



UCCE Master Gardener's of Glenn County Newsgram October 2018

Fall is finally here, the heat is gone and we are starting to get a little rain. That is great news.

It is time for fall clean-up in the garden and yard. Clean up mummies and old fruit and nuts in and under trees to avoid harboring pests. Remove fallen leaves from beneath deciduous fruit trees and roses. Remember to clean your pruning and cutting tools if you have used them on a tree or shrub that has a disease, this will prevent the disease from being spread.

Its time to plant a winter garden cool season plants like lettuce, carrots, broccoli can all be planted now. See article about the demo winter garden.

Plant of the month.

Argentine rain lily. *Zephyranthes candida*.

Grows from bulbs and forms clumps of shiny, grassy leaves; good edging plant or ground-cover; attracts beneficial insects. The plant does well in full sun and is drought tolerant. It flowers in August and September the hottest and driest time of the year.

I have a few of them growing in my front yard and always flower in the late summer.





The Winter Garden

One of the boxes in the Demo Garden has been planted with a Winter Garden. The garden has been planted with:

- Golden Age Cabbage
- Snowball Cauliflower
- Brussel Sprouts
- Broccoli
- Bok Choi
- Butter Head Lettuce
- Arugula
- Danvers Carrots
- Little Finger Carrots
- Cherry Bell Radishes
- Snap Peas
- Snow Peas Beets



Alyse delivering plants and seeds for the winter garden.

From the Plant Clinic

It has been slow at the plant clinic recently. We had a call about pruning fruit trees. We had an inquiry about something odd going on with a boxwood shrub. It was diagnosed as *Pseudonectria* canker. *Pseudonectria* canker causes branches to die back and leaves to become tan in color. Leaves turn upward. Small fungus fruiting bodies may appear on the lower surface of affected leaves and branches.

The solution is to provide plants with proper cultural care to keep them vigorous and to limit these diseases. Prune out dead leaves and dead and dying branches when they are first observed.



Picture submitted to the plant clinic showing dead patches in a boxwood shrub.

Our friend and former Glenn County Master Gardener BettyAnn Stephens sent me an email about a newsletter dealing with Adaptive Gardening. The newsletter gives tips and advice on working in your yard as we get older. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter contact Toni Gattone at hello@tonigattone.com



Vinegarweed (*Trichostema lanceolatum*)

The annual herb of the mint family *Trichostema lanceolatum* is commonly known as vinegar weed because its foliage contains volatile oils that have a strong vinegar odor. Other common names for the plant include terpetine weed and camphor weed. The oils also have phytotoxic properties, which help vinegar weed compete by killing or injuring other plant species. Indians of northern California used the plant as a cold and fever remedy, a pain reliever, and a flea repellent. Vinegar weed is a wildflower bearing striking purple-blue flowers on short green stems. The numerous leaves are juicy and green and are covered in fluffy hairs. The plant is well adapted to its native range in California, where it thrives in dry, nutrient-poor, sun-baked clay soil. In hot weather the vinegar smell of the plant becomes intense as the oils in the tissues permeate the air. The plants of this genus are sometimes called blue curls, but this name may be more associated with the similar, but sweeter smelling, species [Trichostema lanatum](#). Vinegar weed is found on the west coast of North America from northern Mexico to southern Canada. Info from Calscape.org

Donna, shared a picture of some vinegar weed she found on a walk near the Orland Airport.



Master Gardener Business

The Master Gardeners will be at the Corning Olive Festival on Saturday October 6th. We need volunteers to help us out. We will be selling plants and books and giving away seeds. If you can't volunteer come by and say hello to us.

Volunteering at the plant clinic is great way to get volunteer hours and keep in touch with what is going on in the program. Writing an article for the newspaper is another way to get volunteer hours or continuing education hours. Research done for preparing articles can count as continuing education.