



**Walter Andersen  
Nursery™**

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

*Garden Talk*

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## What's In The Store?

By Melanie Potter



We wish it were possible to list our inventory on our website, but it isn't. In the current times, both stores have had to scale back their deliveries of bedding, ornamentals, trees and shrubs. The deliveries we are receiving regularly are vegetables and herbs.

Vegetables and herbs are sold in either 6-paks or 4" pots. Sometimes varieties are available

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## It's Business Unusual

By Melanie Potter

Who could have predicted the last couple of months the world has experienced? As we prepare this newsletter, both stores are open and it is business with a new usual. Vegetables and other edible plants are the bulk of what customers are buying.

It's been a couple of weeks since the stores changed their hours to **Monday-Friday 10am-3pm** and closing on the weekends. The change from being open daily was made to accommodate the available staff and vendor's schedules. Both stores are operating with only 60 percent of their staff which creates a burden. We have also changed the services offered and now we are processing hundreds of phone orders and accommodating curb side pickups.

**Delivery service in Poway is temporarily suspended** and both

stores are unable to maintain the special order list. **The San Diego store will deliver** to 92103, 92106, 92107, 93109, 92110, 92111, 92117, 92118, and 92037 with normal minimum purchases for free delivery back in place. We are trying to serve as many people as possible, please be patient with us!

As we get updates to the services we can offer and changes in our hours of operation, we will post them on Facebook and our website.

- Open to the public and phone orders 10am-3pm Monday-Friday.
- Curbside pick up available at both stores.
- Shop the **Online Store** for the San Diego location ONLY. Orders must be picked up there.
- Credit card & debit card sales only. No cash, checks, or COD. •

## Garden Problems Not Keeping Their Distance

By Melanie Potter

In case you haven't noticed, the problems plaguing our gardens are not quarantining and may be jeopardizing your harvest before you can eat it. Here's a quick look at what may be ailing your plants.

### Peach Leaf Curl

Do the leaves of your fruit trees look distorted, like there are little tumors growing on them? You have peach leaf curl and at this time, there is nothing you can do except pluck off the affected leaves (unless you have a severe contamination). The



*Peach Leaf Curl*

condition won't harm the fruit, it just looks unsightly. When the tree goes dormant, you will need to spray with copper spray.

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## What's In The Store?

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*We have over 40 varieties of tomatoes*

in one size but not the other and that is often because the growers don't sell them to us in both sizes. Other times, a size sells out quickly.

This time of year, you won't find cabbage, broccoli, potatoes, cauliflower, or Brussels sprouts. What do we have? There are probably more than 40 varieties of tomatoes in stock at any given time. Almost as many chiles and peppers, including the scorching hot ones. Squash is available including butternut, spaghetti squash, patty pan, crookneck, goldbar, Mexican zucchini, and Italian zucchini. Funnily enough, the zucchini squash is popular and a regular sellout which is ironic given that when you start to harvest it, you can't give it away! Lettuce is plentiful as is swiss chard, kale and bok choy. You can choose from bush beans, pole beans and fava beans. We have



*Bush and other beans available*

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## Garden Pests continued from p1



*Downey Mildew*

### Downy Mildew

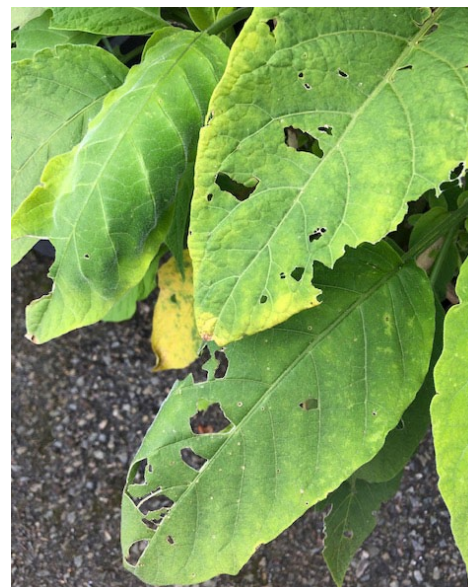
You might see this on your roses and it begins with small, green or yellow, translucent spots that can eventually spread to an entire leaf, stem, flower or fruit. Infected plant parts may eventually brown or become bronze colored. The oospores of rose downy mildew can be either wind or water borne, thus infection of other rose bushes in the same rose bed is highly likely. Spraying all of your rose bushes from first onset of the infection and continuing for at least four to five sprayings 7 to 10 days apart should stop any spreading of the downy mildew. Spray with Garden Phoss. Plants also respond to not being crowded or tightly compacted. Spread them out, they need space and air!

