



March 2013 University of California Cooperative Extension Riverside County

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How many MGs have this sign posted in their yards?



GARDEN VIEWS



A NOTE FROM OUR CHAIR ELECT



The Master Gardener Program offers many opportunities to learn and to serve as a volunteer. I am grateful to Lucy for asking me to serve as the Chair Elect and to the Board for its approval. As a gardener, there will always be someone who knows more than me. Too often in my gardening experience, I have tried to be a little too creative (or lazy) and have the stories to tell about what not to do. I call those learning experiences.

What I hope to accomplish in my new role is to make life easy for my fellow master gardeners, by using my talents in Word to create forms, applications, and other word processing tools. I believe that a good looking document has a better chance of getting read than a boring string of text. I have already systematized the process of creating the student quizzes, which can now be completed online and emailed back. All quizzes and answer keys are completed for the rest of the term.

Likewise, I created a template from Lucy's source document and have all the class PowerPoint presentations filled in with the quiz answers. All they need are the current events to be inserted.

My hope is that the next Chair Elect will be able to use these tools and techniques to have all quizzes created and PowerPoint answer presentations completed before the first class begins. That means there will be more time to be in the garden, and not in front of the computer.

Looking forward, I want to see new opportunities to learn from the best and teach the rest.

Lucy is an inspiration and there is such a wealth of knowledge within our organization.

I am constantly impressed with the quality of the people I meet and look forward to getting to know each other on a more personal level.

David Brandtman, Chair Elect



Entomology 101

Good Stuff gleaned from UC IPM Website
By Janet K. Hough, Master Gardener

Worldwide only about 1% or 10,000 species of insects are considered pests; it is estimated that about 1/6th of the world's food crops are consumed by insect pests. Yes, I went through our "MG Insect/Pest Class" but there are things I had forgotten, so I am sharing the basics below. This material has come in handy when I'm asked a pest question or need to research an unfamiliar insect.

Insects have 6 legs (specialized for jumping, walking, or grasping), 3 body parts (head, thorax, and abdomen), antenna, and wings (the vein pattern of wings can help classify the insect). Some insects are sessile (meaning they do not fly) others fly. All insects are cold blooded, which means that the temperature where they live determines their body temperature.

Many arthropods are not insects: pill-bugs, centipedes, millipedes, snails, slugs, spiders, ticks, and mites.

Common Insect Relatives:

Arachnids: mites, spiders, ticks. They have no antennae; no wings; two body regions (cephalothorax and abdomen); adults have 4 pairs of jointed legs.

Two families cause the majority of mite damage in California. The tetranychid family includes webspinning spider mites, red mites, and brown mites.

The eriophyid mite family includes rust, bud, and blister mites, which have 4 legs

Two species of spiders that are NOT BENEFICIAL predators are the black widow spider and the desert recluse spider – both of which are poisonous.

The house spider, non venomous, is frequently found indoors where it make cobwebs in corners of rooms.

Chilopods: centipedes – wormlike insect predators that have more flattened bodies than millipedes

Crustaceans: sowbugs and pillbugs

Diplopods: millipedes, are wormlike with a distinct head and rounded elongate body

Mollusks: snails and slugs. The brown garden snail and gray garden slug are the most bothersome pests in California gardens. Three tools for managing these pests: handpick them frequently, trap them under boards and flower pots positioned throughout the garden, using a 1:1 solution of household ammonia and water on them is another management tool.

Metamorphosis: the change in form and appearance from juvenile to adult insect. In some insect species metamorphosis is relatively indistinct = young grasshoppers, crickets, termites, and true bugs look like small versions of their adult counterparts. The immature stages of these insects are known as nymphs.

In other insects, metamorphosis is marked by 4 distinct stages (complete metamorphosis) = egg, larva (eating or destructive stage), pupa (an inactive stage), and adult (reproductive stage) = bees, ants, wasps, flies, beetles, butterflies, moths, and mosquitoes.

The females of many aphids and scales can reproduce in the absence of males, a process known as parthenogenesis.

