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SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

*GardenTalk*

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

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**Splendor  
Is The Grass**  
by Ken Andersen



On a recent visit to the Del Mar Fairgrounds to check out our display space for the Flower Show, Poway store manager David Ross and I made an excursion to the infield of the race track to check out the "farm" area that is shaping up for this

[continued p2](#)

## A Good Year For Salad Greens

By Melanie Potter



National Hamburger Month, National Strawberry Month and National Salsa Month. The year, according to the National Garden Bureau, has been declared: The Year of Salad Greens.

Of garden centers surveyed by National Garden Bureau, 64 percent said they would sell harvested salad greens (think farmers market experience at your garden center). Seventy three percent of participants, according to a survey commissioned by Fresh Express, said they are dedicating themselves to a healthier diet after gaining their Quarantine 15. Thirty four percent said they hope to make salad part of their daily intake in hopes

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## Plants Are A Good Investment

By Garden Center Magazine



The housing market is booming and because of that, it's a great time to sell. Realtors have some tips on how you can get the most money from your home and it's as easy as going to your local nursery.

In November, Trees.com conducted a survey and found that 99 percent of real estate agents say that adding just one healthy tree to your landscape will increase property

[continued p3](#)



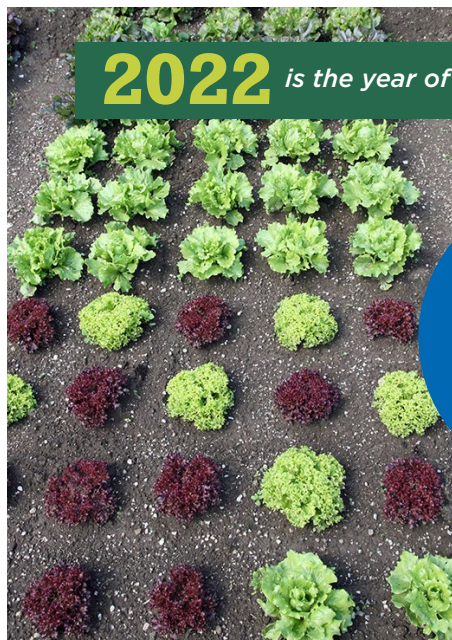
## Splendor

continued from p1

year's fair. While we were there, I walked over to see what the view was like down the turf course of the race track. The turf is immaculate and according to Rich Haas, who curates the farm area, the grass used is GN-2 Bermuda. There was not a weed to be seen and according to Rich, the track maintenance team walks the track a few times a week looking for and pulling weeds. I also noticed there was a large driveway cut across the track. Knowing that racing could not take place with that driveway in place, I asked Rich what they do to complete the track. He mentioned there are two driveways across the turf track, one on the front stretch and one on the back. After the fair is finished, they have turf modules, basically giant flats of turf, that they insert into the trench of the driveway and within a short time the sod at the edges knits together and the area blends in with the rest of the track. If you visit the races this season, see if you can spot it, I bet you can't! •

## Salad Greens

continued from p1



**2022** is the year of salad greens!

**73%**  
dedicating  
themselves to  
a healthier diet  
after gaining their  
Quarantine 15

**34%**  
hope to make  
salad part of their  
daily intake to  
get more fruits &  
vegetables

Fresh Express Survey



### Recipe

**Need salad recipe inspiration?**  
Here is an Irish Pub Salad to which you can add just about any vegetables you have on hand.

#### Ingredients:

#### Dressing

- 1/2 cup low-fat mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
- 1 teaspoon dried tarragon
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 to 3 teaspoons water

#### Salad

- 8 cups of your favorite lettuce or salad greens
- 6 cups (of any of the following) pickled beets, pickled green beans, sliced cucumber, diced tomatoes, chopped celery, shredded cabbage, sliced onions, peppers, radish, zucchini, yellow squash, grated carrots. Use any or all of those suggestions.
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, peeled, sliced
- 4 ounces cheddar cheese

**Toss the whole shebang together!**



of reaching the recommended amounts of fruits and vegetables. We think that means garden centers will be selling loads of vegetables and consumers will increase their consumption of salad-like items.