### Snails or Slugs

These pests mostly concentrate on eating foliage and can be detected by the silvery train they leave. Sprinkle the area with Sluggo or with diatomaceous earth because they don't like the jagged roughness of that product.



*Snails or Slugs*



*Caterpillars*

### Caterpillars

If the leaves of your plants look like they've been chewed on, that is in line with the damage caterpillars do. Look around the leaves for black dots which is caterpillar waste. Combat them with BT or Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew.

If you can keep these pests and diseases at bay, you'll be rewarded. Warmer days are forecast, more sun and less rain will bring welcome drying conditions. •



## What's In The Store?

continued from p2



*Strawberries are abundant*

eggplant, too, about four to five varieties. Harder to find is okra and collards, but sometimes we can get them.

Melons are starting to come in but not too many choices yet, though strawberries are abundant.

If planting an herb garden is on your 'to do' list, you can choose from dill, mint (4-5 kinds), oregano, sage, tarragon, parsley, basil (5-6 kinds), and thyme.

The seed selection is still pretty good although some varieties that are sold out aren't expected to be refilled until July. Some of our seed vendors are keeping us stocked.

You are free to shop in both locations with limited crowds, social distancing and a face cover is required to enter both locations.

We are happy to fill phone orders for curbside pick up in both stores. San Diego has an online store for pick up in San Diego, NOT POWAY. Delivery in Poway is temporarily suspended but there is delivery from the San Diego store to certain zip codes ([see "It's Business Unusual" on page 1](#)). Keep an eye on our Facebook page and our website for the latest information on operations. Once the stay at home order is lifted, we hope to have our regular service levels restored ASAP. •

## Companion Vegetable Gardening



It's said that vegetables are like people, they thrive on companionship. It is believed that vegetables will yield up to twice as much when they are surrounded with companion plants.

The following are a list of the top 12 vegetables and their ideal planting companions.

**Beans**—they like celery and cucumbers but dislike onions and fennel.

**Beets**—Bush beans, lettuce, onions, kohlrabi, and most members of the cabbage family are companion plants. Keep the pole beans and mustard away from them.

**Cabbage**—Celery, dill, onions and potatoes are good companion plants. They dislike strawberries, tomatoes, and pole beans.

**Carrots**—Leaf lettuce, radish, onions and tomatoes are their friends, Plant dill at the opposite end of the garden.

**Corn**—Pumpkins, peas, beans, cucumbers and potatoes are nice companion plants, Keep the tomatoes away from them.

**Cucumbers**—They like corn, peas, radishes, beans and sunflowers. Cucumbers dislike aromatic herbs

and potatoes so keep them away.

**Lettuce**—It grows especially well with onions. Strawberries carrots, radishes and cucumbers also are friends and good companion plants.

**Onions**—Plant them near lettuce, beets, strawberries and tomatoes but keep them away from peas and beans.

**Peas**—Carrots, cucumbers, corn, turnips and radishes plus beans, potatoes and aromatic herbs are their friends. Keep the peas away from onions, garlic, leek, and shallots.

**Radishes**—This is one vegetable that has a lot of friends, they are excellent companion plants with beets, carrots, spinach and parsnips. Radishes grow well with cucumbers and beans. It's said that summer planting near leaf lettuce makes the radishes more tender. Avoid planting radishes near cabbage, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, kohlrabi or turnips.

