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Nursery™**

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

GardenTalk

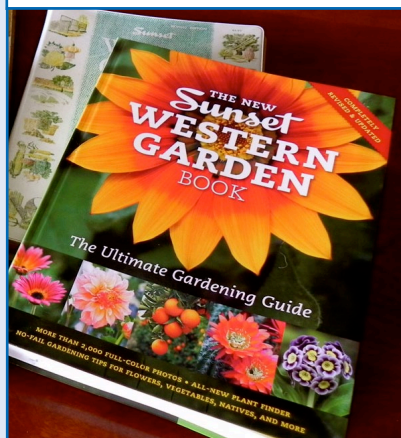
STORE HOURS: San Diego 8am-5pm | Poway 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

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The Sun Has Set On The Sunset Western Garden Book

By Ken Andersen

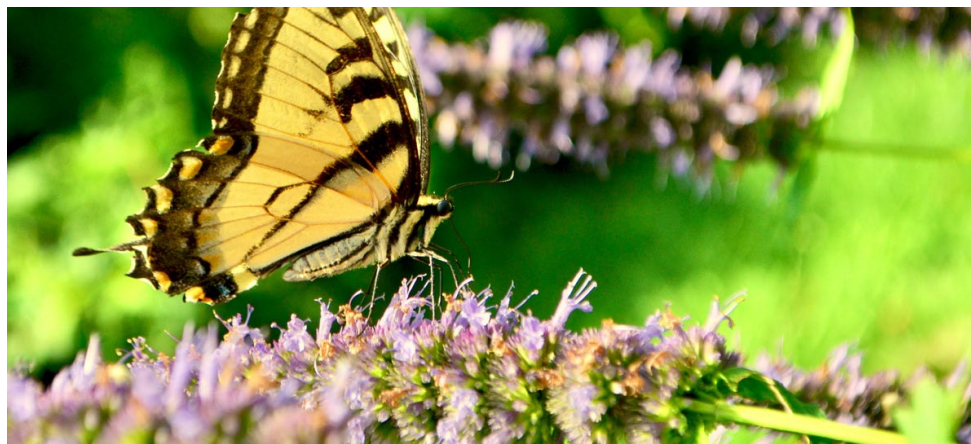


The Sunset Western Garden Book, a long time reference for gardeners across the western states has stopped publication. While this occurred a couple of years ago, it just now has come to my attention. The book is such a stalwart companion for us at the nursery

[continued p2](#)

Plants That Lure Butterflies

By Cuyamaca College Nursery



Anise Swallowtail

The quarantine months have seen an increase in plants sold at nurseries and many homeschooling parents are raising butterflies as a science project. That could explain the increase in the chrysalises found and more sightings of butterflies. Here is a list of what

you can plant to lure butterflies.

Anise Swallowtail

Host plants are Fennel, Dill, Anise and Lomatium spp. Nectar plants are Penstemon pseudospectabilis, and Queen Anne's Lace.

[continued p2](#)

Time To Think Firewise Preparation

By Melanie Potter



So far, our summer weather has been mild. We've had a few hot days and just a few brushfires which serve as a reminder of what

could be lurking. With San Diego shut down for a second time, you may have time on your hands to do some firewise preparation and planting. Here is what you can focus on:

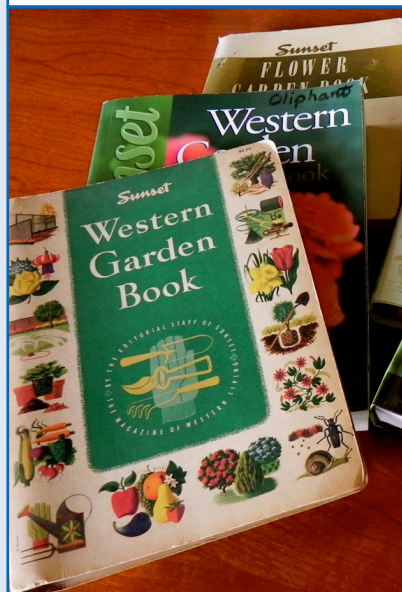
Selective Thinning of Vegetation

Remove highly flammable plants and dense groupings to reduce foliage mass. This reduces the fuel volume and lowers the intensity of any fire that may

[continued p3](#)