Salad greens aren't just lettuce. You can choose from the Asteraceae family (lettuce, chicory, dandelion greens), Amaranthaceae family which includes spinach or the Brassicaceae family where you will find arugula, kale, mustard greens. Other miscellaneous greens include Asian greens, chard, herbs, beets and turnip tops. You can grow all of these from starts or seed.

**In the month of June, don't overlook these National garden celebrations:**

- 6/6—Gardening Exercise Day**
- 6/9—Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Day**
- 6/10—Herbs and Spices Day**
- 6/11—Corn on the Cob Day**
- 6/12—Red Rose Day**
- 6/13—Weed Your Garden Day**
- 6/17—Eat Your Vegetable Day •**

**Garden Talk**  
RADIO

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[walterandersen.com](http://walterandersen.com)



## Millennials & Houseplants

by Greenhouse Product News



*Lipstick plant*

A study conducted by the Department of Horticultural Science at North Carolina State University found that 93 percent of millennials believe houseplants make them happier.

It was also revealed that millennials purchase houseplants more frequently than Baby Boomers, Generation X and Generation Z, and focus

[continued p4](#)



*A selection of houseplants in Poway*

## A Good Investment continued from p1

values. More than half the realtors identified trees as being the landscape element that adds the most value to a home. Where do other landscaping components stack up?

### Top Landscaping Elements To Increase the Value of Your Home *Trees.com Survey of Real Estate Agents*



**Grass**

**64%**



**Trees**

**59%**



**Flowers**

**52%**



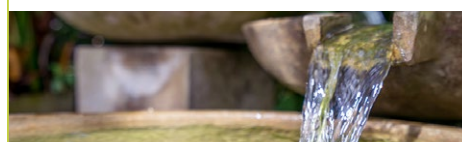
**Hedges**

**48%**



**Mulch**

**42%**



**Fountains**

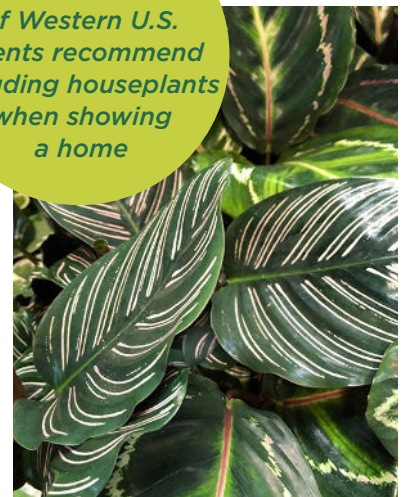
**39%**

Now that the outside is spruced up, don't forget to bring plants indoors. More than half the real estate agents indicated it is important to include houseplants when showing a home. In San Diego, we love our houseplants and 65% of agents located in the western U.S. recommended they be included.

So, before you put the for sale sign out, think about this statistic. Poor landscaping and hardscaping, according to 78% of real estate agents, negatively affects property values. Still thinking about selling your home? We'll see you soon! •

**65%**

*of Western U.S. agents recommend including houseplants when showing a home*



*Houseplant 'calathea ornata'*



## Millennials & Houseplants

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*Philodendron 'Swiss Cheese'*

on plants that offer health or wellness benefits.

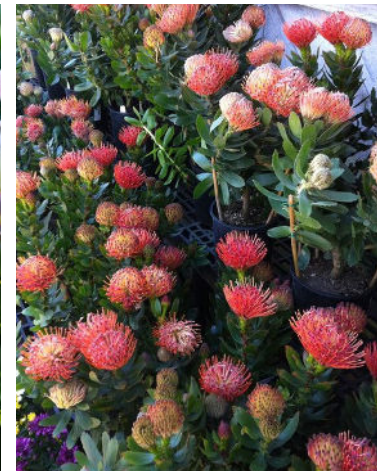
Concern for the environment is also key to their continued plant purchasing. Purchasers were more likely to be more positive than non-purchasers and millennials were more likely to be optimistic for the future and have a more positive emotional status than the other generations.

What does your choice of houseplants say about you? •



## Words From Walter: Showy Proteas Provide Spectacular Blooms

By Walter Andersen, Jr.