**Squash**—Icicle radishes, cucumbers and corn are among their friends.

**Tomatoes**—Carrots, onions and parsley are good companion plants. Keep the cabbage and cauliflower away from them.

**Sometimes plant friendships are one-sided.** Carrots are said to help beans, but beans don't reciprocate. Though beans will help nearby cucumbers. Other plants have bad companions and you'll be doing them a favor to keep them apart. Beans and onions are natural enemies so keep them at opposite sides of the garden.

If you have a patio, you might try mint to repel ants, and basil to keep the flies and mosquitoes away. Both herbs have pretty flowers and are fragrant too. Besides, they're nice to harvest and use in the kitchen. •

## Old Ben's Specials

Valid May 1-31, 2020

— OLD BEN'S BRAND —



Welcome the Orioles!

### SAVE \$20 On Old Ben's Classic Jelly Feeders

Jelly feeders provide food for a variety of wild birds. Fill cups with grape jelly, dried mealworms, special seeds, and put fresh fruit on the fruit spikes. Feeders will vary in decorations. Especially great for attracting Orioles and finches. Jelly not included.

Single Cup or Double Cup

**Sale \$29.99** Reg. \$49.99

### Dove & Quail Seed

A very popular blend. Many other wild birds love this blend too.

25lb. bag

**Sale \$19.99** Reg. \$24.99

### Classic Wild Bird Seed

Classic Mix that attracts a wide variety of wild birds. No fillers.

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: Bugs In The Bird Food?

By Old Ben



Before I get started on this month's topic, I would like to share Old Ben's Commitment to wild bird seed. I use ingredients from natural sources across my entire line, NO artificial anything.

### 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.

Found some bugs in your bird food? Don't panic because it doesn't mean the food is bad, spoiled, or can't still be given to the birds. Put the seed in your freezer for a day or two. The freeze will kill any extra living protein and everything should be just fine. Sometimes, no matter what you do, you find those pesky pests that invade homes, and eat the seed. Anyone who feeds birds is sure to come face to face with a few moths. Since manufacturers cannot use seeds and grains that have been sprayed with large doses of pesticides, nor would we want them to for the safety of our birds, it is just a fact of life that you will one day find bugs in the seed.

There are some natural remedies that can be tried to control your buggy problem. Some intruders may come in from the outdoors, like ants, roaches, and many other pests. These visitors don't like catnip so try placing some small bags of catnip throughout areas of your home to help repel them. If you own a cat, this might backfire.

Moths: There are two types of moths, the ones who invade your closet and chew holes in your clothing, and the ones that come from grain types of food. Walter Andersen Nursery

has natural pheromone moth traps that are very effective at catching these moths. Some people have had success with homemade moth repelling sachets made up of some of the following: bay leaves, cinnamon sticks, cloves, eucalyptus, lavender, peppercorns, or dried lemon peel. I find these remedies seem to work better for the closet moths.

The bottom line is that all bird food contains insect eggs. It does not matter who the manufacturer is. The eggs are there when the seed is harvested, and many make it through the cleaning and processing. Heat and humidity cause the eggs to hatch.

The best things you can do to prevent a moth invasion are:

- > Store seed in a cool place in a tightly covered container.
- > Buy only enough seed to last a month.
- > Freeze your bird seed for 24 to 48 hours. •

### — Ask Old Ben —

Ask Old Ben questions about birds, show him your bird photos, or share your birding experiences at

[askoldben@aol.com](mailto:askoldben@aol.com)



## Poway Rose Show: Home Edition!



Our 21st Annual Poway Rose Show scheduled for May 9 & 10 unfortunately has been canceled due to COVID-19. We feel it is best for the safety of the public, staff and all involved.

Instead, we are inviting all of you who have been working hard tending to your roses in anticipation of this year's show to email us a photo of your favorite "prize-winning" rose for our Home Edition of the 2020 Poway Rose Show! There will be no judging or awards this year, but we would like to include some of your selections in our June Newsletter.

