



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

SEPTEMBER 2018



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Holy Batwing Passion Vine; We're Growing Some!

By Ken Andersen



When I was a kid, we had a very large specimen passion vine at the San Diego store. It was *Passiflora coriacea* or Batwing Passion Vine. The plant was distinctive and striking with its

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Tantalizing Tecoma Is Nearly Perfect

By Melanie Potter



'Bells of Fire'

There's not a lot about Tecoma to find fault with. It's one of those popular plants that you recognize when you see it. I spot it in landscapes most often blooming with trumpet shaped yellow flowers, although some varieties have orange or red blooms. The green foliage is serrated, sometimes described as being feathery.

This hardy plant blooms nearly year round, is drought-tolerant, a magnet for hummingbirds, and takes full sun to partial shade. It provides great color in the landscape. The one downside is that is invasive in some areas and has easily naturalized in Florida, some Hawaiian islands, Texas, and Puerto Rico, but not here. In this neck of the woods

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What's Red, White & Bubbly?

Wine & Whiskers is! That is the name of our first ever wine tasting that will be held Oct. 20 from 5-7pm at our Poway store (12755 Danielson Court). Our plan is to have about 15 different wines from five local wineries that you can sample. You'll also be able to see the painted wine barrel that we are sponsoring again this year for the Ramona Valley Vineyard Association's 6th Annual Art & Wine Fest, to be held Nov. 3.

This event will raise funds for some good causes. A donation will be made



to the San Diego Viticulture Technician Apprenticeship Program and proceeds will benefit Howe-2Care4Critters.

Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. To RSVP and pre-pay, call 858-513-4900. We are unable to accommodate walk-ins and attendance is limited. •

Tantalizing Tecoma continued from p1



'Orange Jubilee'



'Sparky'



'Lydia'



'Gold Star Esperanza'

you can cut it back to a manageable size. Also, the seed pods can be poisonous if ingested.

Plant Tecoma in sandy soils and if you don't have that you can easily amend with a cactus mix.

Do not confuse Tecoma stans with its wild cousin, Tecomaria capensis. Here are the varieties we regularly stock:

Tecoma Red/Orange Varieties:

'Bells of Fire' A stunning new compact variety and it's the first with fiery red-orange blooms. This shrub explodes with color from spring until the first frost. Self-cleaning, and rarely sets seed pods. It's easy to grow in the landscape or in containers. Grows 4-6' tall by 3-5' wide.

'Orange Jubilee' Orange flowers on a shrub that grows 8' tall by 12' wide.

'Sparky' Also called Yellow Bells, is a hybrid that was created in 2012 by professors at Arizona State University. It is a variation of the Tecoma plant that is mainly a yellow flower with a red-orange center. This plant was even named after the Arizona State Mascot who was known as "Sparky". Grows 3'-6' tall and 4'-5' wide.

'Solar Flare' Orange flowers on a shrub that grows 4'-6' tall and wide.

Tecoma stans 'Crimson Flare' Crimson Flare displays clusters of red flowers in the spring and fall, although the summer heat can bleach them to pink. It has outstanding deep green foliage, providing a showy backdrop for the red blossoms. It grows rapidly to a mature size of 8' tall and wide.

Yellow Varieties:

'Lydia' Stays compact, growing 5' tall by 5' wide. Blooms with yellow flowers

that have white throats and has fewer seed pods.

'Gold Star Esperanza' A fast-growing shrub (6'-7' tall and wide) valued for its large clusters of non-stop, golden yellow, bell-shaped flowers. Arching stems of dark green foliage form sprays of green and gold. It's very heat tolerant and easy to grow. It's great for sunny borders and containers and is evergreen in mild winter climates.

'Mayan Gold' A newly introduced variety that has earlier and more consistent flowering habits. The large golden yellow trumpets are born in loose clusters from summer to fall on this woody perennial. Occasional deadheading promotes more blooms, though it is not required.