A generation = the life cycle of development from an egg to the production of an egg by the subsequent adult stage.

Insect pests have two basic feeding patterns: chewing and sucking. Chewing may be done inside the stems and branches (boring), inside leaves (leafminers), or openly on leaves or other plant parts (defoliators and skeletonizers). There is visible loss of plant tissue. This is first step in identifying a specific pest.

Sucking pests include: leafhoppers, aphids, true bugs, scale insects, thrips, and whiteflies. Sucking insects pierce plants with a prob-like device, known as a stylet.

All insects known to science are grouped into about 30 categories called orders. The most important plant-feeding pest insects in the garden are found in the orders of Coleoptera (beetles, weevils), Hemiptera (true bugs), Homoptera (leafhoppers, aphids, scales, whiteflies), Hymenoptera (bees, wasps, ants, etc.) and Lepidoptera (butterflies, moths).

When attempting to identify a plant feeding "insect" it is important to know the identity of the plant on which the insect was found. Many insects are quite host specific, i.e. the tomato hornworm occurs only on tomatoes.

Common insects in the home and garden:

COLEOPTERA: Beetles and weevils; exhibit complete metamorphosis; have chewing mouthparts. Common pests in California gardens include: flea beetles, wireworms, cucumber beetles, vegetable weevils, & green fruit beetles.

DERMAPTERA: Earwigs; exhibit gradual metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces; can be pests or beneficial – they are effective predators of aphids, but they are pests in the vegetable garden. Earwigs can be trapped in rolled up newspaper or in tuna cans filled with vegetable oil or bacon fat.

DIPTERA: Flies, mosquitoes, gnats, midges; complete metamorphosis; mouthparts: larvae = chewing or mouth hooks; adults piercing or sponging; specific pests include – cabbage maggot that infests roots; seedcorn maggot that damages seeds and germinating seedling of many vegetables; and onion maggot that attacks bulbs of onions, leeks, and garlic.

Other important fly pests include carrot rust fly, walnut husk fly, apple maggot, fruit flies, and leafminers.

HEMIPTERA: True bugs; gradual metamorphosis; piercing-sucking, nymphs are smaller versions of adults, except nymphs lack wings until about half-grown; some are important beneficial in the garden, including assassin bugs, damsel bugs, minute pirate bugs, and certain stink bugs.

HOMOPTERA: Aphids, scales, leafhoppers, cicada, whiteflies, mealybugs; gradual metamorphosis; sucking mouthpieces; aphids have numerous generations in a single year in California; aphids can be controlled by hosing them off with jets of water; by soap solution sprays, and by naturally recurring predators such as lady beetles, lacewing larvae and parasitic wasps. Leafhoppers feed on undersides of leaves and transmit viruses and other diseases. Scale insects are serious pests of fruit, nut trees and grapevines.

HYMENOPTERA: Bees, wasps, ants, sawflies; complete metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces; only females can sting;

ISOPTERA: Termites, gradual metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces; small soft-bodied insects; termite colonies can occur in the ground or in wood; two major types in California are subterranean termites and drywood.

LEPIDOPTERA: Moths, butterflies; complete metamorphosis; larvae=chewing, adults=sucking; codding moth larvae are the most serous caterpillar pest of apples, pears, and walnuts in California. Adults are not pests. You may want to read an article by Jim Bethke for more information: jbethke@ucanr.edu

NEUROPTERA: Lacewings, actlions; complete metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces; adults have 2 pairs of membranous wings; lacewing larvae are predators of aphids and mites; antlions feed on ants and other insects.

ODONATA: Damselflies, dragonflies; gradual metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces; nymphs are aquatic; adults can fly;

ORTHOPTERA: Grasshoppers, locusts, crickets, mantids, cockroaches; gradual metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces;

SIPHONAPTERA: Fleas; complete metamorphosis; sucking mouthpieces; many fleas are host-specific; fleas are important vectors of disease (bubonic plague, endemic typhus).

