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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Ten Asian Greens To Try This Winter

By Claire Rambo



Napa Cabbage from Botanical Interests
Photo: April Shelhon

Asian greens have seen a boon in popularity in recent years due to their high nutritional value, packed with minerals and vitamins. They range in flavors from mildly peppery to sweet and succulent. They are great to stir fry, steam, and sauté. I highly recommend these 10 Asian greens, herbs and vegetables to try this winter season.

1) Napa Cabbage: Densely packed heads of succulent sweet leaves, this is a must in the winter garden. The leaves sweeten up as the weather cools down. We carry the seeds from Botanical Interests: "One Kilo" slow bolt Napa Cabbage, perfect for our warm winters. Succession sow from fall to spring.

2) Tatsoi: An ancient green from Asia, nicknamed the "Vitamin Green" due to its high vitamin content.

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Sowing the Vegetable Seeds of Fall

By Melanie Potter & Claire Rambo



Photo: Gardenwell

While it still seems like summer, it appeared that in the retail world, fall began the first week of July. That's when I saw sacks of candy, Halloween costumes and fall décor dethrone all things tiki, short sleeved, and BBQ themed. **Now that you are thinking about fall, it is the right time to start fall vegetable seeds.**

continued p2

An Easy Way To Plant Containers
Try Using One Plant Only

By Melanie Potter

I'm itching to add some interest to our front porch and that has led me to think about one pot wonders for gardeners like me who are lazy, uninspired and have brown thumbs.

Whether it be a patio tree, or container garden, blooming or relying on color from foliage, there are so many options depending upon your enjoyment of gardening and the location you want to add interest to.

Planting a dwarf citrus tree in a terracotta container will give you **a Mediterranean look** which is very desirable given the increased awareness over water usage we are all facing. Plumeria do best in containers in San Diego because they need excellent drainage and our soil just doesn't provide that. You can also move them to warmer locations in the winter.



Dwarf citrus in terracotta pots

continued p3

Sowing Seeds

continued from p1



I asked Claire in our Poway store what her thoughts on fall seeds were and she had a lot. First, she noted that both stores have a large selection of seed starting kits, pots, heating mats and soil. Ranging from single use for the odd seed starts to the reusable for all season succession sowing. Claire recommends the **GreenStalk Seed Starting Kit** and will be highlighting it when she teaches an upcoming class. The kit has a water tray, 36 planting pockets (with domes), a carrier for holding seed starters or harvesting produce, and a guide.

Starting now means you are harvesting fall/winter vegetables at their peak. Choices include broccoli, kohlrabi, cabbage, and kale. Once planted, seeds will emerge between one to two weeks. Kale matures quickly since it's leafy and needs 25-55 days. Other vegetables need 50 to 80 days. When planting seeds, don't forget this trick that Walter, Jr. uses. He staggers planting a few weeks at a time to extend the harvest and to avoid having everything ripen at once.

Editor's Note: *Claire is a buyer in our Poway store and will teach a GreenStalks class on September 12th at our Poway store.* •

Ten Asian Greens continued from p1

Tatsoi forms beautiful rosette style heads—beautiful and tasty. Available in both red and green colors. Harvest as cut and come again or wait until the full rosette forms.



Bok Choy

3) Bok Choy/Pac Choi: Traditional Chinese cabbage, with long white succulent stems and dark green tops. My favorite variety is Joi Choi.

4) Chijimisai: My favorite Asian Green. A nutritional powerhouse! A great spinach substitute due to velvety leaves and slight umami taste. Very heat-tolerant.

5) Mizuna: An heirloom "mustard green" from Japan. This is a must for any vegetable garden. Slender and frilly leaves are slightly peppery. Harvest as baby leaves for salads or wait until mature to stir fry. Heat-tolerant.

6) Japanese Giant Mustard: Beautiful large purple-leaved mustard from Japan. Peppery almost garlicky taste.



Komatsuna

7) Komatsuna: An ancient heirloom from Japan. It's a mustard green that tastes like spinach with crips stems that are mildly sweet.

8) Chinese Broccoli/Kale (Gai Lan): Similar to broccoli because they form florets, but the flavor is more complex. The stem,



Mizuna

leaves and florets are used in cooking. After the main stem is harvested, the plant will continue to produce side shoots all season long. Heat-tolerant.

9) Shiso (Japanese Basil): This herb has an amazingly complex flavor: minty with hints of cinnamon, clove and cumin. Heat-tolerant (needs some afternoon shade in our summer/fall climate) and can be perennialized in San Diego.

10) Ishikura Bunching Onions: My favorite bunching onion to grow. These bunching onions can grow large to 2 feet tall, 1 inch wide (if given enough time to grow) while remaining tender. Heat-tolerant. When planting, it is best to separate each seedling, leaving an inch of space to accommodate large stalks.

We have many of these seeds in stock currently from Botanical Interests, Renee's Garden and San Diego Seed Company. This is the perfect time to start your seeds at home since most winter plants need 4-6 weeks before transplanting.

