



**Walter Andersen  
Nursery™**

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

*Garden Talk*

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

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## When Cat Faces Aren't Cute

By Ken Andersen



Even though cat fanciers love cat faces, tomato growers are not happy when they show up on the produce. Catfacing is a common malady among tomato growers and experts are not quite sure what the cause is. They do know it is caused by deformation of the flower at the beginning of fruit

[continued p2](#)

## Really Good Bugs You Should Love

By Melanie Potter



Ladybug

More often than not when it comes to bugs, customers want to get rid of them rather than encourage them. Most bugs are a pain in the grass, but some do good things and should be encouraged.

### Ladybugs

**Editor's Note:** Due to wildfires in Northern California, supply is limited.

We all know that ladybugs are fun and eat aphids. They will sometimes eat mealy bugs and mites. They like

[continued p2](#)

## A Quarantine Garden

By Melanie Potter

Last year, our nursery held a cleaning supply drive to assist Corazon de Vida which distributed the products to several orphanages in Mexico. The nursery also gave them packs of seeds and we are tickled to see what became of them. The orphanage, Rancho de los Ninos, located in the Valle de Guadalupe has about 11 special needs young adults who planted a garden and harvested vegetables. Seeds were also shared with two



orphanages in Tijuana and it was reported that the children successfully grew and harvested vegetables. The exercise in growing plants was not only educational, but

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## Cat Faces

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set which leads to deep folds and deformations in the fruit beginning at the blossom end. In some cases it can be mild, in others, as shown in the photo, it can be severe. Researchers believe it could have something to do with large swings between day time and evening temperatures as well as flower damage caused by mites or thrips. From personal experience the larger varieties of tomatoes like Beefsteak, Big Boy, and Better Boy tend to be more susceptible, especially where I live in Scripps Ranch. Heirloom tomatoes can also be more susceptible. Smaller varieties like Cherry, Grape, and Pear are almost impervious to the problem. Italian tomatoes, such as Roma and San Marzano, rarely exhibit catfacing. To avoid catfacing, grow medium size tomatoes, in fact a perennial favorite, Early Girl, is rarely affected. Mild cases do not affect the quality of the fruit when ripe and can usually be cut away. In severe cases, there is just too much damage to make the fruit salvageable. So for cat lovers out there, enjoy furry feline faces and keep the catfacing out of your tomato garden! •

## Quarantine

continued from p1



the extra food came in handy during the Coronavirus lockdown. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Poway-Scripps for spear-heading the supply drive. •

## Really Good Bugs

continued from p1



*Hoverfly*

Ajuga, Asclepias, Fennel, Veronica and Yarrow so be sure to plant their favorites to lure them.

### Hoverflies

These are tiny flying insects that are striped like bees. They eat soft-body insects like aphids, thrips and mites. Encourage them by planting Ajuga, Alyssum, Dill, Fennel, Feverfew, English Lavender, Lobelia, Mint, Statice and Veronica.



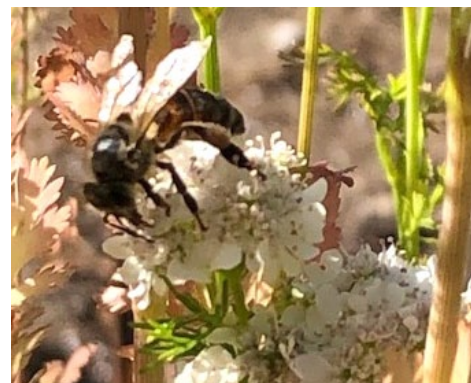
*Parasitic Wasp*

### Parasitic Wasps

These friends eat things you hate being plagued with and that includes whiteflies, larvae of moths, beetles and flies. They are attracted to Dill, Fennel, Lemon Balm, Lobelia, Parsley and Yarrow.

### Tachinid Flies

These are the parasites of cutworms, cabbage loopers and cabbage worms. Lure them with Lemon Balm, Parsley, Pennyroyal (poisonous to cats) and some thyme varieties.



