



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

Garden Talk

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JULY 2017

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Getting A Late Start On Veggie Planting

By Ken Andersen

Summer sort of snuck up on me before I could plant a vegetable garden. It wasn't until I bought five ears of corn for one dollar and made bruschetta that actually tasted of ripe tomatoes that I realized the best of the summer produce is already being harvested. I'm not gonna lie, I felt veggie garden shame.

Now, it's July and I'm making up for lost time. Time is still on my side as there are plenty of vegetables, herbs, and fruit to plant. I prepped the soil and made space for peppers, eggplants, small and medium sized pumpkins, squash tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchini. I didn't forget the parsley, thyme, cilantro, chives, or tarragon either.

For those of you who did your spring planting, how does your garden look? Here are a few pests and dis-

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They're Here!

By Melanie Potter



Mandevilla SunParasol® 'Giant Apricot'

In the May newsletter we mentioned the **Mandevilla SunParasol® 'Giant Apricot'** that was expected this month. Well, guess what? They are here and just as pretty as we thought they would be. Mandevilleas are vibrantly colored; however, the apricot color is pale and subdued. It's more of a blush of color and nestled amongst the deep green foliage, they really stand out.



Garvinea

You'll recognize them by the eye-catching apricot flowers that have deep orange and yellow highlights on 5" blooms that flower from summer to fall. The plant has a vigorous, upright habit reaching 36" tall and should be grown in a large container with a stake or trellis to climb on. This plant has shown excellent heat tolerance during warm summer months.

[continued p2](#)

Great Groundcovers For Lawn Replacements

By Walter Andersen, Jr.

If you are considering eliminating your lawn or just want an easy-to-care for groundcover, here are some suggestions. These groundcovers are usually sold in flats but some may be available in 4" pots.

Dymondia margaretae **'Silver Carpet'**

This wonderful plant is a very low groundcover, usually less than 2" tall. It has a grey-green leaf that stays low and flat against the soil. The common



Dymondia margaretae 'Silver Carpet'

[continued p3](#)

They're Here! continued from p1



Garvinea

While we're bragging about new arrivals, don't miss the limited supply of **Garvinea**s. They are available in five colors. What makes these plants outstanding is that in the past, numerous cultivars of *Gerbera jamesonii* were used; however, these cultivars have many soft characteristics lending them susceptible to plant pathogens and not suitable for long term and carefree use in landscapes.



Garvinea

Recently, breeding efforts by the gerbera breeding company, Florist Holland, from the Netherlands developed an entire series of gerbera with characteristics that provide strong garden performance. The Garvinea series is cold hardy to USDA Hardiness Zone 7 and provides strong resistance against pests and diseases. •

Late Start On Veggie Planting continued from p1



eases to look for.

This time of year, **mildew** can take a toll on your melons and squash. To combat, use a fungicide such as Immunox, Captan Daconal, or opt for natural choices such as Serenade or Mont-

erey Disease Control.

Tomatoes may fall victim to **hornworms**. If you find leaves that are chewed or see black droppings, check the underside of the foliage. You may see the culprit; a large caterpillar with a horn. BT will be your best friend in eradicating hornworms. If your tomatoes appear to be declining, dig some up and inspect the roots. If the roots look 'fat' and distorted, **nematodes** have the upper hand.

Now is also a good time to feed

everything and you won't go wrong with Gro-Power Vegetable Food.

Are you growing fruit? Here's a quick guide to keeping fruit healthy this time of year.

You may see **natural fruit drop** because the foliage is competing for nutrients and the fruit is being sacrificed in order to keep the less needy leaves green and maintain the ability to produce for another year. This may be most evident in persimmons, apples, plums, pears, pomegranates, citrus, younger trees and trees stressed by a lack of water, too much water, pests, or disease.

Help your trees by culling or hand thinning to stop the tree from working too hard. Peaches and nectarines should be thinned to one fruit every 5-7 inches along the branch. Apricots and apriums can be thinned to 3-5 inches apart. Plums and pluots are larger so space 4-6 inches apart.

TO DO LIST: July



FERTILIZE

For **lawns**, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Bonide DuraTurf Weed & Feed to feed grass and control broadleaf weeds. Feed **ornamentals** with Gro-Power. Feed **vegetables** with Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or E.B. Stone 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. Add **Ada Perry's Magic Formula** to your regular rose feeding schedule. **Mulch plants** to conserve water and dress up planting beds.

