



A Garden Runs Through It

May 2022

Whether it's a vegetable garden, houseplants or a landscape...

UCCE Master Gardener Program, Colusa County
County Director, Franz Niederholzer

UC Cooperative Extension,
Colusa County

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In This Issue

- **Ornamental Plant of the Month**— Bees and Native Pollinators
- **Edible Plant of the Month**— Basil
- **Recipe of the Month**— Tandoori Chicken
- **Water-wise tips**
- **Garden Guide**
- **Safety Notes**



Upcoming events



May
Williams Flea Market
Friday May 13, 10 am
Williams, across from the library



Happy Mother's Day

June
Williams Flea Market
Friday June 10, 10 am
Williams, across from the library

Colusa County Fair
June 9—12

Advice to Grow by ... Ask Us!





GIVING DAY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

24 hours to support the programs you care about!

MAY 19-20, 2022 | NOON TO NOON
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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Ornamental Plant of the Month

BEES AND NATIVE POLLINATORS BEE KEY TO EDIBLE LANDSCAPING

Do you start dancing when bees are swarming around your head, trying to crawl into your hair or using your tools/ clothing as a landing strip? You do know however, the best thing to do is stand still, right? Until the little “menace” has decided to go elsewhere.....and to think there are many little so called menaces out there, who like bees are actually FRIENDS to our gardens and us! Some years back, UC Berkeley used our place as a study to see how many various NATIVE pollinators we had on our property and came up with 27! Pollinators are so important for our edible and non-edible landscaping. In fact, the more you can entice these critters. the better production you will have.

Here is a short list of pollinators, our friends: honeybees, native bees (who are solitary little creatures), bumble bees, carpenter bees, wasps, leaf-cutter bees, butterflies, flies, moths, birds, bats, wind, we humans, and animals!

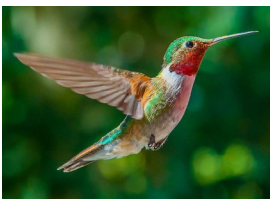
Carpenter Bees and Teddy Bear Bees: Recently we were cutting an old dead tree limb away and we came upon a carpenter bee nest inside the dead wood. It was so interesting. The males are called Teddy Bears and are rather cuddly in appearance while females are a shiny black.

Hummingbirds and Hummingbird Moths. Are they related? Absolutely not. Hummingbirds or as I like to refer to them as “hummers” are so fun to watch. Many of you surely have feeders in your gardens to observe them. We have many hummers in our garden, but no feeders. We try to landscape in a way to entice them into our garden naturally, as well as everything else on the pollinator list. Hummingbird moths or “Sphinx moths” are so interesting to watch as well and make a strange sort of noise as they busily flap their wings as fast as can be. We find them especially active in the evenings during the summer months, flying from flower to flower. Hummingbirds are 3-5” long while the moth is about 2” long.

Leaf-cutter Bees cut circular pieces leaves and uses the foliage to construct a “nursery chamber”. The female will place a bit of pollen and nectar along with her egg, rolling it all up to look like a cigar. Leafcutter “nests” can be built by taking a block of wood and drilling holes into it.

Mother Nature needs a little help occasionally to make our gardens, fruit trees, orchards, etc successful producers. Be sure to add insectary plants for beneficials and pollinators. Master Gardeners will be able to assist to answer questions concerning the right plants for this purpose, or you can reach me personally at rancherannie@gmail.com. Best of luck!

PS. Concerning Hummingbirds. Be sure to keep feeders going as well as cleaned throughout the winter, that’s when they really need those extra calories. Ana’s hummingbirds are native/do not migrate, but many other species will stop to feed while they are migrating.



All photos are “creative commons”

Submitted by Annelie Lauwerijssen

Consejos Que Le Ayudarán....¡Pregúntenos!

Programa Jardinero

Maestro de UC

En el Mercado de Pulgas Williams, 10 am de mediodia.