Tecoma stans 'Yellow Bells' An evergreen, densely branched shrub that will grow 15-20 feet tall (can be trained into a tree). The blooms are bright yellow. •

History of WAN: Leaving Our Mark On San Diego

By Ken Andersen



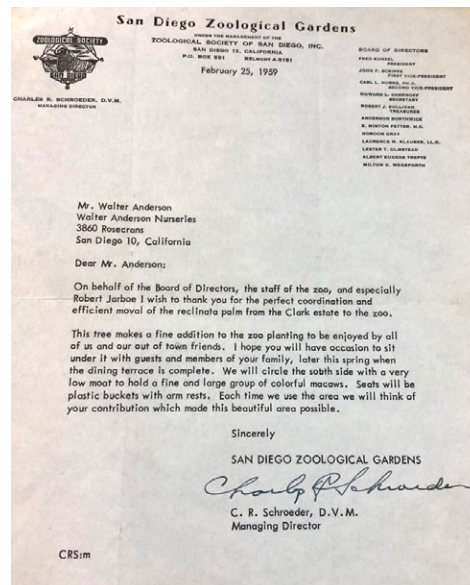
The Clark's date palm on the truck.

Tenth in the series. Read all the articles starting with the December, 2017 newsletter at www.walterandersen.com/news/newsletters.

Walter Andersen Nursery has contributed much to the San Diego landscape in our 90 years in business. You can see evidence of this around town; from the Kona Kai Club to the Westgate Hotel, even the San Diego Zoo.

In 1959, Mrs. Alice Clark of Point Loma donated a huge **Phoenix reclinata**, (**Senegal Date Palm**), to the **San Diego Zoo**. Walter Andersen Sr. was entrusted with the removal of the palm tree from Mrs. Clark's estate and its transportation and installation at the San Diego Zoo. This was no small feat as just the removal of the tree required a large crane and a truck larger than anything we owned for our landscaping operation. Removing the tree was one thing, getting it to the zoo was another. The move had to be done in the middle of the night

and required coordination with both the City and SDGE as power and utility lines had to be moved along



Letter from Charles Schroeder DVM, long time director of the San Diego Zoo, thanking Walter Sr. for completing the project.

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Batwing Passion Vine

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odd-shaped foliage which was shaped like a batwing. As I recall, the plant was in a large box with a trellis about two feet wide and maybe four feet tall. The plant covered the entire trellis. At some point in time, a customer purchased the plant and it was delivered to their home. Unfortunately, we did not think to take cuttings of the plant prior to its delivery.

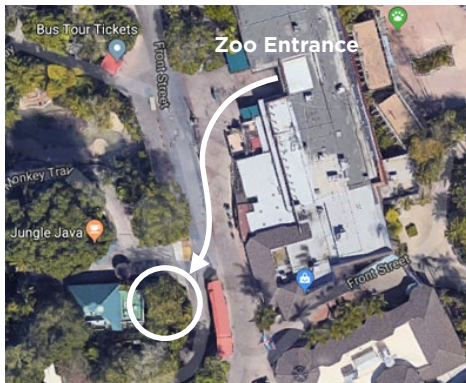
Off and on over the years (decades actually), I have looked for another plant to no avail. I have purchased seeds for the plant in an attempt to grow them, again to no avail. Then about a year ago I was able to locate a couple of **Passiflora 'Manta'**,

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History of WAN continued from p3

the route which ran from Point Loma along Harbor Drive, to Broadway, then up 12th Avenue to Park Boulevard, and into the zoo. Once in the zoo, the crane was required to place the massive tree in its new permanent home.

Even though the layout of the zoo has changed dramatically from what it was in 1959, if you know where to look, you can still see the tree right where Walter Sr. planted it almost 60 years ago. •



The tree is located to the left of the main entrance at the top of the driveway that drops down into the canyon.



Walter Sr.'s great grandson Blake Andersen standing in front of the Clark's date palm in 2015.

Batwing Passion Vine

continued from p3

a very similar plant and a hybrid of *P. coriacea*. I was able to acquire a couple of rooted cuttings and planted them. At first, the cuttings just kind of sat there, not growing. That is until this summer. I don't know if it has been the heat or if they just finally got some roots, but they have taken off in the last couple of months and are quickly becoming large enough to transplant again. This rapid growth has caused them to start blooming! You can see that they are extremely delicate and rather small. We will be taking cuttings later this summer in hopes of having some plants available for sale next spring or summer. Stay tuned and we will let you know when they are available. •

This Farmer's Market Find Is A Must For Wine Grape Lovers

By Melanie Potter

A recent stroll around a farmers market in Little Italy led to a new product in the Andersen family pantry, a newsletter article, and a special guest on our Saturday morning radio show.