THYSANOPTERA: Thrips; gradual metamorphosis; sucking mouthpieces; some species of thrips are beneficial feeding on mites and other insects; insecticide treatment are not usually recommended in home gardens; thrips attach citrus. Raspberries, grapes, and numerous vegetables and may transmit diseases.

THYSANURA: Silverfish and firebrats; gradual metamorphosis; chewing mouthpieces; adults have not wings; are household pests that feed on starchy substances.

Can you name me?



UCCE Riverside County MASTER GARDENER Advisory Board Members and Coordinators

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Reps.	

Garden View

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG/>

Facebook: Google UCCE Riverside Master Gardeners

The *Garden Views* newsletter is published monthly, September through June, by UC Cooperative Extension, Riverside County, Master Gardeners. All reporters are Master Gardeners or Master Gardeners-in-training.

Editor: Janet K. Hough
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Marco Baldi	Lucy Heyming	Beverley Scray
Lynn Bailey	Yvonne Hemenway	Jonathan Simper
Beatrice Etchison	Pat Robertson	Linda Sun
Frank Heyming	Stephanie Pocock	

Moving?

Please let us know when you change your address, phone number or email. Contact Stephanie Pocock, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 951.683.6491 x 230 or sapocock@ucanr.edu. She will make sure the information gets changed on the membership roster so you will not miss out on newsletters and emails. Thanks!

To simplify information, trade names have been used. No endorsements of name products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.



Stephanie's Corner

The end of January marked five years for me as the UC Cooperative Extension, Riverside County, Volunteer Services Coordinator, for the Master Gardener Program. It has been challenging, informative, and I have to admit it fun, to have the opportunity to get to know you a little better, work with you, and be a part of the MGP. Thank you for your continued support.

The Master Gardener Trainees in the desert will graduate this month and have the honor of being in the first Master Gardener training class in the desert. I know you will get to know them because they are active and informed and many have already completed their initial 50 volunteer hours. The plans are being laid for the next training class because the demand is there and volunteer opportunities seem to keep appearing. This first class would not have been possible without the help of Master Gardeners living in the desert, who made the drive and took the class in Riverside and transferees from California and Colorado who now live in the desert. I love to name names so here they are: Chris Lyman who was at every training class and helped do everything, Jackie Smith who began the Desert Phone Squad and is a rep for the MG Advisory Board, Janna Calkins who helped everywhere she could and will be at the MG Advisory Board meetings as a desert rep and Suzanne Jarvinen who went to I think almost every training class and helps with the phone squad, and is the Desert Gold Miner. Mike Henry, not only taught two of the training classes, he also attended most of the training classes to give his support and knowledge and Lucy Heyming made the trip a few times to help train and support the class. All of them helped form the DAC, the desert area mini MG Advisory Board; they will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 10 am-12pm, at the UCCE office in Indio and you are welcome to attend, even if you do not live in the desert area of the county.

Opportunities throughout the county are available on each of the boards, think about how you could contribute and let me, Lucy Heyming or Chris Lyman know which position you would like to fill, you knew I'd ask didn't you?? Jump on f o r a f u n r i d e !

April will be proclaimed Master Gardener month in the County of Riverside. Janet Hough deserves the thanks for getting the proclamation begun. On March 26th at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors, the proclamation will be presented to Eta Takele our County Director, you all are welcome to attend.