**8 de Abril, 13 de Mayo, 10 de Junio, 8 de Julio, 12 de Agosto,
9 de Septiembre, 14 de Octubre**



UNIVERSIDAD DE CALIFORNIA
Agricultura y Recursos Naturales

■ Programa Maestro de Jardinero UC

Advice To Grow By....Ask Us!

UC Master

Gardener Program

At the Williams Flea Market, 10 am to noon.

April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

■ UC Master Gardener Program

Edible Plant of the Month

BASIL – keep it growing all summer long!!

Everyone knows what a flavor booster a few basil leaves can be for a caprese salad, summer pasta dish, etc. Having it on hand for months at a time is a fairly easy task if you prune it properly and give it plenty of water and sun!! Even our valley heat won't set this plant back as long as you care for it properly.

My favorite place to get a fresh pot of basil is at Trader Joe's. They have these wonderful lush pots available most of the year for only three or four dollars. When you pay nearly that much for a small packet of basil at the grocery that's usually past its prime when you need it, you will know this plant can keep on delivering for months. Do remember that basil is fairly tender. Handle carefully so that the plant doesn't get bruised when you put it in a larger pot. If you choose to separate out the tiny undeveloped shoots you may damage the entire plant and limit your success.

Basil needs a bit of balanced fertilizer every 6-8 weeks, plenty of water, and a "good" proper haircut – we are now at the crux of the long life situation. The leaves at the bottom of the plant are normally the largest and a likely target. If you pick these power house cuties off you are signaling the plant to get busy to set flowers and end the life cycle of the plant. There goes your 3 or 4 dollars in a quick snip. You must do just the opposite and harvest the tops of the plant to get it to be bushy and productive all summer. Don't prune the plant until it is at least 6 inches tall. Looking along the upright growth you will see tiny leaves on the stem above a leaf cluster. Always cut just **above** those "tiny" leaves so the plant will branch out and put on fresh top growth.

I always put the pot of basil near the kitchen door. Firstly, so I can keep an eye out for pests like snails and secondly, so I remember to prune it regularly. If you don't have anything to use the basil for at the time it's ready for a haircut, simply put it in a glass of water in the kitchen window and enjoy a blast of green fragrance. If left in the water too long you will actually end up with a new plant - and it's free.



All photos are "creative commons"

Submitted by Cynthia White

Water Conservation in Your Garden & Landscape

Checklist

Water during the cool parts of the day.

Watering before 8 a.m. reduces evaporation and interference from wind; helps prevent the growth of fungus.

Don't water the gutter & sidewalk

Position your sprinklers in such a way that water lands on your lawn or garden, not on concrete, where it does no good. Avoid watering on windy days when much of your water may be carried off before it ever hits the ground.

Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings.

Leaks outside the house may not seem as unbearable, however they can be just as wasteful as leaks in the house; even the smallest drip from a worn washer can waste 50 or more gallons of water a day.

Water your lawn only when it needs it.

Watering frequently can be very wasteful as it doesn't allow for cool spells or rainfall that can reduce the need for watering. A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on some grass. It doesn't need water if the grass springs back up when you move. Grass roots should be deeper than 1" and will grow deeper if they need moisture;

2-4 " depth ideal.

Place a layer of mulch around trees and plants.

A layer of mulch will slow the evaporation of moisture.

Plant drought-resistant trees and plants.

There are many beautiful trees and plants that thrive with far less watering than other species.

Use a broom to clean driveways, sidewalks and steps.

Using a hose to push around a few leaves and scraps of paper can waste hundreds and hundreds of gallons of water; 150 gallon each time.

Don't run the hose while washing your car.

Soap down your car with a pail of soapy water; then use a hose with a nozzle to rinse.

Save 150 gallon each washing.

Teach your children that your hose and sprinklers are not toys.

There are a few things more cheerful than the sound of happy children playing under a hose or sprinkler on a hot day. Unfortunately, there are also few things more wasteful of precious water.

Check sprinkler and drip systems for missing heads, holes, detached lines, and for the proper placement of drip emitters.

Our 2 and 4 legged family can easily wreck havoc with sprinkler system.

