

A Garden Runs Through It

University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UCCE Master Gardener Program



Colusa County

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

October 2018

UC Cooperative Extension,
Colusa County

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Upcoming events

[Click here to read our blog.](#)



October

Arbuckle Pumpkin Festival
Sunday October 7
10 am to 3 pm
Downtown Arbuckle
Pumpkin painting at our booth!!

October

Pumpkin Centerpiece Workshop
Thursday October 18, 6 to 8pm
Market Street Grill
415 Market St., Colusa
\$25 fee
See flyer for details. Deadline Oct. 12.



Advice to Grow by ... Ask Us!



Pumpkin Centerpiece



MG Event

What

- We are going to make pumpkin centerpieces.
- Fee: \$25
- [Click here to pay](#) or pay in our office or go to cecolusa.ucanr.edu
- Fee includes appetizers and sodas.

When

Thursday
October 18
6-8pm

Where

Market Street Grill
415 Market St.
Colusa



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Book of the Month

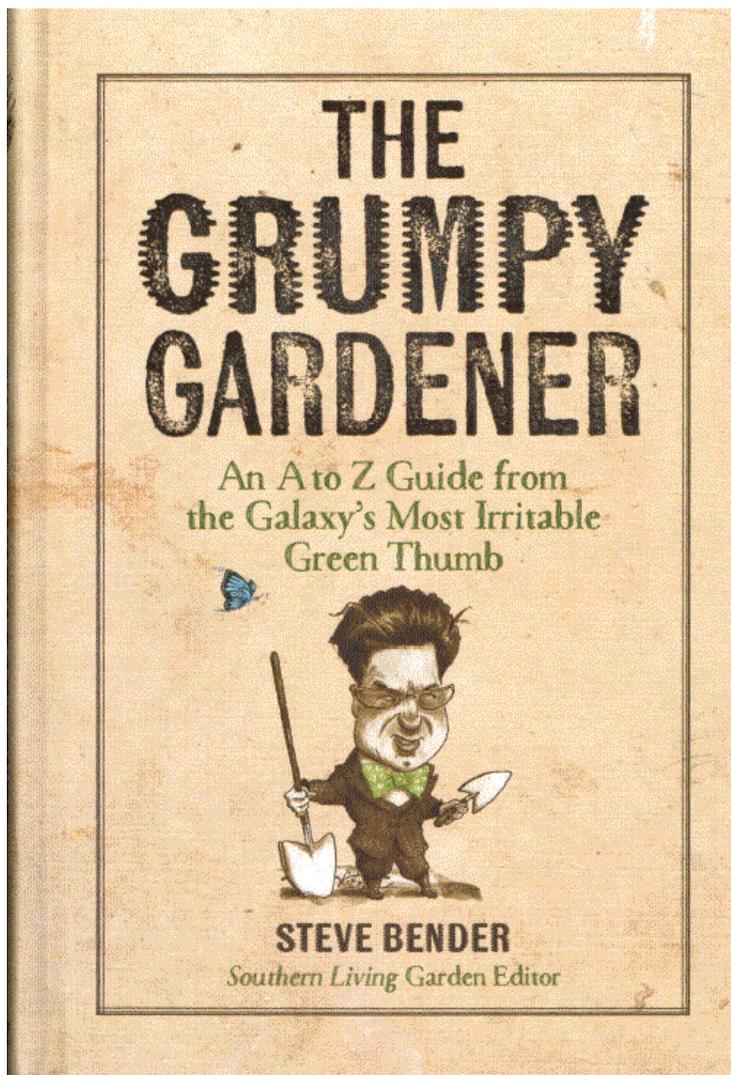
The Grumpy Gardener

Steve Bender is the garden editor for *Southern Living* magazine and the author of *The Grumpy Gardener: an A to Z Guide from the Galaxy's Most Irritable Green Thumb*. This book is a compilation of Grumpy's articles, essays, blog posts, and answers to readers' questions.

With a great deal of humor, Mr. Bender takes us through the alphabet with descriptions and instructions for a myriad of garden plants and subjects. One of the "A" entries is: Awful Plants, the foul five we should never plant in our yard. (The worst of the worst: *Golden Euonymus*.)

