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*Reality TV Stars*

By WAN Staff



Try to imagine a drama free reality show. Nobody is dolled up and dripping in jewelry, no body gets slapped and there is no backstabbing. That's what you will see if you tune into 3-2-1 Go with triplets who like to grow. Last month, their crew visited our Poway store for a morning of filming and look who was on hand! That's our own David Ross nestled in amongst the gardening experts! •

## UC Riverside Citrus Field Day For Growers & Industry

By George Allmon

George and Adams from our Poway store along with Kevin Grangetto from Grangetto's Farm and Garden Supply attended the **Citrus Field Day** held at the University of Riverside last month.

Citrus has a **tremendous positive impact on California**. There are about 292,000 acres of citrus in production providing jobs for more than 22,000 individuals. Citrus also generates almost \$3.5 billion in sales and an overall economic impact of \$7 billion.

The research scientists at this event, in concert with growers and industry, are constantly **seeking to understand, treat, and prevent emerging threats to our citrus industry**, as well as developing strategies to counter current threats.

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Kevin Grangetto and George spent an informative day at University of Riverside

## To-Do's For Tip-Top Tomatoes!

By Chase Smoak, Clemson University Cooperative Extension & WAN Staff



**(1)** Your tomato garden needs access to full sun (6-8 hours a day) and should have good drainage. Tomato plants hate wet feet and often succumb to root rot when left in waterlogged soils. They do however, need regular watering throughout the growing season, so select a spot with easy access to water. Irrigating deeply but infrequently strengthens plants and encourages deep, healthy root systems for hot summer days.

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## Morikami Gardens

By Ken Andersen



A recent trip to Delray Beach, Florida was a good reason to visit Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens. This vast botanical garden was named for George Morikami, who donated his farm to the county of Palm Beach to be used as a park. The original museum opened in 1977 with the now main museum opening in 1993. The park sits on over 188 acres of landscaped grounds with walking trails taking you to all areas of the park. There is a huge pond in the center of the park which the trails wrap around. As you stroll over the trails you will move through six distinctly landscaped gardens, each with a different theme, but all in a Japanese style.

The plant palette is large and includes Jacaranda and Hong Kong Orchid trees, palms, bonsai, air plants, azalea, bamboo, ferns and Ixora and Crotons, which thrive in Florida. There is also a memorial for the astronauts of the space shuttle Challenger on site.

If you find yourself in the area, do yourself a favorite and plan to spend a few hours there. For more information you can check out their website at <https://morikami.org>. •

## Citrus Field Day continued from p1

New varieties are also being developed that are more resistant to current diseases and pests.

Among the myriad topics presented, particularly important to the backyard citrus grower were presentations on the **Asian Citrus Psyllids (ACP)** and **Huanglongbing (HLB) disease**. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture, there were in excess of 7,182 HLB positive tree detections from 2012-2023 in Southern California and 66 in San Diego County alone. Clearly HLB and the insect (ACP) that transmit the bacteria is a serious threat to our citrus and is not going away soon. To that end, we cannot overstate the need for continued vigilance in monitoring citrus trees and taking appropriate actions to reduce ACP populations in our own individual spheres of control. The proximity to the quarantine area is why our Poway store asks that you not bring any citrus fruit, leaves, limbs, etc. into the store.

**The best way to find psyllids (ASP)** is by looking at newly-developing leaves on citrus trees whenever flush (clusters of new leaves) are forming. Older citrus trees typically produce most of their new growth in the spring and fall, but young trees and

lemons tend to flush periodically year-round during warm weather. Treating trees for ACP when found is an important step in preventing the spread of Huanglongbing disease. To learn more about the Asian Citrus Psyllid including background, identification, and treatment, go to <https://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74155.html>.