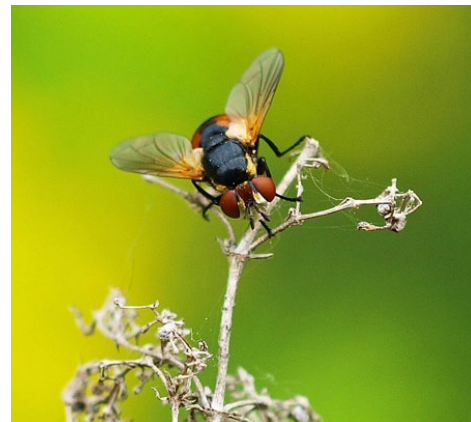
*Bee*

### Bees

These can be good or bad depending upon where they are. My neighbor was not so happy that they were beginning to swarm around her roof and finding ways inside her house. Another bad location for them is around play areas or doors that you constantly open and close. Just about anything that blooms can attract bees so plant carefully. They like Alyssum, Basil, Borage, Catnip, Dill, Fennel, Hyssop, Lavender, Mint, and Parsley, Poppies, Rosemary, Sage and Salvias.

### Here's a quick look at good choices for repellent plants:

Alliums, Artemesia, Bay Laurel, Borage, Catnip, Hyssop, Lemon Balm, Marigolds, Oregano, Nasturtiums, Pennyroyal, Scented Geraniums, Tarragon and Tansy (which flying insects don't like). •



*Tachinid Fly*

## Old Ben's Specials

Valid September 1-30, 2020

### — OLD BEN'S BRAND —

Lowest price ever  
for our most popular  
seed feeders!



Platform Feeder



Nyger Feeder

### Platform Feeder

The platform feeder is one of our most popular seed feeders. It provides easy access for all birds, and has a stainless steel bottom screen to let water pass through when it rains.

### Nyger Feeder

This feeder has stainless steel sides to provide feeding from both sides.

Both feeders are made of Western Cedar which resists rot, and hand painted by a local artist, designs vary.

**Your Choice \$37.99**

Reg. \$49.99

### 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

### Classic Wild Bird Seed

A classic mix that attracts a wide variety of wild birds. No fillers in this mix. **20lb. bag**

**Sale \$24.99** Reg. \$29.99

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

## Old Ben: Basic Facts About Hummingbirds

By Old Ben



Hummingbirds are small, colorful birds with iridescent feathers. Their name comes from the fact that they flap their wings so fast, between 50 and 200 times per second, that they make a humming noise. Hummingbirds can fly right, left, up, down, backwards, and even upside down. They are also able to hover by flapping their wings in a figure 8 pattern. They have a specialized long, tapered bill that is used to obtain nectar from the center of long, tubular-shaped flowers. The hummingbird's feet are used for perching only, and are not used for hopping or walking.

### Diet

Hummingbirds primarily eat flower nectar, tree sap, insects and pollen. The hummingbird's fast breathing rate, fast heartbeat and high body temperature require that they eat often. They also require an enormous amount of food each day. Hummingbirds have a long tongue which they use to lick their food at a rate of up to 13 licks per second.

### Range

Hummingbirds are only found in the Western Hemisphere, from southeastern Alaska to southern Chile, although most live in the tropics. There are more than 320 species of hummingbirds, 12 of which summer in North America and winter in tropical areas.

### Behavior

Like other birds, hummingbirds communicate via visual displays.

Hummingbirds are very territorial and have been observed chasing each other and even larger birds, such as hawks away from their territories.

### Reproduction

- > Gestation: 13-22 days
- > Clutch size: 1-3 eggs
- > The young start to fly in 18-30 days.

### Interesting Facts

- > The hummingbird is the smallest bird and also the smallest of all animals that have a backbone.
- > A hummingbird has no sense of smell.
- > The hummingbird has a heart rate that can reach up to 1,500 beats per minute.
- > Percentage wise, the hummingbird has the largest brain of all birds.
- > The longest recorded hummingbird life span is from a female Broad-tailed hummingbird that was tagged then recaptured 12 years later.
- > Hummingbirds have between 900 and 1,500 feathers, the fewest number of feathers of any bird species in the world. •

### — Ask Old Ben —

Ask Old Ben questions about birds, show bird photos, or share birding experiences at [askoldben@aol.com](mailto:askoldben@aol.com)

#### Old Ben's Promise

- I believe ingredients should come from nature, not a lab.
- I believe wild bird food should be made only with ingredients I am proud to share.
- I believe wild bird food should be simply prepared with as little processing as possible.
- I believe wild bird food should be made with a commitment to quality.
- Nature has nothing to hide; neither should your wild bird food.



