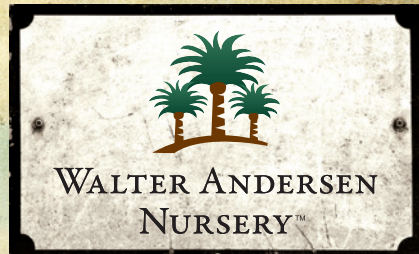


# Garden Talk™

## San Diego's Garden Resource



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## Going Bananas For Bananas

BY MELANIE POTTER

Last year we planted some bananas near our pool. I had visions of them growing tall, filling in an empty area near the fence and late in the summer cutting down a branch of bananas. The truth is that we aren't overly fond of bananas; once planted they more or less shriveled up and look pretty ratty, they never got tall, or grew, and the bare spot along the fence is still bare.

I was curious as to why we experienced banana failure given that every other edible we planted is producing almost too much. That meant doing some research and if I'm going to embark on that, I may as well share it with you.

Edible bananas come from Asia and you'll also find ornamental varieties that don't produce an edible fruit, from the Ensete (native to Africa) and Musa species (depending upon the variety they are native to Japan, China, Asia and India). The ornamental varieties will grow well in pots so that they are easily moved out of cold temperatures. All types of bananas are heavy feeders and like sun.

The long and broad foliage, which makes the banana plant so recognizable, is easily shredded in wind so place them where they won't get wind blown. All that information was interesting but if I can't grow bananas for the fruit, I'm not likely to bother with growing them for ornamental purposes, so onward to information on edible bananas.

I was surprised to find that they grow fast and spread by suckers and underground roots to form clumps 6-10' wide. They could be invasive and Sunset Western Garden Book recommends dwarf varieties for the home gardener. At the nursery, we have dwarf Cavendish (growing to 6' and producing a sweet-tasting banana), dwarf Brazilian (grows to 15") and Williams.

The Cavendish banana tree is a shorter,



Banana

stubbier plant than earlier varieties. It was developed to resist plant diseases, insects and windstorms better than its predecessors. The Cavendish banana tree fruit is of medium size, has a creamier, smooth texture, and a thinner peel than earlier varieties. Williams is one of the main bananas of commerce. This banana plant grows to 6 to 8 feet and produces very large heads of fruit that are sweet. They are wind resistant and cold hardy.

At the nursery, it is said that plants don't die, people kill them. Given that I began to look for a reason why my bananas didn't grow and I think it was a combination of lack of food and improper watering. I should have been using a balanced fertilizer and had I overdone it, the leaves would start to deform. Banana plants also like regular watering and it's ok to let them dry out very slightly between waterings. Be careful not to over water because bananas are herbaceous perennials and their trunks are not wood but are actually leaves and they will rot.

You'll get ripe fruit within 70-100 days after the plant blooms. To harvest quality fruit, let one or two stalks per clump grow, pruning out others as they emerge. Allow replacement stalks for next year's fruit to develop after the fruiting stalks have bloomed. Remove the stalks that have fruited. When the top of the cluster starts to turn yellow, cut the whole cluster down and let them ripen at room temperature, uncovered. ■

## Hedge Fund\$ Redemption Is Underway

It's July and Hedge Fund\$ season again! July kicks off the next round of Hedge Fund\$ redemptions. Come into the store to claim yours now. Purchases made on your account have been earning points and now is the time to take advantage. You can redeem points for up to 50% of the purchase price on most items. Points may be redeemed in July and August but they do expire at the end of August so don't miss out. Expired points cannot be replaced. We are working on revamping the Hedge Fund\$ program for 2012 to make it even better so stay tuned for updates. ■



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## Irrigation Tips To Conserve Water

### BY DIG IRRIGATION PRODUCTS

Reviewing and upgrading your irrigation system can lead to irrigation uniformity, resulting in water savings and a flourishing garden. Maintenance practices such as mulching and the right irrigation systems can greatly impact the water efficiency of any landscape, as well as the landscape's ability to survive a dry season.