Recipe of the Month

Tandoori Chicken

1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 tablespoon ground coriander
1 tablespoon smoked paprika
1/2 teaspoon ground cayenne
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 lemon, zested and juiced
1/2 cup yogurt
2 tablespoons minced garlic
2 tablespoons grated ginger root
1 (3 to 4 pound) chicken, cut into 8 pieces

Prepared grits or rice pilaf or tabouli salad or warmed pita bread
Garnishes of sliced green onions, cilantro leaves, and mint
Also good with tzatziki sauce!

Preheat a grill to high. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

In a medium-sized bowl, mix together the cumin, coriander, paprika, cayenne, salt, pepper, to taste, lemon juice, lemon zest, yogurt, garlic and ginger root until well incorporated.

Add chicken and evenly cover with marinade.

Cover with plastic wrap refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours or overnight.

Remove the chicken from the marinade and put on the grill

OR on a rack over a parchment lined sheet pan if using the oven.

Cook for 6 to 7 minutes on each side, turning frequently and basting with marinade.

Lower grill heat to low and cover with lid OR reduce oven temp to 300-325. Stop basting!

Continue to cook until the chicken is cooked through, about 18 to 20 minutes.

Put the grits or pilaf on a serving platter, pass pita triangles separately.

Remove the chicken from the grill or oven and serve on top of the grits, pilaf, or tabouli. Pass pitas separately.

Pass garnishes as desired.



All photos are “creative commons”

See next page for more...

Recipe continued...

Tzatziki Sauce

1 cup plain Greek yogurt

1/2 cup peeled, seeded, and finely diced cucumbers that have been salted and drained

1 tablespoon fresh mint or dill, minced

2 tablespoons lemon juice (and the zest if you like it lemony!)

2-3 cloves of garlic, grated (start with 1 and see how strong you like it!)

Blend everything together, taste for salt, let sit to blend flavors in the fridge.

Tabouli Salad

Soften bulgur wheat with boiling water to cover, cover and let sit 20-30 min,

You want the grains to be softened, and still chewy, but not soggy! Drain well, cool.

Combine lots of chopped parsley, chopped mint and minced red onion or scallions

Toss with cooled wheat and dress with olive oil and lemon juice (and zest!)

White balsamic vinegar is also tasty!

Season well with salt.

You can add just about anything else you want to the salad.

Think about different textures...

cucumbers, halved cherry tomatoes, sliced celery, grated carrot, or radishes...

You can also do this with large grain couscous or buy a packaged mix at the grocery store!

Submitted by Penny Walgenbach

Don't forget our

Podcast!

“A Garden Runs Through It”

Hosted by

Radiocolusa.com



Bark Beetles

Bark beetles are common pests of many trees, but some of the most damaging attacks occur on pines and other conifers.

Trees already stressed by drought, disease, or mechanical damage are most likely to suffer. Insecticides won't save heavily infested trees. Instead, promptly remove infested trees and protect healthy ones with proper care.



California fivespined ips, also called pine engraver.

Identifying bark beetles and their damage.

- Adults are small, dark, cylindrical insects about the size of a grain of rice; they can fly from tree to tree.
- Larvae are tiny grubs that feed beneath bark on trunks and branches.
- Infested trunks and branches have many tiny holes where beetles have bored in or emerged. Tree sap or dust from boring can exude from holes.
- If you peel back bark on infested trees, you may see galleries (tunnels) from adult and/or larval mining.
- Bark beetles in California include western pine beetles on ponderosa pine; mountain pine beetles on lodgepole and sugar pines; and engraver beetles on Monterey, pinyon, and other pines.
- Shothole borers and elm bark beetles attack some broadleaf trees.



Egg gallery and larval mines of European elm bark beetle.

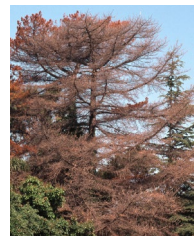
Credit: CS Koehler

Bark beetles injure trees by disrupting the flow of nutrients.

