THE YOLO GARDENER

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

Fall 2014

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION BY THE U.C.C.E. YOLO COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Blogs to Garden By

Jim Fowler, Yolo County U.C.C.E. Master Gardener

As you cruise around the web in the morning before you go to work or as you relax in the evening, there are a number of entertaining and useful websites that you could land on. Among the most interesting of these are blogs. As a gardener, let me suggest a few that meet both criteria (entertaining and useful), are well written, contain useful information, and are illustrated beautifully with spectacular photography. The University of California's division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) produces dozens of these blogs on topics ranging from agricultural pests, to current news about specific food crops; from the activities of California's Master Gardeners, to specialized blogs for various University of California agriculture-related departments. Many of these blogs are especially useful to urban gardeners. Some examples follow.

"Pests in the Urban Landscape" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/UCIPMurbanpests/ keeps on top of pest problems, especially related to urban gardening, such as information on dealing with raccoons, using yellow jacket traps, identifying and controlling leaffooted bugs, employing pest traps and barriers, identifying spiders, and helping bees in your landscape and garden. Each short entry includes references to additional information such as University of California's Integrated Pest Management Pest Notes, as well as applicable YouTube videos.

If you're into bees, check out "The Bee Gardener" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/TheBeeGardener/. This blog originates from the UC Davis Häagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven that resides on the UC Davis campus. It contains a number of short entries on the kind of flowers that are most likely to encourage visits by both honey bees and native bees. The entries also contain a number of lovely photographs of these plants' flowers so that you can judge how they will fit into your garden.

News about current pest problems can be found at "Pest News" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/pestnews/. For example, the last two entries contain information on the Spotted Wing Drosophila, which has devastated most of the cherry production in urban gardens, and the Asian citrus psyllid, which carries the virus that causes

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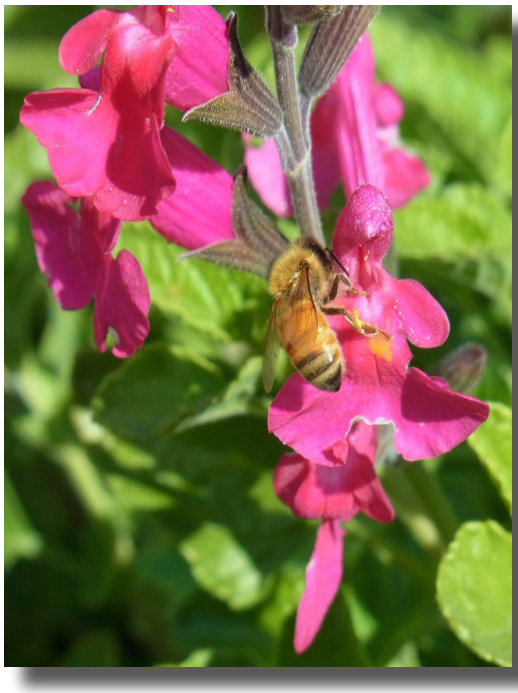
Spotted Wing Drosophila

citrus greening (huanglongbing disease) that has all but wiped out the citrus industry in Florida. These entries contain references to where you can find the latest recommendations for detecting, monitoring, and controlling these pests.

One of the nicest of these blogs, and my personal favorite, is "Bug Squad," located at http://ucanr.edu/blogs/bugsquad/. Gracefully written by Kathy Keatley Garvey, this blog is an eclectic collection of entries on what is currently happening in the local insect world. Kathy's spectacular photographs dominate all of the entries on her blog and by themselves are reason enough to subscribe to this blog.

ANR also provides a home for a number of blogs by Master Gardeners in several of California's counties. These contain seasonal entries dealing with appropriate plantings, water conservation, and solutions for other gardening problems. Among those closest to us that have similar growing conditions are Solano County "Under the Solano Sun" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/USS/; Napa County "Napa Master Gardener Column" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/napanewspaper/; San Joaquin County "What's Growing On - San Joaquin UC Master Gardeners" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/SJMGBlog/; and Butte County "The Real Dirt Blog" http://ucanr.edu/blogs/dirt/index.cfm.

Clicking on the above addresses will take you to the home page for the specific blog, where you can see the last five entries that have been made. You may also access all of the entries that have been made to a particular blog by clicking on the "archives" in the right hand column. If you wish to be notified by email of updates to your favorite blog, it's easy. Simply click on the web page of the blog to which you wish to subscribe. At the top of the right-hand column, fill in your email address and click on "subscribe." The site then will send you an email asking you to confirm your request.



