



A Garden Runs Through It

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

July 2020

UCCE Master Gardener Program, Colusa County

UC Cooperative Extension,
Colusa County

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Upcoming events

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



July

Arbuckle Farmers Market
Every Wednesday
4-7 pm
Downtown Arbuckle

If you join our Facebook page you will educational videos in place of in person workshops.

Advice to Grow by ... Ask Us!



**Join us at the
Arbuckle Farmers Market
Every Wednesday through August
4-7 pm**



Book of the Month

Mister Owita's Guide to Gardening

How I Learned the Unexpected Joy of a Green Thumb and an Open Heart

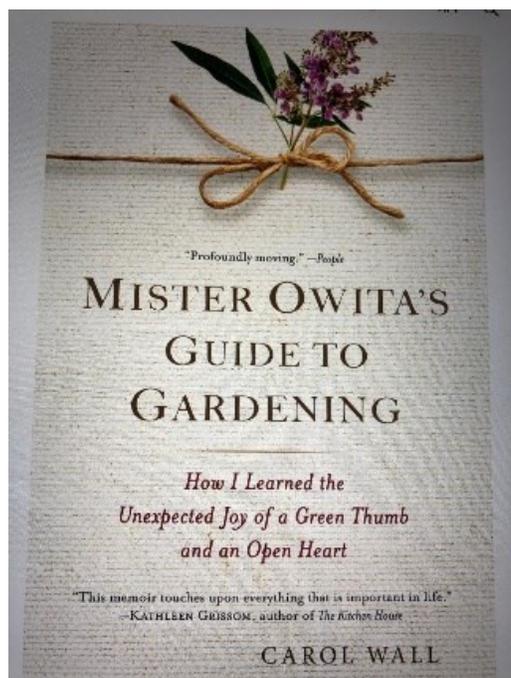
Written by Carol Wall

This is not so much a book about gardening techniques as it is about how one man's knowledge and love of gardening created lasting friendships. It becomes even more moving and memorable because it is a true story.

The main characters are Carol, a woman with a neglected yard, and Giles Owita, a man from Africa with a Ph.D in horticulture working as a gardener because he is unable to get a teaching position. She is unaware of his doctorate when she hires him to make a few changes to her property and fights his advice and recommendations. Over the course of several years she sees his wisdom and learns valuable lessons about gardening and life.

It is a love story but not in the traditional way. It is about friendship and how gardening can be healing and increase understanding of people and cultures. Both are happily married but each has something valuable to share with the other. They help and support each other through gardening decisions as well as health and financial difficulties.

"In every moment there exists a lifetime. Every day brings something good": Dr Giles Owita



Submitted by Carolyn Froelich

Ornamental Plant of the Month

Germander Summer Sunshine

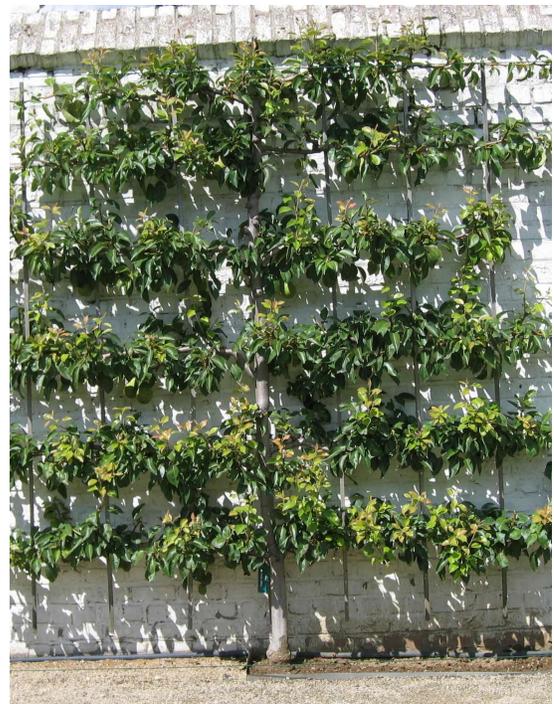
It was bright, colorful and neat. What is it you ask? Germander, Summer Sunshine. Germander is a perennial herb, and has many varieties; Summer Sunshine is a short, mounding sub-shrub with small, chartreuse/green leaves with serrated edges. It produces purple-rose flower spikes in summer. *Teucrium chamaedrys* 'Summer Sunshine' spreads by underground rhizomes, however more slowly than others of the species. This low growing perennial makes a great groundcover and has been used historically for borders. The bright green color adds interest to the garden. Best of all, once established it is drought tolerant and does well in any soils. Care requirements are minimal and survives the frost down to 15 degrees F. in zone 8. Summer Sunshine appears to be a great planting for sun and/partial shade. I am excited to plant as a border to add brightness and contrast in my garden.



