SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

Walter Andersen Nursery™

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

GardenTalk

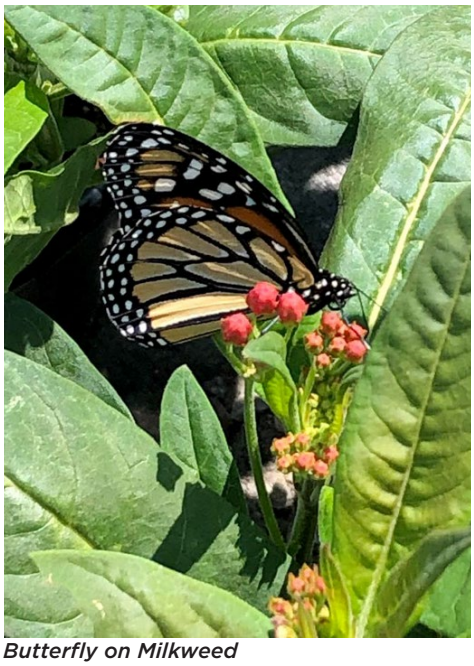
STORE HOURS: San Diego 8am-5pm | Poway 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

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Creating A Butterfly Garden In Southern California

By Sharon Colayco, Certified California Native Plant Landscaper



Butterfly on Milkweed

Southern California is home to more than 170 species of butterflies, each playing an important role in our local ecosystem. Creating a butterfly garden is one of the most rewarding ways to support biodiversity, bring life to your landscape, and enjoy nature right outside your door.

Start With Both Host Plants & Nectar Plants

One of the biggest mistakes gardeners make is planting only flowers for adult butterflies. A successful butterfly garden needs two types of plants: host plants for caterpillars and nectar plants for adult butterflies.

continued p2

Let There Be Shade
(Yes, You Can Grow Vegetables In The Shade!)

By Food Gardening Network

Does shade impact your garden enough so that you believe you can't grow vegetables? Not to worry, there is good news and tasty options that will have you harvesting in cool, shady comfort. Keep reading and you are bound to find something that suits your tastes.



Lettuces

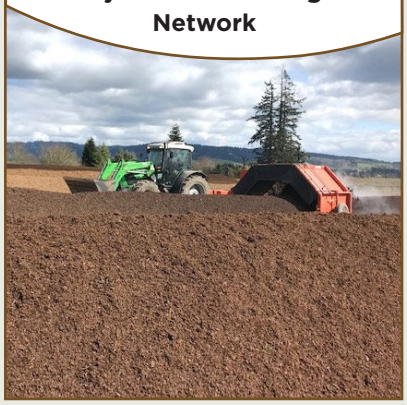
Arugula

Too much sun can make arugula shrivel and droop, which is why it thrives next to taller plants that provide shade. These leafy vegetables require little sun and in a partially shaded garden, arugula

continued p3

Soil Facts

By Food Gardening Network



> Why pH is your plant's "appetite setting." Most vegetables thrive between 6.0 and 7.0. If soil is too acidic or too alkaline, nutrients become "locked up," which is why plants can look pale or weak even when you're feeding them. A simple soil test tells you whether you need lime to raise pH or sulfur to lower

continued p2

Soil Facts

continued from p1



it—and small adjustments can dramatically improve nutrient uptake.

> How beneficial bacteria power your garden. These microscopic "good guys" decompose organic matter, fix nitrogen, and help protect roots from disease. Instead of just feeding plants, you'll want to feed soil life with compost and organic inputs—creating a self-sustaining nutrient cycle.

> Why compost is more than fertilizer. Compost improves soil texture, increases nutrient availability, boosts microbial life, enhances drainage in clay soil, and improves water retention in sandy soil. Whether from kitchen scraps, leaf mold, or worm castings, compost acts as both conditioner and slow-release nutrient source.

> What true soil fertility really means. Fertility isn't about dumping synthetic fertilizer onto beds. It's about balanced nutrients, steady organic matter inputs, active microbes, and minerals working together to provide continuous nourishment throughout the growing season. •

Butterfly Garden continued from p1

Host Plants

Host plants are where butterflies lay their eggs and where caterpillars feed after hatching. Different butterfly species require different host plants.