**The wide variety of topics included this year were:**

- Current invasive fruit fly quarantines in California
- Understanding Oriental fruit fly biology
- Asian Citrus Psyllid control programs
- Phytosanitary treatment development for invasive species
- Updates on Citrus Yellow Vein Clearing Virus in California and its proposed quarantine regulations
- Updates on changes in pesticide regulations
- Update on Oriental fruit fly quarantine
- ACP/HLB Regulations
- Controlling Asian Citrus Psyllids using systemic insecticides
- Long-term solutions for citrus huanglongbing. •



## How Much Mulch Should I Use?

Mulch Layer Depth (in inches)	One 2 cu. ft. Bag will cover:	One 1.5 cu. ft. Bag will cover:
1/4	96 sq. ft.	72 sq. ft.
1/2	48 sq. ft.	36 sq. ft.
1	24 sq. ft.	18 sq. ft.
2	12 sq. ft.	9 sq. ft.
3	8 sq. ft.	6 sq. ft.
4	6 sq. ft.	4.5 sq. ft.
6	4 sq. ft.	3 sq. ft.



## Quality Control



Did you enjoy the March newsletter? We ask because it was guest edited by Bob Andersen, fur baby to Walter and Jody Andersen. Bob takes this responsibility seriously but mostly for the handful of treats as an incentive. If you liked our March news, we'll let Bob know, and if you didn't, we will just keep that to ourselves. •

## Share A Book



Our Poway store has a little library courtesy of the Scripps Mesa Garden Club. We invite all our customers to share their books and take one they would like to read. You'll find the little library at the front of the store, just next to the waterfall. Happy reading!! •



## Tip-Top Tomatoes! continued from p1

(2) Avoid planting where tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, eggplant, and other solanaceous crops have been grown within the past three years. Many pests overwinter in the soil adjacent to plants and will terrorize unsuspecting gardeners.

(3) Select the right spot. You can plant in containers - use Edna's Best or Recipe 420. Plant in the ground and amend the soil with E.B. Stone Soil Booster.

(4) Tomatoes are nutrient hogs that require a good supply of nutrients from start to finish, so you'll likely need to fertilize before and during the growing season. Use Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or Dr. Earth or E.B. Stone Tomato and Vegetable Food.

(5) Adequate moisture is necessary for nutrient uptake. Drip irrigation works well and doesn't soak leaves, which often leads to disease issues.

(6) Don't forget to deal with weeds. They are an often-overlooked source of tomato pests. After clearing the site of any weeds, spread mulch 3-4 inches deep.

(7) Monitor and identify. Get to know your garden and what lives in it.

(8) Make an evaluation. If you do spot harmful pests or damage on tomatoes, evaluate whether real damage is being done as small pest populations can often be tolerated. Choose a wise treatment. If treatment is necessary, use the least toxic measure first. Cultural methods such as proper watering, plant spacing, and fertilization can help prevent or reduce the number of pests. If you have caterpillars, use BT, fungus problems can be controlled with copper spray and other pest problems will be nipped in the bud with horticultural oil.

**Each store has almost 100 varieties of tomatoes!** You'll find **your favorites** such as Better Boy, Husky Red, Health Kick, Green Zebra, Goliath, Celebrity, Early Girl, San Marzano, San Diego and Roma. Due by May 1 are more **varieties of heirlooms** including Mortgage Lifter, Oregon Spring, Japanese Black Trifele, and Jubilee. Do you enjoy eating the little **cherry-type tomatoes** right off the plant? Don't miss Yellow Pear, Indigo Ruby, Green Grape, Tumbler, Sungold, Cherry Red, Sweet 100, Sunset Torch, and Sweet Treats. •



## First Bloom Of The Roses

By WAN Staff

It shouldn't have come as any surprise that the first rose to bloom this season was...

**Gingersnap.** Ironically, over the years that we have watched for the first blooms, it is usually Gingersnap.

It was only mid-December when we were potting up the bare root roses and by mid-February they were leafed out and many were studded with buds. Now most are blooming so it's a great time to see and smell them. •



## To Do List: April

By WAN Staff



Look for blooming roses

### Plant

- > Warm-season bedding plants
- > Dahlias, annuals, and perennials
- > Warm-season vegetables and vegetable seeds
- > Tomatoes, tomatoes, tomatoes!
- > Specialty hot peppers are here

### Look For:

- > Flowering deciduous trees & shrubs
- > Blooming roses & bulbs
- > Ceanothus
- > Tropicals

### Fertilize

Feed Lawns, Palms & More. Use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Bonide DuraTurf to feed grass and control broad-leaf weeds. Feed ornamentals with Gro-Power or Gro-Power Plus. Feed vegetables with Gro-Power

**continued p5**



Fertilize palms and tropicals

## Words From Walter: Getting Started With Bonsai

By Walter Andersen, Jr.