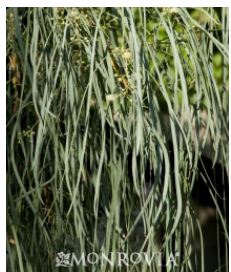
### TIPS AND PRACTICES THAT CAN SAVE WATER

- Check the sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only the desired area is watered.
- It's best to water during the early morning hours when cooler temperatures and less wind minimize evaporation.
- Adding a rain sensor to the controller will eliminate unnecessary watering when it is raining.
- Use a drip system and water less frequently, creating healthier and stronger landscapes.
- Cover the drip system and plant area with mulch. Good mulch preserves soil

*continued p2*



*Aloe cameronii* Photo: San Marcos Growers



*Shoestring Acacia*  
Photo: Richard Shiell



*Leucadendron*  
'Safari Sunset'

## Irrigation Tips To Conserve Water

*continued from p1*

moisture, prevents soil compaction, keeps soil temperatures more moderate, and reduces weed growth.

- Use of drip irrigation on trees, shrubs, flowerbeds, and vegetable gardens can help in reducing weed growth; saving water and helping the garden withstand a dry season.

### THE BENEFITS OF DRIP IRRIGATION

- Drip irrigation (sometimes referred to as micro irrigation, low-flow irrigation, or trickle irrigation) is an irrigation method in which water is applied slowly and in precise amounts directly to the plant roots using low flow drip emitters. With proper irrigation schedules and selection of the correct drip emitters, drip irrigation can maintain an optimum moisture level in the soil, combining the proper balance of water and air. This will result in less water lost to evaporation, wind and runoff while enhancing deeper root zone development with better growth conditions, in addition to minimizing weed growth.

*Editor's Note: Both stores carry Dig Irrigation products. ■*

## Fuller's Finds

BY CAROL FULLER

Hello Everyone! I hope your gardens are flourishing, are the envy of the neighborhood, and are filled with all the plants I've found for you over the years. Yes, years. So, instead of talking about the new plants I've found, let's talk about the plants that will always be in my yard. Here are some of my favorites. I warn you ahead of time, some of these may be hard to find, so keep looking.

Any and all salvias, of course, but *Salvia apiana* aka White Sage, and, of course, *Salvia* 'Bee's Bliss' are two that have found a place in my yard and always will. White Sage is unique in that it is a white flower with silver foliage that is very dramatic and a great foil to a pink or dark purple flowered plant. 'Bee's Bliss' is a small hybrid sage that, so far, has not reverted to the very large *Salvia* you see on your way to Julian. It is a little more open and the flowers a little less dense but the color of the flowers is the attraction.

*Ceanothus* 'Dark Star' is definitely my favorite Mountain Lilac. I have found it to bloom almost all year long, especially when we have a more moderate winter. It also takes to shaping very well. Sometimes natives will fight back when you prune them by not flourishing for a year or two, or just dying outright. 'Dark Star' seems to be a-okay.

*Archostaphylos* spp. 'Pacific Mist' is a low growing, rambling Manzanita with the cutest little flowers that the hummers love. I have this plant tumbling over a grouping of rocks and when I finally learned to grow it without killing it, it made a wonderful addition to the habitat I have in my front yard. If there is anything I've learned about Manzanita over the years it is that you can easily kill this plant with too much water. I speak from experience. Something else I have learned is that this plant is susceptible to *Phytophthora* root rot, frequently triggered by overwatering. See what I mean about over watering? Plant the Manzanita and then just walk away.

Parry's Penstemon (*Penstemon parryi*), also called Parry's beardtongue or Desert Penstemon, is a wildflower native to Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico. It is a perennial that blooms in March and April. They are now growing all over the hillside where I live. These plants flower in their second year, so be patient. At the base of the plant are lanceolate leaves that grow in a rosette pattern. From the base emerge the flower stalks, which are 2 to 5 feet high and topped with numerous deep-throated flowers, pink to red in color which is unusual for wildflowers which are usually yellow. It is a desert plant and loves the sun. It is drought tolerant but several consecutive years of drought will kill it.

I also love native-like plants, most of which are natives of Australia or South Africa. Several these are at the top of my list of favorites.

*Leucadendron* is a genus of protea with about 80 species. They are easy to grow but require excellent drainage. My favorite varieties are "Safari Sunset", "Winter Red" and "Jester". The flowers on these plants are not exciting but the foliage is spectacular. So much so that it is used in the flower trade and you will spend \$10 for five stems.