Submitted by Bernice Dommer

Edible Plant of the Month

Here are a few pictures to go along with the March 2020 article, *Edible Landscaping*, where Annelie talks about espaliering fruit trees.



Recipe of the Month

Coconut Molasses Pie

1 cup brown sugar
1 cup sour cream
1/2 cup light corn syrup
1/2 cup molasses
2 large eggs, beaten
1/4 cup milk
2 T flour
1/4 tsp baking soda
1 1/2 cups sweetened shredded coconut
1 deep dish pie shell, frozen is OK.

Preheat oven to 350.

Blend all but coconut, then stir it in last.

Pour into pie shell, back 45-55 min until just set in center.

Cover edges with foil if getting too dark.

Cool completely, serve with whipped cream.

Serves 8, 490 cal/slice

For lighter flavor, use light corn syrup instead of molasses.

Option: Add 1 cup chopped pecans with coconut!



Submitted by Penny Walgenbach

Gardening Guide

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County

Zones 8 and 9

	July	August	September
P L A N T I N G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can still plant seeds of annuals: zinnias, marigolds, sunflowers and alyssum will grow and bloom this year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can plant directly in the garden seeds of carrots, beets, lettuce, spinach and turnips. Indoors you can start seeds for broccoli, cabbage, kale, bunching onions, and radicchio. 	<p>Cool-Weather annuals like pansies, violas, snapdragons can be transplanted now.</p> <p>Also, transplants of broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and kale can be planted this month.</p> <p>Direct seed peas, spinach, radishes, lettuce, and carrots.</p>
M A I N T E N A N C E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have blackberries in your garden, cut the canes that bore fruit to the ground. Tie up 3-5 of the new canes and fertilize to promote new growth. Deadhead blooming plants as they finish flowering to promote continuing bloom. Fertilize roses after each burst of blooms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure to monitor your watering system. Check for coverage and watch for plugged or blocked sprinklers. Check the mulch you have spread around and be sure it is thick enough to suppress weeds. (3 to 4 inches) Cut off spent flowers of perennials and annuals for continued bloom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> September is a good time to consider reducing the size of your lawn. It is also a good time to rejuvenate a lawn with over-seeding. Put your spent annual and vegetables (disease-free, of course) in your compost pile. Add compost to the beds that had the annuals and vegetables you are pulling out, before re-planting in those beds.
P R E V E N T I O N	<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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to weed. Be especially sure to get weeds before they flower and set seeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be sure to clear out any weeds that developed in the perennial bed. 

Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes are small flying insects that bite people and animals and can spread diseases such as West Nile virus.

Female mosquitoes require blood from humans or other animals to develop eggs. Mosquito larvae live in aquatic habitats and can grow in ponds, bird baths, and any other objects containing standing (non-moving) water. Decrease your chances of getting mosquito bites by reducing standing water around your home, using repellents, and wearing protective clothing when outdoors.



Adult western malaria mosquito, *Anopheles freeborni*.

Minimize mosquito breeding habitats.

- Empty water from unused garden pots and other objects. Store containers upside down, cover, or dispose of them so mosquitoes can't lay eggs.
- Change water in pet dishes, watering troughs, and bird baths every week.
- Avoid overwatering outdoor landscapes, which can lead to standing water.
- Keep litter and garden debris out of street gutters. Remove debris from rain gutters and downspouts annually.
- Seal rain barrels and keep all filters and prefilters clean and free of moisture-retaining debris. Inspect water reservoirs regularly for leaks.
- Remove excess vegetation, stock with mosquito-eating fish, or use *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) products in ponds. Bt is a bacterium that kills mosquito larvae but doesn't affect people, other animals, or plants.
- Maintain water quality in swimming pools with chemical treatments. Keep water off swimming pool covers. Cover or drain water from plastic pools when not in use so mosquitoes can't lay eggs.
- Fill open tree holes with sand or mortar.



