Contents

Garden Guide

- 4 Microclimate
- 5 Map: Sunset Plant Climate Zones for Butte County and the Surrounding Area
- 6 Sustainable Gardening Practices
- 7 More Steps to Backyard Sustainability
- 7 Demonstration Gardens
- 8 Integrated Pest Management
- 10 Attracting Pollinators
- 11 Native Plants
- 12 Butte County All-Stars
- 14 Soil Basics
- 15 How to Use Mulch
- 16 Compost and Organic Fertilizers
- 18 Control of Weeds and Invasive Plants

Appendix

- 139 How to Prune Trees
- 140 Chico Area Planting Guide for Vegetables
- 142 Foothill Planting Guide for Vegetables
- 144 Fruit Tree Care and Maintenance
- 147 Resistance/Susceptibility to Fruit Tree Diseases
- 148 Common Garden Pests
- 150 Beneficial Insects

Credits and Contributors

Inside back cover

Three-Year Garden Journal

with tips, advice, and information for each season

Spring

- 20 Butte County Spring Overview
- 22 March in the Garden
- 24 How Do You Want Your Garden to Look?
- 26 Aphids and Ants
- 28 Determinate vs. Indeterminate Tomatoes
- 28 Disease-Resistant Tomatoes
- 30 April in the Garden
- 32 Fire Blight
- 34 Citrus Care
- 36 Spring-Blooming Native Plants
- 38 May in the Garden
- 40 Lawn Toadstools and Fungi
- 42 Be Bee Friendly!
- 44 Reduce Lawn Work/Water/ Time
- 46 Leaf-Sucking Whiteflies
- 48 Dividing Overcrowded Bearded Iris

Summer

- 50 Butte County Summer Overview
- 52 June in the Garden
- 54 How to Get an Army of Beneficial Insects to Protect Your Garden
- 56 Oak Root Fungus (Armillaria mellea)
- 58 Hornworms
- 60 July in the Garden
- 62 Blossom End Rot
- 62 Pruning Tomato Plants
- 64 Mid-Summer Gardening
- 66 Sharing the Garden with Birds
- 68 August in the Garden
- 70 Summer Pruning of Fruit Trees and Berry Vines
- 72 Spider Mites
- 74 Dogs in the Garden
- 76 Oaks in the Home Landscape
- 78 Heritage Almond Orchard on the Midway

Fall

- 80 Butte County Fall Overview
- 82 September in the Garden
- 84 Sheet Compost Your Lawn Away
- 86 Winter Vegetable Garden Planning
- 88 Small Animal Pests
- 90 October in the Garden
- 92 Understanding Bulbs
- 94 Native Spring-Blooming Bulbs
- 96 Pruning Mature Trees
- 98 Fall Planting for Butterflies and Bees
- 100 November in the Garden
- 102 Persimmons
- 104 Make Room for Hedgerows!
- 106 Peach Leaf Curl and Shot Hole Disease

Winter

- 110 Butte County Winter Overview
- 112 December in the Garden
- 114 Winter-Blooming Native Plants
- 116 Hellebores for Winter and Spring Color
- 118 Oak Galls
- 120 Protecting Plants from Frost
- 122 January in the Garden
- 124 Camellia Blossoms Brighten the Winter Garden
- 126 Harvesting the Rain
- 128 Plum Leaf Curl
- 130 February in the Garden
- 132 Bee-Friendly Winter Gardening
- 134 Seed Saving for the Garden
- 136 Lady Beetles, AKA Ladybugs
- 138 Mistletoe