Although the book is written with gardens and gardeners in the southern United States in mind, much of the advice can be used by gardeners everywhere. For a fun look at everything garden, spend some time with *The Grumpy Gardener*.

Submitted by Peggy Townzen



Ornamental Plant of the Month

Staghorn Fern

I have had a staghorn fern for over 20 years that I have nurtured and hoped for the same result that I had with a monster specimen when we lived in Florida. (*Platycerium bifurcatum*) These epiphytic plants naturally grow on tree trunks and branches in the jungles of Southeast Asia, Polynesia and Australia, and need no soil to survive. Staghorn ferns thrive in temperate climates and where they're exposed to bright, indirect light and regular moisture.

These epiphytes are entirely comfortable in our area. When you picture a fern, you probably imagine the shady, lush forest floors of the Pacific Northwest. You might then think that your stag will appreciate a dark space, but you would be wrong. Staghorn ferns, on the other hand, are native to the tropics -- the species that we most commonly feature, *Platycerium bifurcatum*, is native to Australia. Staghorn ferns need bright, indirect or diffused light to thrive, though they must be protected from the harsh rays of the direct sun. We tell people to put staghorn ferns in the brightest space in their home where, again, the plant will not take direct sun. Rooms with Southern and Eastern exposures tend to be best, though unobstructed North windows will do. Western light is fine, but be careful, as this afternoon exposure tends to be hot and harsh.

To stay in best form you can dunk your fern in a sink or basin of water for about a minute or until the roots are fully saturated. All they require is a place to attach in filtered sunlight and humidity. If the antler fronds begin to brown or blacken at the base, this is a sign of over-watering. Reduce watering to once monthly until plant shows sign of recovery. If the antler fronds begin to brown at the tips or wilt, this is a sign of under-watering. Increase watering as needed.



Submitted by Cynthia White

Edible Plant of the Month

Radish

Radishes are my favorite vegetable to grow. It is also a favorite of children. They quickly sprout and are ready to harvest in as little as three weeks.

Cultivation of radishes for food dates back 4,000 years in Mediterranean cultures. These days, the colorful crunchy root vegetables are most often used to give salads zip. In our area many Mexican dishes are served with radishes.

Radishes are among the easiest vegetables to cultivate and are very fast growing. The most popular types are short, round, red or red-and-white varieties. You can also get round radishes in white or pink. There are also long types of radishes with various colors.

How to Grow it—

Best site—full sun but not summer sun.

Soil—work up the soil for a fine bed. Blend well-aged manure into the soil at least a month before planting.

Planting—plant seeds anytime except during the hot summer.

Spacing—sow seeds 1/2 inch deep and 1 inch apart. When the tops are up, pull out every other plant; you can eat the thinnings if you want.

Water—keep the soil evenly moist from seed to harvest. In the fall or spring you may need to irrigate.

Fertilizer—feed about 10 days after planting, apply dry or liquid fertilizer beside the rows.

Harvest—Radishes are best harvested and eaten as soon as they reach full size; they can become woody if left in the ground too long. You can pull them as early as 3 weeks after sowing seeds. Some varieties take longer.

Please read the seed packet for specific directions.

Submitted by Gerry Hernandez

Information from the *Sunset Western Garden Book of Edibles*.



Recipe of the Month

Korean Lamb Chops with Grilled Scallions

Adapted from a recipe from the American Lamb Board

8 American Lamb Loin Chops
3 tablespoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons mirin
2 tablespoons brown sugar
2 teaspoons sesame oil
1 teaspoon onion powder
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 teaspoon ginger powder
1/4 cup water
1 tablespoon cornstarch
2 bunches scallions, root ends removed
1 tablespoon canola oil
Kosher salt
Sesame seeds, for garnish
Chopped cilantro or parsley, for garnish



Make the Korean marinade.

Combine soy sauce, mirin, brown sugar, sesame oil, onion powder, garlic powder, ginger powder, and 1/4 cup of water in a zip top bag, shake to blend and dissolve sugar.

NOTE: If you like things spicy, add 1 tablespoon of Sambal chili garlic paste.

Marinate chops in this mixture for an hour or two in the fridge.