MASTER GARDENER EVENTS CALENDAR

V = Volunteer Hours

CE = Continuing Education Hours; CEmg=Master Gardeners ONLY

SE = Social Event

2013 MARCH

2	Homemade Soup & Bread + Plant Exchange, UCRBG Conference Center	11:00 am - 1:30 pm	SE
2	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, Corona Public Library, 650 South Main Street, Corona	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
2	Coachella Valley Wildflower Festival, Info. Table, Santa Rosa National Monument Visitor Center, 51-500 Highway 74, Palm Desert	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	V
8	Riverside Training Class, WMWD, "Backyard Orchard Culture"	9:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE
9	Visit to the Maloof Garden, 5131 Carnelian St., Alta Loma, 91701 (UCRBG hosted)	9:30 am - 12:00 noon	CE
9	WMWD Garden Docent Day	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	V
9	WMWD Garden Workshop: "Companion Planting in the Vegetable Garden"	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE
12	UCR Botanic Garden Volunteer Orientation	9:00 am - 11:00 am	V
13	Heritage House Garden Work Day	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
13	CVWD Free Waterwise Landscape Workshop, Steve Robbins Administration Bldg., 75515 Govey Lane, East Palm Desert	6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	CE
14	MG Veterans Meeting, WMWD. Topic: "Heritage Roses & Their Care"	6:30 pm - 8:45 pm	CE
16	IE Garden Friendly Sale, Home Depot Temecula. Information Table.	8:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
16	Heritage House Garden Work Day	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
20	MG Advisory Board Meeting, UC Extension Office Moreno Valley	7:00 pm- 9:00 pm	V
22	Riverside Training Class, WMWD, "Plant Pathology"	9:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE
27	Heritage House Garden Work Day	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
27	10th Annual Senior Conference, Janet Goeske Senior Center, Information Table	8:00 am - 12:30 pm	V
28	MG Veteran's Lunch 'n Learn, WMWD. Topic: Planting Trees / Environment	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	CE
30	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, City of San Jacinto Community Center, 625 So. Pico Avenue, 92583	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
30-31	Hemenway Annual Garden Tour and Sale, 5890 Grinnell Dr., Riverside, 92509	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	CE

March Birthdays



Teri Basso
 Charles Townsend
 David Peel
 Dennis Ponsor
 Ellynn Smith
 Gail Foyle
 Gloria O'Hair
 Jorge Velez
 Lisha Astorga

Lynn Bailey
 Marcee Roberts
 Marjorie Corzine
 Mary Hawkins
 Maureen Brooks
 Nanci Nelson
 Pat Robertson
 Richard Skwara
 Theresa Basso



MASTER GARDENER EVENTS CALENDAR

V = Volunteer Hours

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2013 APRIL

6	UCR BG Spring Plant Sale, UCR Botanic Gardens	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	V
7	UCR BG Spring Plant Sale, UCR Botanic Gardens	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	V
9	UCR Botanic Garden Volunteer Orientation, UCR Botanic Garden	9:00 am - 11:00 am	V
10	Heritage House Garden Work Day, Museum Grounds	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
11	Santa Ana Riverside Watershed Conference , Costa Mesa	8:00 am- 5:00 pm	CE
11	Veterans Meeting. Topic TBA	6:30 pm - 8:45 pm	CE
12	Riverside Training Class, WMWD, "Citrus"	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	CE
	IE Garden Friendly Sale, Home Depot, 251000 Madison Ave., Murrieta.		
13	Information Table.	8 am - 5:00 pm	V
	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, Norton Younglove Community Center,		
13	459 Center Street, Riverside, 92507	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
13	WMWD Workshop: "Butterfly Friendly Garden", E. 450 Alessandro Blvd., Riverside, 92508	11:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
13	"Feng Shu Your Garden", UCRBG, \$25 Friends, \$30 non-members	9:30 am - 12:00 noon	CE
14	8th Annual Desert Garden Tour, Palm Springs	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	CE
17	MG Advisory Board Meeting, UC Extension Office	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	V
20	Inland Empire Garden Friendly Sale: Eastvale Home Depot, Information Table.	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	V
20	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, City of Indian Wells Council Chambers, 44-950 El Dorado Drive, 92210	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
20	Heritage House Garden Work Day	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	V
21	ECO-Friendly/Wood Streets Green Team 3rd Annual Tour. Riverside City College Community Garden, 4800 Magnolia Ave. Information Table.	11:00 am - 2:00 pm	V
22	WMWD Earth Night in the Garden, Information Table	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm	V
24	Heritage House Garden Work Day	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	V
25	Lunch 'n Learn. Topic TBA	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	CE
26	Riverside Training Class, "Landscape Design & Waterwise Gardens"	9:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE
27	IE Garden Friendly Sale Corona Home Depot, 490 McKinley Street. Information Table.	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	V
27	IE Garden Friendly Sale, Home Depot, 3400 West Florida Avenue, Hemet. Information Table.	8:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
27	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, Norton Younglove Senior Center, 908 Park Ave., Calimesa, 92320.	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE

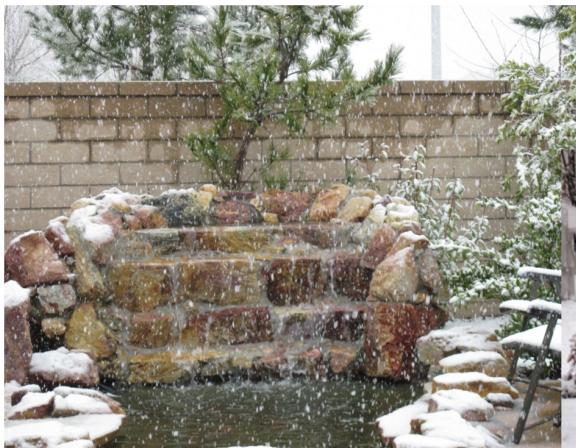
ANSWERS TO "Name that Insect" from page 3

1st Insect = leafhopper

2nd Insect = sawfly

MG trainee Rosemary Ashcroft of Beaumont

shares pictures of our California snowfall from her yard on 2/8/13

**2013 MAY**

4	Garden Friendly Sale, Home Depot, 12255 Pigeon Pass Rd., Moreno Valley. Information Table.	8:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
4	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, Stratton Center @ Bordwell Park, 2008 Martin Luther King Blvd., Riverside	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
8	Heritage House Garden Workday	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
10	Riverside Training Class, WMWD. "Woody Landscape Plants"	:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE
11	Free Backyard Composting Workshop, City of Murrieta Public Library, Eight Town Square, Murrieta.	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	CE
11	Free WMWD Workshop. "Herb Gardening", E. 450 Alessandro Blvd., Riverside	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE
11	Free WMWD Workshop. "Heirloom Seeds", E. 450 Alessandro Blvd. Riverside	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	CE
14	UCR Botanic Garden Volunteer Orientation, UCR Garden	9:00 am - 11:00 am	V
15	Advisory Board Meeting, UC Extension Office Moreno Valley	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	V
18	IE Garden Friendly Sale, Home Depot, 3323 Madison St., Riverside, 92504. Information Table.	8:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
18	Heritage House Garden Workday	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
22	Heritage House Garden Workday	9:00 am - 12:00 noon	V
23	Lunch n' Learn. WMWD. Topic: TBA	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	CE
24	Riverside Training Class. WMWD. "Avocados & Subtropical Plants"	9:00 am - 12:30 pm	CE

Blue Beauties at the WMWD Garden

By Pat Robertson, Master Gardener

What fun! Let's set up the scene. It's early February, and rosy-cheeked students sip on steamy cups of coffee and hot chocolate, gaze at distant snow-capped mountain peaks, and sit on cold and damp concrete benches, bottoms warmed by cozy blankets. Sounds like Switzerland, you ask? Nah, sounds more like Riverside to me.

On this cold morning, more than 80 hearty folks attended a class presented by MG Dennis Ponzor on growing blueberries in the Inland Empire. The class was held at the Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) Demonstration Garden. Master Gardeners is entering its second year as garden partners with WMWD by providing ongoing free community garden education in a serene and natural setting.

Today's topic couldn't be more appropriate. In 2011, our *Garden Views* newsletter featured two articles on growing blueberries (written by Sean Nealon in 3/11 and Pat Hughes in 4/11). That we are having our own MG - sponsored class in 2013 reflects the fruit's popularity.

This is not a fruit for the impatient or timid gardener. It may take two to three years before you get "good fruit." And, it can take some "good coin" to buy your plants - a luxury perhaps - but the benefits of growing these heavenly blue healthy fruits in our semi-arid climate surely outweigh the cost.