Email us your name, rose variety and rose name with a jpeg photo to [roseshow@walterandersen.com](mailto:roseshow@walterandersen.com). We are excited to see what you have been growing this year! •



Don't Forget Mom!  
*Mother's Day*  
Is Sunday, May 10th

## To Do List: May

### 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.

### Conserve Water

Mulch under and around plants and open areas with decorative bark to **reduce evaporation**. Water in the early morning or cooler evenings to reduce evaporation. Consider replacing sprinklers with **drip irrigation**. We sell easy-to-use conversion products.

### Pest Control

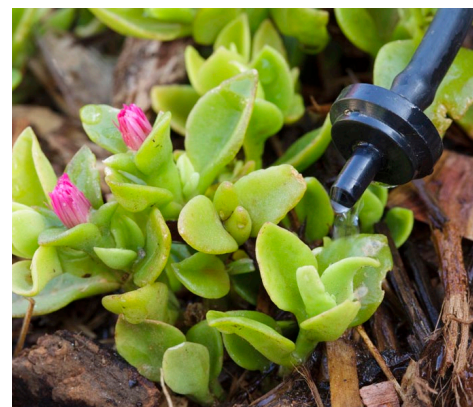
Watch for insects beginning to invade the garden. Pay close attention for **Aphids**, **Whitefly** and **Scale**. Use systemic controls from Bonide for longest control. Watch for **slug and snail damage** and apply Sluggo or Sluggo Plus as needed. Watch for and treat plants attacked by **Citrus Leaf Miner**, use Spinosad or Bayer, or Pheromone attractant.

### Plant

- > Bedding plants for color such as Marigolds, Zinnias, and Petunias.
- > Trees and shrubs.
- > Fruit trees, tropicals, and roses.
- > Look for Ceanothus. •



Feed tropicals like Bird of Paradise



Save water with drip irrigation



Use Captain Jack's or pheromone traps for Citrus Leaf Miner



Plant classic bedding like Petunias

## Create A Bird & Butterfly Garden

By The California Assn. of Nurseries & Garden Centers

Your garden can be a bird and butterfly oasis. Creating it doesn't take much more than planting the kinds of plants which will attract birds and butterflies. These annuals and perennials will woo these critters into your garden. Remember that birds need to feel protected before they begin to gather, so try centering these plantings near or around groups of established trees and shrubs.

### Annuals

**Impatiens:** Red and orange colored varieties are especially attractive to butterflies and hummingbirds.

**Lantana:** Flowers in reds and yellows provide a good nectar source for butterflies.

**Phlox:** Butterflies and hummingbirds take nectar from the white and purple flowers. Other birds feed on the seeds in the fall.

**Zinnias:** Flowers provide nectar for butterflies while birds eat seeds in autumn and winter.

### Perennials

**Basket of Gold:** Attract butterflies for nectar.

**Bottle Brush:** Red or magenta, attracts bees and hummingbirds.

**Columbine:** Hummingbirds are attracted to the flowers.

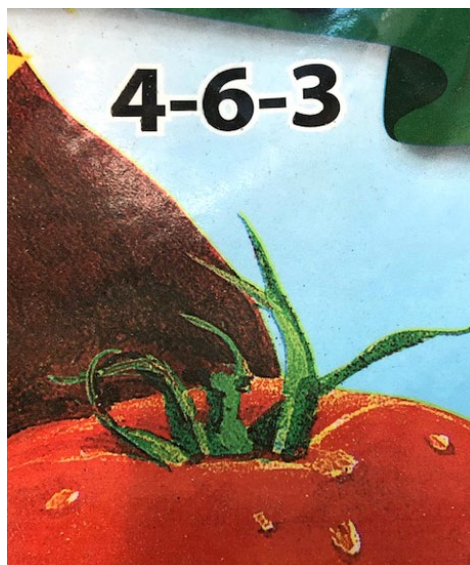
**California Fuchsia:** One of the favorite flowers of hummingbirds.

**Lavender:** Fragrant purple flowers attract butterflies for nectar.

**Stonecrop:** Butterflies take nectar from the small pink flowers that bloom from August to September.

**Sweet William (Dianthus):** Red, white, rosy purple flowers provide nectar for butterflies. •

## Selecting A Fertilizer



Every plant needs food to grow. When selecting a fertilizer, several important considerations include the nutrition available, how it impacts the entire plant support system and ease of use.