## Is Gardening The New Workout?

By Ken Andersen



With most of the gyms in California shut down due to Covid-19, there is an easy way for many of us to still get exercise. Check out this article that was part of our Wednesday Wisdom series by George Allmon on our GardenTalk Radio Facebook page.

**Why are you gardening?** Did you know that according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “moderate-intensity level activity for 2.5 hours each week can reduce the risk for obesity, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, heart disease, stroke, depression, colon cancer and premature death.” The CDC considers gardening a moderate-intensity level activity so it can count toward you achieving that 2.5 hour goal each week!

To read more about the health benefits of gardening follow this link to Michigan State University’s article on “**What are the Physical and Mental benefits of Gardening?**” When you’re through reading get out in the garden!

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/what\\_are\\_the\\_physical\\_and\\_mental\\_benefits\\_of\\_gardening?fbclid=IwAR0vI6PXrBsKoKq-4XWn7SDwkd2fkkO5hCRDU RbSHdoPRwyfsJJKn-wFiCA](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/what_are_the_physical_and_mental_benefits_of_gardening?fbclid=IwAR0vI6PXrBsKoKq-4XWn7SDwkd2fkkO5hCRDU RbSHdoPRwyfsJJKn-wFiCA) •

## To Do List: September



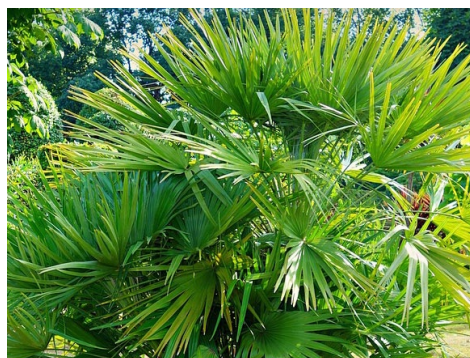
Use Bonide Weed & Feed for lawns

### Fertilize

For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Bonide DuraTurf Weed & Feed to feed grass and control broadleaf weeds. Feed ornamentals with Gro-Power. Feed vegetables with Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or Dr. Earth Organic Tomato and Vegetable Food. Feed citrus, avocado, and fruit trees with Gro-Power Citrus and Avocado Food. Feed palms and tropicals with Gro-Power Palm Tree and Tropical Food. Last feeding for Camellias, Azaleas, and roses for the year.

### Plant

> Plant Sweet Peas, winter annuals like Calendulas, Stocks, Pansies, Violas, Mums, and Snapdragons.



Feed palms & tropicals

> Plant winter vegetables. For your veggie planting, don’t miss broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, lettuces and greens, potatoes, radishes, and peas.

> Cool-season tomatoes are here!

### Look For

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



Hyacinths

> We have Crape Myrtle, Arbutus, Bougainvillea, and Agapanthus. •



Crape Myrtle



Bougainvillea



## Beautiful Butterfly Bounty

By Melanie Potter



The butterflies were everywhere this year so we asked if you had taken any photos, and you sure did! Here are some of the butterfly photos you sent us. To help us get ready for Fall, send us photos of your pumpkins and gourds you grew this year, harvested or still on the vine. We'll try to include them in the October newsletter. Send us a jpeg photo (under 2 megs), plant name, and your name if you'd like credit. Email to [roseshow@walterandersen.com](mailto:roseshow@walterandersen.com). •