I recently wrote about *Acacia merinthophora* also known as Zigzag Wattle which is another unique shrub. It holds a place in my 'Japanese Garden' and should anything happen to it, it will be replaced. *Acacia stenophylla* or Shoestring Acacia is a smallish tree that has a home in my back yard. I love the texture of this tree as well as the fact that it takes up so little space. It has a tendency to twist as it grows so it also adds some unique architecture to the landscape. It works great next to buildings and the roots are not particularly invasive, it's not a huge tree.

There are a couple of plants I wrangled when I worked for Tom Piergrossi's Nursery, one is *Callistemon viridiflorus* or Green Bottlebrush. Very similar to the Red Bottlebrush but the flowers are chartreuse against a dark green leaf. This is a smallish shrub, about 6' right now, and probably not getting any larger. It may be difficult to find but be patient, it will show up somewhere. It's on my list of propagation plants. The other bottlebrush is a Pink Bottlebrush (*Callistemon* spp. 'Taree Pink'). This one should be easier to find as it is becoming quite popular. Mine is about 10' tall now and I've pruned it so it flowers about 4' up the trunk and is about 6' wide.

Succulents have been added to my garden and a few of my favorites are Agaves, Octopus Agave, Shark Skin Agave and Mescal Agave, which has sharp spikes. I keep mine in a pot that I move around the yard as it grows.

Another plant that looks like Agave is *Furcraea*. The leaves are not as fleshy as Agave and more pliable than Yucca. The variegated one is my favorite.

*Echeverias* are a great addition to the garden as are *Aeoniums*. *Aeonium* 'Sunburst' and 'Zwartkop' planted in a pot with *Senecio serpens* is absolutely stunning. 'Kiwi' is another *Aeonium* favorite of mine.

Don't forget the aloes. *Aloe cameronii* is a beautifully burnt orange color. *Aloe bracteosa* is a beautiful blue-green and *Aloe vanbalenii* is dark burgundy.

I hope you enjoyed this little trip down the memory lane of my garden. I'll be on the look out for new plants for you. So until next time, enjoy. ■

## Cacti And Chocolate Are Vacation Favorites

BY MELANIE POTTER



**Twisted Acacia**

Touring a cactus garden may not be high on most bucket lists. But, what if the cactus garden is part of the chocolate factory tour at Ethel M. Chocolates, maker of some of the best peanut brittle (regular or chocolate dipped) you may ever find?

While in Las Vegas for a long weekend getaway, we drove to Henderson to tour the chocolate factory and see one of the world's largest cacti collections. More than 300 species of plants can be found on the four-acre grounds. Half are cacti and succulents, largely native to the American Southwest, and the rest are drought tolerant desert trees and shrubs from the Southwestern United States, Australia, and South America.

Many of the plants are very familiar to San Diegans because they grow well in our climate and some standouts are worth sharing with you.

### TWISTED ACACIA

This tree-like shrub spreads thorny branches low to the ground. It grows four to 12 feet off the ground and is native to the Edwards Plateau and the South Texas Plains. The Twisted Acacia is food to deer, small mammals and game birds as well as wild and feral hogs. Sheep and goats eat some parts as well. Birds and small mammals also enjoy the canopy for nesting, roosting, and protection. The trees at the botanical garden are at least 25' tall. They resemble a mesquite tree and have a very open, lacy canopy. We saw the botanical garden near Christmas so every cactus, succulent or tree was strung with holiday lights (more than 500,000 lights decorate the area, making it a destination spot that can rival seeing the lights of the Las Vegas strip). In spring, bright sulphur-yellow, ball-shaped flowers are borne, singly or in clusters densely along the branches. Flowers are mildly fragrant.

### BUNNY EARS CACTUS

These cacti do resemble bunny ears, especially when you see them enmasse, which makes



**Bunny Ears Cactus**

me think of the evenings or mornings when the bunnies proliferate the yard and all I can see are their ears as they devour my lawn. This plant comes from the Opuntia Family (Cactaceae) and is also called Polka Dot Cactus, or Angel's Wings.