Preheat grill to medium-high heat.

Bring chops to room temperature.

Remove chops from marinade and place marinade in a small saucepan over high heat.

Bring reserved marinade to a boil, then reduce heat to a simmer for 3-4 minutes to create glaze.

Sprinkle lamb loin chops on all sides generously with Kosher salt.

Grill until a rosy medium-rare.

During the last minute of cooking, slather on Korean glaze.

Meanwhile, brush scallions with canola oil and season with Kosher salt.

Grill, turning once, until slightly charred in spots.

Serve Korean Lamb Chops with grilled scallions and top with chopped cilantro/parsley and sesame seeds. Devour.

This dish would be great served with Jasmine rice and a mixture of other grilled vegetables - tomatoes, zucchini, etc.

Submitted by Penny Walgenbach

Safety Note #75

SAFE DRIVING PRACTICES



Picture Courtesy of UC Hansen
Agricultural Learning Center

Data available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) indicates 4,215 traffic fatalities occurred in California during 2003. Of this total, 36% of the fatalities were speed related and 42% of the victims were not using seat belt restraints. NHTSA estimates the economic cost of California motor vehicle traffic crashes was approximately \$20.7 billion during 2000. Many motor vehicle accidents (and injuries) are preventable if drivers maintain a high level of alertness while driving and follow safe driving practices, including wearing seat belt restraints. **Videos (E-032, E-054, E-062, E-067, S-067, E-069, E-083) on safe driving practices are available for loan from the**

ANR Environmental Health & Safety Library at <http://safety.ucanr.org>.

University of California (UC) Vehicle Policies

- As part of the Injury and Illness Prevention Program, UC is required to provide Safe Driver Training to employees who drive private and University vehicles on official University business.
- No unauthorized passengers are to be transported in University vehicles.
- Employees are expected to avoid using cellular telephones under any circumstances where the use may create or appear to create hazards, including use while operating a motor vehicle.
- No child safety seats are to be used in any University vehicles.

Safe Driving Practices

- Before changing lanes, turn your head to check mirror blind spots for other traffic. Always signal before passing other vehicles.
- Maintain a three to four second distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you.
- Always look in both directions when entering intersections, crosswalks, or railroad crossings.
- Do not rely on traffic signals to stop cross traffic. Always scan controlled intersections for oncoming cross traffic.
- Allow adequate room in front of you to stop. It takes about 400 feet to react and bring a car to a stop from a speed of 55 mph. Likewise at 35 mph, it takes about 210 feet.
- Reduce your speed when driving at night. Be prepared to stop within the distance lighted by your headlights.
- Use your high beams where appropriate. Dim your high beams when necessary.
- Reduce your driving speed to accommodate adverse weather conditions (i.e., heavy rain, snow, or fog).
- When driving in fog use your low beams, increase your following distance, and be prepared to stop within the distance you can see ahead.
- If the fog becomes too thick to sufficiently see ahead, stop driving, turn off your lights, and pull completely off the road. Continue driving when the fog thins and allows adequate road vision.
- When entering a freeway, merge at the speed of the freeway traffic. When exiting a freeway, signal your intention to exit for about five seconds.
- Always change freeway lanes one at a time. Signal your intention to change freeway lanes.
- Allow an adequate distance to oncoming traffic when attempting to pass another vehicle on a two-lane road. At 55 mph, you will need a distance of about one-third of a mile (1,750 feet) from oncoming traffic to pass safely.
- Always allow pedestrians, including bicyclists, the right-of-way in crosswalks.

Always wear seat belt restraints and obey posted speed limits.

