

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...

November 2018

UC Cooperative Extension,
Colusa County

P.O. Box 180,
100 Sunrise Blvd., Suite E
Colusa, Ca 95932

530-458-0570

cecolusa.ucanr.edu
colusa@ucanr.edu

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Upcoming events

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



November

4-H Make and Take Craft Expo
November 3
9 am to 3 pm
Colusa County Fairgrounds
Open to the public!



Happy Thanksgiving!

December

Wreath Workshop
December 1
10 am to noon
Colusa County Fairgrounds, Community Building
\$30
See flyer for details.

Advice to Grow by ... Ask Us!



Advice to Grow By...Ask Us!

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County



Wreath Workshop

*Don't
miss
it!*

- Learn how to make a holiday wreath using fresh materials. Bernice Dommer will be your instructor.
- Fee, \$30 [Click here to pay.](#)
- Or pay in our office.
- Deadline to pay
- November 27

When

Saturday December 1, 2018
10-noon

Where

Colusa Fairgrounds,
Community building



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

UCCE Master Gardener Program

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UCCE Colusa County, Master Gardener Program

100 Sunrise Blvd., Ste. E, Colusa

530-458-0570

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Book of the Month

Tales from the Tool Shed

The History and Use of 50 Gardening Tools

By Bill Laws

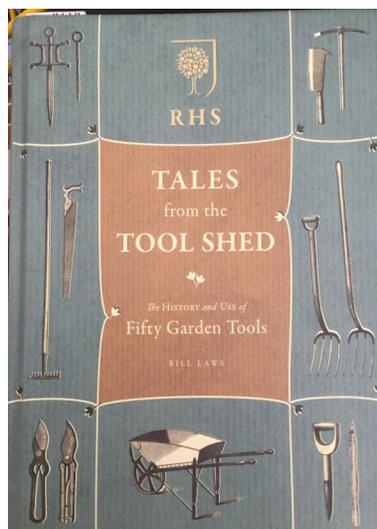
The book provides a history of how gardening tools started and how they have evolved over the centuries. The most remarkable thing is how little they have changed.

In each section of the book there is a definition of the tool and the origin

The book is divided into sections starting with flower gardens. Common tools for this section are the pitchfork, trowels and pruners (secateurs). These are noted as early as the 16th century.

The chapter on the kitchen garden was really interesting. Tools included the spade, hoe, mattock, rake and billhook. Gardening tools were prized possessions and were fiercely guarded. By the 19th century hoes in America were used for trading grain and livestock. 1 hoe was equal to 2 goats. Villages in Tanzania put the asking of a bride at 3 iron hoes. There was a time when every country commune boasted its own rake maker. Together with the smith, the wheelwright, the potter and the basketmaker, he was an industrious craftsman.

There is a section on lawnmowers that was both informative and humorous. The original prototype 2 stroke lawnmower was equipped with a peach can for a fuel tank and a set of wheels borrowed from a soap box racer. He sold 30 in New South Wales the 1st 3 months and within 4 years had sold 60,000. Mervyn Victor Richardson named his contraption The Victa.



Submitted by Carolyn Froelich



Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday.

Join us on Tuesday, November 27 for #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving that harnesses the collective power of individuals to celebrate generosity worldwide. #GivingTuesday is held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Kick off the holiday season with us!

What does it mean to be a #NeighborCA investing in the community?

Your gifts allow the UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County to connect the people of Colusa County with the resources of your University. We work as a team to bring practical, trusted, science-based answers to people in our county.

There is something we can do—together, as neighbors, we can help our community.

We are problem-solvers, catalysts, collaborators, and educators, living in your neighborhood. With your support, we invest in research, education, and services in Colusa County.

How can you help?

Join the #GivingTuesday Movement!

#GivingTuesday is a movement about ordinary people coming together to do extraordinary things. Whether you choose to donate your time or money this year for #GivingTuesday UC Master Gardeners would like to say **thank you** for helping make a difference!

1. Make a gift: <https://donate.ucanr.edu/pages/uccecolusa>
2. Share with us on social media!



Ornamental Plant of the Month

Now is the Time for Spring Flowers

You ask “now is the time for spring flowers”? Yes, now is the time to plant spring blooming flowers; snapdragons, sweet pea seeds, calendulas, primrose, poppy seeds, and even spring blooming bulbs are just a few examples. Most of us think about planting these beautiful bloomers when we see them in glorious color come February through even summer. The spring bloomers should be planted now while the soil is still warm and they can establish strong roots to produce strong blooms come late winter into summer.