This cactus is very attractive with tiny, silver-whitish colored, soft, fuzzy looking glochids. It has no spines. The glochids can stick to your skin with the slightest touch or movement of air and then they are very difficult to remove. When moving the plants, wet them down before working near them to reduce disturbing the glochids. If you do find you've been exposed, here's a trick for removing the glochids from your skin. Coat the area affected with Elmer's Glue and let it dry. Then you can peel the glue off. Almost all the spines will pull out with the glue. If you grow Bunny Ears, plant in full sun, and keep the soil dry. These grow 1 ½' to 2' and spread to 6'. Yellow flowers bloom July to August.

### COWS TONGUE

Here's another cactus that looks just like its name implies. This particular Opuntia is found native to a limited area in Bexar County, Texas and now grows in many areas outside the original range. The stems have been found to grow to almost 2' in length and are armed with the typical yellow spines of the engelmannii species. The real "cow tongue" look distinguishes this plant from all other Opuntias.

It grows to about 6' in height and 8' wide. Bright yellow flowers bloom from May to June and are followed by large, red fruit. These can be commonly seen in landscapes; they require full sun, little water, and sandy soil. ■



**Cows Tongue**

## STRANGE EATS ARE AT YOUR NURSURY

BY MELANIE POTTER



**Pepino Melon**

About the time those guys on television were getting famous for eating bugs, animal innards and exteriors, our Poway location had amongst our midst a fellow who was equally adventurous but was able to combine his quest for the unusual food with his ability to grow it.

Sure Donovan Lewis could hold his own with the TV fellas if there was a man vs food throw-down with unrecognizable things being passed off as cuisine, but if you want to talk about unusual or exotic fruits and vegetables, you can learn from our master.

It's because of Donovan that I have tasted mulberries, so I was intrigued when he found two plants in the store that we'd like to introduce you to.

Solanum muricatum, or Pepino Melon or Pepino Dulce, is a fruit he became familiar with when he lived in Peru, where it is native to the Andes Mountain area. It's a medium sized fruit with a mild taste, very similar to cantaloupe. The pepino has a thin, cream colored, sometimes purple spotted skin. It usually fruits in 9-12 months, and prefers a frost free climate. The growth habit is similar to the tomato and plants benefit from some support. Growing 4-6', this makes an excellent container plant. The multi-colored flowers are borne in clusters and fruits follow a few months later. Like tomatoes, grow in full sun in a well draining soil and water regularly.

More regularly available, if you are in search of an edible passion flower, is Passiflora edulis 'Frederick'. It is the premier fruit producing passiflora for warmer areas of Southern California and will grow inland with frost protection. David Ross, a store manager at our Poway location, has two Fredericks at his home near Rancho San Diego and he reported that the one that grows on the

*continued p5*

## Words From Walter

BY WALTER ANDERSEN, JR.



June means the beginning of summer, at least for me. The plants are really reacting to the warmer weather, which means they are usually growing faster. If you planted Tomatoes in early spring, they are probably producing by now. Remember, they will start to slow down and the main crops will be over soon; so this is still a great time to plant more Tomatoes for late summer.

There is nothing like cool fresh tomatoes for warm summer dinners or even lunches. If you are short of room in your garden, you can grow great crops of tomatoes in containers. Try them as a patio plant. Personally, I like the squat 15-gallon size. I plant three Tomatoes per pot, near the edge of the container. I stake them with 6' x 1" stakes and tie them together at the top. As the plants grow, I tie them to the stakes with the green garden tape. They grow fast this time of the year, so be sure to feed them monthly. I use GroPower on my plants; they seem to do very well with this fertilizer. The mix I use to grow them is SunShine in the green bag. A 1.5 cu. ft. bag will fill the pot I described perfectly.

The plants should be grown in an area that gets at least six or seven hours of full sun each day. Be sure to stay on top of the water because as they get larger they dry out quickly. When it is very warm they may need water every day.

So, go plant some new Tomatoes and you should have the next crop in about 60 to 80 days. You can grow your Pepper plants this way also, and Leaf Lettuce would do very well. Corn, not so good.