Gardening Guide

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County

Zones 8 and 9

	October	November	December
P L A N T I N G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cool-weather annuals like pansies, violas, snapdragons can be transplanted now. Also, you can direct seed cornflower, nasturtium, poppy, nigella, portulaca and sweet peas. Direct seed peas, spinach, radishes, lettuce, and carrots. If you don't have a winter garden, consider planting a cover crop to be tilled in next spring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can still sow seeds of wildflowers this month. Plant California poppy, calendula, clarkia, and sweet peas. In the veggie garden plant seeds for lettuce, mustard, spinach, radishes and peas. Plant the chilled bulbs, and the spring flowering tubers and corms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant Bare-root roses, Bulbs, Camellias, Cyclamen, Hellebore, Living Christmas trees, Bare-root fruit and landscape trees. 
M A I N T E N A N C E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure to deadhead your roses following the October bloom. If you had glads, dahlias or tuberous begonias they should be dug up and cleaned after the foliage dies. Store the corms and tubers in a cool, dry place. This is also the month to dig, divide, and re-plant overgrown perennials that have finished blooming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you didn't get your new tree planted last month, it is not too late to take advantage of the fall root growth that will give your new tree a strong start in the spring. In the middle of the month fertilize the veggies and flowers that were planted in October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjust your irrigation Protect citrus and other sensitive plants Apply dormant spray Add mulch to beds Divide perennials Throw out fallen rose leaves
P R E V E N T I O N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check azaleas, gardenias and camellias for leaves yellowing between the veins. Apply chelated iron if this condition is present. Add compost to the beds that had the annuals and vegetables you are pulling out, before re-planting in those beds. Put your spent annuals and vegetables (disease-free, of course) in your compost pile. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at your camellias and remove excess buds to get larger flowers. Clean up all the fallen/falling leaves and other plant debris and dispose of diseased materials. Monitor the weather for rain, turn off your irrigation system accordingly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is not prevention but SHOP Plants and seeds make awesome holiday, hostess and mystery gifts. 

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.

October

- 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.
- [Ants](#) - Manage around landscape and building foundations, such as using insecticide baits and trunk barriers.
- [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.
- [Carpenter bees](#) - Paint or varnish and seal wood in which they nest. If intolerable, treat tunnels during fall or early spring.
- [Citrus](#) - Monitor for damage and pests such as brown rot, leafminer, root rots, and snails.
- [Clean up](#) mummies and old fruit and nuts in and under trees to avoid harboring pests. [Remove fallen leaves](#) from beneath deciduous fruit trees and roses.
- [Coast redwood dieback](#) - Check for drought-stress related maladies such as abiotic disorders, bark beetles, fungal diseases, and spider mites. [Deep water trees](#) and apply mulch.
- [Compost](#) - Add leaves dropped during fall. Turn and keep it moist.
- [Frost](#) - Protect sensitive plants from cold injury when freezing or frost are predicted.
- [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.
- [Mulch](#) - Apply organic mulch where thin or soil is bare beneath trees and shrubs.
- [Olive peacock spot, or scab](#) - Make a preventive spray before the rainy season if the disease has been severe.
- [Pine](#) bark beetles, pitch moths, western gall rust, and wood borers - If pines need branch removal, prune during October through January.
- [Plant](#) bare root deciduous trees, shrubs, and vines e.g., caneberries, fruit and nuts, grapes, and roses. Plant California natives. Select species and cultivars well-adapted to the local site. Water regularly to keep root zone moist, but not soggy.
- Prepare for rainfall. Prevent water ponding around trunks and foundations. Improve drainage. Install downspout diverters to [direct runoff into landscape soils](#), but avoid waterlogging of soil.
- [Prune](#) deciduous trees and shrubs that need pruning such as apple, crape myrtle, pear, rose, spirea, and stone fruits. Make cuts properly to encourage good form and structure. Remove dead, diseased, and borer-infested wood. Certain pests (e.g. shothole borer) and host plants such as apricot and cherry warrant summer pruning.
- [Root rot](#) - Favored by excessive water and poor drainage. Avoid overirrigation and waterlogged soil.
- [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.

Meet your Master Gardeners!



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

Integrated Pest Management— A strategy that centers on long term prevention or suppression of pest problems through a combination of techniques such as resistant varieties, biological control, cultural practices, habitat modification, and the use of pesticides when needed.

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!*

PRACTICAL | CONNECTED | TRUSTED

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

- October 22, 6:30pm, social, 7pm meeting & speaker
- St. Stephens Church, 642 5th St., Colusa

Did a friend send you this newsletter?

- You can get your own newsletter sent directly to your inbox by [clicking here](#).



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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This policy statement supersedes the UC ANR Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action Policy Statement for University of California Publications Regarding Program Practices dated July 2013.