



IN THIS ISSUE

How To Control Pests	1
Tomatoes From A To Z	1
Pretty Pentas And Pollinators	1
Tips For Attracting Pollinators	3
Old Ben: Hawks	4
Old Ben Specials	4
Special Event: Growchella	5
To Do List: April	5
For The Love Of Roses	6
Spring Class: Cheese & Herbs	7
Poway Rose Show Details	8
April Classes	9
April Special!	9

Pretty Pentas Are Popular With Pollinators

By Melanie Potter



When the pretty Pentas arrived, we knew there would be a rush to buy them and it was a real treat to see them lure a plethora of pollinators.

It's not often we see hummingbird moths, but the Pentas and Verbena have been a popular feeding ground

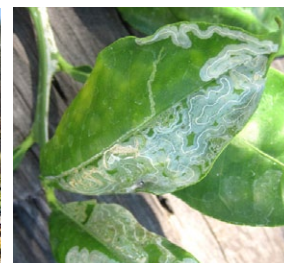
[continued p2](#)

How To Control Pests After A Rainy Season

By Ken Andersen



Shawn Styles of KFMB and Ken Andersen shooting a segment.



Citrus Leaf Miner



Aphids

Last month, **Shawn Styles of KFMB Channel 8** interviewed me about the projected increases in insect population after the rainy winter we have had. Insect and pest activity tends to boom after a wet winter due to the increased amount of food and habitat available. My best advice is to keep an eye on your garden by looking

for early signs of pest activity. The earlier you catch the problem, the easier it will be to control. During the segment, we discussed using traps to control insects both inside the home and out. Pantry moth traps are great to have around even if you don't have a problem because they will

[continued p2](#)

Tomatoes From A To Z

By Melanie Potter

Our nurseries may have the largest selection of tomatoes you will find and maybe the only ones alphabetized on the sales racks! That makes finding your selection easier, unless you're not sure what you want. Here are some basic facts about tomatoes, followed by a list of what is in stock so far. Yes, we do expect more!

Determinate

Determinate types grow in a compact, bushy form and require little or no staking. Fruit is produced on the ends of the branches and most of the crop ripens at the



[continued p2](#)

How To Control Pests continued from p1

trap the moths before they have a chance to invade the food in your pantry. Another great trap to use during warm weather is the Citrus Leaf Miner trap. This pheromone trap will catch the male moths before they mate, preventing the females from laying eggs on your citrus trees. If you have ever toured a greenhouse operation, chances are you have seen the small yellow boards placed at regular intervals. These are sticky traps, and some insects, whitefly, aphid, etc,

are attracted to the yellow color. They land on the board and become stuck to it. This not only helps control the insects, but allows the growers to see what insects may be on the rise and plan their controls accordingly. These traps are available for use in your yard and both stores carry them.

Editor's Note: See the episode here, <http://www.cbs8.com/clip/14784520/super-bloom-could-mean-super-bugs-in-san-diego>. •

Tomatoes continued from p1

same time. One or more successive plantings will ensure an extended harvest period. Determinate types are often the choice of those who want a large supply of ripe fruit at once for canning.

Indeterminate

Indeterminate varieties continue to grow and produce fruit all season until frost. Tomatoes in all stages of development may be on the plants at one time. The plants set fruit clusters along a vining stem, which grows vigorously and long. Under optimum conditions, some can grow over 15', but in most home gardens, they generally reach about 6'. Some indeterminates have a bush form with stockier vines, which set fruit clusters closer together.

Semi-Determinate

Semi-determinate are in-between these two types. The plants will grow larger than determinate varieties, but not as large as indeterminates. They produce a main crop that ripens at once, but also continue to produce until frost.

Other Variables

Tomatoes are also grouped by use, shape, and size. Slicing tomatoes are large and juicy, while paste (sauce/roma/plum) tomatoes are drier (concentrated flavor), with fewer seeds,

making them ideal for sauce but also excellent for slicing. Cherry tomatoes are bite-sized and come in several shapes like oblong, pear-shaped or round. Low acid tomatoes are a great alternative for people with medical diets, cold sores, stomach problems, and acid reflux.