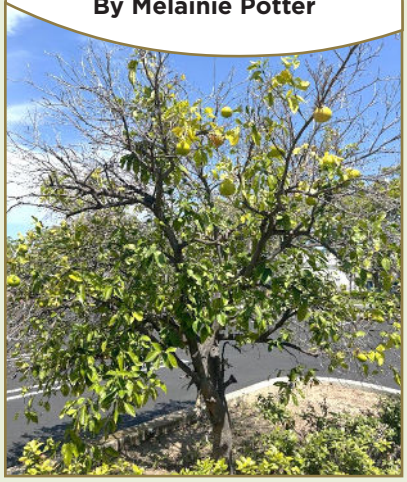
In addition to seeds, we have an amazing selection of seed starting kits to help you, ranging from peat pellets for the occasional seed sowing to the Greenstalk Seed Starting Kit for succession sowing all season long.

We will continue to carry a variety of winter plants until spring.

Our winter growing season is when these greens and vegetables shine—grow the largest, taste the sweetest. I hope you will try a few of these this fall/winter in your garden. •

Keeping Citrus in Tip-Top Condition

By Melainie Potter



Regular feedings with citrus & avocado food along with consistent watering will have this grapefruit tree looking healthy and producing delicious fruit.

Are your citrus trees bringing you joy or despair? I took the convenience of having lemons at my fingertips for granted until after I picked the last one and paid way too much for two from the grocery store. Oranges, lemons and limes thrive throughout the county; grapefruit and tangelos do best inland where it is hotter and drier.

At times the supply of citrus trees to our company is unreliable so when you see them, buy them. Adding to the instability of the citrus market is the citrus greening disease and please know we adhere to the strict guidelines for transporting and selling citrus. At this time, you cannot return citrus to our stores or bring us any part of a citrus tree for diagnosis if you suspect it is ailing. You can provide a photo and we will work from that.

continued p4

Way To Plant Containers continued from p1



This aloe stands out in a dark, glazed pot



Plant Coleus for color



Plumeria



Purple fountain grass



For fall, plant colorful mums



Agave

For **a cottage garden or a French country look**, try Penstemon parryi 'Desert penstemon' with thick grey leathery leaves and dark pink hummingbird-attracting flowers. It looks great in glazed or terracotta containers with softer hues such as light blue, light yellow, or light green. Penstemon "Margarita BOP' has green foliage with violet blue flowers. For **a more contemporary look**, Agave 'Blue Flame' (a smaller more elegant hybrid of the larger blue agave) stays 2.5' tall and wide and looks great in terracotta pottery.

You can **grow invasive plants in a container** and not worry about them taking over. A large pot of mint will be a cook's best friend. Plant horsetail or bamboo (you'll need to divide regularly so it doesn't become root bound and impossible to water) in a glazed pot for an Asian garden look. Put the bamboo in a terracotta pot for a more tropical appearance. Birds of paradise offer a lot of interest with their foliage shape and flowers and would be appealing in a tall angular pot. Pennisetum, or purple fountain grass, would look great in a large, round container.

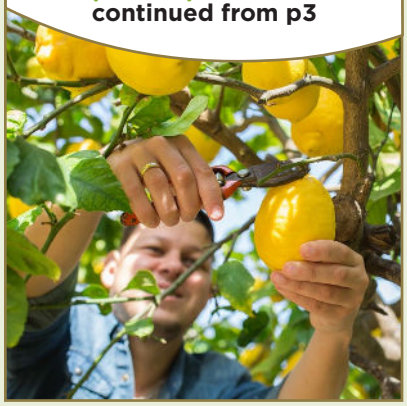
For **show stopping color**, plant a big pot of Coleus, any variety, which would look outstanding in a contrasting color glazed container.

Succulents like Aloes, Aeoniums and Echeveria enhance the container they are in all on their own or with 'Blue Chalk Sticks' (Senecio Mandraliscae) as a cascading plant. They will work with any color pot especially a glazed or rustic looking one.

Patio trees can also make a good container plant, but they may look better if they are planted with other plants that highlight their form. If you are feeling confident about adding a second plant, choose something that will require the same light exposure and water. If you want to keep things neat, look for plants without blooms and just rely on interesting or colorful foliage. •

Tip-Top Citrus

continued from p3



When planting citrus, dig a hole as deep as the root ball, but twice as wide to encourage wide ranging feeder roots that grow close to the ground's surface. Use a well-draining soil (we recommend E.B. Stone Citrus Palm Mix, then water thoroughly after planting. The root ball needs to be kept moist until roots grow out into the soil. After planting start by watering at least once a week, more often in times of extreme heat or dryness. Increase the interval as the tree matures. Regular water too helps prevent navel oranges from splitting.



Citrus are heavy feeders so use a citrus and avocado food and apply as directed. We have fertilizers from Green All, Arizona's Best, E. B. Stone and Down to Earth. •

The Fundamentals Of Watering Natives

By Moosa Creek

California native plants are adapted to the state's unique climate, which includes hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. Proper watering is crucial to the health and success of these plants. Here are tips to help you understand how to water California native plants effectively.

Understanding Water Needs

California native plants generally have deep root systems that seek out moisture. This helps them survive long dry periods. It's important to encourage deep root growth by watering deeply and less frequently.