Bees love Salvia

A complete list of all of the blogs offered by ANR and the links to them can be found at: http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/blogroll.cfm?sort=a.

Do Plants Communicate in Times of Stress?

Jan Bower, Yolo County U.C.C.E. Master Gardener

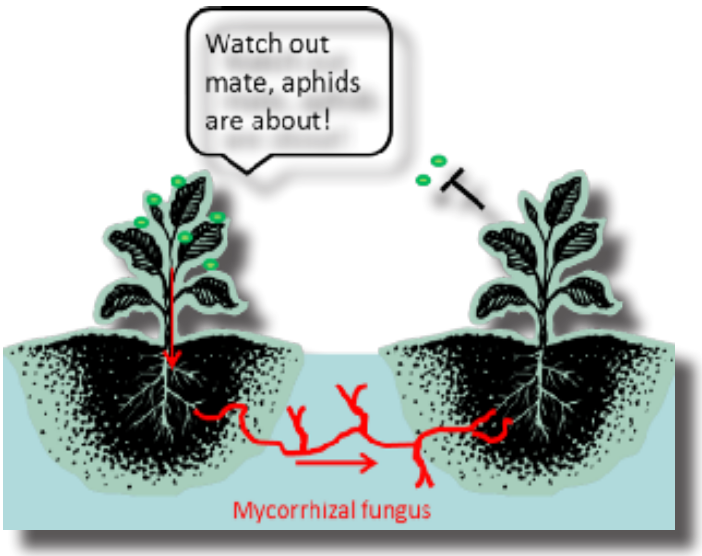
I recently attended a lecture on "How Plants Deal with Environmental Stress" by Anna Davidson, Ph.D candidate in plant physiology at UC Davis. Her earlier research centered on the development of an interactive computerized growth model for peaches, and their response to environmental inflictions. More recently, Ms. Davidson, who bills herself as a bio-artist (biology + art), has been focusing on the way plants indicate feelings of environmental stress within themselves and in relation to other plants. Her talk was photographically imaginative, and I became fascinated with the idea that plants may talk to each other about how they feel. They may even have a secret social life!

What is Plant Stress?

There are two kinds of plant stress: Abiotic and Biotic. Abiotic stress is the impact of naturally occurring factors on plants in a specific environment, *e.g.*, intense sunlight, extreme temperatures, high winds, drought, or sudden disasters such as floods, tornadoes, and wildfires. Biotic stress involves living disturbances to plants, *e.g.*, diseases, fungi, or harmful insects. When plant stress is severe, it may prevent growth, flowering, and seed formation, and may even cause death. Below are examples of some of the research being done on these two types of stress.

Chemical Conversations

According to Robert Krulwich, NPR science correspondent, "Plants don't have eyes, ears, or a nervous system, but they can talk and listen." He cites an experiment with aphids munching on the green leaves of a bean plant. The aphids chew holes in the leaves and release chemical spurts to neighboring plants. It's like a scream: "Watch out! Aphid attack!" This causes the neighboring plants to emit the same chemical, which is like perfume to wasps. The wasps are attracted to the leaves, and the critters, who were lunching, now become lunch. It's a wonderful symbiotic relationship, and plants' way of crying for help when they are invaded. The damage is usually extensive to the first plant, but the neighbors stay pest-resistant. Over the past twenty years, scientists have found that all kinds of trees and plants (such as willows, maples, sagebrush, tobacco, barley, corn, and beans) release these chemicals, which are abbreviated as VOCs and are a blend of alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, and esters.



Plant Gossip

Researchers at Ben-Gurion University in Israel have produced evidence that plants eavesdrop on their neighbors. The team planted a row of six garden pea plants, and subjected the first plant to drought conditions. After fifteen minutes, the stressed plant had closed its stomata, as did its nearest unstressed neighbor. This suggested that

some sort of drought warning had passed between the two. After an hour, all five neighbors had shuttered their stomata, indicating that the message "Drought" had been received through their roots.