Dennis and his wife Janice, also an MG (both in the class of 2011) began growing blueberries after hearing a talk by Tom Spellman while they were in training. Having been gardening since he was a kid, Dennis was intrigued and decided he wanted blueberries over his morning oatmeal. And what do you know, after two years, the Ponzors could stroll out to their yard and pick a few whenever they liked. Key points in Dennis's talk:

- * Although we used to think of blueberries as only grown in the north, over the years, hybrids have resulted in low chill types compatible with southern environments. [250 – 450 hours of temperatures less than 45 degrees F.]
- * In Riverside County "Southern Highbush" varieties, like Pink Lemonade, Emerald, Sunshine Blue, Southmoon, Misty, Jewel, Cape Fear, Sharp Blue and Jubilee do well.
- * It's best to grow blueberries in containers, not in the ground. Riverside county soil is too alkaline and blueberries *love* acid. In containers, you can prepare the soil and control the pH level giving the plants all the nutrients they need. If you insist on planting your blueberry bushes in the ground, test your soil with a simple tool from the hardware store. Its multi-purpose dual prongs measure fertility, moisture, pH, and sunlight.
- * Plant blueberries in full sun; Blueberries like damp soil, but not wet roots.

See these sites for more information -<http://www.davewilson.com/homegrown/promotion/blueberries.html>
<http://fruitsandnuts.ucdavis.edu/datastore/?ds=391&reportnumber=612&catcol=2806&categorysearch=Blueberry>

Dennis Ponzor, MG



Participants bundled for blueberry workshop



Future Blueberries

Affordable Gardener Gifts

By Lynn Bailey, Master Gardener

Well, it's that time of year again. No - not tax time, but that is here as well. I am talking about commonly noted occasions when we need to come up with a gift for our gardening friends. Somehow birthdays seem to come when the budget is tight - but I have found two items that might make your gift buying easier. I found the items on a website www.uncommongoods.com. They are located under the "garden gifts" tab. Both items are under \$20 and can make a great gift for your gardening friend (or for yourself when someone asks what you need).

The **Rhino Folding Stool** is a handy item that can be used for sitting or standing and costs \$17.50. It folds flat for easy storage, and is available in black or bright green so you can find where you left it. It can hold up to 300 pounds, so is easily a great gift for gardeners of any age and size.

The second item is called a **Root Cup**. It is designed to help start cuttings easily. The opaque cup is filled with water allowing for roots to be protected from sunlight. The leaves of the cutting are kept on top of the cup, where they can enjoy the sunlight and be kept dry from the water below. This item is made in California by a company who provides employment to people with disabilities. Cost for the root cup is \$14 and it is dishwasher safe.

Best wishes to you all as we look forward to spring!

Rhino Folding Stool



Root Cup



MGs represent the University of California System and use information that is based on and verified by UC experts. Insects and mites must feed to survive and reproduce; evidence of their feeding will nearly always remain on the plant even after the insect or mite is gone. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy = integrates several control methods such as growing resistant varieties of plants, cultural practices, biological controls and use of least-toxic pesticides. An IPM strategy encourages methods that provide long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems with minimum impact on human health, the environment, and non-target organisms.

Principle components of an IPM program are:

Pest identification (pathogen, insect, weed)

Methods for detecting, monitoring, and predicting pest outbreaks

Knowledge of the biology of the pest and its ecological interactions with hosts, natural enemies, and competitors

Ecologically sound methods of preventing or controlling pests

MGs are encouraged to become more familiar with the IPM website: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>



Garden Views

Veteran MG Classes:

Evenings: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm, WMWD

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| March 14, 2013 | Heritage Roses & Their Care |
| April 11, 2013 | Topic TBA |
| May 9, 2013 | Topic TBS |



Lunch n' Learn: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, WMWD

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| March 28, 2013 | Tree Planting / Environment |
| April 25, 2013 | Topic TBA |
| May 23, 2013 | Topic TBA |



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