Jim Julius / American Lady



Nancy Hoover / Swallowtail



Breane Bednash



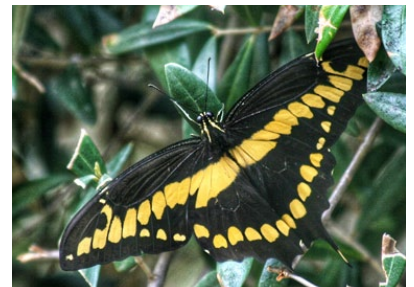
Melanie Lunsford  
Monarch



Gail Zerbe / Monarch



Maggie McCann / Monarch



Maggie McCann / Swallowtail



Eric Bischoff / Chrysalis



Karyn Straman



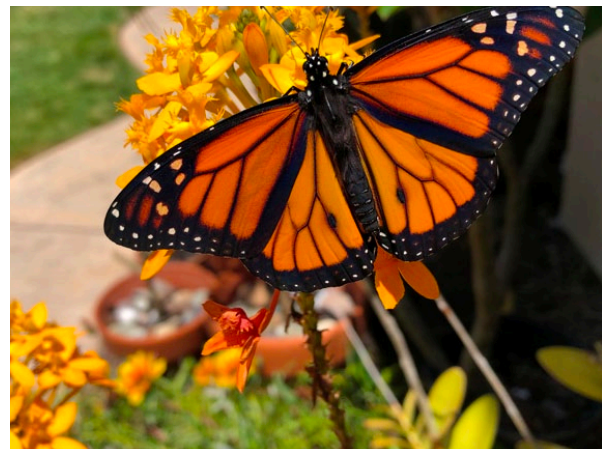
Pomaya Wyatt / Monarch



Butterfly on Blakie



Angela Partolon / Mourning Cloak

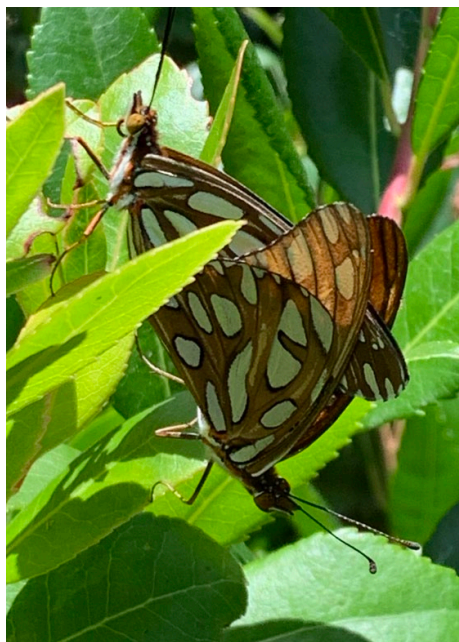


Angela Partolon / Monarch

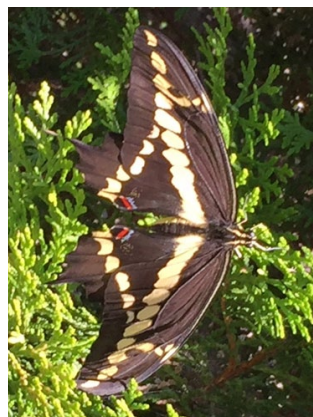
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## Beautiful Butterfly Bounty continued from p5



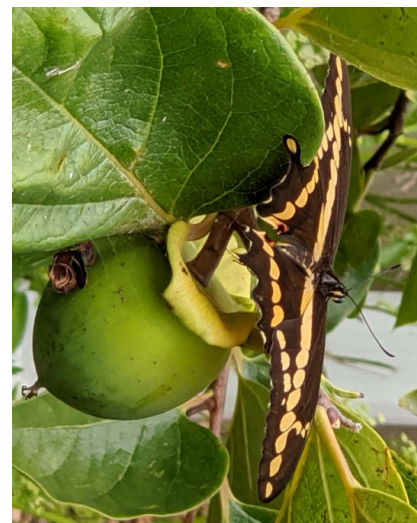
**Wendy Poyhonen**  
Gulf Fritillary on Arbutus



