



**Walter Andersen
Nursery™**

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

Garden Talk

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Quality Shears Make A Difference

By Ken Andersen



There is still time for winter pruning on roses and fruit trees. For many years now, we have been recommending Felco shears to our customers. With a wide range of styles and price points to choose from, they are arguably the best shears on the market. Equipped with very sharp blades, fully replaceable parts, and a variety of grips to choose from, there is certainly a pair that will fit your hand and pruning style. One of the biggest selling points

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Meet Rosemary, The New Salvia

By David Ross



What's in a name and when is Rosemary not Rosemary? When it's Salvia of course!

First published in 1753 as Rosmarinus officinalis by Linnaeus, we have used that name to this day. Well ahead of his time, in 1852, German botanist Matthias Jacob Schleiden authored the plant as Salvia Rosmarinus in his Handbuch der Medicinisch-

Pharmaceutischen Botanik. Also ahead of his time, since about 2010, our own George Allmon thought Rosemary should be a Salvia every time he took a close up picture of the flower!

It was a few years ago that the Royal Horticulture Society decided it could not leave well enough alone and had

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The Plants Of Love

By Melanie Potter

The nursery used to stock a book entitled, 'Plants of Love' by Christian Ratsch which detailed the history of aphrodisiacs from A to Z, actually Achillea millefolium (Yarrow) to Zingiber officinale (Ginger) with garlic, opium, and wheat in between. However, try passing any of those off as a valentine on Feb. 14 and you are guaranteed to spend this day of love sleeping solo on the sofa.

Rather than tout the plants that are said to heighten ardor by simmering, smoking, or sprinkling their potions,



Bleeding Heart

let's take a look at what is likely to help you score points on Valentine's Day.

Red Roses

Order early from a florist to avoid

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Quality Shears

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for me is that they have right and left handed models. Being left handed, I can tell you that having that option makes pruning jobs much easier. While they are not the cheapest shear on the market, the fact that all the parts are replaceable (we stock most and can special order what we don't have), you should never again have to buy another pair of shears so long as you don't lose them! When a blade does finally wear out, you can get replacements from either store and we will install it for free while you wait. Stop by the store closest to you and give them a try. I think you will be as impressed with them as we are. •

Don't Put That Away Yet!

By Ken Andersen



Bulb aficionados know all too well how a bulb planter speeds up the planting of fall and spring bulbs. At the end of bulb season, don't be so quick to store that planter away until the next bulb season. Bulb planters are a quick and easy way to plant bedding plants from six packs and with a little extra work quart or 4" pots. They are the perfect helper when changing out seasonal color. Even if you don't have bulbs, keep one around the garden shed just for this purpose! •

Meet Rosemary

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DNA analysis done on the genus formerly known as Rosmarinus. The results of that testing revealed that rosemary really was closely enough aligned with the genus Salvia that it needed to be ripped from its Rosemary mothers arms and thrust into the genus Salvia. Some news travels very slowly in the horticultural world. Salvia officially became the genus for rosemary in 2017, but we did not hear of it until the first week of January 2020, and most growers still have not changed their plant labels.

Salvia is an enormous genus with nearly 1000 species. Salvia apiana, white sage, Salvia clevelandi, Cleveland or Fragrant sage and Salvia mellifera or Black Sage are just a few sages that are native to San Diego County.

Regardless of what you call it, Salvia rosmarinus and its many varieties will continue to grow and thrive here with limited care and water. In fact, after its second summer in the ground, monthly summer water may be all it needs to survive.

There are upright growing types,



and low spreading varieties as well. Huntington Carpet and Roman Beauty are two very popular low growing types, and Barbecue and Tuscan Blue are two very popular upright growing types. In addition to the traditional blue flowering varieties, you can also find white and pink flowering varieties.

We can take comfort in the fact the common name has not been changed and will continue to be 'Rosemary'. •

The Plants Of Love

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being left empty handed, or buy your beloved a rose bush. Look for these red roses: Chrysler Imperial, Crimson Bouquet, Dark Night, Dick Clark, Drift Red, Drop Dead Red, Firefighter, In the Mood, Lasting Love, Love at First Sight, Legends, Mr. Lincoln, Oklahoma, Smokin Hot, Sweet Spirit, Top Gun, and Veteran's Honor. Any of these planted now will deliver a bouquet this March or April!

