrigation class at our Poway store. The two-hour class will begin at 9:30am. Attendance is limited; attendees will receive \$27 worth of irrigation products. You may RSVP by calling the Poway store at 858-513-4900. •

Citrus Leaf Miner Damage Is Easy To Spot

By Chuck McClung

Citrus are the most widely planted fruit trees in Southern California, and with a little care, grow very well here. Lately however, gardeners visiting the nursery have been complaining about their leaves not looking quite right. "They look sort of curled up or something", is a description we often hear. Although there are other maladies that cause citrus leaves to curl, currently the most common cause we are seeing is Citrus leafminer.

Citrus leafminer is relatively new to San Diego. Native to Asia, Citrus leafminer was found in the United States in Florida in 1993 and began making its way west, arriving in California in 2000. Citrus leafminer is the larva of a small light colored moth which is less than 1/4" inch long. This moth usually lays one egg on the underside of a young citrus leaf. After the egg hatches, in about one week, the larva tunnel, or "mine" through the leaf eating and leaving a visible trail. When ready to pupate, the leafminer exits the "mine", tucks itself in at the edge of the leaf by folding the leaf edge over itself and

emerges 1-3 weeks later as an adult ready to start the entire process over again.

You didn't do anything to cause this problem. Almost all citrus in the county get visited by leafminer when they are in season. The leafminer is most active when the weather is warm and there is tender new growth on citrus trees, usually between late May and late October. While nothing will completely eradicate the leafminer, we have a couple of easy to use organic controls which will diminish their damage.

The Pest Wizard Citrus Leafminer kit has two sticky traps and a pheromone attractant which will attract and kill many of the male moths, thus preventing them from mating! The label reminds us that "Dead Males Cannot Mate"! Let us know if you have any questions about this!

Captain Jacks Dead Bug Brew, Spinosad, is an all organic spray for controlling the leafminer as well as other chewing insects.



Citrus Leaf Miner

Neither of the above controls will do anything to correct the already damaged leaves from last year. Remember to always read and follow the label directions before applying any controls in the garden, "for it is a violation of federal law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling!"

So, if your citrus (or any other plant) looks like it has a problem, bring a sample to the nursery and one of our specialists will help diagnose it. •

Old Ben: Why Birds Migrate

By Old Ben



Migration is defined as the periodic seasonal movement of birds from one geographic region to another, typically coinciding with available food supplies or breeding seasons. Birds may travel hundreds or thousands of miles during migration, depending on the species and the areas they prefer for nesting habitat and wintering grounds. Some species travel separately according to gender, usually with male birds migrating earlier than females in order to secure territories or begin nest building to attract mates.

For a bird to fly hundreds or thousands of miles between breeding and non-breeding ranges is a difficult journey that not all birds survive. So why do birds migrate? What reasons send millions of birds into the skies every spring and fall? There is more than one single reason for birds to migrate, but it all comes down to survival.

What If No Birds Migrated?

Without a reason to migrate, birds would have even more challenging lives than they experience making these long journeys. If no birds migrated, food supplies in breeding areas would be rapidly depleted, and many chicks would starve. Competition for nesting sites would be fierce, and predators would be attracted to the high number of breeding birds and easy meals the nestlings make. It is for those two reasons, food and breeding, that birds migrate.

Migrating For A Meal

For birds, one of the driving forces behind migration is food. If birds were to stay in the same tropical regions year round, food would become scarce

and breeding would be less successful. As food sources are regenerating in the north each spring, millions of birds migrate to those areas to take advantage of the bounty.

More Reasons Birds Migrate

Climate: Birds develop different types of plumage to survive different climates, and changes in those climates can affect migration. Many birds leave the Arctic breeding grounds, for example, when temperatures begin to dip and they a more temperate habitat. Similarly, the hottest tropical regions can be a harsh environment for raising chicks.

Predators: Habitats that have abundant food sources year round attract a greater number of predators that are threatening. Birds that migrate can avoid these extra predators which give their young a greater chance to grow up.