Narrowleaf Milkweed - is the host plant for Monarch butterflies (Danaus plexippus). Monarchs lay their eggs exclusively on milkweeds, and the caterpillars cannot survive without them.

California Buckwheat - serves as a host plant for Acmon Blue, Square-spotted Blue, and other native blue butterflies.



Buckwheat

Hollyleaf Cherry - the host plant for the beautiful California Hairstreak butterfly. Caterpillars feed on the leaves, while adults find nectar on nearby flowers. Without host plants, butterflies may visit your garden briefly, but they won't be able to complete their life cycle there.

Nectar Plants

Adult butterflies need nectar-rich flowers for energy. Planting a variety of flowering plants that bloom throughout the year helps provide a continuous food source.

California Lilac - attracts Monarchs, Painted Ladies, Mourning Cloaks, and many native pollinators in spring.

Golden Yarrow - is a favorite nectar source for Skippers, Sulphurs, Blues, and Painted Ladies.



Yarrow

Cleveland Sage - provides abundant nectar for Swallowtails, Skippers, Painted Ladies, and many native bees.

Build A Garden They'll Keep Coming Back To

Butterflies are remarkably good at finding habitats that provide the food and shelter they need. By planting a diverse mix of host plants and nectar plants, your garden can become a reliable stop for butterflies year after year. As local butterflies reproduce, new generations may continue to use the same habitat, making your garden an important refuge for Southern California's butterfly populations.

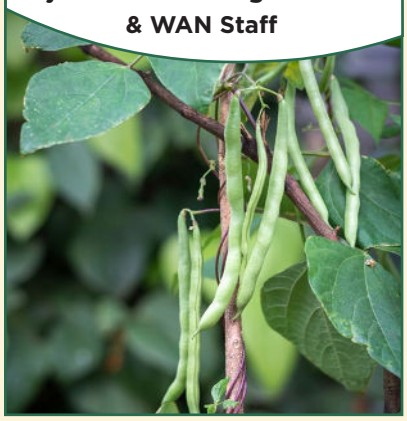
Skip The Chemicals

A butterfly garden should be a safe haven for wildlife. Avoid using insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides. While these products may target unwanted pests or weeds, they can also harm caterpillars, butterflies, bees, ladybugs, and countless other beneficial insects that help keep your garden healthy and balanced.

A truly thriving butterfly garden embraces nature's ecosystem rather than trying to control it with chemicals. Butterfly gardens do more than attract butterflies. They support native bees, birds, beneficial insects, and other wildlife while creating a beautiful, vibrant landscape filled with movement and seasonal interest. •

Vegetables That Twine & Vine

By Food Gardening Network & WAN Staff



Pole beans

Vertical gardening is very trendy these days and great for growing "up," which is ideal for veggie growers with small gardens and containers.

Support is the name of the game when growing any sort of vine and comes in the form of wooden trellises, arches, decorative metal supports or cages. Of course, some gardeners have great success with nothing more than sturdy stakes and garden twine.

So which vegetables are happiest climbing, sprawling, and reaching for the sky? You might be surprised by just how many crops can thrive when you grow up instead of out.

Pole Beans: Pole beans can be some of the most heavily-producing vegetable vines. They germinate in a little over a week, but can take two or more months to mature. The more you harvest, the more they produce. Some beans are bush varieties so look out for ones that say they are pole beans or grow on vines.

continued p4

Shade *(Vegetables)* continued from p1



Brussel Sprouts



Onions



Carrots



Kale

leaves will remain tender. Too much sun and these leaves will turn bitter.

Brussels Sprouts

Not only do brussels sprouts like partial shade, they're also cold-tolerant. These need at least four hours of direct sunlight to thrive.

Spinach, Kale, Leaf Lettuce

Less sun + cooler temps = tender leaves. Too much sun will cause these leafy greens to grow too quickly, often causing a bitter taste.