The Sun Has Set

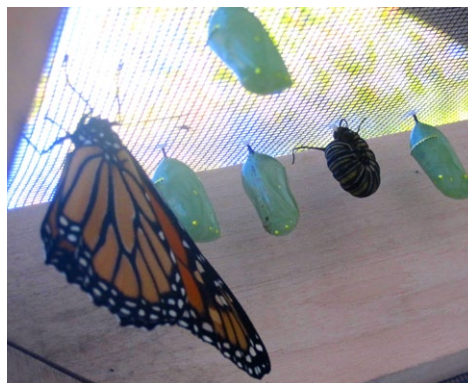
continued from p1



that we never envisioned a time when it would not be a staple for us and our customers. There are several well worn copies at the customer service counters at our stores and it remains the number one reference book we use, even in this internet age. The great thing about the Western Garden Book is that no matter what edition you have, the information contained is always valid. Yes, some names may change and some plants are added and some dropped from various editions, but the basic information is always useful. When I did a recent Amazon search for the book, several options came up but the minimum price was over \$70! Don't let that scare you if you need a copy. A quick look on eBay revealed many more purchase options, most for less than \$10. So if you need a copy, do a quick search on eBay and pick one up. Upon reflection, we may need to do the same thing to replace a few of our worn out editions. •

Butterflies

continued from p1



Monarch and chrysalises

Monarch

The host plant is Milkweed and they get nectar from plants such as Buddlejia, Lantana, and Ceanothus.

Gulf Fritillary

Host plant is Passiflora spp (except *P. vitifolia*). Nectar plants are Lantana spp., and Joe Pye Weed.



Gulf Fritillary are fond of Passiflora caerulea

Painted Lady

Host plants are Mallow, Yarrow, and California Sagebrush. Nectar plants include Legumes, Lupinus spp, Asters and Zinnias.

California Dogface

Before we tell you the host and nectar plants for this pretty butterfly, we can't help but muse how it got such an unflattering name. The distinctive markings on the male butterfly's forewings resemble the profile of a poodle, hence the name. The host plant is *Amorpha californica* and the nectar plants are



Painted Lady

Houstonia spp, *Coreopsis* spp, and *Verbena* spp.

Buckeye

Host plants are Figwort, *Mimulus* spp., and *Antirrhinum* spp. The nectar plant is Carpetweed.

Tips for a Successful Butterfly Garden:

> Butterflies are always on the lookout for host and nectar plants to support all life stages, so supply both. Your winged friends are pollinators, too!

> Do not use insecticides on any of your butterfly plants. You will poison the butterflies' food source. Speaking of food sources, plant and buy more Milkweed than you ever think you'll need. This year, nurseries are regularly running out of Milkweed and the growers can't keep up with the demand.

> Keep a puddler (small dish) nearby with muddy water to provide necessary minerals and salts for butterflies.

> Butterflies prefer habitats that are in open sunny locations, brushy fields, woodlands, gardens and scrub chaparral.

Editor's Note: Send us your butterfly photos and we'll devote a special page to them in the September newsletter. Email your photos to roseshow@walterandersen.com. •

Sharing Summer Harvest Successes with WAN Plants & Vegetables!



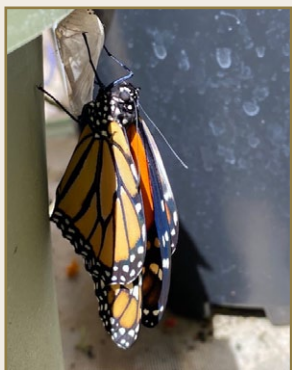
Summertime favorites include homegrown tomatoes and basil.



Spanakopita (Greek spinach pie) made with dill, mint, and parsley from Artemis' garden.



Refrigerator pickles made with "Sweet Success" cucumbers (Sigh, we think Artemis is the bomb).



And, the first of three (so far) monarchs raised on Walter Andersen milkweed! 20 in chrysalis today! Great job Artemis.

Firewise Preparation continued from p1

approach a structure. Maintain some vegetation or you will create an erosion problem. Good choices include ceanothus, toyon, oak and sumac.

Slow Burning Plantings

Look for low growing plant species. Choose from a combination of native and introduced plants with limited foliage mass. Most plants will burn when exposed to intense heat but the effectiveness of these plants is achieved by slowing fires because there is little to burn. Look for yarrow, monkey flower, penstemon, creeping sage, woolly blue curls, rock rose, and California poppy.



Yarrow is slow burning



Drosanthemum has high moisture content

Domestic Planting

We are well aware of instances where homes deep within housing developments have burned due to their wood roofs or domestic plantings that have caught fire from burning embers that are blown by winds. These plantings are located around homes and should be placed carefully by using species which do not readily catch fire. Look for Strawberry trees, Manzanita, carob tree, pineapple guava, New Zealand Christmas Tree, myoporum, pittosporum, evergreen cherry, pomegranate and cape honeysuckle. Think twice about planting acacia, cedar, hopseed bush, eucalyptus, juniper, fountain grass or pine trees. These plants are fuel to a fire.