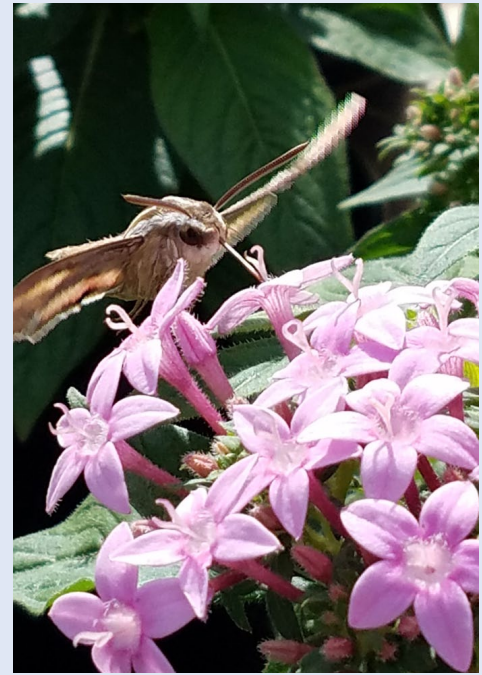
Varieties At Our Stores Include:

Ace, Arkansas Traveler, Beefmaster, Beefsteak, Betterboy, Big Beef, Big Boy, Big Girl, Black Carbon, Black Krim, Brandwine, Celebrity, Champion, Cherokee Purple, Cherry, Constoluto Genovese, Early Girl, Health Kick, Jubilee, Juliet, Jetsetter, Kelloggs Breakfast, Lemon Boy, Little Sicily, Momotaro, Mortgage Lifter, Patio, Pearson Improved, Principe Borghese, Red Cherry, Red Grape, Red Pear Roma, San Marzano, San Diego, Sungold Cherry, Super Bush, Supersteak, Sweet 100, Yellow Brandywine and Yellow Pear. Additional heirloom varieties include Big Zac, Big Brandy, Hillbilly Potato Leaf, Giant Belgium, Cuostralee, and Garden Peach.

Editor's note: If you spot some fine Italian varieties on the list, they are tried and true and were recommended by our own Tonino, whose grandparents lived in Italy and grew tomatoes. Tony also reports that you can successfully grow bush tomatoes in pots on balconies! Selection changes weekly. •

Pretty Pentas

continued from p1



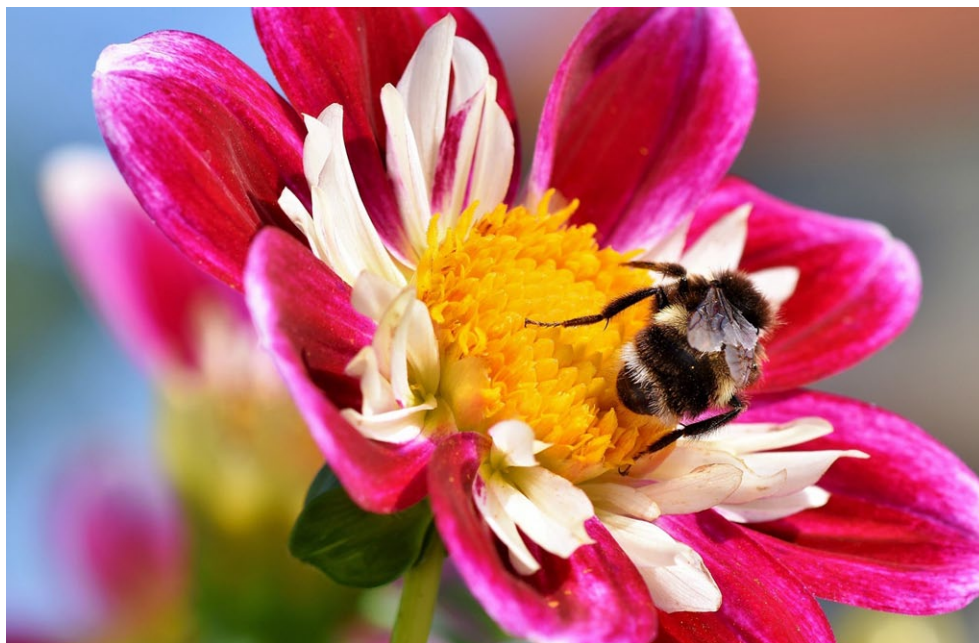
for them and the Skipper Butterflies this spring. Adult hummingbird moths feed on nectar from a variety of flowers, but their larvae need more specific food plants such as several species of honeysuckle, dogbane, or some members of the rose family such as hawthorn, cherries, and plums. Butterflies also spotted the Pentas and are frequent diners as well the bees that buzz about them.