Disease: Any large group of birds crammed in one habitat is susceptible to parasites and diseases that can kill thousands of birds in a short time. Birds that disperse to different locations have less chance of spreading a disease to their entire population.

In the end, the reason why birds migrate is to ensure survival, not of the migrating birds themselves, but of the chicks they will raise. Finding richer food sources, seeking safer habitats, and avoiding predators are all migration behaviors designed to ensure breeding success. Birds are able to survive for another generation and that offers birders the pleasure of witnessing another years migration. •

Old Ben's Specials

Valid March 1-31, 2016

Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed

Classic mix that attracts a wide variety of wild birds. No fillers.

20lb. \$15.97 Reg. \$31.99

Old Ben's Nyger Seed

The staple food of Goldfinches and many other small birds.

25lb. \$39.97 Reg. \$59.99

Old Ben's No Mess Wild Bird Seed

Seed is hulled & chopped, will not germinate, attracts the widest variety of wild birds.

20lb. \$24.97 Reg. \$42.99

Old Ben's Dove & Quail Seed

Specially blended to attract these and other ground feeding birds.

5lb. 2 for \$10 Reg. \$8.99

Must buy 2 bags to get sale price.

Old Ben's Oriole Food

Blended to attract Orioles to your feeder.

2 for \$7 Reg. \$6.99

Must buy 2 bags to get sale price.

All Finch Socks On Sale

7 colors from which to choose.

small \$3.97 Reg. \$5.99

large \$4.97 Reg. \$8.99

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

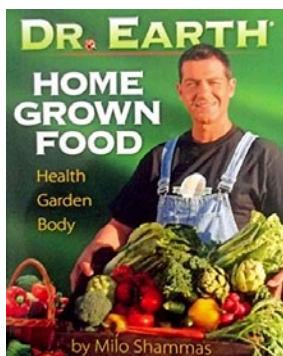


MARCH In-Store Specials *No Coupons Needed!***Valid March 1-31, 2016****4" Strawberries**
\$1.99

All Varieties
Mix or Match
Excludes Six Packs

**DIG Raised Bed**
or Vegetable
Garden Drip
Irrigation Kit
\$19.99

Regular \$24.99

**50% OFF**
Dr. Earth
Home Grown
Food
by Milo Shammas

Limited to Stock
on Hand
Limit 1

**\$3 OFF**
Dr. Earth
Tomato,
Vegetable &
Herb Fertilizer

4 lb.
Regular \$9.99

**\$2 OFF**
E.B. Stone
Organic Compost

1 Cubic Foot
Regular \$5.99
Certified Organic under
CDFA Regulations

20% OFF
Lake Valley Flower &
Vegetable Seed Packets

No other offers or discounts apply. Hedge Fund\$ may be redeemed. No Limit unless otherwise mentioned.

Garden Classes

MARCH

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/.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

3/5

The Azalea, Camellia Garden

3/12

Spring Vegetables

3/19

Tomatoes for the Spring Garden

3/26

Cymbidium Care & Culture

**POWAY | 9:30AM**

3/5

Drip Irrigation Seminar
Reservation Required

3/12

Organic Gardening: Food for
Your Soil! With Matt Zippich
from Malibu Compost

3/19

Spring Vegetables
with Richard Wright

3/26

Colorful Containers
with Carol Fuller

Dates To Remember



March 13

Daylight savings begins. Set your
clocks forward an hour at 2am.

March 14

Poway store extends its hours for
daylight savings time. Hours are
Mon-Fri 9-6 and Sat-Sun 9-5.

March 17

St. Patrick's Day

March 20

Spring Begins!

March 27

Easter Sunday

Both stores are closed.

May 14-15

17th Annual Rose Show in Poway

MARCH In-Store Specials!

Valid March 1-31, 2016

\$1.99 4" Strawberries**\$3 OFF Dr. Earth Tomato, Vegetable & Herb Fertilizer****\$19.99 Raised Bed or Vegetable Irrigation Drip Kits****50% OFF Dr. Earth Home Grown Food Book****\$2 OFF E.B. Stone Organic Compost****20% OFF Lake Valley Flower & Vegetable
Seed Packets**See Details on Page 7

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