Egg raft of encephalitis mosquito, *Culex tarsalis*.

Photos by Jack Kelly Clark

What is West Nile virus?

West Nile virus (WNV) is spread by mosquitoes that get the virus from infected birds. Once infected, mosquitoes then transfer the virus to humans and other animals. Infected humans can become very ill. The disease is most serious in children, elderly, and others with weakened immune systems. For more information about WNV, visit the California Department of Health Services website at westnile.ca.gov.



Culex sp. mosquito larvae.

How do I avoid mosquito bites?

- Ensure doors and windows are properly screened.
- Avoid being outdoors at times of the day when mosquito activity is high in your area. Some mosquito species are active at dawn and dusk, others throughout the day.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long trousers, socks, and a hat if you must be outside when mosquitoes are present.
- Use insect repellents containing DEET or picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is another effective repellent and is derived from natural materials. There are many other products containing other active ingredients that may be less effective and must be reapplied frequently. Check the U.S. EPA website and always follow label directions.
- Outdoor insecticide sprays and other repellent devices vary widely in effectiveness and can temporarily reduce the number of adult mosquitoes but have no lasting effect.
- Citronella candles and mosquito coils burned outdoors work best if there is little air movement.

Contact your county mosquito and vector control agency for local management information regarding mosquitoes and other pests of concern.

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.

July

- 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.
- [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.
- [Bacterial blast, blight, and canker](#) - Inspect apple, citrus and especially *Prunus* spp. (e.g., stone fruit). Remove entire affected branches in the summer, making cuts several inches away in healthy wood.
- [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.
- [Citrus](#) - Monitor for damage and pests such as leafminer.
- [Clean up](#) mummies and old fruit and nuts in and under trees to avoid harboring pests.
- [Clearwing moths](#) - Look for signs of boring in ash, birch, pine, poplar, and willow; less often in oak, sycamore, and stone fruits.
- [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.
- [Codling moth](#) of apple and pear - Bag fruit. Promptly remove infested and dropped fruit. Apply insecticides only if precisely timed.
- [Compost](#) - Turn and keep it moist.
- Cover fruit trees and grapes with netting to [exclude birds](#) and other [vertebrate pests](#).
- Cypress, or Seridium, [canker](#) - Prune dying branches at least 6 inches below any apparent cankers. Irrigate appropriately. Replace severely affected trees.
- 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.
- [Eutypa dieback](#) - Prune apricot and cherry.
- [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.

Seasonal IPM Checklist

- [Green fruit beetle](#) in fig and stone fruits - Plant varieties that mature early or late in the season, avoid varieties that mature midseason.
- [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.
- [Leaffooted bug](#) - Look for feeding on fruit and nuts such as almonds, pistachios, and pomegranates.
- [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.
- [Mulch](#) - Apply organic mulch where thin or soil is bare beneath trees and shrubs.
- Oak [gall wasps](#) - Usually do no serious harm to oaks. Control is very difficult.
- [Olive knot](#) and [oleander gall, or knot](#) - Prune off galled branches if intolerable.
- [Powdery mildew](#) - Check for signs of disease on apple, crape myrtle, grape, rose, and stone fruits.
- [Redhumped caterpillars](#) - Monitor trees such as liquidambar, redbud, stone fruits, and walnut. Cut off shoots infested with groups of young caterpillars. Apply *Bacillus thuringiensis* or spinosad.
- [Root rot](#) - Favored by excessive water and poor drainage. Avoid overirrigation and waterlogged soil.
- [Rose pests](#) - Manage or take preventive actions for powdery mildew.
- [Spider mites](#) - Irrigate adequately, mist leaf undersides daily, reduce dustiness, spray horticultural oil.
- [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.

