

Gardening Knowledge on the Internet

By Cynthia Zimmerman

"If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it."

Margaret Fuller (1810 – 1850, Journalist)

I don't imagine there is a single one of us that is sorry to see 2020 depart as we welcome 2021. We had to deal with the uncertainties of Covid-19 and the shut-down accompanying it; something we never imagined. Many turned to their gardens for occupation, inspiration and well-being. I for one could not spend time outdoors because of the poor air quality and the heat, at least not until October. In place of actual time in the garden, I was on my computer; searching, reading, attending webinars, and visiting gardens I'll never see in person. In the process, I found so many resources I had no idea existed. If I listed them all here, it would take many pages. Instead, I thought I'd share just a few that I have found very interesting and that might be helpful to you.

Though listed in a previous article I wrote, I think it's worth mentioning again.

The International Society of Arboriculture website: <https://www.isa-arbor.com/For-the-Public>
Approved by UC ANR, you not only can find a local arborist but also link to the website for <https://www.treesaregood.org/> where you'll find everything from a tree owner's manual to tree selection, planting and pruning.

If you are trying to identify a "bug" in your garden, you might find **BugGuide** helpful. This website provides identification, images and information for insects, spiders and their kin for the United States and Canada. <https://bugguide.net/node/view/15740> The great pictures are what I found most helpful.

Are you interested in native California plants or drought tolerant plants? Then I think you would like the website for **California Native Plant Society** <https://calscape.org/> Here you will see all the California native plants, plus you can actually put in your address or location to get a list of the plants that are native to your area of California. Great pictures and information for each plant listed.

Have you ever visited **Water-wise Gardening Fresno Region** at <http://fresnogardening.org/> ? Take a **Virtual Garden Tour** or visit the **Garden Gallery** for a Fresno Region landscape inspiration. Click "Add to My List" to save a favorite plant or garden. Be sure to check out **Resources** for design and maintenance help. You'll also find great pictures of plants and information under the Featured Landscape Ideas section for gardens, plants, and lawn alternatives.

Last but not least, check out these UCANR internet publications that are free to the public. All you need to do is subscribe on the websites.

Seasonal Landscape IPM Management Checklist

<https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/landscapechecklist/> This is a monthly guide to help gardeners

use integrated pest management (IPM) to avoid and manage common pests. By selecting your county and elevation, the list is specific to your location. You can even choose to have the list automatically sent to your email at the first of each month.

The following UCANR publications are sent out every 3 to 4 months to your email. Slightly different in format, the information is similar on the two publications with one geared a bit more for the professionals.

Pests in the Urban Landscape

<https://ucanr.edu/blogs/ucipmurbanpests/> presents home, landscape, and structural pest news from the UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program.

Green Bulletin Newsletter

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/greenbulletin/index.html> focuses on specific practices and information that landscape and structural pest management professionals can incorporate into their daily work to manage pests effectively while reducing pesticide runoff and other environmental problems.

It is my hope that you find something useful to you as a gardener in the above information as we move into 2021 with the hope of getting back to all we've missed in 2020. I believe that our purpose as Master Gardeners and my purpose in writing the Helpline Hot Topic are summed up in the following quote.

"In vain have you acquired knowledge if you have not imparted it to others."
Deuteronomy Rabbah

