



UCCE Master Gardener's of Glenn County Newsgram

February 2019

Monarch Butterflies

Donna shared with me some information from the Thanksgiving butterfly count, it was not good news. The population of monarch butterflies overwintering in California has fallen to the lowest level ever recorded. Surveys done by volunteers with the Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count found only 28,429 butterflies, an 86% fall from the previous year—and a 99.4% decline from the number of monarchs in the state in the 1980s. To put this in perspective, for every 160 monarchs in the 80s, there is only one now, the rough equivalent of the city of Los Angeles shrinking to the town of Monterey.

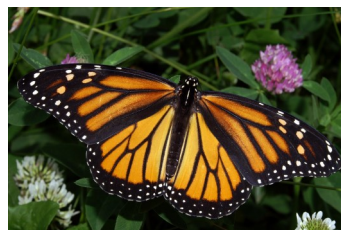
The Xerces Society has come up with a list of things we can all do to help the monarchs.

1. Plant native milkweed and nectar plants. Plant early blooming native plants for nectar.
2. Protect existing habitat.
3. Become an advocate to protect overwintering sites.
4. Reduce the use of pesticides, don't use systemic insecticides or buy plants that have been treated with systemic insecticides.

Here is a list of things to avoid doing to help monarchs.

1. Don't plant non-native tropical milkweed.
2. Don't rear monarchs as a conservation strategy.
3. Again reduce the use of pesticides and don't buy plants treated with neonicotinoids insecticides.

For more information visit the following website. https://xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/19-002_Western-monarchs-are-in-trouble_this-is-how-you-can-help_XercesSociety.pdf





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Continuing Education Hours.

We had a discussion at the January Meeting about activities and classes we could do to get our required 12 Hours of Continuing Education. A list of all the activities that we can do to get CE hours is found on our website. Once you sign in with your password the document is located on the left titled Continuing Education (CE) Guide.

Here are some classes I found. For the out of area classes we could car pool.

Turtle Bay in Redding

Saturday Feb 16—Indoor Propagation of Vegetable and Perennials

Saturday Feb 23—A walk with the horticulture manager

Haagen-Dazs Bee Haven at UC Davis

Planting Bee Gardens—Saturdays March 16 and April 6.

Bee Watching for Beginners—Saturday April 6

FairOaks Horticulture Center—Sacramento County Master Gardeners

Open Garden—Saturday February 9

Worm Composting—Saturday Feb 23

Backyard Composting 101—Friday March 5

Compost Workshop—Saturday March 23

Butte County Master Gardeners

Butte County Master Gardeners have posted their spring workshops on their website. You can see the workshops at the following link. <https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops/>

Field Trips

The Haagen-Dazs Honey Bee Haven at UC Davis offers guided tours between March and October. The Tuesday 10 AM tours are plant focused and are intended for Master Gardeners. Minimum of 5 and maximum of 30 people. I will put this on the agenda for the February Meeting and come up with date for a tour for us. I'm thinking April or May when lots of flowers in Bloom.



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Demonstration Garden

The aphids have been very active on the cabbage and broccoli. Peas are growing well.



Plant Clinic

Bob, had someone bring in these leaves from an avocado plant. He could not determine what was going on. If you know let us all know what is causing this problem on the leaves.



Leaf Front



Leaf Back

Master Gardener Business

Monthly meeting—February 6 at the office in Orland.

Don't forget to enter your CE and volunteer hours in VMS as you earn them. Its easy and saves lots of time in June when they are due.