- Adults and larvae feed in the area of the inner bark that transports nutrients through the tree.
- Needles turn yellow and drop off from infested trees.
- Infested trees can die in one season, causing limb drop and increased fire hazards.

Keep trees healthy to reduce attacks.

- With low to moderate numbers of beetles, healthy trees defend themselves by releasing sap into holes before female adult beetles can lay eggs.
- Drought, disease, and injuries reduce a tree's ability to combat invasions.
- When possible, properly irrigate drought-stressed trees.
- Thin groups of trees or stands to keep remaining trees vigorous. Dense stands favor beetle attack.
- Avoid compacting soil and injuring roots and trunks during activities such as construction.



Monterey pine killed by engraver beetles.

Remove severely infested trees.

- Regularly inspect your trees for signs of bark beetle invasions. Signs include dust from boring, small holes exuding sap, and tree crown decline.
- Promptly remove infested trees and destroy infested material by chipping or solarizing to prevent emerging beetles from attacking healthy trees.
- Solarize infested wood by tightly wrapping small piles in thick (10 mil) clear plastic and leaving them in the sun for several months.

What about pesticides?

- Limit insecticide use (sprayed or systemic) to protecting healthy trees and combine with other nonchemical methods to improve tree defense.
- Insecticides are most effective when applied before adults land on the tree.
- Insecticides won't save heavily infested trees because they have limited impact on bark beetles inside the tree.
- Effective insecticides for bark beetles are available only to licensed applicators.

What you do in your home and landscape affects our water and health.

- Minimize the use of pesticides that pollute our waterways and harm human health.
- Use nonchemical alternatives or less toxic pesticide products whenever possible.
- Read product labels carefully and follow instructions on proper use, storage, and disposal.

For more information about managing pests, visit ipm.ucanr.edu or your local University of California Cooperative Extension office.

Seasonal IPM Checklist

The list below reflects possible landscape activities to do during the selected month(s) in your region. You can use the checklist as a guide for IPM activities in your own landscape or provide it to your clients.

May

- Abiotic Disorders - Prevent or manage damage, such as that caused by aeration deficit, herbicide, salinity, soil pH, sunburn, wind, and too much or little water.
- [American plum borer](#) - Check for frass and gum on lower branch crotches and graft unions of young trees such as almond, mountain ash, olive, sycamore, and stone fruit.
- [Anthracnose](#) e.g., on ash and sycamore - Fungicides are generally not options for large trees other than ash.
- [Ants](#) - Manage around landscape and building foundations, such as using insecticide baits and trunk barriers.
- [Aphids](#) - On small plants, spray a strong stream of water or apply insecticidal oils and soaps. Look for and conserve [natural enemies](#) such as predaceous bugs, lacewings, lady beetles, and syrphids.
- [Asian citrus psyllid](#) - Look for it and if found where not known to occur report it and other new or [exotic pests](#) to your local county agricultural commissioner.
- Camellia, citrus, gardenia, grape and other plants adapted to acidic soil - If leaves are yellowing (chlorotic) between green veins, plants may benefit from foliar or soil [application of iron and zinc](#) chelate and mulching.
- [Carpenter bees](#) - Paint or varnish and seal wood in which they nest. If intolerable, treat tunnels during fall or early spring.
- [Carpenterworm](#) - Protect trees from injury and provide proper cultural care, especially appropriate irrigation.
- Cherry [spotted wing drosophila](#) - Harvest early, apply spinosad as soon as fruit begins to develop any pink color.
- [Citrus](#) - Monitor for damage and pests such as leafminer and scales.
- [Clearwing moths](#) - Look for signs of boring in ash, birch, pine, poplar, and willow; less often in oak, sycamore, and stone fruits.
- [Codling moth](#) of apple and pear - Bag fruit. Promptly remove infested and dropped fruit. Apply insecticides only if precisely timed.
- Cover fruit trees with netting to [exclude birds](#) and other [vertebrate pests](#).
- Deter [borers](#) - Deep water trees adapted to summer rainfall e.g., fruit and nut trees. Protect trunks and roots from injury and avoid pruning, except for hazardous trees and certain pests and plants that warrant summer pruning. [Paint trunk and scaffolds with white](#) interior latex paint diluted with an equal amount of water.
- [Fertilize](#) caneberries, citrus, deciduous fruit trees, palms, and heavily-flowering shrubs with slow-release product if not done in March or April.
- [Fire blight](#) - Look for oozing and dead limbs on pome plants such as apple, crabapple, pear, and pyracantha. If a problem in the past, apply blossom sprays to prevent new infections.
- [Irrigation](#) - Adjust watering schedules according to the weather and plants' changing need for water. Check systems for leaks and broken emitters and perform maintenance as needed. Consider upgrading the irrigation system to improve its water efficiency.
- [Mosquitoes](#) - Eliminate standing water e.g., in gutters, drain pipes, and flowerpots. Place *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *israelensis* in birdbaths and ponds to selectively kill mosquito larvae.