WATER

Through October, **keep a close watch on watering** to make sure plants do not suffer from drought. **Adjust sprinkler clocks** or provide supplemental watering to avoid stress to plants. Make sure lawn sprinklers are working properly to prevent waste.

PRUNE

Coral trees and roses.

PLANTING

Plant anything! Just make sure it gets plenty of water! New plantings will require more frequent, shallower waterings than established plants. **Look for** Plumeria, Hibiscus, Lantana, Plumbago, Gardenias, and bedding plants. •

Apples and pears produce a cluster of flowers and fruit from each bud. Thin to one fruit per cluster. If you have a light crop, leave two fruit per cluster. Not sure which fruit to remove? Always keep the largest fruit whenever possible. Here's a tip: Grow quince as they do not need culling (how easy is that?) and persimmons are not usually thinned but doing so will increase the fruit size! •

Great Groundcovers continued from p1

name comes from the silvery gray almost carpet-like look when it is established. It is mostly sold in flats, that you break apart. The divisions are usually planted about 4" to 6" apart. When first planted, make sure the area gets adequate irrigation to get it established. At first, every two to three days; just don't let it get dry. It may take six or more months to totally fill in. You can speed the process with a regular feeding every six weeks. Silver Carpet blooms with small, 1", bright yellow blooms mostly in summer. Be patient as it is worth waiting for. Once established, you can back off on the water. During warm summer days, water about once a week. In cooler temperatures, water less often.



Lysimachia nummularia 'Creeping Jenny'

Lysimachia nummularia **'Creeping Jenny' or 'Moneywort'**

This makes an excellent groundcover. Lush green leaves grow to about 4" to 8" high with small 1" yellow blooms. This plant does well in full sun or light shade, and spreads fairly quickly. Plant from divisions of flat plugs about 3" to 4" in diameter and space about 12" to 14" apart. When first planted, water every three days or so; don't let the soil dry out. Once established you can water less often, as the leaves help shade the soil to keep it cooler.

Potentilla verna or **'Cinquefoil'**

This is the not so common name for



Potentilla verna 'Cinquefoil'

this groundcover. It is a lush green, spreading groundcover that grows in full sun to lightly shaded areas. It has small (1" or so) serrated leaves with stems coming from the ground to about 6" tall. You'll find bright yellow blooms, mostly in spring, nestled between the bright green leaves. Available in flats, which you divide into clumps about 3" in diameter, and plant around 12" apart. Water regularly. They do not appreciate getting dry.



Sedum 'Stone Crop'

Sedum 'Stone Crop'

These are low growing succulent type plants and most do well in full sun. The one in the photo is called "Blue Spruce Sedum" which describes the foliage fairly accurately. It is low growing to about 3" to 4" tall with small white blooms that are not very noticeable. It grows best in sun, but light shade for

part of the day would be fine. There are many other wonderful Sedum varieties with foliage from bright yellow-green to burgundy. Be sure to check out the other Sedum varieties when you are shopping as you won't be disappointed.



Sedum 'Ice Plant'

Sedum 'Ice Plant'

There are so many to choose from. The photo I took at the nursery has bright red flowers. Some have finer leaves, unlike the "Giant Pickle Weed" you see on the freeways. Yellow, orange, pink, white and purple shades of ice plant are available. These come in flats of about 40 plants to plant individually. Spacing is usually 12" to 18" apart. Ice plant is a fairly quick grower this time of the year. Once established, ice plants take very little water to keep them looking good. In warm summers, you probably want to water about every two weeks after it fills in. Twice a week when first planted will get it off to a good start.

For all of the above, prepare the soil with a good soil conditioner to help hold the moisture and let the water soak in deeper for a better root system. E.B. Stone Big Harvest Bale does wonders for groundcovers also. •

Date To Remember

**Both stores will be closed July 4th
for Independence Day.**



Old Ben:

Poisonous Birds!

By Old Ben



The **Pitohui**, pronounced like spitting, pittoey, is one of New Guinea's most widely spread birds.

It is also the only known genus of poisonous bird in the world. Three species of pitohui have a strong poison in their skin and feathers, the **Hooded** and **Variable Pitohui** being the deadliest of the three. The third variety, **Brown Pitohui** is the least harmful. The poisonous properties of the bird were not recorded until 1989.