Proteas signify daringness and unpredictability having taken their name from the mystical sea god, Proteus for his ability to change forms at will. These very unusual plants can make magnificent specimens and the blooms are unusually spectacular. They can be enjoyed on the plant or make great cut flowers. Many people dry the blooms and use them in everlasting arrangements.

Because most are from Africa or Australia, their origin requires a little consideration when choosing the right location to plant them. The most desirable spot in the garden is in full sun. Well drained soil or planting on a slope is essential, with some wind or air movement.

After they are established, they should not be watered more than once a week. Areas that stay wet, like a lawn, are not good planting locations. To plant, prepare a large hole, approximately 18" to 30" in diameter and about 16" deep. Mix between 1/4 and 1/3 fir bark or coarse redwood shavings. Use this mixture to backfill around the root ball of the new plant, being sure the top of the original root ball in the container is

the same height or slightly higher than the surrounding soil.

Make a basin about 2" high and about 24" in diameter. Fill the basin twice with water after planting to allow the water to compact the soil. Water about once a week, being sure to allow it to dry a little between waterings. As the plant grows and matures, water over a larger area but less often. Proteas require very little fertilizer. Gro-Power used at half strength about every eight weeks is all they need. Avoid high phosphorus fertilizers. Protea like slightly acid soils so a pH of 6.5 is most desirable. It is recommended that you do not stake the plants but let them grow naturally. Cut the blooms with long stems and enjoy them indoors. In doing so, you are also pruning the plant and it will become bushier. A light application of an iron supplement two times a year will keep leaves a darker green.

If you choose to grow them in containers, we suggest using cactus mix as a potting medium. Container grown plants will also do a little better in partial shade as they dry out faster. •



## Gardening Tips On Our Site

### Gardening Tips



### pdf Downloads

NEW! BENEFICIAL NEMATODES  
LOTUS CARE  
BONSAI TREES  
CACTUS  
CITRUS & AVOCADOS  
CYCADS  
DENDROBIUM ORCHIDS  
EUCALYPTUS

Just a reminder, we have more expert advice including gardening resources, plant lists, gardening tip sheets, ask an expert and more on our website. Download these pdfs and more at [www.walterandersen.com/expert-advice/#gardening-tips](http://www.walterandersen.com/expert-advice/#gardening-tips).

### Here is just a sample of topics:

Bonsai Trees, Bougainvillea Planting, Cactus, Camellias, Citrus & Avocados, Composting, Cycads, Fertilizer, Firewise Planting, Gardenias, Lotus Care, Orchids, Palms in San Diego, Plumeria, Protea, Rose Pruning Summer Garden Tips, Tuberous Begonias, Vegetable Planting Guide, & Water Lilies. •

## To Do List: June



Plant Bougainvillea



Plant Star Jasmine



Fertilize citrus, fruit trees & Avocado

### Plant

- > Bedding plants
- > Bougainvillea, Hibiscus & tropicals
- > Fruit trees & shrubs
- > Look for Jacaranda, Magnolias, Hydrangeas, Star Jasmine, Dipladenias, Plumeria, Fuchsias, & roses
- > Summer vegetables & annuals

### Pest Control

Look for slugs and snails; apply Sluggo or Sluggo Plus. Watch for mildew, rust and rose slug on roses; spray with Bio-Advanced 3 in 1 Insect Disease and Mite Control, or Neem. Eliminate sowbugs, earwigs, cutworms, slugs and snails in vegetable gardens with Sluggo Plus. Keep flies around trash cans under control by using fly traps that can catch them before they invade your trash.

### Fertilize

For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue. 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.