*Editor's Note: To learn how to plant tomatoes with David Ross, visit this link:*

<http://www.walterandersen.com/video/tomatoes-for-everyone/> ■

## Fresh In The Garden

BY JEN MERZIGIAN

Every year I say it, and every year I mean it: I have some new things I think you should try, and I think you're going to love them! This year's seed catalogs had the best selection of disease-resistant varieties I have ever seen, and we narrowed them down to what we think are the best, and added in a few new things, just for fun, of course!

'Sweet Slice' Cucumber was one of the first to catch my eye. Last year I was disappointed when the funky weather doomed my sweet, 'Sweet Diva' Cucumber to a long, slow death by powdery mildew. This new, super-sweet, burp less cucumber is not only resistant to powdery mildew, but several mosaic viruses common in the Cucurbit family as well. It's a more vigorous grower than 'Diva', but is alike in that the skin of the fruit is tender and not bitter! 'Patio Pickle' Cucumber is new to us this year as well. As the name implies, it is compact, and yet very prolific, therefore worth trying whether your garden space is limited or not! It also starts producing earlier than most cucumbers, at 49 days. It is resistant to anthracnose, angular leaf spot, cucumber mosaic virus, scab, and powdery mildew!



**Sweet Slice Cucumber**

'Felix' Squash, is actually a Zucchini (though you may see it labeled either way), that can be picked as a "mini" zucchini, or up to 7" for ideal flavor. This is another item with resistance to multiple viruses, and, (drum roll please) powdery mildew! (Are we seeing a pattern here?) For a true miniature zucchini, try 'Bush Baby' Squash/ Zucchini, which also has the benefit of being a compact plant, and would be ideal for small gardens or containers.

Some new peppers: 'Sweetheart', shaped like a 3" heart, this is a little Pimento-type that is both yummy and cute, deep red when ripe, and resistant to tobacco mosaic virus. 'Serrano del



**Fairytale Pumpkin**



**Felix Squash**

Sol' produces earlier than a typical Serrano and the fruit grows twice the size. But just when you think it can't get any better, you throw in some pepper mottle virus resistance to the mix!

The 'Sugar Cube' Melon is a "personal sized" melon, about two pounds, with medium netting, and delicious orange flesh. There is a very long list of diseases it's resistant to, but suffices to say, the only one I can pronounce is powdery mildew.

'Orient Express' is a new eggplant variety as well. It produces up to two weeks earlier than several "early" varieties, and can also set fruit in colder and more heat-stressed conditions than other eggplants.

A popular, tasty, and not to mention healthy addition are the Soybeans we've added to our inventory. Namely two varieties: 'Envy'—the earliest 'edamame', and 'Butterbeans'—the yummiest!

Last but not least, the selection of pumpkins this summer will definitely be something to take notice of. There will be jack-o-lantern types, there will be little ones to decorate, there will be pie types, and there will be multi-taskers galore! And believe me; several will be disease-resistant too. I'm personally looking forward to tasting a 'Fairytale'. If I had room, I would love to grow them all, but maybe at least I could grow some 'Wee-B-Littles to have around in the fall as they don't need much space to grow. So many things to choose from! ■

## Meet The Stinkys; Plants That Don't Smell Swell

BY MELANIE POTTER



**Patchouli**

This year we expanded our vegetable garden at home which gave me the opportunity to select some new herb additions from the nursery and in the quest for them, I came across some that were less than pleasing, in an olfactory way. That's right, they stunk!

I know there are some people who enjoy the smell of patchouli, but I'm not one of them. The plant smells just like it does if you buy patchouli perfume, candle or incense. A valuable herb of the Asian continent and for Arabs, patchouli hails from the mint family. These plants like warm weather, at least 75 degrees and need a loamy soil that drains well. Keep plants moist.

Patchouli has anti fungal and antibacterial properties and has been used in the treatment of digestive disorders, infections, nausea, colds, headaches, and as a pain killer. The oil extracted from it is used in aromatherapy and is useful as a remedy for skin disorders.

Now, I do love the smell and flavor of curry, and the curry plant (*Helichrysum italicum*) delivers that distinct fragrance, and lingers for a long time on the fingers when you crush the leaves. One source of information promised that coming into contact with cut leaves would leave you reeking. It offers a strong scent without the satisfaction of eating a curry dish though, and in fact, the plant is not used to make curries. It is actually a member of the daisy family and is native to Turkey where it is at home in dry, rocky areas. The leaves are said to be used to treat bruises and varicose veins and are used primarily for medicinal purposes. They look like silver-colored lavender and small yellow flowers bloom in summer.