The skin and feathers of some pitohui contain powerful neurotoxins; the same poison secreted by the Colombian poison dart frogs. It is believed that these serve the birds as a chemical defense, either against parasites or against visually guided predators such as snakes, raptors or humans.

The birds probably do not produce the toxin themselves. It is most likely that the toxins come from beetles the birds eat.

There may be other bird species that have chemical self defense mechanisms, but to date this is the only

bird found to actually be poisonous to humans.

Description

Pitohuis are about nine inches long with strong legs and a powerful beak. They are brightly feathered in red and black warning colors, much the same as the frogs.

The Hooded Pitohui is brightly colored, with a brick red belly and a jet black head. The Variable Pitohui exists in many different forms as its name implies, and 20 subspecies with different plumage patterns have been named. Two of them closely resemble the Hooded Pitohui.

The birds' bright colors are an example of aposematism (warning coloration) and the similarity of the Hooded Pitohui and some forms of the Variable Pitohui could be an example of mimicry, in which dangerous species gain a mutual advantage by sharing coloration so that an encounter with either species trains a predator to avoid both. •

Old Ben's Specials

Valid July 1-31, 2017

NEW from Old Ben's Workshop!

Porch Swing Bird Feeder

Nostalgic hand-painted feeder.

Sale \$24.99 Reg. \$29.99

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

Old Ben's Nyger Seed

The Staple food for goldfinches and many other small birds.

20lb. bag


Sale \$44.99 Reg. \$49.99

Old Ben's No Mess Wild Bird Seed

The No Mess Advantage. Seed is hulled, will not sprout, birds can eat all the seed which attracts fewer feeder pests.

20lb. bag

Sale \$34.99 Reg. \$39.99



Old Ben's
A Treat for the Beak


Ingredients

White Proso Millet
Small Sun Chips
Medium Sun Chips
Peanut Hearts
Pineapple Granules
Papaya Granules
Mealworms
Nyger
Red Millet
Millet Sprays
Calcium

Feeding Directions
Scatter on the ground or fill above ground feeders. Do not put out more seed than the birds will eat in 1 or 2 days.

Analysis


Crude Protein	18.1
Crude Fat	23.0
Crude Fiber	4.9
Ash	6.4
Moisture	7.3
Total Carbohydrates	40.3



Old Ben

Birds you may attract with Old Ben's A Treat for the Beak are: Domestic Birds, Hookbills, Finches and Wild birds, including Doves, House Finches, Quail, Lesser Goldfinch, Sparrows, Towhees, Western Blue Birds, Grosbeaks, Jays, Redwing Black Birds, Wrens, Chickadee, Purple Finch, Nuthatch, Robins, Juncos and Pheasants.

5lb (2.26kg) Model #6969



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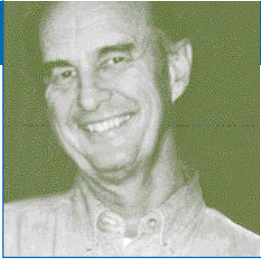
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Eleven ingredients that domestic and wild birds love!

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



Words From Walter

Bedding Plants For Every Need

By Walter Andersen, Jr.

Whether blooms or interesting foliage, I have some bedding plant suggestions that can please just about everyone.

Let's start with **Impatiens sultanii**, sometimes called Busy Lizzies. They will give you bright blooms throughout the year. They grow in shade or full shade (inland) to full sun (at the coast). You'll find blooms in white, pink, red, and salmon. They are easy to grow. I like to plant mine in Sunshine Planting mix to get them off to a great start. Also add Ada Perry's Magic Formula to encourage new growth and lots of blooms until fall.

Richmondensis Begonia is another great plant for color and it blooms nearly year-round if you are in a frost-free area. Blooms are salmon pink. Plant in shade or sun if you are near the coast. If you are inland, provide a little shade. This is a versatile plant that can be used in hanging baskets or as filler around other shrubs. There are other bedding begonias that have a variety of colors and grow lower. Keep the soil on the moist side and fertilize every two months with Gro-Power for continued growth and bloom.