Endive

While technically in the same category as the other leafy greens, endive deserves its own category because it's fancy and expensive. Endive requires little sun and can grow in as few as two hours of direct sunlight per day. They grow well in direct sunlight, too, making them a versatile crop in your garden.

Mustard Greens

Like the other leafy greens, mustard plants prefer cooler temps and do well in partial shade. It's good to harvest these leaves early while they're still young and tender.

Pole Beans

Pole beans are vegetables that require little sun compared to beans that grow in bush form and need more direct sunlight. Pole beans do well with four to five hours of direct sunlight. Too much direct sun, especially in the warmest months, can cause the plant to dry out.

Root Vegetables: Onions, Beets, Radish, Rutabaga, Carrots

The rule of thumb here is that too much direct sunlight on root vegetables will focus more of the growing energy on the leafy above-ground foliage instead of sending all of that energy to the roots. While each type of root veggie varies slightly, these plants will generally do well in four to six hours of direct sunlight.

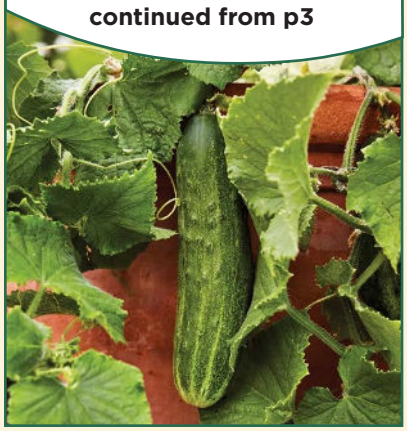
Broccoli & Cauliflower

Too much direct sunlight will cause broccoli and cauliflower to flower too quickly taking away the flavor of the vegetable. A slower crop (in partial sun) will yield a tighter head of broccoli or cauliflower and taste better.

continued p4

Twine & Vine

continued from p3



Cucumbers

Cucumbers: Cucumbers are fast-growing, heavy, and relatively easy to care for. A wider trellis is preferable as the increased air flow will help prevent mildew. Varieties to look for include: Pickling, Mini-Me, Persian, Natsu Suzumi, Lemon, Japanese, and Burpless.

Peas: Fresh peas, straight from the pod, are almost like candy. They aren't heavy, so they don't need as much support as cucumber, but they do need something for the tendrils to grab onto. Once you get them started, though, some varieties of these vegetable vines will grow up to 6-feet tall.

Tomatoes: Tomatoes aren't the most natural climbers and need a little help when it comes to working their way up. They do, in fact, need a fair amount of support, as the fruit can be heavy enough to break the vines, but if you have an indeterminate vining tomato, a tomato cage and trellis can offer them support to spread their arms and make more tomatoes without snapping. Look for Beefmaster, Better

continued p5

Shade *(Vegetables)* continued from p3



Cabbage



Leeks

Cabbage

Cabbage like direct sunlight but can do just as well in partial sun, especially in the warmer months. These vegetables will need about six hours of sunlight.

Leeks

Like cabbage, leeks prefer direct sunlight but can yield well in partial sun if the soil and moisture conditions are right. It's a good idea to till the soil with lots of organic matter a month or so before planting.

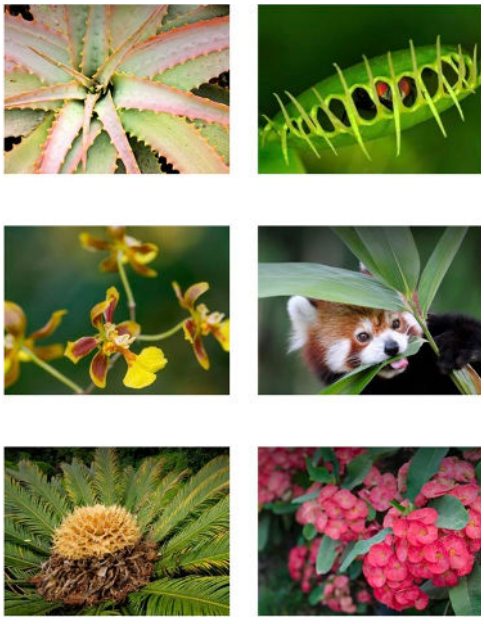
Bonus Tip: Looking for ways to help vegetables that require little sun get a bit more sun exposure in the shadier areas of your yard? Paint your fence or shed white. The sunlight will reflect off the white structures and reflect light onto your vegetables. It's not the same as direct sunlight but it contributes to the overall sun exposure of your garden. •