Plant Internet

British researchers discovered that plants have a highly complex underground communication network, formed by a type of fungi called mycorrhizae. The hair-like fungal filaments on the roots of crops, such as wheat, rice, maize, and barley, form a mutualistic relationship with the roots of neighboring plants and create common mycelial networks (CMNs), which can be used for signaling and communicating information between plants. A team at the South China Agricultural University in Guangzhou increased disease resistance in tomato plants through this form of message transmission. They connected tomato plants that had previously been infected with the fungal pathogen that causes leaf blight. Warning signals of herbivore damage were transmitted via CMNs, and the plants were able to build up their defenses before the threat presented itself.

Sound Off

Monica Gagliano, evolutionary ecologist at the University of Western Australia in Perth, has shown that roots of young corn plants grown in water make clicking sounds. When the sounds in the same frequency range are played back to the roots, they respond by bending toward the source. Scientists at Bristol University also found that plants react to sounds and make clicking noises. While plants appear to be passively swaying in the breeze, they are in fact actively communicating with each other in a constant chatter.

Conclusion

From my research, there appears to be a growing amount of data on the complex ways in which plants are exchanging information with one another. Far from being unresponsive and uncommunicative organisms, plants are engaging in regular conversation with the plants growing around them. They alert each other to threatening pathogens and impending droughts and talk via airborne chemicals, root contact, networks of threadlike fungi, and even ultrasonic sounds. The next time you pick up your pruning shears, think twice about using it. There is some evidence that roses scream and feel pain when they are cut. Also a tree moans when it is struck with an axe.

Preserving Vegetable Seeds

Laura Cameron, Yolo County U.C.C.E. Master Gardener

At the end of each vegetable season, a few veggies go to seed or rot on the ground. Many veggies and plants are tossed on the compost heap and then turned into the vegetable bed. Next year a few errant plants struggle forth from last year's seeds, not necessarily where we want them or where we planted them. We also cannot forget about bird movement of our freshly planted seeds and the utter surprise when a carrot appears in a rather strange location.

While we have had great results from the wild tomatoes that appear, there are better seed preservation techniques than leaving it to chance.

Generally speaking, a seed has the best germination potential the moment it reaches maturity on the plant. From then on it is downhill in vigor. Harvest a couple of each fruit and vegetable and prepare the seeds. High seed moisture and high temperatures shorten seed life. Each one-percent decrease in moisture doubles the life of the seed. Each ten-degree drop in storage temperature doubles the life of the seed. Prepare the seed for drying, and dry it out of the direct sun for about a week. Once dried, place the seed in a moisture- proof

container and store it in as cool a place as possible. Storing in the refrigerator or freezer are viable options. Good containers are mason jars with a new lid (tight seal), heavy ziplock bags, rigid plastic jars, and metal cans with gasket lids. Cloth and paper bags, as well as thin plastic bags, are not moisture-proof enough to use. When removing the seed, allow the container and the seed to warm to room temperature. Remove the seed quickly and tightly reseal the container.

Once the seeds have been removed for use, let them air out for a few days prior to planting. The seeds will gain some moisture, which will aid in germination.

There are two main methods of seed processing. The wet processing method is for any seeds that are embedded in the moist flesh fruits and vegetables. Dry processing involves harvesting seeds from pods or husks that have generally dried in place on the plant.

Drying tomato seeds

Each fruit and vegetable family has general production and processing techniques. A few garden favorites are listed below.

The Solanaceae Family: Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, tomatillo, garden huckleberry ….

Harvest from fully ripe plants. Using a container, place sliced, diced, or squeezed fruit and add water. Stir vigorously. Good seeds will sink and the fruit and immature seeds will float and can be discarded. Repeat until there are only good clean seeds at the bottom of the container. You can also try using a blender; be cautious, though, and do not make smooth seed soup. Strain the seeds and dump them onto a glass or ceramic dish to dry. Stir twice daily to avoid clumping, and don't dry in the sun or oven. The dry seeds should be stored in an airtight container and kept in a cool, dry place or frozen for long term storage.

Artichoke seed head

This does not mean you will have 100% germination. Expect germination as you would from a seed packet; peppers at 55%; tomatoes at 75% germination from your seeds. Tomato seeds will remain viable for four to ten years if stored well.

The Cucurbitaceae Family: Watermelon, melons (*e.g.*, cantaloupe, casaba), squash ….

Watermelons with seeds and kids: what a fun combination to start them on their own gardening journey. Have the kids spit the seeds into a cup, then wash the seeds with a touch of dishwashing soap to remove spit and sugar. Dry and store as above. Germination should be about 70%.

