



**Walter Andersen
Nursery™**

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

Garden Talk

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*Get This
Composting
Buddy*

By Ken Andersen



Once the green recycling bin was delivered, it seems that many people wondered how long it would be before flies were attracted to the contents. At my

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The Feed On Milkweed

By Birds & Blooms and WAN Staff



It's ok to feed the butterflies (or the soon to be ones)!

Monarch butterflies are rapidly declining due to loss of habitat and use of pesticides. Growing milkweed is the most effective way to help because it is the only plant that sustains a monarch through each of its life stages. It also produces a chemical that makes monarchs toxic and bitter-tasting to some of their predators.

Milkweed, scientifically called *Asclepias*, is a huge genus, with more than 140 species throughout the Americas. It's the only plant that hosts and feeds monarch caterpillars. The name milkweed comes from the milky sap inside the stems and leaves.

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Y'all, Fall's Coming

By Melanie Potter

Did you grow pumpkins this year? June would have been the time to plant them so they are ready for harvest by Halloween. This year, we tried our hand at growing big pumpkins and by the beginning of August, we had a basketball-sized one on a very impressive vine. These gourds need lots of room to ramble and it looks like ours may outgrow its planter. •



Growing White Flowers For Your Moon Garden

By National Garden Bureau
and WAN Staff



Here's a great example of how a planter painted a dark color makes the white around it shine.
Photo: Monrovia

Sun Parasol® White Mandevilla vine is underplanted with white annuals

A moon, or nighttime garden, is one that can be enjoyed after the sun sets. After a long day at work (or in the garden), nighttime is a great time to sit back and enjoy your garden. White or light-colored flowers will stand out so you can see and relish the beauty.

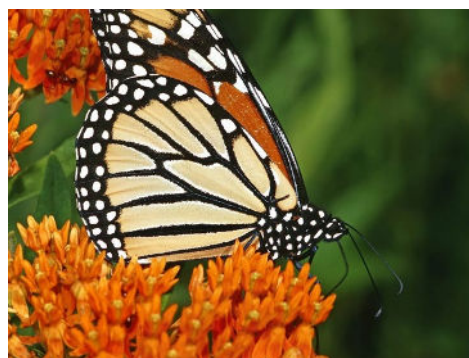
Here are some suggestions when choosing white flowers:

Standing tall in case you want to see white flowers towering over you are: Crape Myrtles have several white varieties but bear in mind that many go dormant and the flowers can be messy. We also like Little Gem Magnolia with its beautiful white flowers. Also, it's evergreen.

Let white flowers climb and consider these vines:

continued p3

Milkweed continued from p1



Monarch feeding on milkweed blooms
Photo: Richard Day/Daybreak Imagery

Milkweed doesn't look like much—until it blooms. Then you're treated to bright, colorful flowerheads rising up to 5 feet in the air. You can't miss them and, fortunately, neither can the butterflies.

The floss from 2 bags of ripe milkweed pods totals 40lbs. and could fill one life jacket for WWII sailors

More than 140 species of milkweed are found in nature

More Milkweed Facts

- > Milkweed is the only host plant for monarchs, which prefer local, native varieties.
- > The lower 48 states and nine Canadian provinces have native milkweed species to choose from
- > Though monarchs are the most well-known, two other orange and black butterflies in the U.S. use milkweed as a host plant: queens and soldiers. •



Photo: Melody Mickelson

Our Corpse Flower Bloomed!

By WAN Staff & United States Botanic Garden



Our corpse flower, *Amorphophallus titanum*, recently bloomed at the Poway store. The bloom only lasted

two days, so you will have to wait a while to see it bloom again!

The corpse flower can grow up to 8 feet tall, and its putrid smell is most potent during peak bloom at night into the early morning. The odor is often compared to the stench of rotting flesh. The inflorescence (a collection of flowers acting as one) also generates heat, which allows the stench to travel further. This combination of heat and smell efficiently lures pollinators such as carrion beetles and flies. It is native to the tropical rainforests of Sumatra, Indonesia.