Pentas are perennial, but can be grown as annuals. The flowers are brightly colored clusters of star-shaped blooms. Pentas grow to 24" tall but you may encounter them as tall as 6' in Hawaii. They hail from tropical Africa.

Pentas make great bedding and container plants. Ideally, Pentas prefer to be planted in full sun and in moist, well-drained soil. Pentas will dry out quickly, so give them supplemental water during dry spells. Give Pentas a dose of fertilizer on a monthly basis to keep up flower production. •

Tips For Attracting Pollinators

By Kate Karam, Monrovia



By offering plants that flower from early spring until the first hard frost, your garden can help provide nutrients for the entire life cycle of bumblebees and other pollinators. Remember, no garden is too small to help create habitat for pollinators. Combine your space with those other gardens around you and it all adds up!

Here are a Few Tips for Attracting Pollinators:

—Determine which pollinator-friendly plants are appropriate for your region.

—Plant lots of them! Make sure there is at least 3 x 3 feet of each plant species. These can be planted together, or in other areas of the garden.

—Limit your use of chemicals (both synthetic and organic) and use plenty of compost and mulch to build healthy soil. Healthy soils create healthy plants.

—Plan your garden so that there is something blooming for as many months as you can. Many pollinators, especially bees, forage during the entire growing season.

—Provide shelter by letting your yard get a little wild. Allow a hedge to grow untrimmed, leave a section of



Honeysuckle

lawn unmowed, pile up grass clippings in a sunny spot, and create a nesting habitat by leaving some soil bare for ground nesting bees.

There are Countless Flowers You can Plant and Here are a Few Suggestions:

Bountiful Blue Blueberries are the gift that keeps on giving! Early spring flowers are a big draw for pollinators including returning butterflies. Butterflies like flat flowers that they can land on such as Milkweed, Zinnias, Salvia, Buddleia, Lantana and Verbena. Sal-



Make A Note:
Both stores will be closed April 21st for Easter.

Bountiful Blue Blueberries



'Caesalpinia pulcherrima'

via, fuchsia, trumpet vine, honeysuckle and many other tubular flowers attract hummingbirds. Bees are particularly drawn to white, yellow and blue; their eyes register a color called "bee ultraviolet" that guides them to nectar. Bluish lilac blossoms attract them and they love Lavender, Basil, wildflowers, Penstemon, Daisies, and Flannelbush. Best of all, is many of these plants will attract multiple varieties of pollinators. •



Old Ben:

Hawks In Your Garden?

By Old Ben



Coopers Hawk

I have received several inquiries in the last month asking how to keep hawks from eating the wild birds that visit gardens. The answer may surprise you.

Birders are often alarmed when a hawk visits their yard. However, encouraging hawks is actually the gold standard of backyard birding. Because a neighborhood will have fewer resident hawks than other birds, and because raptors require a rich, vibrant ecosystem to thrive, attracting hawks is an excellent achievement that shows just how bird friendly a backyard can be.

While it can be upsetting to see a raptor make a meal of a goldfinch, dove or other favorite backyard bird, the existence of raptors in a neighborhood is strong evidence of a wildlife friendly area. Hawks do not only prey on birds. Lots of raptors eat snakes, large insects, and a variety of rodents such as mice, rats and squirrels.

Not every raptor is likely to make an appearance in a birder's backyard. Eagles, vultures and other large raptors are unlikely to be backyard guests except in very special circumstances. However, smaller raptors that are more adaptable may visit backyards.

In our area, the most common backyard raptors include: American Kestrel,

Coopers Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Merlin, Red Shouldered Hawk, Red Tailed Hawk, Sharp Shinned Hawk, Western Screech Owl, and Barn Owls.

How To Attract Hawks

The key to attracting any type of backyard bird, including raptors, is to meet the bird's needs for food, water, shelter and nesting sites.

Food: All raptors are carnivorous, but they do not all eat the same prey. The most common backyard hawks, Coopers and Sharp Shinned, prey on smaller birds, from finches and sparrows to doves. The best way to supply that prey is to attract backyard birds with a good feeding station and other natural foods. Where the birds congregate, a raptor will eventually drop in for a snack. Raptors are usually successful on one in ten attempts, or 10% of the time. Insects and rodents are also common prey.