Melons have a similar process, although the spitting method is not the best here. Scoop the seeds out, gently free the seeds with your fingers from the pulp, rinse, dry, and store. Seeds will remain viable for about five years, with a 75% germination rate.

Winter squash, when ripe, should be cut from the vine and left to sit for three weeks or longer. Carefully cut or chop open, pull the seeds out, rinse, and work until all debris is removed, dry, and store. Viability is about six years and germination rate is 75%.

The Compositae Family: Escarole, endive, artichoke, sunflower ….

Endive and escarole will produce flowers with set seedpods. When they appear, stop watering and let the seed stalks dry. To check if the seeds are dry, firm,

and ready to harvest, crush the dry flower base. It might take a good bit of prying to remove, as the seeds are tightly held. Either break the seedpods off the stalks and store in small glass containers, or pound the seed stalks and winnow out the seeds. Store. Viability runs about eight years with a 70% germination rate.

Let the artichoke flower-head bloom until its white seed plumes show. Store the heads in a dry location until dry and brittle. Put in a sack and hit the base of the blossom with a hammer. The down should float out of the bag and the heavier seed will remain behind. Remove seed, place another flower in the bag, and repeat. Store in an airtight container for up to seven years; this has a 70% germination rate.

Sunflower seeds can be harvested after the head is completely filled out and the flower petals have fallen off. Cut off the head and dry in a protected area. When the seeds are no longer soft or damp, they can be removed. If you can bend a sunflower seed, you need to dry it some more. When it snaps, it is ready for storage. Viability is seven years, with about a 75% germination rate.

Viability and germination rates will vary based upon how dry and well-stored the seeds are.

Preserving seeds is a choice and we have only touched on the basics. Whether seed saving is done to preserve the perfect tomato, save a few dollars, teach kids about food, or increase your gardening knowledge, relax and try. You can always claim the bird-planted seed was your creation.

Crazy for Cannas!

Michelle Haunold, Yolo County U.C.C.E. Master Gardener

One of my favorite things about going to tropical locales such as Hawaii is the abundant colorful plants and flowers that fill the gardens and cities. Some of these plants can manage in our area, but need to be babied or protected from our periodic freezing spells, so planting them in the garden in our Zone 9 just is not practical.

Cleopatra

I lusted after this tropical touch, though, and one day stumbled onto Cannas (or Canna Lily as it is sometimes called, although it is not a lily), *Canna indica*.

This lovely genus of plants has its native origins in the southern United States and is a cousin of Bananas, Gingers, and Birds of Paradise. Lush large tropical banana-shaped leaves are the highlight of this plant. They come in dark and light green, deep purplish-green and striped green, cream, pink, and purple. The plants can get up to five or six feet tall, depending on the variety, so they will provide height to your flower beds. And the flowers, oh the flowers!! They range from deep scarlet red to bright orange to creamy butter yellow, and many are a mix of all these colors with shades in-between. They are very showy, with several blooms on one stock,

South Pacific Scarlet

similar to an iris. Although they have no smell, they are attractive to hummingbirds and bees.

The plants grow from rhizomes, root-like underground stems that spread horizontally, so eventually you will get multiple plants from just one purchase! However, these plants are generally considerate when they spread. Practice restraint with your water and fertilizer, and you will get a gentle spread.

These plants grow well in this area, with full sun (about six hours a day) and moderate water (I water mine about twice a week). They prefer moderately moist, fertile soil, but I have experimented with mine, and they will tolerate several weeks without water, provided they are mulched with a thick layer of bark or leaves. I never add extra fertilizer to the beds—just a layer of compost in early spring and late fall-and they continue to reward me with breathtaking splashes of tropical color all season long.

Cannas can easily handle the clay soil and heavy salts in the water, and will come through our periodic freezes with no problem. They die back each season, and you can cut back the dead stalks, but the underground rhizome stores the plant's energy so that when temperatures warm up, your Cannas will sprout anew. They flower all season long, generally from May to the end of October, and are virtually disease-free, with no extra care. You can deadhead the plants to clean them up a little, but the seed pods are striking, so I often leave them on to add interest to the garden.

They can take part shade, although they do not bloom as abundantly, so if you are looking for some great-looking foliage, these plants will grow in a shaded location.

