



How Does Your Garden Grow?



News from UCCE Master Gardeners of Calaveras County

August 2016

From The Editor

This edition of the newsletter features water-wise gardening techniques. It also provides a list of tasks to do in the garden this month, as well as information about coming events.

Happy Gardening!

Odile Morrison
Newsletter Editor

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Garden To Do List for August

By Teresa Spence, *University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener of Calaveras County.*

- Many perennials may show signs of being chlorotic (yellowing between the leaf veins). This is an iron deficiency. Give them a dose of chelated iron; make sure the soil is moist and follow the directions on the container and water thoroughly after applying.
- Large deep-rooted trees and shrubs may benefit from a deep watering if the summer has been hot and dry as usual. Use a soaker hose, deep root irrigator or a hose turned on low in a basin.

Moisten the soil under the drip line to a depth of 12 to 18 inches.

- Pick peaches, nectarines and apricots when they pull off the tree easily with a gentle twist. Be sure to

dispose of any fallen and rotted fruit to prevent unwanted pests and brown rot from being a problem next season. [More](#)



We are Online

[Visit our Website](#)

Helpline

Master Gardeners are available to answer your gardening questions:

209-754-2880

Next Open Garden

August 27, 2016

10am to 2pm

Topic: Waterwise Gardening

No Plant Sale

[More information](#)

Critical Stage Watering

Learn the crucial water needs for the growth stages of your plants. There are specific times in a vegetable plant growth cycle where water is more important than other times. For many vegetables, the two-week periods after seed germination, after transplanting, and during flowering and fruiting are the most critical. Each vegetable does have its own peculiarities.



Critical Stage Watering Guide

Vegetable	Crucial Period - Water Amply
Broccoli, Kohlrabi, Brussels sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower	head development
Beans and Peas	flower bud formation to pod enlargement
Root vegetables	root enlargement
Cucumbers and vines	fruit enlargement
Eggplant, Pepper, Tomato	flowering, fruit set, enlargement
Lettuce and Spinach	head enlargement or leaf growth
Onion	due to small root structure, needs constant even water throughout
Potato	tuber set and enlargement
Corn	tassel, silk and ear development

Next Open Garden 27 August, 2016

The UCCE Master Gardeners of Calaveras County will open the Demonstration Garden on Saturday, August 27 from 10AM – 2PM. No plant sale. The Demonstration Garden is located at the County Government Center, 891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas.



Water conservation is a vital part of good gardening. This month's topic will focus on how to get the most out of every drop. We will discuss a number of factors that influence whether the water gets to the roots or evaporates into the air.

Master Gardeners will answer home gardening questions as well as assist in identifying and diagnosing plant and pest problems.

Get More While Using Less Water

- Delay the starting time of a fall garden to take advantage of the later fall rains so that you use less supplemental water.
- Plant only the amount that you will actually need. Plant herbs and small "patio" variety vegetables in pots.
- Plant shorter season crops and shop for drought resistant varieties.
- UCCE Master Gardeners suggest planting water efficient edibles such as asparagus, chard, eggplant, mustard greens, peppers, roma tomatoes, and California native strawberries for the mid season garden while adding an additional layer of mulch to insulate and prevent evaporation.
- Weed often to keep greedy weed roots from robbing moisture from your desired plants.
- Water before the sun comes up and after the sun goes down using a drip system to avoid moisture loss through evaporation.

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Garden To Do List ...

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- Avoid overwatering native plants. Too much water can be deadly for drought tolerant plants if they get root rot.
- Check tomato plants for caterpillars; look for "frass"(droppings) during the day time, then in the late evening, use a flashlight to locate the caterpillar and dispose of it in a bucket of water.
- Continuing to pick summer vegetables such as squash, eggplant, tomatoes and melons on a regular basis encourages the plant to be more productive. Remove plants that have finished producing, and if they were healthy, place them in the compost.
- Fire blight is a common and destructive bacterium that infects pome fruit trees such as apple, pear and quince; this disease can destroy limbs and whole trees or bushes. Once the plant is infected, it will harbor the bacteria indefinitely.
- If your pome fruit trees have fire blight, this is the best time of the year to remove infected branches because the infection has ceased enlarging and it is easy to see the margins of the infection. To locate the correct cutting site, find the lower edge of the visible infection, trace the infected branch to the point it attaches to another branch then trace that branch and cut it at the junction with the next branch. This will remove the infected branch and the branch it was attached to. Make sure not to harm the branch collar.
- For more information go to <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/pdf/pestnotes/pnfireblight.pdf>. There is a complete description of this disease on this site.

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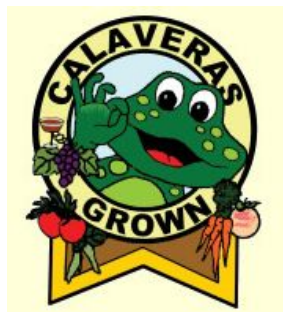
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Farmers Market

The second season of the CalaverasGROWN Certified Farmers Market is in full swing at the UCCE Master Gardeners of Calaveras County Demonstration Garden.



The market is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 4 to 7pm from May to September.

It features a wide variety of products from local farms right here in Calaveras County.

This is a family event with members of the Calaveras band playing jazz, swing and Dixieland and free activities for kids in the Children's Garden.



Your next chance to visit the market is Wednesday, September 14.

This event is sponsored by Mark Twain Medical Center.



Products include fresh vegetables & herbs, olive oil, honey & jams, mustards, eggs, baked goods, fresh flowers, ornamental, vegetable and herb plants, soaps, lotions, body butters.

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