Orchids

Cymbidiums, with their showy, tall flower spikes, can be grown outside here and bloom again next year. The classic orchid is the Phaeleonopsis,

or moth orchid, in shades of white, pink, and purple which are all colors of love!

Bleeding Heart

Bleeding Heart or Dicentra, is well suited for someone who likes the colors and pendulous presentation of fuchsias. A native of Siberia, Japan, Korea, and northern China, Wikipedia spins this tale of the Bleeding Heart's origin. A Japanese legend tells the story of a young man who tried to win the love of a young lady. He did this by bestowing upon her a pair of rabbits (which are the first two

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Get Your Gifts At WAN This Valentine's Day



Are you feeling the pressure to do Valentine's Day just right? We might be able to help with that. Choose from books, chimes, danglers, and spinners. There are always roses, houseplants and some special blooming plants we bring in just for the occasion. If you aren't sure what that special someone would like, we suggest a gift card. •



The Plants Of Love continued from p2

petals of the flower), a pair of slippers (which are the next two petals of the flower), and finally a pair of earrings (which are the last two petals of the flower). She rejected his affections, and, devastated, he pierced his heart with his sword (the middle part of the flower) which caused the bleeding heart. Present one of these lovely plants to your significant other and recite the legend and I guarantee you'll find yourself on Facebook 'in a relationship' rather than 'it's complicated'.

And Now For My Favorites

Anything white and smelly, and remember we're talking plants here, and good smells. Look for **Pink Jasmine** and **Stephanotis** (sometimes we get them in heart shaped wreaths). Also known as **Madagascar Jasmine**, Stephanotis is a native of Madagascar and in San Diego will bloom late spring through summer. If kept indoors, it will need plenty of light to rebloom, but does best outdoors when done blooming. **Gardenias** (look for the grafted varieties which perform well in full sun and our crummy soil) and **tuberose**s are also winners. Tuberose is native to Mexico and is a modified rhizome. To bloom every year, a long warm season of at least four months is required. Growing them in containers is the easiest way to meet their needs. **Bulbs** are available in limited quantities. **Mini carnations**, **fairy primrose**, and **Stargazer lilies** are also expected.



Strawberries dipped in chocolate



Cymbidium Orchid

Richard Wright, owner of Edible Eden and a frequent class presenter, is in the nursery all the time and he is well known amongst our customers and newsletter readers. I recall his planting philosophy which is basically, "if you can't eat it, why grow it?" He's a strong proponent of planting edibles. So, at this time of love and with Richard in mind, why not plant **Strawberries**? We've ordered Albion (early season producer with good flavor), Chandler (June-bearing plant producing medium to large, wedge-shaped juicy fruit with exceptional flavor), Eversweet, Ft. Laramie and Seascape (these berries are day-neutral, meaning they do not have an internal clock that is dictated by sunlight).

Plant berries together now and in a few months, dip in chocolate. Follow this advice and I expect to attend a lot of weddings in 2020! •

Words From Walter: Vegetables For Now

By Walter Andersen, Jr.



Early spring is a great time to start planning and planting your vegetable garden. At this time of year, selection is abundant and there are more varieties to grow.

Everyone knows the 'old stand-bys', tomatoes, peppers, and lettuce, however, there are more. Most of the following can be found now as plants in the nurseries or if you prefer, you may choose to start your plants from seed and we have a tremendous selection. Some veggies need to be started from seed. They are not usually sold in six-packs or small pots, but are usually easily germinated. To the right is a list of plants and their form of availability as plants or seed. Generally, growing from seed offers a greater variety, but beginning with small plants from six-packs gives you a couple of week's head start (also instant gratification).

Vegetables do best in an area where they get at least six hours of sun a day. Well draining soil and a good soil amendment like E.B. Stone Soil Booster make growing conditions even better. This adds organics to your soil and organic soil amendments enrich your soil and also help hold moisture, so you will use less water in the long run. If you are planting in containers, Recipe 420 is our recommendation.