What's not to love about these amazing plants? I have not discovered a reason yet, and I continue to explore new varieties as I find them at the markets. They are a great plant to share with neighbors and friends because they are so easy to grow and so forgiving! And who isn't crazy for a bit of tropical color? You can find them at most garden centers, or you can mail-order the rhizomes for an even more affordable way to experiment with the many varieties availabe. Maybe you will discover that you are "crazy for Cannas" too!

Questions about your garden? We'd love to help!

Master Gardener Hotline..... (530) 666-8737

Our message centers will take your questions and information. Please leave your name, address, phone number and a description of your problem. A Master Gardener will research your problem and return your call.

E-Mail..... mgyolo@ucdavis.edu

Drop In..... Tuesday & Friday, 9-11 a.m.
70 Cottonwood St., Woodland

Fall Gardening Tips

Mary Yaussy, Yolo County U.C.C.E. Master Gardener

Summer gardening has been challenging with the drought, heat, and high water bills. Many homeowners are renovating landscapes to make their gardens more water-efficient without sacrificing color and texture. As we move into cooler autumn months, the gardens still require our attention to watering, plant care, and mulching.

Fall is the best time to plant new perennials, shrubs, and trees; these can be purchased from the many local plant sales. Take inventory of your garden to determine what needs to be eliminated or replaced for a more water-wise, low-maintenance landscape. Extend your vegetable garden by planting cool-season seeds that will provide healthy food for your holiday meals. So get busy with your fall chores, and here's to a rainy autumn season!

Take a look at the Yolo County Master Gardener Free Publications for additional information on gardening topics. http://ucanr.edu/sites/YCMG/MoreInfo

Besides decorating for Halloween and Thanksgiving this fall, celebrate the Autumnal Equinox on Monday, September 22, at 7:29 PDT, with a picnic of grilled bratwurst served along with a warm apple pie and a mug of hot cider as the landscape takes on rich colorful hues. As a reminder, time falls back one hour on Sunday, November 2, at 2:00 a.m.

Fall Cleanup

- Remove fallen fruits, vegetables, leaves, spent flowers, and weeds.
- Pinch back plants to allow tomatoes, melons, and squash enough time to mature before frost sets in.
- Remove unproductive plants.
- Take down pea trellises, beanpoles, and tomato supports.
- Clean garden supports and stakes with a diluted bleach solution before storing them for future use.
- Pick tomatoes when daytime temperatures no longer exceed 65° F. Wrap them in newspaper and let them ripen indoors.
- Maintain your compost pile by adding clean garden waste and leaves.
- Control earwigs, snails, and slugs.
- Apply liquid copper to citrus to prevent brown rot.
- Apply the first dormant spray to fruit trees in November.
- Apply the first round of liquid preventztives to nectarines, peaches, and apricots in November. *Peach leaf curl.* See http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/DISEASE/citbrownrot.html. *Brown rot* see http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/DISEASE/aprbrownrot.html. *Shot hole* see http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/DISEASE/shothole.html

Feed and Amend

- Feed and amend your garden soil. Add manure and compost to improve soil structure and fertility.
- Apply a layer of leaves, straw, or newspaper to your soil surface to reduce weeds next spring and improve soil structure.
- Amend your soil and add a complete fertilizer if you plant winter crops, flowers, bulbs, or seeds.

Lawn care

- Renovate a poorly performing lawn by de-thatching, aerating, fertilizing, and over-seeding it with either an annual or perennial rye or fescue mix, which will keep it green through the winter.
- Feed lawns in early fall with a pre-emergent and a complete fertilizer (one that contains nitrogen, phosphorus,

and potassium).
- Feed in late fall with a slow-release complete fertilizer, such as one labeled "winterizer."
- Adjust the watering cycle on your lawn. It will require less water in the fall and little or none in the winter.
- Continue to mow weekly and check your sprinkler system. Be sure it is properly adjusted and that all the nozzles are working.
- Remove dead leaves from your lawn regularly to prevent your lawn from expiring from lack of sunlight or from contracting fungus infections.
- Fall is the best time to put in a new lawn with either seed or sod.
- For complete lawn care see UC IPM Healthy Lawns at http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.turf.html