Marigolds, Marigolds and more Marigolds. There are so many varieties and they all can grow almost anywhere that gets at least one half day of sun. Planting marigolds en masse is the showiest presentation and the dwarf varieties can make excellent borders. You'll recognize the bright yellow, red, or oranges blooms; some are semi-double, and others form round balls. These will bring attention to almost any area of your yard. The dwarf varieties can work in hanging pots as well. It's hard to beat marigolds for eye catching colors!

Dusty Miller is a nice border plant or just the thing to add contrast to a hanging basket. The leaves are a beautiful silvery color. The photo is of the variety, 'Silver Dust', but there are others with more solid leaves as well. They generally grow about 8" to 12" tall and wide. Small yellow blooms will appear, but the foliage is what makes these plants look great.

Coleus is a wonderful plant with bright colored foliage. Generally the leaves are fairly large, perhaps 5" to 6" long and about 3" wide. The range of color is amazing! These shade loving plants are real knockouts. Just pinch them back to make the plants more bushy. Also, when you see bloom spikes forming, pinch them off. Yes, they do bloom, with tiny purple-blue flowers but they are not of much interest. Keeping the blooms off encourages more of the great foliage you planted them for. Coleus prefer moist soil in shade to part shade areas. They should look wonderful until the weather cools in October. To keep the leaves coming, use Gro-Power All Purpose fertilizer once a month.

So, there you have some of my favorites. At the time I was writing this article, one of our seed vendors, Botanical Interests, shared their 'must haves'. I have included them for you.

Quick Color Annuals

Some of the following are for fall.

Sweet Alyssum is fragrant and attracts beneficial insects. In some zones it is ever-blooming though in hot areas, expect it to take a mid-summer siesta.

California Bluebells may remind you of hiking amid the dazzling wildflowers of California. Try planting some in a rock wall.

[continued p6](#)



Impatiens



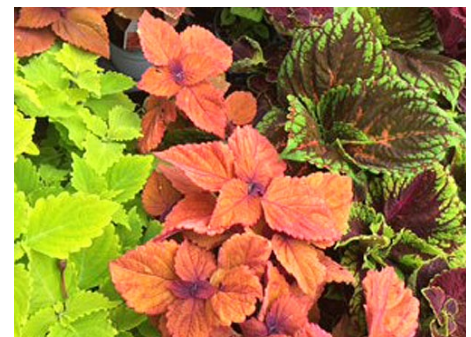
Begonias



Marigolds



Dusty Miller



Coleus

Garden Classes

JULY

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

7/1

There Is Still Time For
Summer Vegetables

7/8

Plumeria Care

7/15

Water Gardens

7/22

Bromeliads & Tillandsias

7/29

Staghorn Care & Remounting

POWAY | 9:30AM

7/1

No Class

7/8

Organic Insect Controls

7/15

All About Seeds with Brijette
Romstedt of San Diego Seed Co.

7/22

Soils: Getting the Most from
Yours! With Brian Robert

7/29

Summer Fruit & Pruning
with Richard Wright

July Special

Valid July 1-31, 2017

Hot Buy on Summer Perennials!



**Pentas &
Perovskia** (*Russian Sage*)
\$6.99

Visit the store or follow us on
facebook to see additional perennials
that will be on sale throughout July.

Available in both stores.

No special orders, final sale, cannot be used
with additional discounts or offers.

Bedding Plants continued from p5

Calendula accepts neglect and keeps producing sunny flowers all season, and year after year if you let them reseed. 'Oopsy Daisy' is really compact and cute as a button!

Moss Rose Portulaca creates a carpet of color that doesn't flinch at hot, dry conditions. Expect these practically care-free flowers to reseed too.

Nasturtiums have not only lovely blooms, but also gorgeous foliage. They are also a popular edible flower that adds a peppery kick and wonderful color to salads.

Poppies are so easy to grow; just scatter seeds! With so many shapes and sizes, it's easy to fall in love with them.

They're drought tolerant, too! The color of 'Mikado' is really eye catching and 'Lauren's Grape' is a dramatic purple!

Sunflowers seem to go from seed to towering flower in almost no time and they feed the birds in the fall!

'Striped Japonica' Ornamental Corn adds big, bold texture and colors with its striped magenta, white, and green leaves. At 5'-6' tall it makes an excellent backdrop for other flowers or a lovely privacy screen.

Violas are the first and last to bloom, since they thrive in cooler weather. Who doesn't love the purple faces of 'King Henry' and the tri-colored 'Johnny-Jump-Up' will make you smile. •



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