Near the Curry plant was a skunky-smelling Lavender multifida. I also steered clear of Mexican sage!



**Curry**

When I mentioned I was going to write about plants that smelled, our bedding manager Jen Merzigian laughed, crinkled her nose and said, Rabbit Repel (*Coleus cannis*)'. This is a tender perennial that can be grown to keep rabbits at bay. A scattering of crushed or torn leaves (to release the scent) is said to repel bunnies. From the *Plectranthus*, family, this grows wild in Africa and India. Grow it in a sunny spot and it gets 15" to 18" tall. Blooms are purple and resemble lavender.

Ken Andersen was quick to lend his thoughts on plants that smell bad and immediately conjured up Rue (*Ruta*), an evergreen shrub which one website described as a "powerful, disagreeable odor with an exceedingly bitter, acrid and nauseous taste". Native to the Mediterranean area, Micronesia, and southwest Asia, Rue thrives in poor sandy soils, hot, dry sites and grows best in full sun. In mid-summer, Rue blooms with yellow flowers and it is an attractant to swallowtail butterflies. Some growers of Rue report they have success using it as a dog and cat repellent and others shared their tales of the burns, blisters, and inflammation from dermatitis they suffered from touching the plant!

Finally, the grand finale of the stinkys, just because I think it is unusual and somewhat mind boggling that a plant can have this odor—Epazote (*Chenopodium ambrosioides*) which smells like petroleum, the same smell you encounter when you walk into your mechanic's shop. This herb has medicinal and culinary uses, mostly in Mexican and Caribbean food where it is used sparingly due to its strong odor and the fact that too much can be toxic. Epazote can get 2'-3' tall and needs full sun and well draining soil. The plant seeds readily and can be invasive so a container is best if you want to grow it.

*Editor's Note: If you grow any of the plants mentioned in this article with the intent to ingest or use them for medical purposes, research them carefully or do so with a medical professional's advice. These plants aren't always available at our nurseries, there isn't a great demand for them; but don't hesitate to ask if we can locate them. ■*

## STRANGE EATS

*continued from p3*



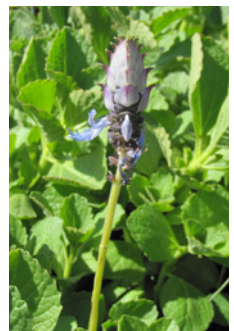
**Passion Flower**

exposed fence had severe frost damage but recovered. The other that has a tree overhead for protection, suffered no damage. The flowers are fragrant and large. The fruit is as large as a goose egg with a purple skin and delicious pulp when ripe. The fruit should never be picked, it must fall naturally. If it is allowed to wrinkle a bit after collecting, it becomes sweet ambrosia. The pulp is orange with an exotic, citrus-like taste that is used for its juice or by cutting the fruit in half and scooping out the pulp to eat — seed and all.

The plant is very productive in warm areas. It's vigorous and blooms from late spring until fall. This plant is excellent for a sunny location and makes a good, rapidly growing screen for an unsightly fence or outbuilding. It is extremely productive and David warns that one is sufficient; another tip from him is to enjoy the fruit as a topping on Dryer's vanilla bean ice cream. ■



**Lavender multifida**



**Rabbit Repel**



**Epazote**

## Wee Corner

BY MELANIE POTTER

These pests are wee indeed, but they pack a ton of irritation. It's those darn fungus gnats that are very tiny and fly around you, usually right under your eyes and nose. Sometimes I can crush them by clapping them with my death trap-like hands, but usually I just end up with palms that sting and no sign of a smashed gnat anywhere. They remain unscathed and in my face again.

These little flies are found in and on the soil of your houseplants and they are prolific breeders. They

are weak fliers that do not bite or spread human diseases. They are, however, not a friend to your plants. They are an organism that transmits a pathogen, so if you have a sick plant, fungus gnats can spread it to all your healthy neighboring plants.

They can also vector several different fungal root rots and even foliage pathogens. And as if that's not bad enough, fungus gnat larvae make supersized meals out of your plant roots.