Watering During Establishment

> Newly planted natives require more water until they are established (usually the first 1-2 years).

Water Immediately: Water the plants thoroughly immediately after planting.

Regular Watering: For the first few weeks, water 2-3 times per week.

Gradual Reduction: Gradually reduce the frequency to once a week after a couple of months.

Watering Established Plants

> Once established, California native plants need minimal watering.

Deep Watering: Water deeply, ensuring the water reaches the root zone.

Frequency: Established plants generally need water once a month during the dry season.

Adjust for Climate: Adjust watering frequency based on weather conditions.

> The timing of watering is crucial to maximize water absorption and minimize evaporation.

> Water early in the morning when temperatures are cooler. Avoid watering in the evening to prevent fungal growth.



Ceanothus



Tecate Cypress



Toyon

Techniques for Efficient Watering

> Using the right techniques ensures water reaches the plant roots efficiently.

> Use drip irrigation systems to deliver water directly to the root zone. Soaker hoses are also effective for deep watering. Use a watering can or hose with a gentle spray nozzle for manual watering.

Mulching

> Mulching helps retain soil moisture and reduce evaporation.

> Apply a 2–3-inch layer of mulch around the base of the plant. Keep mulch away from the stem or trunk to prevent rot.

Signs of Overwatering and Underwatering

> Knowing the signs of overwatering and underwatering helps you adjust your watering practices.

> Overwatering plants can result in yellowing leaves, wilting despite wet soil, and root rot. Underwatering leads plants to have dry, brittle leaves, they appear to wilt in dry soil and they will exhibit stunted growth. •

The Things You Learn in College

By Melanie Potter



What an adventure to visit an Andersen grandchild at college and run into the largest **Yucca filifera** planted on the Stanford University campus. It is one of the largest on record and stands at least 35 feet tall. The fellow in front of it is just over 6 feet tall. Yucca filifera grows larger than Yuccca brevifolia (Joshua Tree). Jane Stanford (American philanthropist and co-founder of Stanford University, established in 1885 with her husband, Leland Stanford, in memory of their son, Leland Stanford Jr. He died at a young age of typhoid fever) directed it be replanted as part of the Stanford Museum's landscape transplanting exotic plant species undertaking in 1894. Jane's access to railroad transportation made her an envied plant collector. •

Celebrating Monrovia

By Melanie Potter

MONROVIA®



"100" Floral Display



The Monrovia Team

Monrovia threw a swell centennial party last month which celebrated the company's history, its customers, employees (past and present) and the contributions made to the plant industry. We toured the property and saw new plant introductions, attended presentations and watched demonstrations. •



A Monrovia Welcome

Ken Andersen and our Monrovia sales rep, Cory, share a moment before the start of busy nursery tours.

Plants In Motion

Monrovia uses a team of eight robots to help move plants.



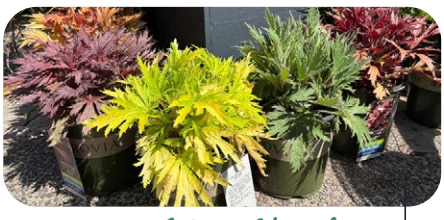


The Property is 800-Acres!



The Print Shop

Monrovia has a beautiful print shop where they print marketing items such as hang tags for plants.



A New Heuchera

Say hello to the Fyre Wing Heliodor Heuchera with its deeply cut, lacy foliage.



Open Labor Day!

Both stores are open regular hours on Labor Day—Monday, September 7.



Closing Early

Both stores will close at 2pm on Tuesday, September 8 for a company event. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Find More Newsletters Online



Want to read more on all things gardening? Get back issues of our newsletters on our website. They are archived as pdfs so you can download and read them anytime! https://www.walterandersen.com/newsletters/ •



September To Do List

Fall Color
Winter Veggies
Fall Bulbs
Fertilizing



Bulbs will be arriving later this month



Feed palms and tropicals



Plant winter vegetables



Find fall color and bedding at WAN!

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**.

> 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!

Look For Fall Bulbs Later This Month

> Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, Crocus, Saffron Crocus, Ranunculus and Freesia. 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.

Look For:

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



Shows This Month:

9/5 – Ken, George & John

9/12 – Ken, George & John with special guest Bruce Ireland, snake wrangler

9/19 – Ken, George & John

9/26 – Ken, George & John with special guest TBD

Guests subject to change without notice

walterandersen.com

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
9:00AM

9/5
No Class
(Labor Day Weekend)

9/12
How to Attract & Keep Hummingbirds in Your Yard with Christine

9/19
End of Summer Rose Care with Natalie, President of the San Diego Rose Society

9/26
Fall Bulbs
with Kathleen

POWAY
9:30AM

9/5
No Class
(Labor Day Weekend)

9/12
GreenStalk Winter Veggies with Claire

9/19
How Orchids Rebloom with Chuck McClung

9/26
Dragon Fruit
with Ahron Duben of My Dragon Plug

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GardenTalk

Visit Our 2 Locations

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Open 8am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

POWAY
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