Annuals and Perennials

- Continue deadheading and removing unsightly leaves.
- Divide and transplant bulbs, tubers, and corms.
- If your oriental poppies, bearded iris, peonies, agapanthus, and daylilies are becoming less vigorous and more unattractive, fall is the season to divide and replant them.
- Share extra bulbs, corms, and tubers with a friend.
- Enjoy the fall color of perennials. Wait until spring to trim or cut them back.
- Evergreen perennials should not be cut back in the fall. These include rock cress, creeping sedum, creeping phlox, and hens and chicks.
- Roses should keep producing flowers into December, but do not fertilize after September. Deadhead as needed unless you prefer colorful rose hips to develop and provide winter interest.
- Plant fall flowers such as calendulas, chrysanthemums, bachelor buttons, dianthus, forget-me-nots, sweet peas, primroses, and violas. Many of these will over-winter and provide lush color in the spring.
- Spring-blooming perennials such as foxglove, columbine, salvia, and daylilies can be planted now. Combine these with daffodils, freesias, tulips, and other spring bulbs, which should be planted no later than the end of October.
- Fall is the best time to introduce perennials to your garden.
- Plant winter vegetables such as broccoli, lettuce, endive, parsley, garlic, and onion sets now.
- Take cuttings of your favorite annuals. Favorite choices are geraniums, coleus, begonias, and impatiens. Gradually move plants to shadier locations so they will adjust to the lower light levels when you move them indoors.

Fall foliage, Pistacia chinensis

Trees and Shrubs

- Fall is the best time to plant trees and shrubs. The cooler air temperature and still-warm soil provide ideal conditions for new plant roots to take hold.
- For autumn colors of red, gold, or yellow, choose these trees: Chinese pistache (*Pistacia chinensis*), gingko (*Gingko biloba*), tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*), scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), chanticleer pear (*Pyrus calleryana* "chanticleer"), or red maple (*Acer rubrum*).
- Plant drought-tolerant trees such as valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), or a Japanese

pagoda tree (*Sophora japonica*). A new favorite is the Chinese Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus retusus*).
- Apply manure and compost to help your trees emerge from dormancy with lush leaves and flowers.
- Plant easy-care and drought-tolerant shrubs such as crape myrtle (lagerstroemia), California lilac (Ceanothus hybrids), heavenly bamboo (Nandina domestica), tobira (Pittosporum tobira), and western redbud (Cercis occidentalis).
- Prune and shape trees in late fall.

Garden Keeping

- Sharpen spades, loppers, pruners, and your lawn mower blade. You can use a file or take your tools to a professional sharpener.
- Take your lawn mower to a professional for an annual tune-up.
- Clean, disinfect, and oil your tools, so they will be ready for pruning roses, trees, and shrubs from late fall to early spring.
- Keep birdbaths and feeders clean and full for migrating birds.
- Check out your local farmer's market or pumpkin patch for a colorful selection of fall decorations, including pumpkins, gourds, dried corn, and fall flowers.
- Keep a journal. Record your watering cycle information, pruning, spraying, and planting information. Make a list of garden improvements and fun ideas.
- Collect seeds from your garden.
- Check out your favorite garden catalogs. It is time to think about ordering next spring's seeds, bare root roses, and garden tools.
- For more information on vegetables, ornamentals, fruit trees, and lawn care, visit www.ipm.ucdavis.edu.

Garden Fun

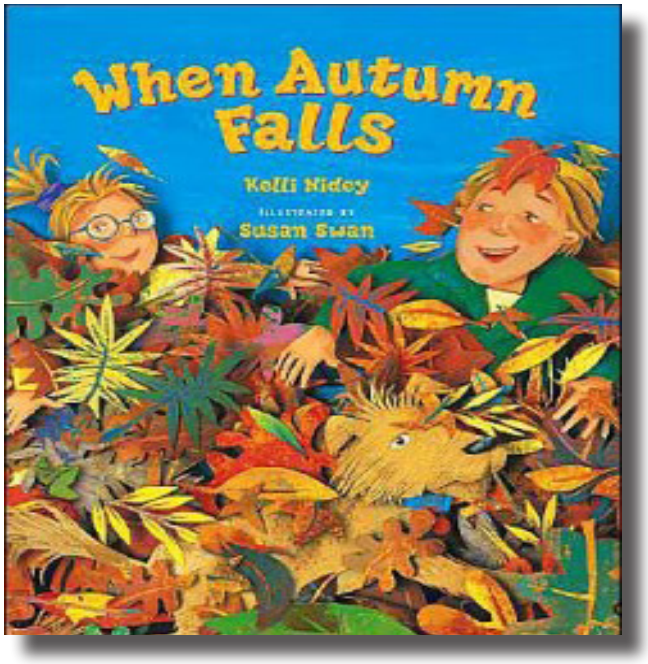
- Make a fall wreath and table decorations from dried or fresh garden cuttings. Use a hollowed-out pumpkin or gourd as the vase.
- Plant spring bulbs for a fresh look come March or April after we have a rainy winter.