### Nutrition

#### Macronutrients

**Nitrogen (N):** Used in synthesis of proteins, chlorophyll and enzymes required by plant cells, it is most likely to be inadequate in garden soils. Nitrogen deficiency often appears as yellowing from the bottom of the plant upwards with leaves yellowing from tips to stem as well as stunted growth.

**Phosphorus (P):** Promotes flowering and fruiting, strong root growth and energy transfer. Phosphorus deficiency often appears as stunted growth and reduced yield of fruit and sometimes as purplish areas on undersides of leaves.

**Potassium (K):** Important for regulating synthesis of proteins and starches and helps increase resistance to diseases, heat and cold.

**Secondary nutrients** include calcium, magnesium and sulphur as well as micronutrients (trace elements).

### Determine the Impact on Your Plants Support System

Basically, how does the fertilizer work with your soil friendly elements like worms?

### Easy to Use?

Face it, if a product is difficult to use it will stay on the shelf. Look for liquid and foliar products. Granular products are easily shaken in the garden and time released products save you from dispensing frequent applications.

Still not sure what to buy? You'll find that Walter Andersen Nursery professionals most regularly recommend Gro-Power. •



## Soil Required For Raised Planters

Here is a chart to give you an idea of how much soil you will need to fill your raised planter beds using 1.5 cu. ft. bags.

Feet	Amount Needed	1.5 cu.ft. Bags Needed
2 X 4 X 1	8 CU FT	6 BAGS
2 X 4 X 2	16 CU FT	11 BAGS
2 X 6 X 1	12 CU FT	8 BAGS
2 X 6 X 2	24 CU FT	16 BAGS
4 X 4 X 1	16 CU FT	11 BAGS
4 X 4 X 2	32 CU FT	22 BAGS
4 X 6 X 1	24 CU FT	16 BAGS
4 X 6 X 2	48 CU FT	32 BAGS



## Recipe: Graham Crackers with Lemon Frosting

This recipe comes to us from Ruth Perkins. We worked with her son, Tom, in the nursery industry. He recalled a favorite dessert from his childhood that his mother made.

*(The imprecise measurements and terminology come directly from Ruth. It's a recipe that is hard to screw up!)*

*Meyer lemons (or lemon of your choice)*

*Glob of butter (softened)*

*Powdered sugar*

*A few drops of milk*

Zest the lemon, and then juice it. Begin by combining some lemon zest and juice, to which you add a generous glob of softened butter, then some powdered sugar and cream together until smooth. Thin with some milk if necessary. You are aiming for a frosting-like consistency.

Too sour: add more powdered sugar. Not tart enough: add more lemon juice. There is no such thing as too much butter. The trick is to start with a small amount of liquid, and then add more if needed. Believe me; too much liquid will turn the whole thing into lemon soup! Once you have the consistency you like, spread it on graham crackers and serve. •

## Garden Classes: May

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**

No Classes  
Until Further Notice

**POWAY | 9:30AM**

No Classes  
Until Further Notice

## Recipe: Asparagus with Pine Nuts & Lemon Vinaigrette

*1 lb. fresh asparagus spears*

*3 tbs. pine nuts*

*Olive oil*

*1 tbs. fresh lemon juice*

*1 garlic clove, crushed*

*1 tsp. salt*

*1 tsp. dried basil or substitute  
6-8 fresh leaves*

*1 tsp. dried oregano (optional)*

*Fresh ground pepper to taste*

Snap off tough ends of asparagus.

Remove scales from stalks with

a knife or vegetable peeler, if desired. Steam spears until they are crisp-tender. Transfer to a serving platter. Saute pine nuts over medium heat, about 2-3 minutes or until lightly browned. Set aside. Combine olive oil and remaining ingredients in a medium saucepan, stirring with a whisk to blend. Cook over medium heat 2-3 minutes until thoroughly heated, stirring constantly. Pour the vinaigrette over the asparagus. Sprinkle with pine nuts and pepper. Serves 4. •



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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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