### Prune

- > Ornamentals for shape
- > Dead head roses, dahlias & other flowering plants
- > Prune stone fruits after harvest •



### Make a Note

**Both stores will be closed  
on July 4th to celebrate  
Independence Day.**

**We wish everyone a safe  
and happy holiday.**





## Fruit Firsts!

by David Ross

June has not traditionally been, “we just received some really cool fruit trees” month, but this year it sure is! After much searching and contacting a friend of a friend of a friend, Walter Andersen Nursery has procured some hard to find trees! Citrus, avocados, and persimmons! For the first time in years, we have some Gwen Avocados. This naturally semi dwarf avocado bears lots of exceptional fruit at a very young age. As a matter of fact, most of these young trees have some small fruit on them already. Both stores have also received some Shiranui Mandarins. This extra large seedless, wrinkled mandarin has fantastic flavor and is the tree from which Sumo mandarins are harvested. We also received many Fuyu and some Hachiya persimmons as well. Normally these are not available in smaller pots at this time of year. Additionally, both stores received some traditional trees which have been hard to find this year. Included are the following: Midnight Valencia, Parent Washington Navel, Sanguinelli Blood orange, Cara Cara Navel orange, Tango and Gold Nugget Mandarins and some pomegranates. There is limited availability of these, so shop early for best selection! •

## Old Ben: Birds & Colors

By Old Ben

Did you know that birds have excellent vision and see colors extremely well, even better than humans? The striking colors of birds aren’t just for our viewing pleasure. Every hue, stripe and spot serve a vital purpose.

### Why Birds See Color

Color is important to many bird species and they rely on color clues in their environment in several ways.

- > Bright plumage colors indicate a mature, healthy bird that will be a strong mate.
- > Molting to brighter colors indicates the onset of the breeding season.
- > Colorful markings can be warnings against toxins or strong predators.
- > Brightly colored fruit is ripe and ready to eat.
- > Bright flowers are filled with nectar and will attract insects for another food source.
- > Changing colors can indicate changing seasons and time for migration.

Because birds are so attuned to colors, adding the right colors to your backyard can be a creative and beautiful way to attract birds.

When we look at birds, the colors we see aren’t always what they seem. Bird plumage colors are a result of either pigment or from the light reflecting off feathers. For example, bluebirds, indigo buntings and blue jays are not really blue. The color we see is the light reflecting off their brown feathers. Fortunately for birds, some predators do not see the same bright blue reflections we do, so they remain protected. This is the same reason why a bluebird in heavy shade will not look blue. Less colorful birds, such as sparrows are marked to blend in with their habitat. Their streaks, stripes, bars, spots

and lines look so much like their surroundings that they are almost impossible to see.

### Using Color To Attract Birds

There are many ways to add both natural and artificial color sources to your backyard to attract birds. Birdscaping with colorful flowers, trees, shrubs, vines and grasses is one of the best options. Many plants that have these bright colors will also provide food, shelter and nesting sites for birds, making them even more useful for bird friendly landscaping.

When choosing plants, look for the most colorful varieties. Also look for the colors of any fruit produced by the plants or autumn changes in the foliage. If garden or flowerbeds are not available, think about adding colorful plants to large pots or window boxes.

### Keeping Color In Perspective

While color can attract birds to the backyard, it is important to understand that color alone will not keep birds visiting. Use color to catch a bird’s attention, but provide good food, fresh water,

secure shelter, nesting sites and bird friendly landscaping to encourage birds to stay. Once birds find your colorful, bird friendly yard, you will discover that their plumage adds an even more welcome touch to color the landscape. •

— 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)



## Father's Day Is June 19th

TO A REAL OUTDOOR MAN ON  
**FATHER'S DAY**



And do we have the gifts for him! **From gardening essentials, to plants and gift cards, you'll find treats fit for Dad.**

## Garden Classes: June

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

6/4

High Yields  
with Richard Delao

6/11

Growing Healthy Soil  
with Randy Ritchie  
of Malibu Compost

6/18

Succulent Containers  
with Al Klein  
of Botanic Wonders

6/25

Fruit Tree Care  
with Charles Malki  
of IV Organics

### POWAY | 9:30AM

6/4

Aquatic Plants Care & Culture  
with John Clements of the  
San Diego Botanical Garden

6/11

All About Composting  
with Steve Atkinson

6/18

Help Your Plumerias Thrive  
with Mike Atkinson

6/25

Bonsai Workshop  
with Richard Wright  
\$25 Fee includes Plant & Soil  
RSVP to 858-513-4900  
Limited to 15 Attendees



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Open 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

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