Fun Fall Events

* Woodland's Stroll Through History (strollthroughhistory.com): September 6.
* Public Education, Davis Public Library: Water-wise topics, once a month on September 21, October 19, and November 16, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
* Sacramento Farm-To-Fork Festival 2014 (http://www.farmtofork.com): September 13-28.
* Butterfly Ecology Talk and Tour (http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/calendar.aspx): September 14, 11:00 a.m. Talk held at the Trellis at the California Native Plant GATEway, just behind Davis Commons Shopping Center.
* Fair Oaks Horticulture Center Open Garden (http://ucanr.edu/sites/sacmg/Plant_Clinics): September 20 and October 15.
* Yolo County Master Gardener Plant Sale at Woodland Community College: September 27, 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m.
* Yolo County Master Gardener Plant Sale and Workshops at Woodland Community College: October 4, 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m. Seed Saving Workshop: 9:30 a.m; TBD workshop: 11:00 a.m.
* Hoes Down Harvest Festival presented by Fully Belly Farm (www.hoesdown.org): October 4-5. Check website for location, costs, and times.
* Davis Central Park Gardens Open House and Plant Sale (www.centralparkgardens.org) along with Davis Farmers Market Fall Festival: October 25, 8:00 a.m-1:00 p.m.
* UC Davis Arboretum Plant Sale (http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu): October 11 and October 25..

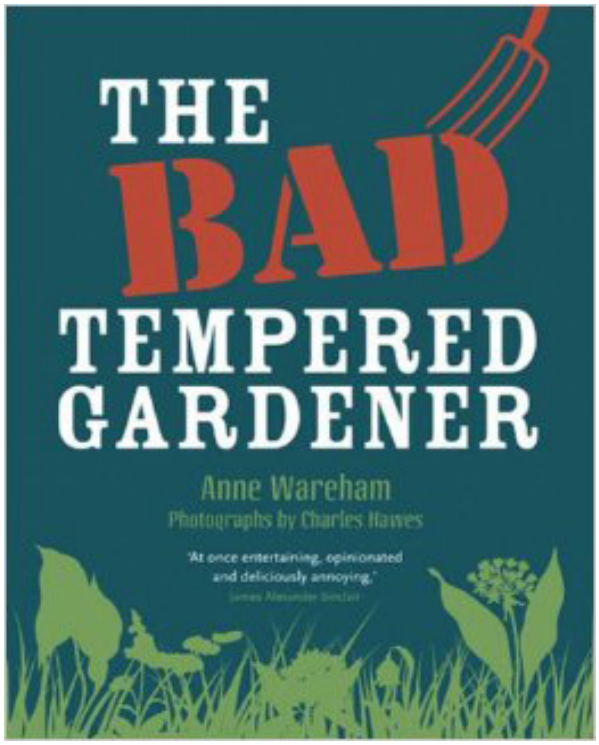
Garden Books

When Autumn Falls, by Kelli Nidey and Susan



Swan: ages 3-6. Book is bright, bold, and bursting with fall colors for little ones.

The Bad Tempered Gardener, by Anne Wareham. This is one garden book you will read start to finish. Wareham writes with humor about her gardening experiences in Wales.



Why Grow That When You Can Grow This, by Andrew Keyes. I wish I had this book before I planted privets and periwinkle. The author gives 255 extraordinary alternatives to everyday problem plants. Colorful plant photos with simple descriptions.

A Tree Is Nice, by Janice May Udry: ages 4-8. Book is a Caldecott medal winner for illustrations. Story explores all the many benefits that trees bring to us.

Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The Plants and Places That Inspired the Classic Children's Tales, by Marta McDowell. A wonderful gardening biography of Potter, with detailed watercolor illustrations. Put this book on your holiday wish list.

Seasonal Thought:
"After great droughts come great rains."
– Dutch Proverb

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http://ucanr.edu/sites/YCMG/.

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The Yolo Gardener - Fall 2014

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to an Editor!

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Please put: *Yolo Gardener* in the subject line

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Yolo County Master Gardeners

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