Here Is Your Takeaway:

On hillsides, plant low growing groundcovers and irrigate. Avoid dense vegetation next to homes or structures, Avoid using wood roofs and projecting overhangs. Finally, remember that all landscaping must be maintained by regular watering, being weeded, trimmed and fed. ●

Fire Retardant Planting

This category is where you can find the most prevention due to the plant's low foliage level and high moisture content. Plants should not be more than 18" high. Look for ice plants such as Delosperma 'Alba' (white trailing ice plant), Lampranthus spectabilis (trailing ice plant) and Drosanthemum floribundum (rosea ice plant). Prostrate coyote bush, trailing gazania, African daisy, and periwinkle also fit the bill.

Old Ben's Specials

Valid August 1-31, 2020

— OLD BEN'S BRAND —



Lowest price ever for our 2 popular seed feeders designed by Old Ben!

Multi-Purpose

Condo

Multi-Purpose Feeder

Provides one side to feed finches and the other side for your favorite wild bird mix, Old Ben's of course. Made from western cedar and stainless steel wire. Reg. \$54.99

Condo Feeder

Designed for feeding small birds. Made from western cedar and stainless steel wire. Reg. \$49.99

Your Choice \$39.99

Nyger Seed

Attracts Lesser Goldfinches and many other small birds. **25lb. bag**
Sale \$49.99 Reg. \$59.99

No Mess Wild Bird Seed

The No Mess Advantage. Seed is hulled and chopped, will not sprout. Birds can eat all the seeds which attracts fewer pests. **20lb. bag**
Sale \$34.99 Reg. \$39.99

Anniversary Seed Blend

10 ingredients, 95% No Mess, attracts small, medium and large birds like a magnet. If you haven't used this mix, give it a try! **20lb. bag**
Sale \$34.99 Reg. \$44.99

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

Old Ben: The Good, The Not So Good & The Really Not So Good

By Old Ben

It can be a lot of work to attract backyard birds, but doing so can offer many benefits beyond just enjoying these visitors.

The Good

Pest Control: Many birds eat a variety of insects, including aphids, mosquitoes, spiders and other bugs that may not be welcome in a yard or garden. Attracting birds encourages them to take advantage of this natural food source.

Weed Control: Finches, towhees and sparrows consume great quantities of weed seeds, making them effective landscapers to help control unwanted plants. Planting seed bearing flowers for birds can also give them a natural food source to enjoy.

Flower Pollination: Hummingbirds, orioles and other birds that sip nectar are efficient pollinators of garden flowers. This can give flowerbeds an added color boost from extra blooms, which will in turn attract even more birds.

Environmental Conservation: Bird friendly landscaping makes use of native plants. Native plants use less water and are more resistant to diseases, making them better for the local ecosystem and requiring less work to maintain.

The Not So Good

Even the most well maintained, beautifully landscaped yard could be hiding dangerous hazards for backyard birds.

Dryer Lint: Often set out for birds as a soft nesting material, dryer lint is actually a toxic trap. Even using natural cleaners or organic products produce lint with high chemical concentrations that can be harmful to birds. Dryer lint also falls apart when it gets wet. Wet sticky lint may



coat birds' feathers and make it more difficult for them to preen. Long strands of hair or threads in lint can become tangle hazards in the nest.

Dirty Bird Feeders: Not all bird feeders are helpful to birds. If the feeder is dirty, it can harbor bacteria, mites and other pests that can spread diseases among an entire flock. Dirty feeders are also smelly, which can attract pests such as wasps raccoons, rats and other visitors.

Dirty Bird Baths: Dirty bird baths can spread diseases to birds that drink or bathe from the basin. Dirty bird baths can also be breeding grounds for mosquitoes that can transmit diseases to humans.

Empty Feeders and Baths: Clean or not, bird feeders and baths aren't any use to birds if they aren't kept filled. An empty fixture forces birds to seek food and water elsewhere. Empty feeders can also become home to unwanted insects such as wasps or hornets. Mice or rats may also take up residence.

The Really Not So Good

Glue Strips: Any glue based pest control may seem like a fast, easy way to get rid of unwanted pests, but they're an indiscriminating tactic that can be just as fatal to birds. Small birds can get stuck on strips or traps as they try to feed off captured insects, and the glue can tear off birds' feathers or cause other brutal injuries.

Bread Scraps: Birds go crazy for all types of bread, from stale crusts and crumbs to cookies, donuts, chips, muffins, and more. Unfortunately these foods offer very little nutrition and instead are the equivalent of avian JUNK FOOD. Over time, a diet filled with bread scraps can lead to growth deformations, obesity and a range of other health problems. •

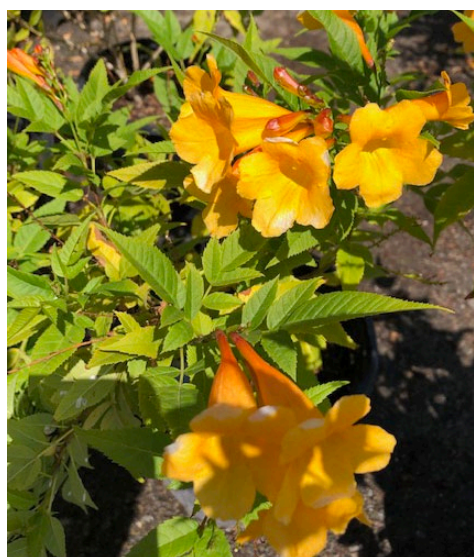
Ask Old Ben questions about birds at askoldben@aol.com