The corpse flower does not have an annual blooming cycle. The bloom emerges from, and energy is stored in, a huge underground stem called a "corm." The plant blooms only when sufficient energy is accumulated, from a few years to more than a decade. •

Growing White Flowers

continued from p2



Agapanthus 'Bridal Veil' from Monrovia

Sun Parasol – White mandevilla, Dipladenia white, jasmine, Pandorea alba, the white Bower Vine.

Shrubs will fill a space that's between tall and low. Look for Salvia 'Heatwave Glimmer White', bougainvillea (White Stripe or Mary Palmers), Agapanthus 'Bridal Veil', Iceberg roses, gardenias and camellias.

Go low with these bedding contenders: Petunias, Gaura 'Belleza White', alyssum, Bandana White Lantana, Osteospermum hybrid 'Margarita White', and Vinca 'Pacifica White'. Impatiens are a good choice also. •

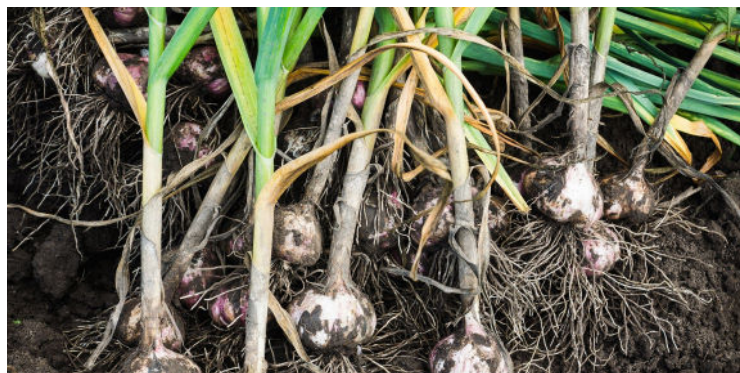
Composting

continued from p1

house, it wasn't long! Therefore, we tried the solution that has successfully helped to combat flies in the garbage bin. Just attach a **Hot Shot No-Pest Strip** inside the lid of your bins. You can screw it in with the help of a power drill. It's been two weeks and every time the bin is opened, nothing flies out! It lasts up to four months. •

10 Helpful Plants For Bug Control In Your Kitchen Garden

By Amanda MacArthur



←... Garlic doesn't just keep vampires away; it helps repel certain bugs!

I've learned over the years that companion planting is a great way for plants to help each other in the garden. It's also a great way for some plants to protect others from bugs and other pests. Here are 10 helpful plants for bug control in your kitchen garden.

Basil: A great herb to plant near tomatoes, and really any other vegetable, because it repels house flies, mosquitos, asparagus beetle, and the tomato hornworm, just to name a few. You can even use basil to make your own insect repellent by steeping the leaves in boiling water and mixing with a bit of rubbing alcohol.

Chives: What if I told you that you could enjoy your bagel with cream cheese and chives and kick some beetle and aphid butt! Chives make it on the list of plants for bug control in your kitchen garden because they repel pesky bugs like carrot flies, Japanese beetles, and aphids.

Cilantro: This plant (while sometimes polarizing in recipes) is an excellent plant for bug control. Aphids, Colorado potato beetle, and spider mites don't stand a chance against this delicious (or soap-flavored, depending on your genes) herb.

Fennel: Fennel is underrated! Whether eaten raw, used in a soup

or roasted with cheese and bread-crumbs, this is an often overlooked powerhouse vegetable. Planted in your kitchen garden, this licorice-scented plant becomes a deadly weapon against aphids, slugs, and snails.

Dill: A generous herb, giving subtle flavor to everything from potato salad to tzatziki, and don't forget roasted potatoes. It's a great garnish for soups and roasted vegetables, and of course, makes a great addition to pickle recipes. Planting dill in your kitchen garden will help keep aphids, squash bugs, spider mites, and cabbage loopers at bay.