Beets, carrots, and radishes require you to simply sow the seed in a narrow line where you want them and cover the seed to about 1/4"

deep with soil. Keep this area moist, probably a light sprinkling of water every day until you see the tiny new leaves (about 7 to 10 days). When you plant seed, don't plant the whole packet at one time or you will have too many that need harvesting at the same time. Plant some now and then in two or three weeks, plant some more. You can get about three plantings from one packet of seed.

If you plan on growing corn there are two things to remember—plant the corn on the north side of the garden so the tall plants don't shade the smaller veggies. You will probably have larger crops of corn if you plant



Cantaloupe



Okra flower

PLANT AVAILABILITY



	Plants	Seeds
Beans	•	•
Beets		•
Cantaloupe	•	•
Carrots		•
Corn	•	•
Cucumbers	•	•
Eggplant	•	•
Leaf Lettuce	•	•
Mustard Greens	•	•
Okra	•	•
Onions	•	
Parsley	•	•
Parsnips		•
Peppers	•	•
Pumpkins	•	•
Radish		•
Spinach	•	•
Squash	•	•
Swiss Chard	•	•
Tomatoes	•	•
Watermelon	•	•

in a square pattern, maybe 10' x 10', rather than in a straight line. Corn is pollinated by breezes that drop the pollen from the tassels down so if you have wind from the wrong direction, much of the pollen will be blown to areas where there is no corn. Planting in a square pattern will give better results. Squash, cucumbers and melons tend to be spreading plants so be sure to give those plenty of room. Most gardeners plant three to five plants close together and let them spread in all directions (allow about 5' diameter area or more if you can).

Finally, have a good irrigation plan, probably watering two times per week unless it is very warm, then a little more often. The simple soaker hoses work great for small plants all in a row. Fertilize with Gro-Power Tomato & Vegetable food every four weeks while plants are actively growing. •

Old Ben's Specials

Valid February 1-29, 2020

— OLD BEN'S BRAND —



Barn Owl Nest Box

February is the best month to put up an owl box! A breeding pair of owls can consume up to 2,000 rodents per year. Constructed of high grade exterior plywood that is stained using a semi transparent water based product. The owl box is vented for air circulation and water drainage.

Sale \$99.99 Reg. \$119.99

No Mess Wild Bird Seed

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

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

Nyger Seed

Attracts Lesser Goldfinches and many other small birds. **25lb. bag**

Sale \$49.99 Reg. \$59.99

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

Old Ben: Winter Bird Feeding

By Old Ben



We have a large assortment of wild bird feeders and nesting boxes made in Old Ben's Workshop using American made materials. Many items are hand-painted by a local artist.



If you feed birds, you're in good company. Feeding birds is one of North America's favorite pastimes. A 2015 report from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that about 55 million Americans provide food for wild birds.

Wintertime Is Not Easy

In much of North America, winter is a difficult time for birds. Days are often windy and cold; nights are long and even colder. Vegetation has withered or been consumed, and most insects have died or are dormant. Finding food can be especially challenging for birds on cold days. Setting up backyard feeders makes their lives easier and ours more enjoyable.

Types Of Bird Food

During the spring and summer, most songbirds eat insects and spiders, which are highly nutritious, abundant, and for the most part, easily hunted. During fall and winter, non migratory songbirds shift their diets to fruits and seeds to survive. This is the time of year when bird feeding enthusiasts roll out the welcome mat and set the table.

Which Seed Types Should I Provide

Black oil sunflower seeds/chips attract the widest variety of species. These seeds have a high meat to shell ratio, they are nutritious and high in fat. Their small size and thin shells make them easy for small birds to crack. Although sunflower seeds/chips are the overall favorite,

some birds prefer other seeds. For example, blackbirds like corn, and doves prefer millet and safflower. Nyger is a delicacy for small finches such as goldfinches, and siskin. Nyger seeds are small so offer them in special Nyger feeders. Most ground feeding birds prefer Old Ben's No Mess seed to black oil sunflower seeds.

Water, Water, Water

A dependable supply of fresh water will attract many birds to your yard, including species that don't normally visit feeders. A shallow, easy to clean birdbath is best. Clean your birdbath often and keep it filled with fresh water.