Bonsai Schefflera

Bonsai is the practice of growing miniaturized trees or other plants in mature form in containers. This has been a practice in Japan and China for centuries. Bonsai are usually grown in ceramic containers which are glazed or natural terracotta. Often the containers are low and shallow; however they can be tall and thin with a plant cascading down the sides. With proper care, they can be kept this way for many years. In Japan and China, the very old plants are often inherited by children of the older generation as an heirloom. As they age, they seem to take on an even more mature characteristic that makes them look older and wiser!

Most Bonsai plants should be kept outdoors and they are generally plants that grow in the sun in their native habitat. Ficus and Schefflera can be successfully grown indoors so take care to choose a variety that you can grow in the area you want.

Outdoors they tend to do best in an area that gets about 50% filtered sun, or perhaps a couple of hours of morning sun. Because most pots are small and shallow, you need to be careful that the soil does not completely dry out. Ideally, the soil should be moist to the touch, never soggy. If it feels a little dry, it is time to water. Frequency of watering

depends on the temperature and humidity at any given time. If it is very warm in summer months you may need to water every day. At least check daily to see how much moisture is in the soil. Often the soil is above the edge of the container and water may just run off. You can put your plants in a container of water and let them soak for a few minutes. Another trick is to put ice cubes on the soil and let them melt into the soil.

To keep the plant healthy, you should fertilize it about once a month. Use a liquid plant food at half strength and mix it in the water if you use the soak method. Dry granules could also be used, but use a slow release type, something like Gro-Power tablets.

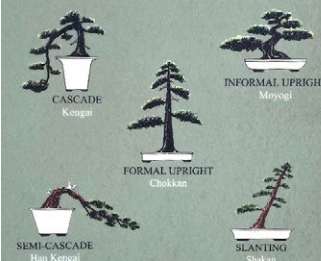
Trimming and pinching your tree to keep the look you are after should be done every month or two for most Bonsai. Don't let too much new growth spoil the mature look.

You may need to repot eventually, which provides two benefits: fresh soil replenishes nutrients, and there's more room for the tree to grow. This may not be necessary for about two to three years.

Insects are usually not a problem. Check with the nursery to find the appropriate control if you see signs of insect activity. •

## BONSAI STYLES

Illustrations by Roy H. Yamashiroya



The aim of styling a bonsai is to evoke the qualities we find attractive in full-size trees. Bonsai are therefore classified by reference to the shapes of trees as they are found in nature. The five basic bonsai styles, shown above, describe the form and angle of the trunk and pattern of the branches.



## To Do List: April

continued from p4



*Spray early to prevent pests*

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.

### Pest Control

For edibles & ornamentals, keep insects under control by hitting them early. On edibles, use Bonide Neem or Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew. For ornamentals, use a systemic control like BIO Advanced 3-in-1 Insect Disease and Mite Spray. •

## Garden Classes: April

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

4/6

Companion Planting  
with Kathleen

4/13

Bring The Heat! All About  
Peppers with Cyarah

4/20

Get The 411 On 420:  
What You Need To Know  
To Grow Cannabis For  
Personal Use with Richard

4/27

Integrated Pest Control  
with Matthew

### POWAY STARTS AT 9:30AM

4/6

Spring Color  
with Brian Robert

4/13

Rainwater Harvesting &  
Permaculture  
with Chris Meador

4/20

Dragonfruit Care & Culture  
with Alan Ridley

4/27

Citrus Care, Culture,  
& Varieties  
with John Clements



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San Diego, California 92110  
**619-224-8271**  
Open 8am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

### POWAY

12755 Danielson Court  
Poway, California 92064  
**858-513-4900**  
Open 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

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