Looking Good In Summer

By David Ross & Melanie Potter



Agastache



Yellow Bells



Zinnias



Calylophus berlandieri

If I had a crystal ball, I would say that we can expect sizzling weather, soaring temperatures and summer heat in the near future. Doesn't it make sense to prepare for it now? Here are some pointers.

What to do now.

Get rid of plants that are past their prime. That could mean the spent vegetables and annuals that are leggy and looking run down. Perennials can revive if they are cut back and fed and shrubs that have bloomed and look lanky can be trimmed by one fourth to one third.

What to look for.

Now that you have freed up some space for planting, look for selections that will thrive during heat! There are annual and perennial choices and many will attract pollinators. Here is a look at some tried and true recommendations we have for you, from A to Z.

Agastache

(Hummingbird Mint, Hyssop)

These are showy, fragrant, long blooming perennials that hummingbirds and bees LOVE. Choose colorful blooms that include pink, purple, rose, lavender and orange.

Calylophus berlandieri

Also known as a **Texas Sundrop**, this is a long living, low growing



Lantana

perennial that grows about 1' tall and spreads 3' wide. It is a long blooming plant in our climate and will give you bright yellow flowers. It loves heat, being in containers, on slopes and in any dry, hot spot in your garden.

Lantana

An easy-to-grow shrub or ground-cover that is drought tolerant and long blooming with flowers that attract hummingbirds. The color combinations are hard to beat, too.

Yellow Bells

(Tacoma stans)

A perennial vine that can be trained as a tall shrub and grows to 15'. It has large, bright yellow, trumpet shaped flowers that attract hummingbirds, bees and butterflies. Plant it in full sun and once it is established, it is drought tolerant. There are orange and red types now as well.

Zinnias

These are such bright stars of the garden with brilliant colors that attract butterflies and bees. These are hardy and disease resistant with early and continuous blooms all season long. •



Recipe: Zucchini Casserole

By Melanie Potter



This recipe is a great way to use two of our most prolific summer vegetables—zucchini and tomatoes.

INGREDIENTS

1 package Chicken Rice-A-Roni

2-3 sliced zucchini

3-4 sliced tomatoes

1 pint sour cream (you can use Lite)

1 lb. jack cheese, grated

1 small can of diced green chiles

Dried onion flakes

INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare the Rice-A-Roni as directed using the lesser amount of water as noted on package. Spread Rice-A-Roni in a 9"x13" pan. Layer the following on top of the rice: green chiles, grated cheese, zucchini slices, tomato slices, sour cream, season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with onion flakes and top with remaining cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour. Allow a few minutes for the casserole to set before cutting into squares and serving. •



To Do List: August

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.

Water

> If you will be unavailable, arrange for a neighbor or your gardener to watch your yard to make sure everything gets appropriate water. Adjust sprinklers to make sure they operate properly. Think about switching your existing sprinklers to more efficient types.

> If you are considering removing your lawn and plants, we suggest starting with an irrigation tune-up first. Have someone look at your system. It might be worth investing in your irrigation system rather than incurring the expense of removing existing plantings and replacing them.



Add mulch to keep moisture in the soil

> Mulch, mulch, mulch. Topping the soil with a layer of mulch helps keep the moisture in. Mulch breaks down and enriches the soil, and it makes your plantings look manicured and finished.



Plant tomatoes for a late summer harvest



Plant Sweet Peas

Plant

> Plant tropicals, ornamentals, trees, and shrubs.

> Plant late crops of warm-season vegetables, like tomatoes, squash, and beans.

> Later this month, plant Sweet Peas for early crop of flowers.

> Add some drought-tolerant plants such as Cactus, Succulents, Lantana, Grevilleas, and Leucadendron.

> Look for bedding plants, Bougainvillea, Crape Myrtle, Hibiscus, Agapanthus, Citrus, Plumeria, and Avocados. •



Add Succulents to the garden

Rocks With A Message



This collection of rocks was cleverly painted and the message was so relevant, but why did seeing them get us thinking about food? These look like painted potatoes! Thanks to all those folks who brighten our neighborhoods by painting rocks and scattering them for all to enjoy. •



Garden Classes: August

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

Do You Have Butterflies?..Photos, That Is.

The butterflies seem to be everywhere this year. Send us your butterfly photos and we'll devote a special page to them in the September newsletter. Email us a jpeg photo with your name to roseshow@walterandersen.com. •



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