**Barbara Karr**  
Giant Swallowtail



**Karyn Straman**  
Buddleia



**Lynne Zeller** / Anise Swallowtail



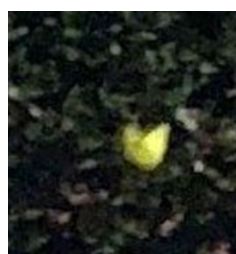
**Sharon Eubanks**



**Ashley Kooce** / Gulf Fritillary



**Linda Canada**  
Western Giant Swallowtail



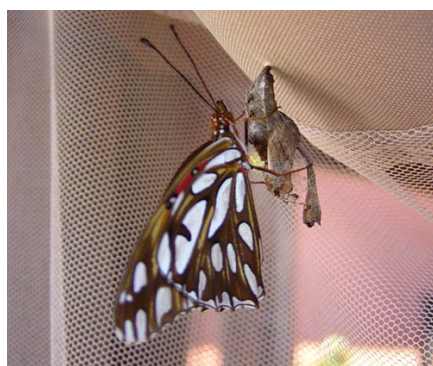
**Nolan Age 5**



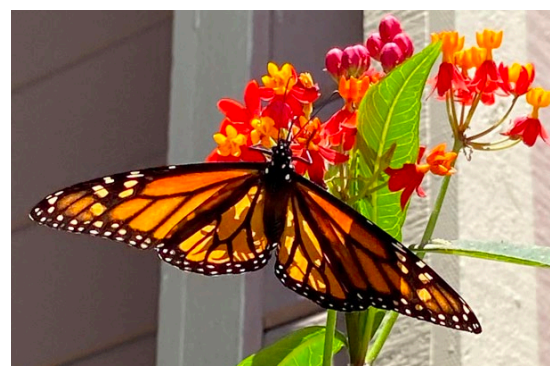
**Ashley Koonce** / Monarch



**Joan Green**



**Ty Webb**



**Shirley**



## Recipe: Mushroom & Rice Casserole

Good for potlucks and cold nights.  
Serves 6

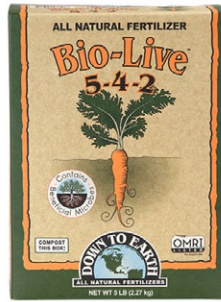
### INGREDIENTS

2 cups uncooked white rice  
1 can (10.5 oz.) condensed cream of mushroom soup  
1 cup vegetable broth  
1/2 cup chopped onion  
1/2 cup fresh chopped mushrooms  
1 teaspoon parsley  
1 teaspoon oregano  
1/4 cup melted butter  
Salt and pepper to taste

### INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a large bowl, stir together the white rice, cream of mushroom soup and vegetable broth. Blend in the onion, mushrooms, parsley, oregano, melted butter, salt and pepper. Transfer to a 2-qt. baking dish and cover with a lid or aluminum foil. Bake 35-40 minutes in the preheated oven. If the rice looks dry before it is tender, add a little water or vegetable broth and continue cooking until rice is tender. •

## New Fertilizers In Stock



We have two new fertilizers from Down To Earth. Both are listed by the Organic Materials Review Institute for use in organic production.

### Bio-Live 5-4-2

Down To Earth's Bio-Live 5-4-2 is a rich, organic fertilizer featuring a unique blend of premium marine byproducts infused with a diverse mixture of beneficial microorganisms that improve resource utilization and enhance nutrient uptake. Select mycorrhizal fungi and bacterial

species rapidly colonize the rhizosphere and surrounding soil. Ideal for all plant types. Encourage expansive root systems, increased crop yields and superior quality flowers, fruits, herbs and vegetables.

[https://downtoearthfertilizer.com/products/blended\\_fertilizer/bio-live-5-4-2/](https://downtoearthfertilizer.com/products/blended_fertilizer/bio-live-5-4-2/)

### Citrus Mix 6-3-3

Down To Earth's Citrus Mix 6-3-3 is specially formulated with primary and secondary plant nutrients plus selected micronutrients that promote lush new growth, abundant green foliage and bountiful blossoms and fruit. It may also be used to feed other fruit trees, vines and ornamentals.

[https://downtoearthfertilizer.com/products/blended\\_fertilizer/citrus-mix-6-3-3/](https://downtoearthfertilizer.com/products/blended_fertilizer/citrus-mix-6-3-3/) •

## Garden Classes

Classes at both stores are suspended until further notice.

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



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*GardenTalk*

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San Diego, California 92110  
619-224-8271

### POWAY

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

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