I find it gratifying to know that these pests can only live about a week, but the females of the species are like Type-A, over achieving worker bees that can deposit 100-150 eggs on a plant's soil surface. These eggs are laid in strings of three to 40 and can hatch within four days of being laid.

So give your hands a rest and pick up some Bonide Systemic Houseplant Insect Control. This granule product is a systemic rids plants fungus gnats, aphids, scale, mealy bugs, and whiteflies. Bonide treats the larvae and takes a few days to get into the soil.

The easy-to-use application just requires a sprinkling of the granules onto the soil. Work in lightly then water. Just water lightly for the next 10 days so the product can work itself down to the roots. Protection lasts up to eight weeks. Try letting soil, if you can, dry out as fungus gnats are attracted to moist soil. You might also want to try sticky traps that lure the gnat to the trap where they land on the sticky paper and get stuck. ■



## 2011 Rose Show Winners

### QUEEN OF SHOW

Violet Cloud (Mini-Flora/Mini Bouquet)

Kathleen Strong

### ANDERSEN'S CHOICE AWARD

Sixteen Candles

Dick & Sue Streeper

### BEST HYBRID TEA OR GRANDIFLORA

Gemini

Phyllis & Lou Burseson

### BEST SINGLE STEM FLORIBUNDA

Ebb Tide

Dick & Sue Streeper

### BEST OLD FASHIONED TYPE

Molineux

Bob & Donna Martin

### BEST MINIATURE/MINI-FLORA

Powerpoint

Kathleen Strong

### BEST MINIATURE/MINI-FLORA SPRAY

Ruby Ruby

Dick & Sue Streeper

### BEST BOUQUET

Scentimental

Ms. Rochelle Peterson

### BEST MINIATURE/MINI-FLORA BOUQUET

Mariotta, Violet Cloud

Kathleen Strong

### BEST FLOATING BOWL

Silverado

Kathleen Strong

### BEST MINIATURE/MINI-FLORA FLOATING BOWL

Peter Cottontail

Bob & Donna Martin

### BEST FULLY OPEN LARGE FLOWERING VARIETY

Sexy Remy

Bob & Donna Martin

### BEST FULLY OPEN MINIATURE/MINI-FLORA

Wonderful News

Kathleen Strong

### MOST FRAGRANT ROSE

Barbra Streisand

Pete Bompensiero

### BEST NON-CLASSIFIED ROSE

Seedling

Marie & Ira Fletcher

### BEST CHILD'S ENTRY UNDER THE AGE OF 14

The Pilgrim

Megan Kolp

## Tool Shed

BY KEN ANDERSEN

July is here, so on top of all the things you should be doing this summer, it's time to feed the roses. Just go to the tool shed and pull out your bag of Ada Perry's Magic Formula, if you have any left over, and if not, come into to either location because Walter Andersen Nursery is the only place you can find this miracle food. Each 20 pound bag feeds about 30 roses and all they need is 2 ½ cups of food per rose worked lightly into the soil surrounding the base of the rose.

Ada Perry was a longtime gardener in San Diego. She worked for many years at our San Diego store and you could also read her gardening columns in the San Diego Union Tribune. She was recognizable, if not for her gardening knowledge, then for the big hats she used to wear.



Inside the bag is a rose-loving mixture of blood meal, bone meal, sulfur, zinc, nitrogen, magnesium and iron. Ada Perry's Magic Formula is a supplement to your regular fertilizer regiment. In addition to feeding in July, you'll also want to give them another dose of this in January. ■

## VOLUNTEER PLANTING

BY MELANIE POTTER



A Syringa donated by the Nursery found a good home in Julian when young adult volunteers from Good Shepherd Youth Ministry went there and planted shrubs and flowers. The project was to beautify areas of Whispering Winds camp. ■

## San Diego County Fair

BY MELANIE POTTER



This year's theme for the San Diego County Fair was 'Race to the Fair', and that we did. As you can see, we started with a big, dirt lot with just a couple of trees and a sign with our name on it. The display soon took shape with the help of Advanced Waterscape, Inc. and an old 1934 Ford Sedan Delivery from Walter Andersen, Jr.'s collection. While we didn't 'race to the fair' we did trailer the car to Del Mar where it was driven into the display, which we think was in keeping with the theme. ■

## Seasonal Recipe

### Tortellini & Chicken Salad

Here's a recipe that will find its way into our picnic basket this summer as we attend the season's outdoor concerts.