Did You Know?
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

By WAN Staff

The San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance is an international, nonprofit conservation organization that integrates wildlife health and care, science, and education to develop sustainable conservation solutions. Not just animals, but plants too. As a designated Plant Rescue Center at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park a safe haven exists for endangered and illegally trafficked plants. Late last year, the Safari Park received a shipment (234 succulents representing four genera and multiple species) that had been intercepted at the U.S.-Mexico border after being smuggled from Mexico. Currently the plants are being potted then will be planted on Safari Park grounds where they will be protected. •

San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance



Photos: San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

Twine & Vine

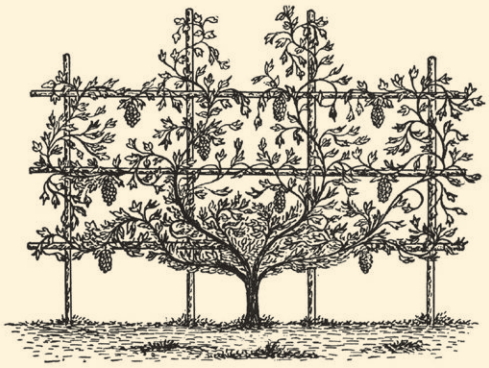
continued from p4



Tomatoes

Boy, Beefsteak, red and pink Brandywine, Celebrity, Green Grape, Black Cherry, and Sweet.

Squash: These plants love to spread out, especially pumpkins which can easily take over your entire garden if you let them. Use the vertical gardening approach to squash vines to keep them from getting too crazy, and just pruning the heck out of them. You may need supports for any hanging squash or pumpkins that get heavy. We've seen people use anything from macrame hangers to panty hose turned into a sling. Choose from Zucchini, Mexican Zucchini, Yellow Crookneck and if you planted winter squash such as Kabocha, Butternut or Jack-o-Lantern pumpkins, you'll have a fall harvest. •



All Gussied Up At The Track

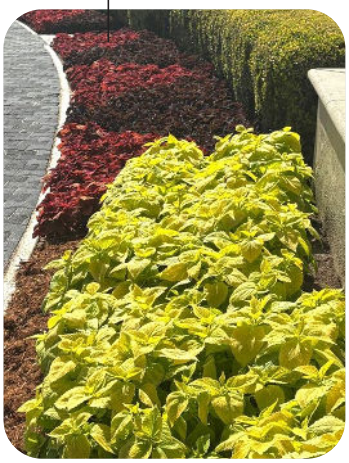
By Melanie Potter

The Del Mar race season got underway last month and opening day did not disappoint. Chock full of pageantry, spectacular hats, over-the-top dresses and gussied up landscape. Ken Andersen had some track business to do just before opening day and was amazed at how fast groundskeepers can transform the track for race season. Here's what holds up well throughout the season. Lots of **coleus** with color combinations galore, for bright color you'll find **celosia** along with tall, purple spired **salvia**. **Begonias** and **geraniums** also fare well during the season. What else likes track season? How about a buzzing about **Peach Beetle** that made its way to the finish line only to land on a spectator. It was an amusing sight, but not one that brought luck! •