Feeder Placement

Place your feeders close to natural shelters such as trees or shrubs. Evergreens are ideal for providing maximum cover from wind and predators. A distance of 10 feet from trees and shrubs seems to be ideal. You can provide resting and escape cover for ground dwelling birds like song sparrows, by placing a large, loosely stacked brush pile near your feeders.

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— Ask Old Ben —

Ask Old Ben questions about birds, show him your bird photos, or share your birding experiences at askoldben@aol.com

Are You Sure You Don't Like Eggplant?

By Melanie Potter



We found an antipasti-style eggplant that eggplant lovers will enjoy and it could make a fan out of those who don't favor the vegetable. This marinated eggplant is made by the Di Pace family, to whom our Poway customer service employee, Tonino Pearson, is related. Made in San Diego and Texas, it is thinly sliced eggplant preserved with garlic, mint, hot pepper flakes, olive oil, vinegar and salt. And love, lots of Italian love. The Nonna's Eggplant Marinated in Olive Oil will be available for purchase on the family's website by mid February at www.dipacefamilyspecialtyfoods.com. This spring, why not grow your own eggplant? Walter shares his vegetable growing guide on [page 4](#). •



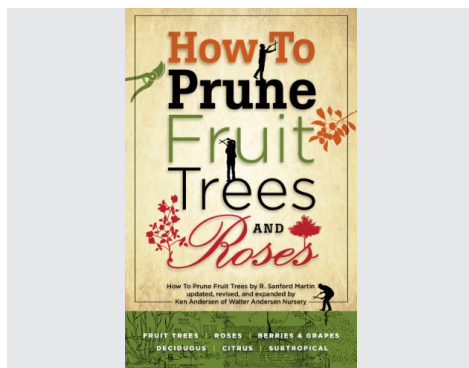
To Do List: February



Prune Hibiscus after danger of frost passes

Prune

Now Is The Time. Finish pruning roses and deciduous fruits and ornamentals before new growth starts. In late February, trim back tropicals like Hibiscus and Bougainvillea after danger of frost passes, to clean up any damage received during the winter.



For pruning help, you can purchase our book "How To Prune Fruit Trees & Roses". It's available online at www.walterandersen.com and in both of our stores.

Pest Control

Dormant Spray. Give last applications of dormant sprays such as Liqui-Cop or Oil Spray before buds start to break on deciduous fruits and ornamentals.

Plant

Last of the bare-root Roses, Fruits, and Ornamentals should be planted. Citrus can also be planted now. Protect from frost if needed. Plant another crop

of leaf lettuce, kale, broccoli, beets, carrots, radishes and cauliflower. Look for Camellias and Azaleas, cool-season vegetables, bulbs, potatoes, garlic, and Spring bulbs.



Citrus can be planted now



Plant another crop of broccoli

Irrigate & Fertilize

Check Sprinklers. Turn them off during rainy times. If you haven't already done so, sprinkle fertilizer (we like Gro-Power) around before the rain so it can get watered in. Don't forget to take a look at your drains and remove debris from around them. A clogged drain can cause flooding. •



Turn sprinklers off during rainy times

Winter Bird Feeding

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Helpful Hints For Successful Bird Feeding

> Avoid overcrowding at feeders by placing numerous feeders several feet apart. > Keep your feeding area and feeders clean. > Keep food and food storage containers dry and free of mold and insects. > Check your feeders for safety. Sharp edges can scratch birds and lead to infection.

If You Build It, Will They Come

It may take a while for birds to discover a new feeder. If you are not seeing birds within a few days of setting up your feeder, try sprinkling some seeds on the ground around the feeder to make the new feeding site more obvious. Look for our expanded selection of wild bird feeders and nesting boxes exclusively at both Walter Andersen Nursery locations. •

Garden Classes: February

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 <https://www.walterandersen.com/classes-events/>.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

2/1

Spring Bulbs

2/8

Cymbidium Orchids Care,
Culture & Repotting

2/15

Fantastic Ferns

2/22

Camellias & Azaleas

2/29

Houseplants = Healthy Air

POWAY | 9:30AM

2/1

No Class

2/8

Staghorn Ferns, Remounting
& Care with David Ross

2/15

Fertilizers, What & Why
with Richard Wright

2/22

Citrus Varieties & Care
with David Ross

2/29

San Diego County Natives



**Walter Andersen
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INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

GardenTalk

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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