Seasonal IPM Checklist

- [Mulch](#) - Apply organic mulch where thin or soil is bare beneath trees and shrubs.
- [Olive pests](#) e.g., ash borer, psyllid, and scales. Blossom drop sprays on nonharvested trees. [Olive fruit fly](#) suppression on harvested trees.
- [Powdery mildew](#) - Check for signs of disease on apple, crape myrtle, grape, rose, and stone fruits.
- [Prune](#) pine terminals only during candling (new shoot growth), late spring to early summer, to retard growth and in young pines direct growth.
- [Prune](#) winter-flowering shrubs e.g., camellia before next year's flower buds form.
- [Root rot](#) - Favored by excessive water and poor drainage. Avoid overirrigation and waterlogged soil.
- [Rose pests](#) - Manage or take preventive actions, such as for black spot, hoplia beetle, powdery mildew, and thrips.
- [Scale insects](#) - If damage has been unacceptable, monitor the crawler stage and when abundant apply horticultural oil or another insecticide.
- [Spider mites](#) - Irrigate adequately, mist leaf undersides daily, reduce dustiness, spray horticultural oil.
- [Stone fruit pests](#) - Monitor for pests such as aphids, borers, brown rot, caterpillars, powdery mildew, and scale insects.
- [Weeds](#) - Manage weeds using nonchemical methods such as [cultivation](#), handweeding, or mowing.
- [Yellowjackets](#) - Place out and maintain lure traps or water traps. Trapping is most effective during late winter to early spring.

Gardening Guide

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County

Zones 8 and 9

	May	June	July
P L A N T I N G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct seed in the garden cucumbers, melons, summer squash, beans, corn, and annual herbs. Plant sunflowers, zinnias, cosmos, marigolds and aster in the flower garden. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the flower garden you can still plant seeds of marigolds, zinnias, cosmos and sunflowers. You can set out transplants of perennials like yarrow, verbena, black-eyed Susan, and dahlias. In the vegetable garden you can plant seeds of pumpkins, squash, and corn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can still plant seeds of annuals: zinnias, marigolds, sunflowers and alyssum will grow and bloom this year. 
M A I N T E N A N C E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fertilize summer blooming flowers early in the month. Apply (or re-apply as needed) organic mulch to all beds to keep the soil cool and enrich the soil. Be sure to leave space around the base of the plants. Thin peaches, plums and nectarines so there is 6" between fruits. Deadhead (cut off spent flowers) to get continuing bloom on annuals and perennials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dig and divide spring-flowering bulbs when the tops have died down. Before the full heat of summer arrives mulch your beds to control weeds and conserve moisture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dig and divide bearded iris that have not been divided for 3 yrs. Cut the foliage on the divisions to 6-8 inches, replanting only new rhizomes and discarding the old rhizomes. Deadhead blooming plants as they finish flowering to promote continuing bloom. Fertilize roses after each burst of blooms.
P R E V E N T I O N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trim the dead flowers but not the leaves from spring bulbs. The leaves restore the bulb; so wait to remove them until they turn yellow. Fertilize the bulbs after the bloom is finished with bone meal. Continue the battle against slugs and snails. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure to water early in the day to conserve water and minimize plant disease. Regularly check your sprinklers and drip emitters for needed repairs and adjustments. Monitor soil moisture in hot weather to be sure you are irrigating enough. (Use a metal rod to push into the ground. If it goes in easily, the soil is moist.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure everything is well mulched for the heat of summer. Water before 10 am to avoid fungal infections and to minimize water loss to evaporation. If you have fruit trees, be sure to pick up dropped fruit to prevent brown rot from developing and leaving spores for future infection.



MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

THINKING SAFE AND GREEN



**AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

#6

ROTOTILLER SAFETY

Information given here is intended for use by program representatives, master gardeners, and those they train.



Data available from the Consumer Product Safety Commission indicate a total of about 2,000 people were treated in hospitals for rototiller injuries during 2006. Many of these injuries were lacerations to lower legs and hands followed by hand burns, back strains, and contusions to hands, knees, and wrists. The following safety note discusses walk-behind rototillers.

Pre-Use Activities

- Thoroughly review and understand information provided in the rototiller operator's manual with particular attention given to descriptions of safety procedures.
- Before using, always inspect the rototiller for damage or disrepair and make sure all shields and guards are securely in place. In addition, assure all belts are properly tightened and do not have excessive wear or damage.
- If a rototiller fails the pre-use inspection, remove the rototiller from service.

Operating Precautions

- Always wear safety glasses or goggles when using a rototiller. In addition, hearing protection should also be used since engine noise from a rototiller is at about 90 decibels.
- Wear long pants and sturdy shoes (i.e., no sneakers or sandals) when using a rototiller. Do not wear loose clothing.
- Always start a rototiller outside. Do not operate a rototiller inside an enclosed space (i.e., sheds or garages) where carbon monoxide exhaust gas can accumulate.
- Prior to starting, inspect the area to be tilled for large rocks or foreign objects that could damage the rototiller.
- Do not till above underground utility lines.
- Shift rototiller into neutral and disengage clutch before starting.
- Always operate a rototiller in conditions of good visibility and adequate light.
- Keep hands and feet away from rotating equipment.
- Do not overload rototiller engine capacity by tilling too deep or fast.
- Never fuel the rototiller when the engine/muffler is hot. Use a rag to wipe up fuel spills.
- Shut off the rototiller engine and disconnect the spark plug wire before performing mechanical adjustments, maintenance, or repairs or clearing/unclogging the tines.
- Always shut off a rototiller before leaving it unattended.

Master Gardener activities!



In today's fast paced, social media way of life, fake news has become normal.
This includes fake gardening advice.
UC Master Gardeners use cutting edge, research-based information to help you garden better.
We are practical, connected and trusted.
Advice to Grow By ... Ask Us!

Tomorrow's activities are created by today's dreamers—you can make sure that the UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County is still working to help future generations through your support.

[Click here to support us.](#)

Science Word of the Month

Cordon—the main upper woody portion of a grape vine that is trained to a trellis and from which fruiting canes develop; also, a main branch of an espaliered fruit tree.

If you attended one of your workshops, you will receive an email from mgevaluation@ucanr.edu. Your input gives us the tools we need to grow and improve our program. *Thank you!*

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

May 23, 6:30
St. Stephens Church
Colusa

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Additional Links

- Integrated Pest Management ipm.ucanr.edu
- UC Davis Arboretum arboretum.ucdavis.edu
- Invasive Plants www.cal-ipc.org
- Plant Right www.plantright.org
- Save Our Water saveourwater.com
- California Garden Web cagardenweb.ucanr.edu
- McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens turtlebay.org
- UCANR Colusa County cecolusa.ucanr.edu
- UC Master Gardener Program (statewide) mg.ucanr.edu
- California Backyard Orchard homeorchard.ucanr.edu
- ANR publications anrcatalog.ucanr.edu

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Website: http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/Diversity/Affirmative_Action/.

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