Garlic: One of the great plants for bug control in your kitchen garden. Garlic is a great companion plant to broccoli, cauliflower, and kale because it will help repel root maggots, cabbage loopers, Mexican bean beetles, and peach tree borers.

Radish: One of my favorite ways to enjoy radishes is to slice them thinly with a mandolin and add a little salt and olive oil. Radishes make great kitchen garden plants since they keep cabbage maggots and cucumber beetles from invading your veggies.

Rosemary: This has great bug repellent qualities and can be thrown into a campfire to provide

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Major Loss In The Fertilizer Market

By Ken Andersen



Last month, we were informed that Brent Holden, the owner of Gro-Power Fertilizer, had unexpectedly passed away. Also with this devastating news, came word that the company would shut down with final orders for product due by August 25.

As many of you know, Gro-Power is arguably the best fertilizer on the market and our number one selling brand for many years. One of the main benefits of Gro-Power was its use of humic acid which helps build healthy soil while the fertilizer components fed and nourished the plants.

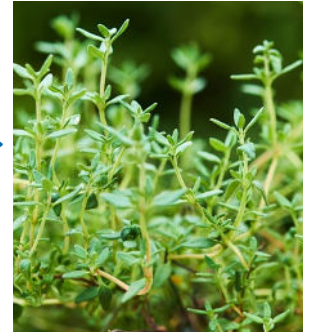
Both of our stores carry other top-of-the line fertilizers to cover all of your gardening and landscape needs, so finding a replacement should not be an issue. To get the humic acid that helped Gro-Power be so effective, look at Ada Perry's Magic Formula. Always labeled as a supplement, Ada Perry's can be used in conjunction with other fertilizers to build healthy soil and grow healthy plants. You may also consult with one of our associates to find a replacement that best suits your needs. •

Bug Control continued from p3



<... Plant Cilantro & Dill to keep aphids at bay

Thyme is the quiet hero



some natural insect repellent while adding a lovely fragrance to the air. Used to flavor stews, chicken, and roasts, rosemary's flavor profile is lemony pine and even a bit peppery. In your kitchen garden, rosemary is one of many powerhouse plants for bug control since it repels cabbage loopers, carrot flies, cockroaches, mosquitos, slugs, snails, and Mexican beetles.

Thyme: The quiet hero in the kitchen with its subtle aroma and earthy flavor. It's a great addition

to Mediterranean-inspired recipes and can be added to oil and lemon juice to make a delicious marinade for chicken or pork. Planting thyme in your kitchen garden will help stave off cabbage loopers, cabbage maggots, corn earworms, whiteflies, and tomato hornworms.

Tomato: While tomatoes are prone to that big green pest, the tomato horn worm, they can also help any neighboring asparagus by repelling asparagus beetles.

Companion planting for the win! •

Did You Know? Dragonflies

Dragonflies breathe using holes, or gills, which are in their abdomen.

You can tell the difference between a dragonfly and a damselfly by looking at the wings. Dragonfly wings point away from the bodies when at rest.

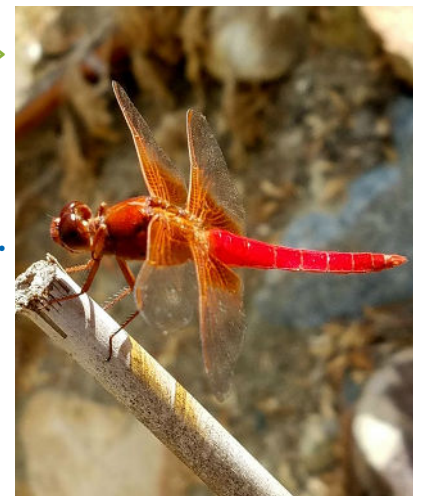


Photo: George Allmon

<... Two pairs of transparent wings help dragonflies fly up to 35 mph!



To Do List: September

By WAN Staff



Plant Mums, Violas, Pansies & more

Fertilize

For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Hi-Yield 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.