Water: Most raptors do not regularly drink water because they get liquid from the blood of their prey. Raptors will occasionally visit bird baths to cool off and bathe. Bird baths need to be larger and deeper for raptors. Sturdy concrete bird baths are best. Ground bird baths are also good along with bird bath fountains.

[continued p5](#)

SAVE 10%



Old Ben's Feeders & Nesting Boxes



*Old Ben's hand built feeders and nest boxes are back in stock and better than ever! To celebrate, we are taking **10% OFF** the regular price.*

*Come in and see the **GREAT** selection!*

Savings from \$2 to \$10.50

Old Ben's Specials

Valid April 1-30, 2019

Old Ben's Nyger Seed

The staple food for goldfinches and many other small birds.

25lb. bag

Sale \$49.99 Reg. \$59.99

Old Ben's No Mess Wild Bird Seed

The No Mess Advantage. Seed is hulled and chopped, will not sprout. Birds can eat all the seeds which attracts fewer feeder pests.

20lb. bag

Sale \$34.99 Reg. \$39.99

Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed

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

20lb. bag

Sale \$24.99 Reg. \$29.99

Dove & Quail Seed

Great for these and other wild birds.

25lb. bag

Sale \$19.99 Reg. \$24.99

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

Ask Old Ben!

Old Ben doesn't always think about birds. Sometimes he thinks about his business and that's when he had a grand idea. How cool would it be if you could reach out and ask him all kinds of questions about birds, show him your (feathered) bird photos, or share your birding experiences? Well, now you can at askoldben@aol.com

Old Ben: Hawks continued from p4



Sharp Skinned Hawk

Nesting Sites: Raptors will use the same large, mature trees for nesting that they like for perches and shelter. Branches should be wide and stable enough to support raptors' larger nest. A variety of large nesting material such as branches and twigs should be available. Some small raptors, such as kestrels, barn owls, and screech owls, will nest in boxes.

Every day I have Coopers and Sharp shinned hawks visit my backyard. The small birds know they are coming before I do. They fly, hop or run into the surrounding shrubs, vines and trees. Every bird is as quiet as a church mouse. The hawks must be successful once in awhile as they come back every day.

Editor's Note: *Old Ben will present a class April 27 in Poway at 9:30am.* •

Shelter: Raptors favor large, stable perches from which to spot prey as well as sheltered areas where they can roost after a meal. Raptors may also perch on fences, deck railings or other suitable sites.

Special Event: Growchella

May 4 | 11am to 1pm | WAN San Diego Store
3642 Enterprise Street, San Diego, CA 92110

GROWCHELLA
WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY
SAN DIEGO, CA

GROWCHELLA IS A FREE EVENT TO MEET OUR VENDORS, AND OTHER EXPERTS, AT OUR SAN DIEGO STORE! GROWCHELLA WILL GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE PRODUCTS AND GROWING TIPS FROM INDUSTRY EXPERTS. JOIN US ON **MAY 4TH** FROM **11AM TO 1PM** AND ENJOY IN STORE SPECIALS FOR THAT DAY ONLY.

VENDORS/SPECIALISTS INCLUDE:

FOXFARM
IV ORGANIC
TYLER TRIMBLE FROM BACKYARD
FRUIT TREE
MALIBU COMPOST
CHUCK MCCLUNG, AUTHOR OF
"HOW ORCHIDS REBLOOM"

***OFFICIAL LINE UP WILL BE
RELEASED LATER THIS MONTH!**

TO DO LIST:

April



FERTILIZE

Feed Lawns, Palms & More!

Use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Bonide DuraTurf to feed grass and control broad-leaf weeds.

Feed ornamentals with Gro-Power or Gro-Power Plus.

Feed vegetables with Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or Dr. Earth Organic Tomato and Vegetable Food.

Feed citrus, avocado, and fruit trees with Gro-Power Citrus and Avocado Food.

Feed palms and tropicals with Gro-Power Palm Tree and Tropical Food.

PEST CONTROL

Edibles & Ornamentals—
Keep insects under control by hitting them early.

On edibles, use Bonide Bon Neem or Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew.

For ornamentals, use a systemic control like Bayer 3-in-1 Insect Disease and Mite Spray.

PLANT

Warm-season bedding plants, Dahlias, annuals, and perennials.