Master Gardener activities!

Check out our window at Rise and Grind in Arbuckle!



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

Etiolate—To cause stems to become elongated, weak and pale in color, usually due to insufficient light.

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



MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

THINKING SAFE AND GREEN



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

#18

BITING AND STINGING INSECTS

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



species, fire ants, midges, scorpions, bees including Africanized honey bees, wasps, and hornets.

Information available from the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases indicates more than 40 fatalities annually can be attributed to severe venom allergic reactions (called anaphylaxis) from insect bites or stings. Common California biting and stinging insects include ticks and chiggers, centipedes, mosquitoes, black, deer, and horse flies, spiders including black widow and brown

Aside from allergic reactions, biting and stinging insects cause nuisance bites and stings that can result in tissue swelling, infections of bite and sting sites, skin lesions, itching, dermatitis, and pain or burning sensations.

Symptoms of a severe venom allergic reaction include large areas of itching and hives, difficulty breathing, dizziness, excess sweating, nausea, swelling of the tongue or throat, and possibly a rapid decrease in blood pressure resulting in loss of consciousness.

The following precautions should be taken for preventing insect bites and stings:

- The best defense against biting and stinging insects is to not be bitten by one. Therefore, avoid conducting Master Gardener activities during peak biting or stinging insect activity times (usually early morning and evening hours) and in favorable biting or stinging insect habitat such as wetlands, along streams, lakes, or oceans, and moist shaded portions of wooded, brush-covered, or grassy areas. Also, avoid contact with insect nests, swarming insects, and ant mounds.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants with boots when outdoors. Tucking your pants into your boots or socks helps prevent biting and stinging insect access to your skin.
- Use insect repellants containing compounds such as DEET (repels insects) on exposed skin and permethrin (kills many insects on contact) on clothing only.
- Closely look for insects or insect activity before placing your hands on objects such as rock outcrops or trees or picking up objects from the ground (i.e., rocks, plants, leaves, remote monitoring equipment, etc.)
- Thoroughly inspect the area where you intend to sit, particularly around stumps, logs, boulders, or rock outcrops.
- If you experience an insect bite or sting, wash the wound with soap and water, apply an antiseptic, and cover the wound with a band aid or clean dressing. Carefully remove stingers from skin by using tweezers and then clean and dress sting wounds.
- Never scratch an insect bite or sting.
- Promptly seek professional medical attention if you suspect you are experiencing severe venom allergic reaction symptoms.
- Let your Master Gardener colleagues and program coordinator know in advance if you are allergic to insect bites or stings so they can respond appropriately if you are bitten or stung.

Look at the Leaf

Name: _____

S	N	E	S	L	W	A	S	M	C	H	H	C	S	Z
U	U	P	G	E	X	S	V	E	X	C	A	J	F	Y
N	O	R	I	C	C	F	S	Z	W	R	C	T	A	S
L	R	A	G	U	S	O	P	Z	B	A	L	U	E	W
I	Y	H	X	T	I	S	I	O	B	T	R	V	L	O
G	B	L	F	T	G	Y	N	B	O	S	A	J	C	O
H	M	V	K	E	E	D	A	A	Q	E	O	K	Z	H
T	N	F	N	L	I	G	C	A	L	C	I	U	M	P
S	Z	T	S	O	E	K	H	C	O	L	O	R	I	P
H	Z	R	X	N	S	S	S	X	Y	E	F	C	N	R
A	A	I	X	X	L	F	Y	S	P	O	Q	H	T	Y
P	D	X	Y	A	E	G	Z	S	X	G	I	E	H	A
E	R	U	T	X	E	T	S	M	F	Z	X	Z	I	V
T	V	B	I	N	O	L	I	G	Y	U	T	I	G	T

VOCABULARY LIST

CABBAGE
CALCIUM
CARBON DIOXIDE
SUNLIGHT SHAPE

COLOR
IRON
LEAF
LEAVES

LETTUCE
MINT
OXYGEN
PARSLEY

SPINACH
STARCH
SUGAR
TEXTURE

Garden Club of Colusa County activities

Don't know at this time.

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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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