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

> Cool-season tomatoes are here!

Later This Month Look For

> Fall bulbs (Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Crocus, Saffron Crocus, Ranunculus and Freesia).

[continued p6](#)

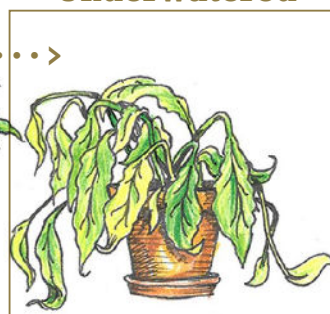
Oops, I Wet My Plants Too Much

By Food Gardening Network

Overwatered



Underwatered



When you see a plant struggling for life it can be tricky to diagnose if you have under watered or over watered it. If you've over watered your plants, here is what they'll look like.

1. Wilted leaves. Whether you have an underwatered or overwatered plant, you'll likely see leaves that look sad. The difference between the two is that an overwatered plant will have yellowed, soggy-feeling leaves.

2. Brown leaves. Like wilted leaves, brown leaves can be a sign of either too much or too little water. How can you tell the difference? Dig down into the soil a bit with your finger and see what it feels like. Even soil that's dry at the surface could be quite wet once you get down an inch or so.

3. Shedding leaves. All plants drop leaves, but if you're finding both new and old leaves dropping from your plants, there's a darn good chance you've overwatered.

4. Mushy stems. How does the base of your plant feel? Is it weak and soggy? You guessed it: too much water.

5. Moldy soil. If you're finding the surface soil around your plant is moldy or growing fungus, that's a definite sign of an overwatered plant. Remove the affected soil and make sure it has a chance to dry.

6. Blistered leaves. When plants get too much water too quickly, their leaves fill with fluid and the cells burst.

7. Root rot. This identifier may be a little harder to notice, but it can be

fatal to plants. Your best bet here is to dig up the plant and try to clean out the roots by shearing off any dead and rotten sections. You may also need to trim back any foliage. Run the roots under clean water and repot the plant in a clean pot with fresh soil, or plant it in a new area in the ground, ensuring the soil is free of mold and mildew first.

How to cure an overwatered plant:

Aside from root rot, the easiest and most effective way to fix an overwatering problem is to just change your evil ways and stop watering your plants. In most circumstances, that will be enough to get your plant back to full strength and living a happy plant life.

For more severe cases, move your plant to a shady spot (assuming it's in a container). We don't want the water to evaporate too quickly. One extreme to another is not a great situation for plants. If it's really in rough shape, take the same steps that you would for root rot.

Lastly, change how you water your plants. Check the soil every couple of days by pushing your finger in an inch or two. If the soil is wet, your plant does not need water.

That's really it. The secret to keeping your plants happy and healthy is to try to catch these issues as soon as you can. Just like with humans, the sooner you can catch a problem, the sooner and more successfully you can correct it. •

To Do List: September

By WAN Staff



Look for fall bulbs

For the best selection, buy them early. Tulips, Hyacinths, and spring-blooming Crocus will need to be pre-chilled in the refrigerator for 6-8 weeks to 'fake' winter before planting outdoors.

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

Garden Classes: September

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 STARTS AT 9:00AM

9/2

Dr. Earth
with Oscar Fortis

9/9

Fertilizing
with Richard

9/16

Fox Farm
with Corey Hansen

9/23

Water Saving Techniques
with James

9/30

Fall & Winter
Vegetable Gardening
with Chuck McClung

POWAY STARTS AT 9:30AM

9/2

No Class
Labor Day Weekend

9/9

Rodent Control
For Your Yard & Garden
with Tyler Trimble

9/16

Brassicas & Other Fall Crops
with Farmer Roy

9/23

Organic Insect Control
with George

9/30

Autumn Fruit Tree Care
with Richard Wright



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GardenTalk

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POWAY

12755 Danielson Court
Poway, California 92064

858-513-4900

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

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