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 18 oz. cheese filled tortellini (fresh or dried)
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ¼ cup fresh lemon juice
- 2 garlic cloves, rough chop them for easier processing
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 cups chopped chicken (cheat and use the rotisserie chicken from the supermarket)
- 1 cup of thawed frozen peas
- ½ cup thinly sliced green onions
- ½ cup chopped parsley
- Salt and pepper to taste

**DIRECTIONS:** Prepare tortellini according to the package's directions. In a blender, process the olive oil, cheese, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, and garlic until smooth. Add a bit more olive oil if the mixture seems too thick. Toss this dressing with the tortellini, chicken, peas, onions, and parsley. Season with salt and pepper. Serve on salad greens for extra color.

**DATES TO REMEMBER!****4TH OF JULY** – Both stores closed.**LABOR DAY** – Open regular hours.**Friendly Recycling Reminder:**

No need to throw away your nursery cans as you can recycle them. The City of San Diego has expanded its recycling program to include potting containers. Just put them in your recycling bin for curbside recycling. The City has expanded the list of plastic items that can now be recycled. For more information, visit: [www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/list.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/list.shtml).

**Summer Garden Class Schedule**

**Join Us most Saturdays to Learn and Explore.** All classes are FREE and last about an hour. During inclement weather, all classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. *(Complimentary coffee will be served)*

	SAN DIEGO NURSERY   9:00AM	POWAY NURSERY   9:30AM
JULY	2 Staghorn Ferns – Care & Dividing	2 Summer Rose Care w/David Ross
	9 Bromeliads & Tillandsias	9 DIG Drip Seminar – Class Full
	16 Summer Rose Care	16 Plumeria Care w/Richard Wright
	23 Plumeria Care & Grafting	23 Landscape Lighting for Effect, Beauty, & Security w/Chris Ewell, Superior Irrigation
	30 Soils & Soil Amendments	30 Citrus Varieties & Care w/David Ross
AUGUST	6 Interior Plants	6 Attracting Birds to Your Yard, w/Ben from Old Ben's Workshop
	13 Gardenias & Hibiscus	13 Attracting Butterflies & Hummingbirds w/Jen Merzigan
	20 Shade Gardens: Ferns, Ginger, Elephant Ears, etc.	20 Irrigation for Edibles w/Richard Wright
	27 Bonsai	27 Cactus & Succulents w/Dave Miller
SEPTEMBER	3 Herbs for Late Summer	3 Backyard Orchard Culture w/Tom Spelman, Dave Wilson Nursery
	10 General Pest Control	Special Order Fruit tree kickoff
	17 General Orchid Care	10 Composting w/Jen Merzigan
	24 Palms & Sago Palms – Cycads, etc.	17 Fall Vegetables w/Richard Wright
		24 Intro to Organic Gardening, DR EARTH

**Summer Specials!**

PUT IN A SECOND CROP  
OF VEGGIES THIS SUMMER  
AND SAVE!

**All 4" Herbs &  
Vegetables**

Regularly \$2.99  
**Now \$2.49**

Limited to stock on hand. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer. Hedge Fund\$ points do not apply. Sale price good through July 31, 2011.

ADD SOME SUMMER COLOR  
TO YOUR YARD FOR LESS!

**Save \$10.00  
on 5-Gallon  
Roses**

Regularly \$24.99  
**Now \$14.99**

Limited to stock on hand. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer. Hedge Fund\$ points do not apply. Sale price good through July 31, 2011.

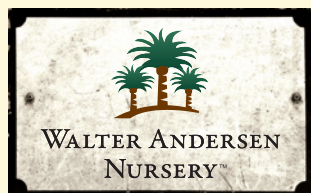
GET YOUR NEW ROSES OFF  
TO A GOOD START!

**Save \$2.00 on  
Ada Perry's  
Magic Formula**

Regularly \$24.99  
**Now \$22.99**

Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer. Hedge Fund\$ points do not apply. Sale price good through July 31, 2011.

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