Warm-season vegetables and vegetable seeds. Tomatoes, tomatoes, tomatoes, and the specialty hot peppers are here.

LOOK FOR

Flowering deciduous trees and shrubs, blooming roses, blooming bulbs, Ceanothus and tropicals. •

For The Love Of Roses

By Kate Karam, Monrovia

Beautiful, glamorous roses. Is there any flowering shrub that evokes as much passion? Judging by the number of shrubs sold each year (estimated at about 35 million units sold each year in the US alone!), we'd say they're in a class of their own. Beyond the blooms, what makes them even more seductive is the rich lore that surrounds them. Here are 12 fun things to know about roses.

Family Love

Without getting too nerdy here, roses are part of a family called Rosaceae which includes 4,828 known species in 91 genera. This means that our favorite bloom is essentially a kissing cousin to—among many other plants—the fresh, juicy, yummy apples, pears, quinces, loquats, almonds, peaches, apricots, plums, cherries, and lots of the berries that we love to eat.

Endless Love

After a fossil of a rose was discovered in Colorado, archaeologists determined roses have existed for more than 35 million years. (Mummies found in both North America and in Egypt and dating back 10,000 years were adorned with garlands of roses—they've been popular for a very long time.) Some wild roses (*Rosa rugosa* or "beach rose") are native to North America and are one of the oldest species found on the globe.

Big Love

Legend has it that Cleopatra, so besotted with Marc Antony, welcomed him to a bedroom filled knee-deep in fresh rose petals. (We did the math—a room 50'W x 50'L filled with petals up to 4'D would require about 20,000 roses!).

Coming in a close second, the King of Sweden sent Sweden's future queen a dozen yellow roses every day during their four-year romance. That adds up to 1,461 dozen, or 17,532 individual flowers.



Eternal Love

The world's largest rosebush, a white 'Lady Banks', located in Tombstone, AZ, has bloomed every year for 133 years. Planted in 1886, its trunk is greater than 6 feet in diameter, and its branches form a shady canopy that covers nearly 9,000 square feet. That's large enough to shelter a crowd of 150 people!

Rosa 'Lady Banks' is a once-a-season bloomer that's very easy to grow on a tall fence or arbor. It also comes in yellow.

Love Is Lovelier...

...the second time around! You can revive cut roses when their heads are sadly hanging down (caused by air traveling up the stems, blocking uptake of water). Cut the stem ends at an angle, and dip the fresh cut end briefly in one-inch of boiling water to release trapped air bubbles. Then quickly move cut stems to very cold water, and let them stand for an hour.

Crazy In Love

Rose-mania reached its zenith in the 17th and 18th centuries. The blooms were in such high demand that royalty considered roses or rose water as legal tender, and they were often used as barter and for payments. In the early 1800s, France's Empress Josephine issued a standing order to the French



Navy to confiscate any rose plants or seeds found on enemy ships

Addicted To Love

Today, more than 150 million rose shrubs and climbers are purchased by gardeners worldwide each year.

Love For The Ages

Roses are tricky to categorize, but are typically divided into three groups: Modern Garden Roses, Old Garden Roses, and Wild Roses.

Modern Garden Roses are varieties bred after 1867. They bloom continuously, with a larger bloom size, and, in the case of hybrid tea roses, longer vase life.

Old Garden Roses pre-date the hybrid tea rose and are known for strong fragrance, high petal count, disease-resistance, and cold hardiness. They bloom just once year, typically in summertime.

Wild Roses are super hardy and can typically survive on minimal maintenance. The five petal and five sepal flowers bloom in early summer on shrubs that can grow quite large, and may even form thickets.

Love Child

Botanists have discovered more than 350,000 different species of flowering plants around the globe. Of that number, more than 150 species are roses (few of which are grown today), from which more than 30,000 different varieties have been created. Imagine the number of possible genetic combinations for making new roses! But here's the reality. The odds are about 100,000 to 1 that any specific cross-fertilization will produce an outstanding new rose.

[continued p7](#)

Spring Workshop: Cheese & Herbs Class

April 13 | 9:30am | WAN Poway Store



Taste of Spring Workshop

Walter Andersen Nursery
12755 Danielson Court Poway, CA 92064

April 13, 2019, 9:30 – 10:30 am

\$25 person

To reserve your spot call
Walter Andersen at
858-513-4900

Join us as we taste, and combine the amazing spring flavors found in our region.