Amend the soil with any of the following, compost, seasoned manure, wood mulch; lightly fertilize and water well after planting. Lightly fertilize with a low nitrogen, but with higher phosphate and potassium/potash. Phosphate and potassium stimulate and establish strong root growth which ultimately produces strong bloom. When reading the fertilizer label, you will find the three main ingredients listed as NPK, N is the amount of nitrogen which promotes new growth, P is phosphate and K is potassium. I mentioned low nitrogen, as it is best for strong root establishment before new growth promotion.

When planting, lightly firm the soil around the plant, and then water the plants well, which will allow the needed oxygen to remain in the soil needed for root growth

Tulips, hyacinths, daffodils should be refrigerated for 4-6 weeks before planting. Plant at least 2 times the depth of the bulb when the soil is cool. Planting when the soil is cool will allow the roots to establish before the bulbs start shooting stem growth. Bone meal covered with a bit of soil in the hole below the bulb helps to establish strong roots.

Soaking seeds over-night, especially sweet peas, speeds germination time. Read labels of seed packets which usually list recommended depths.

Act now and enjoy your spring color in your yard and even in your home arrangements.



Submitted by Bernice Dommer

Edible Plant of the Month

Horseradish

This large (to about 3 ft.), course, weedy-looking plant is cultivated for its large white roots, which are peeled, grated, and mixed with vinegar or cream to make a spicy condiment. It is native to southeastern Europe and temperate parts of Asia, but it grows nearly everywhere, performing best in cool regions. The root, which is at least the size of a large carrot, will put on most of its bulk in late summer and early fall. One plant should provide enough horseradish for a family of four.

Although horseradish is a herbaceous perennial, it's best to treat it like an annual and replant it every spring; perennialized roots become tough and stringy.

How To Grow It

Best site—A sunny, out of the way corner.

Soil—Grows best in deeply cultivated soil.

Planting—In late winter or early spring, set pencil-size root horizontally in a trench 3-4 in. deep and cover with 2 in. of soil

Spacing—For multiple plants, space them 2 1/2—3 feet apart.

Water—Even moisture keeps roots growing steadily.

Fertilizer—Top-dress with 5-10-10 fertilizer once in early summer.

Harvest—Through fall, winter, and spring, harvest pieces from the outside of the root clump as you need them—that way, your horseradish will always be fresh and tangy.

Challenges—There are various insects that sometimes attack the leaves. But the biggest problem is weediness. If you leave any part of the root in the ground, the plant can spread by under-ground shoots and become invasive.

To be truthful, I am not sure horseradish will grow here. In the *Sunset Western Garden* book, it says "all zones". But, our summers are really hot. Let me know if you grow horseradish! glhernandez@ucanr.edu



Information from the *Sunset Western Garden Book of Edibles*

Submitted by Gerry Hernandez

Recipe of the Month

Stuffin' Muffins

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil (EVOO), plus extra for oiling the pan
- 1/2 stick butter, softened
- 1 fresh bay leaf
- 4 ribs celery and greens from the heart, chopped
- 1 medium to large yellow onion, chopped
- 3 McIntosh apples, quartered and chopped
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons poultry seasoning
- 1/4 cup parsley leaves, chopped
- 8 cups cubed stuffing mix, such as Pepperidge Farm brand, or homemade croutons of any bread you choose – pumpernickel and rye work well
- 4-5 cups chicken stock

If preparing as "Stuffin' Muffins:"

- Additional 1/2 stick butter, softened
- 1 egg, beaten

Preparation

Pre-heat the oven to 400°F.

Pre-heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the EVOO to the skillet and the butter. When the butter melts, add the bay leaf, celery, onion and apples. Season with salt, pepper and poultry seasoning and cook for 5-6 minutes, or until the vegetables and apples begin to soften.

Add the parsley and stuffing cubes to the pan and combine. Moisten the stuffing with chicken stock until all of the bread is soft, but not wet. Remove the bay leaf and let the stuffing cool either in the pan or in a bowl.

Brush a cookie sheet or a metal oven-safe oval tray with EVOO. Form a loaf shape out of your stuffing and bake until set and crisp on top, about 15-20 minutes.

For individual muffins: Brush a 12-muffin tin with the additional butter. Add the beaten egg to the cooled stuffing mixture.

Using an ice cream scoop, fill and mound up the stuffing in the muffin tin.

Bake until set and crisp on top, about 10-15 minutes. Remove the Stuffin' Muffins to a platter and serve hot or at room temperature.

This is a Rachael Ray recipe. My family makes this every Thanksgiving (without apples) and it is fabulous! With stuffin' muffins you get a lot of crunchy and some soft also.



THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who stopped by
our booth, read the newsletter,
attended our workshops and
asked us questions!

The UC Master Gardener Program
Colusa County
appreciates every one of you!

Gardening Guide

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County

Zones 8 and 9

	November	December	January
P L A N T I N G	<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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant rhubarb, strawberries, and cane berries. Plant seeds for broccoli, cabbage, parsley, turnips, peas, radishes, lettuce, and spinach. This is the time to plant bare root roses, trees, artichoke crowns, grapevines, and other vines. You can still plant pansies, violas, snapdragons, and fairy primroses.
M A I N T E N A N C E	<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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roses, fruit trees and other perennials can be pruned this month. Do not prune spring flowering shrubs until after they bloom. Prune berry canes that bore fruit last year to the ground. Prune grapevines back, leaving 2 to 3 buds per side shoot. Later in the month you can divide Shasta daisies, daylilies, chrysanthemums, and other perennials.
P R E V E N T I O N	<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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spray horticultural oil on pruned fruit trees to control scale, mites and aphids. Thorough coverage will kill over-wintering eggs. Later in the month, spray neem oil on roses to control mildew, rust, and black spot. Do not apply oils unless there will be 24 hours of dry weather following application. Be sure to clean up debris (leaves and twigs) around roses and fruit trees to help prevent disease.

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.

November

- Abiotic Disorders - Prevent or manage damage, such as that caused by aeration deficit, frost, hail, herbicides, 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.
- [Compost](#) - Add leaves dropped during fall. Turn and keep it moist. Cover during rainy weather if needed to avoid soginess.
- Continue [rainy-season prevention of diseases](#), [earwigs](#), [snails and slugs](#), and [weeds](#).
- [Frost](#) - Protect sensitive plants from cold injury when freezing or frost are predicted.
- Implement [disease and insect control](#) for apple, pear, stone fruits, nut trees, and deciduous landscape trees and shrubs such as roses.
- [Irrigation](#) - Adjust watering schedules according to the weather and plants' changing need for water. Reduce irrigation frequency or turn off systems if rainfall is adequate. Irrigate deeply but infrequently if the winter is dry.
- [Mistletoe](#) - Prune off infected branches.
- [Mulch](#) - Apply organic mulch where thin or soil is bare beneath trees and shrubs.
- [Olive knot](#) and [oleander gall, or knot](#) - Avoid pruning olive and oleander during wet weather if stem galls are a problem.
- [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. Transplant small evergreen trees and shrubs. Plant California natives and seedlings of cedar, fir, pine, and spruce. Select species and cultivars well-adapted to the local site. It's too late to plant frost-sensitive subtropical evergreen plants e.g., citrus.
- 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.

Seasonal IPM Checklist



[Stone fruit diseases](#) - Monitor for leaf curl or shot hole of apricot, nectarine, peach, and plum.



[Weeds](#) - Manage weeds using nonchemical methods such as [cultivation](#), handweeding, or mowing.

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

Available moisture—The amount of water in a soil that roots can absorb.

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

Safety Note # 10

SAFE LIFTING PRACTICES



More than 1,000,000 back injuries occur in the workplace each year. Approximately 800,000 of these injuries are to the lower back and 750,000 happen while lifting objects. **Videos E-005 and S005 Back Safety are available from the ANR Environmental Health and Safety Library at <http://safety.ucanr.org>.**

Recommended Safe Lifting Practices

- Prior to lifting, determine the weight of the load by pushing on the object.
- If you determine the weight to be large, reduce the load by splitting it in half or more.
- Do not try to lift objects beyond your capability. If you have to strain to lift or carry a load, then it is too heavy for you.
- If the weight of the load is beyond your capability, find someone to assist you with lifting the load or use a forklift, dolly, or hand truck to move the load.
- Before lifting a package, make sure the contents are secure and the weight is balanced so the contents will not shift when moved.
- Stand close to the load with your feet slightly staggered and spread apart to about shoulder width.
- While maintaining a straight back, squat by bending your knees.
- Firmly grasp the object and begin slowly lifting with your legs.
- Do not twist your body while lifting at a controlled speed. Keep the object's center of gravity as close to your body as possible.
- Carry the load between the shoulder and waist.
- If required to turn while carrying the load, turn with the feet and not with the trunk of the body.
- Do not walk on slippery or uneven surfaces while carrying a load.
- To set down a load, lower yourself at a controlled speed by bending your knees while maintaining a straight back.
- Take frequent breaks when lifting and carrying many loads. Do not overtire yourself.
- Studies conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) concluded there was insufficient evidence to recommend the use of back belts to prevent back injuries.

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

- November 26, 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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