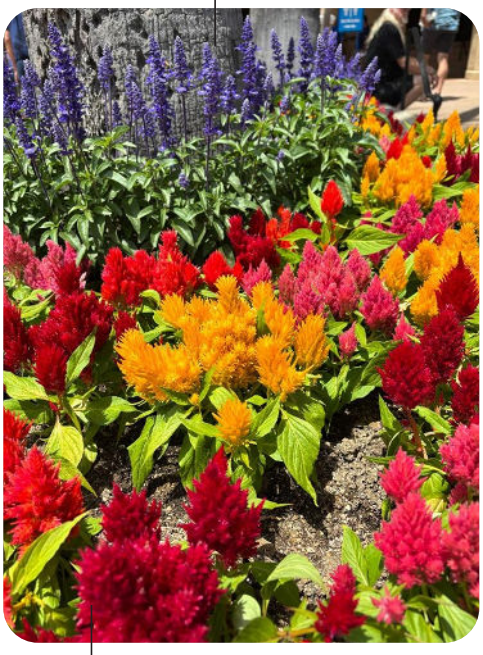


In the center of the paddock

Coleus border



Salvia



Red, orange, and pink Celosia



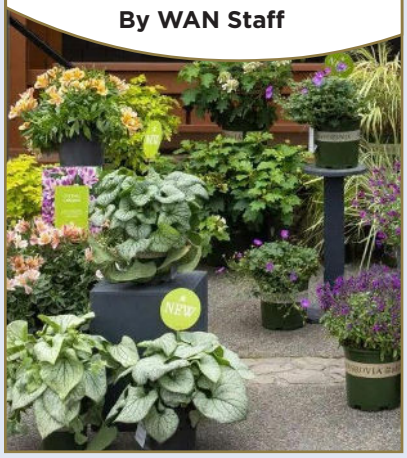
And more Coleus



Peach Beetle for the win!

Don't Miss This in September's Newsletter

By WAN Staff



MONROVIA®

Come back for our September newsletter which will feature the highlights of our visit to Oregon. It is there where a WAN team will celebrate Monrovia Nursery's centennial. There will be a tour of the grounds, an introduction to new plants and a big party. •

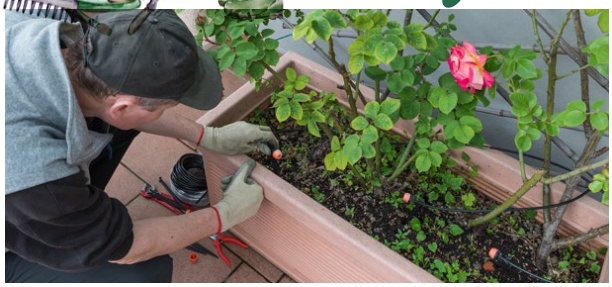




Make A Note

Labor Day is Monday, September 7th. Both stores are open regular hours!





Make sure irrigation is working properly



Plant Sweet Peas later this month



Fertilize tropicals



Add drought-tolerant plants to your garden

Fertilize

> For lawns, use **Marathon Fertilizer** for tall fescue. Use **Bonide DuraTurf Weed & Feed** to feed grass and control broadleaf weeds.

> Feed ornamentals, vegetables, citrus, avocado, fruit trees, palms and tropicals with **E.B. Stone** or **Gro-Power**.

> Add **Ada Perry's Magic Formula** to your regular rose feeding schedule this month.

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.

Mulch

> **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

> 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. •



Shows This Month:

8/1 – Ken, George & John with special guest Rich Haase "Farmer Rich" Del Mar Fair

8/8 – Ken, George & John

8/15 – Ken, George & John with special guest TBD

8/22 – Ken, George & John

8/29 – Ken, George & John with special guest Brijette Pena from San Diego Seed Company

Guests subject to change without notice

walterandersen.com

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

8/1
Tree Care Tips for Your New & Established Trees with Kurt Peacock, Certified Consulting Arborist

8/7
Plumerias 101 with Mike Atkinson

8/15
Bees with Denise Bienias (Past President of San Diego Beekeeping)

8/22
KIDS CLASS - STARTS AT 10AM
Little Sprouts Gardening Club
Edible Plants Workshop with Jes

8/29
Bonsais with Richard

POWAY

9:30AM

8/1
Native Bees with Denise Bienias

8/7
Arborist Pedro Berry

8/15
Container Gardening with Christine Hoey

8/22
Summer Fruit Tree Tips & Tricks with Tyler Trimble

8/29
Houseplant Care with Tammy Harmon

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