We came across **grape nectar**, an all natural sweetener made from California wine grapes. The company, **Domaine Sante**, offers three flavors, all delicious and flavored for a variety of uses with just about every food you can imagine. Use it as a replacement for syrup, sugar, agave, or honey. At home, we are brushing it on meat before grilling or mixing it in a salad dressing. Choose from (Bored-O Blanco) sauvignon blanc and Semillon, (All-Sass) Riesling and gewürztraminer, or (Bored-O Rouge) cabernet, merlot, and malbec. All products are sustainably sourced, and are vegan certified and paleo friendly.



On September 22, tune in to the radio show (it runs 6-7am on KFMB, AM 760) and around 6:30am, owner Emily Josenhans will call in and share with listeners her story of how she sources the grapes, makes the product, and tell you where to find them for your pantry. For more information, go to www.domaine-sante.com. •





Old Ben:

Feeding Wild Birds In The Fall

By Old Ben



Fall is a fantastic time to feed the birds and these tips can help you attract a wide variety of resident and migrating birds to your backyard feeders.

Fall Bird Feeding Myths

The thought that if birds have a steady source of food available in the fall they won't migrate, and that when those feeders are empty, birds will starve are misconceptions. A reliable food source is only a minor factor that affects how birds migrate. Daylight levels, climate, and instinct play important roles in seasonal migration. Feeding birds in fall does not prevent migration, but can help it. Migrating birds require lots of calories for the energy necessary to fly hundreds or thousands of miles. Feeders can provide an energy boost to passing migrant birds as well as help resident birds build up fat reserves for falling temperatures.

It is also a myth that there are not enough birds to feed in the fall. Bird feeders will still see plenty of activity. Your backyard flocks will change as some birds leave and more northern birds arrive.

Why Feed Birds in the Fall?

Fall is an ever changing season and can be a very rewarding time to feed birds. You should always keep your feeders stocked in the fall to help with:

- Providing supplemental food when natural food sources are depleted.
- Helping birds imprint the location of reliable food sources so they will return to the same place next year.

Best Fall Bird Foods

To give migrating birds the best nutrition and energy for their long journeys,

you should provide foods with high oil content and many calories.

Look for the Old Ben's Brand at Walter Andersen Nursery. Choose from Old Ben's Classic, No Mess, Special Finch Blend, Nyger, Peanuts and Hummingbird foods. **See this month's fall bird seed specials!**

Tips for Feeding Fall Birds

There is more to feeding fall birds than just providing the right foods. By keeping your backyard safe and meeting birds' other needs, a fall flock will be healthy and active.

- Check feeders for damage and repair them so they are safe.
- Choose fall plants that offer evergreen cover and lasting berries, nuts or fruits for fall and winter food.
- Keep bird baths filled with fresh clean water.
- Allow leaf litter to build up under trees and shrubs which attracts birds by harboring insects, fallen seeds and other foods.
- Protect exhausted backyard migrants from predators such as cats.

By following these fall bird feeding tips, it is possible to attract a variety of birds and ensure they are fed throughout the season. •



Ask Old Ben!

Email Old Ben your questions to:
askoldben@aol.com

Old Ben's Promise

- I believe ingredients should come from nature, not a lab.
- I believe wild bird food should be made only with ingredients I am proud to share.
- I believe wild bird food should be simply prepared with as little processing as possible.
- I believe wild bird food should be made with a commitment to quality.
- Nature has nothing to hide; neither should your wild bird food.
- I use ingredients from natural sources across my entire line - NO artificial anything.

Old Ben's Specials

Valid September 1-30, 2018



THE FALL SEED SPECTACULAR!

All 20 and 25 lb. bags
of all-natural Old Ben's
Seed is on sale!

\$5 OFF
All Old Ben's
Seed

Choose from **Nyger**,
Special Finch Blend,
Classic, No Mess,
Dove & Quail, or **Economy**



No coupon necessary. No limits.

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

Bulk Isn't Always The Best

By Ken Andersen

When doing projects where large quantities of planting mix, top soil or decorative bark is needed, you might think that buying in bulk would be preferred. The fact is, unless you have the vehicle and man power to move bulk materials, buying larger quantities in smaller bags may actually be more cost efficient. This option is also easier for the average home owner to move once the materials are onsite. Here are some examples for you to consider.