We'll start out sampling fresh cheeses from Cheeses from the Cave infused with fresh herbs. While we taste, we'll learn about the herbs from Walter Andersen's experts, how to take care of them, what sorts of soil, sun, and water keeps them growing fresh and most importantly: alive. We also learn about the dairy animals and how their diets and the seasons affect the milk. Fresh cheeses, in particular, are dependent on the highest quality of milk.

After our "tasting inspiration", you'll get your chance:

Each participant will have 2 oz of fresh goat's milk cheese and 2 oz of fresh cow's milk cheese provided by Cheeses from the Cave. With those cheeses, you will be able to select from an assortment of fresh herbs provided by Walter Andersen Nursery and flavored salts.

We'll guide you as you mix, match, and taste. Try some new flavors or flavor mixes. Mint and thyme to balance a goat cheese – Tarragon and sage with black salt to bring a "wow" to a cow's milk cheese.

Each participant will be able to take home their cheese creations along with a live herb and a gift bag with coupons for future purchases.

Attendance is limited.



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™



Mark Your Calendars For The 20th Annual Walter Andersen Nursery Rose Show!

Walter Andersen Nursery will hold its twentieth annual rose show May 11-12 at its Poway location. This popular event is free to enter and view, and continues to grow with last year seeing more than 100 entries. Entry registration will be held from 8am to 10:30am on May 11. Judging will take place that day from 11am to 1pm. [See page 8 for the rose show poster.](#) •



Love Of Roses

continued from p6



Love Match

Roses are the gift the keeps on giving! As if the beautiful blooms weren't enough of a gift from nature, rose hips (the round portion of the rose flower just below the petals left on the plant after blooming) contain more vitamin C than almost any other fruit or vegetable. (Leave faded blooms on roses like 'Iceberg' and be treated to a large crop of hips to use in jams, jelly, and teas.)

Love Song

Here's another fun number to consider—there are (at last count) more than 4,000 songs written about roses. That's a lot of potential for romance!

Love Hurts

Many of the newer roses have smooth stems, but others are covered in thorns which are in fact technically called "prickles". These help roses to climb and attach to other plants and are intended to help to deter herbivores. Of course, many deer have no issues with these sharp hooks whether called thorns or prickles!

Those are just a few of the fascinating things to know about roses. Would you like to know another one?

The oh-so-memorable scent of the rose comes from microscopic perfume glands on the petals. And, it takes more than two thousand roses to create just one gram of rose oil that is used to make perfume. •

Poway Rose Show

Sponsored by Walter Andersen Nursery
20TH ANNUAL



Entry Registration

May 11th – 8am-10:30am

Judging

May 11th – 11am-1pm

Hours

May 11th – 1pm-5pm

May 12th – 9am-4pm

Location

12755 Danielson Ct.
Poway

May
11
&
12
2019



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY



Garden Classes

APRIL

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

4/6

Worms: Nature's Soil Helpers

4/13

Citrus and Avocado
with Tyler Trimble of
Backyard Fruit

4/20

Composting for the Garden
How and Why?

4/27

Fitting Vegetables & Herbs
into Your Existing Landscape

POWAY | 9:30AM

4/6

Succulent Show & Class
with Dean

4/13

Cheese & Herb Pairing with Kim
Spero of Cheeses from the Cave.

Pair two kinds of cheese with
herbs, oils and seasonings.
\$25, RSVP to 858-513-4900.

4/20

Blueberries and Strawberries
with Richard

4/27

Attracting Birds & Wildlife To
Your Backyard with Old Ben

Save The Date: May 18

Vendor Day at our Poway Store

A Super Bloom!



If you have been out to the desert to see it in bloom, then you know how beneficial the rain was. Tucson also benefited from rain and we are delighted to share this beautiful photo a customer sent to us. •

April Specials *Valid April 1-30, 2019*

Buy 1, Get 1 FREE

Root & Grow

Root Stimulator & Plant Starter

4-10-3 Fertilizer with IBA growth hormone.
Stimulates early and strong root formation.
Reduces transplant shock. Promotes greener,
more vigorous plants.

Limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. While supplies last. Hedge Fund\$ may be redeemed.

Visit Our 2 Locations

SAN DIEGO

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San Diego, California 92110
{619} 224-8271

POWAY

12755 Danielson Court
Poway, California 92064
{858} 513-4900



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