Bulk

Hanson Aggregates / A-1 Soils is the company we usually recommend for bulk quantities of planting mix, top soil and bark. Here are their recent prices:

A-1 Blend Top Soil

\$30 / Cubic Yard

A-1 Planter Mix

\$66 / Cubic Yard

Shredded Redwood Mulch (Gorilla Hair)

\$60 / Cubic Yard

1/4" Decorative Bark

\$80 / Cubic Yard

Small & Medium Decorative Bark

\$92 / Cubic Yard

These prices exclude the delivery fee which is a minimum of \$108.

A delivery from their Carroll Canyon location to Poway is \$191.

Bags

Compare to the bagged goods prices carried at Walter Andersen Nursery:

E.B. Stone Top Soil 1 Cu.Ft.

\$3.99 a bag

\$107.31 / Cubic Yard

E.B. Stone Big Harvest Planting Mix 3 Cu.Ft.

\$10.99 a bag

\$98.91 / Cubic Yard

Shredded Redwood 3 Cu.Ft.

\$89.91 / Cubic Yard

Micro Bark (1/4")

\$9.99 / 2 Cubic Feet

\$139.86 / Cubic Yard

Decorative Bark

\$8.99 / 2 Cubic Feet

\$125.86 / Cubic Yard

Our minimums for **FREE delivery** for areas close to both of our stores* is \$150. If you are doing a project large enough to require bulk products, the plant material you purchase at the nursery can easily help you achieve the minimum to earn free delivery.

Before you jump at the prospect of purchasing bulk materials, do some math and consider purchasing bagged products. They are easily moved by hand or a wheelbarrow and are less labor intensive to do so as no shoveling is required. Either of our stores would be happy to provide you a quote on your next project.

**Minimums for free delivery vary by distance from our stores. Contact the store closest to you for the minimums and ask about the delivery fees should your order fall below the minimum. •*



TO DO LIST: September



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 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. **Last feeding** for Camellias, Azaleas, and roses for the year.

PLANT

Plant **Sweet Peas, winter annuals** like Calendulas, Stocks, Pansies, Violas, Mums, and Snapdragons. Plant **winter vegetables**. For your **veggie planting**, don't miss broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, lettuces and greens, potatoes, radishes, and peas. **Cool season tomatoes** are here!

LOOK FOR

Fall bulbs (Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Crocus, Saffron Crocus, Ranunculus and Freesia). For the best selection, buy them early. Most **spring-blooming bulbs** such as Tulips, Hyacinths, and Crocus will need to be pre-chilled in the refrigerator for 6-8 weeks to 'fake' winter before planting outdoors. **Crape Myrtle, Arbutus, Bougainvillea, and Agapanthus.** •

Garden Classes

SEPTEMBER

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

9/1

No Class: Labor Day Weekend

9/8

Birds & Hummers

9/15

Landscape & Garden Grasses

9/22

Soil Prep for Fall Planting

9/29

Native Plants & Pollinators

POWAY | 9:30AM

9/1

No Class: Labor Day Weekend

9/8

Seed Saving: All About Seeds

9/15

Fall Vegetables
with Richard Wright

9/22

Bonsai Workshop, \$20 fee
includes Juniper and training
instruction, limited to 15 people.
RSVP and pay admission by
calling 858-513-4900

9/29

Fall Rose Care

Poway Store Hours

Poway store changes
its hours effective

September 3rd to

9am-5pm daily.

Making A **Hat Fit**

How many 'one size fits all' hats do you have that are too big? Here's a neat trick that Barb, in our Poway store, learned when she bought a hat at the San Diego County Fair that was too large. She was instructed by the salesperson to take a couple of pieces of weather stripping, about two inches each, and place them at the band area inside of the hat. Place one towards the front of the hat, one towards the back. Barb puts hers just under the ribbon so it is hidden and voila, the hat fits!! •

September Special Valid September 1-30, 2018

50% OFF

Deciduous Fruit Trees, Cane Vines & Grape Vines



Save big on a great selection of
Apples, Plums, Peaches, Nectarines
and more! *Sale excludes Avocado,
Citrus, Blueberries, and Subtropical
Fruits and Nuts.*

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**

3642 Enterprise Street
San Diego, California 92110
{619} 224-8271

POWAY

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



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