



Melinda Neillier-ode

Seeds For Thought

Solano County Master Gardeners

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IMPROVE YOUR SOIL WITH COVER CROPS

Kathy Low, U.C. Master Gardener, Solano County

Are you looking for a way to improve your garden soil without chemicals? If so, consider growing a cover crop. Cover crops can help improve your soil organically.



Field Pea
Photo by Bob Bugg

Cover cropping, the practice of growing crops not for the main purpose of a harvestable crop but for soil management or improvement, dates back to ancient times. Through the ages cover cropping has been used by farmers for weed and pest suppression, prevention of soil erosion, and soil improvement. Effective cover cropping begins with first knowing your soil needs, to determine which types of cover crops to grow.

Growing a cover crop of legumes can add nitrogen to the soil. Commonly referred to as green manure, the legumes convert nitrogen in the atmosphere to organic nitrogen. When a legume crop is tilled into the soil and decomposes, the nitrogen becomes available to food-bearing crops in a few weeks. It will also add organic matter, improving moisture retention and drainage in clay soils. But if the cover crop is simply cut down or mowed and left on the surface, it will take longer for it to decompose and for the nitrogen to become available.

Commonly grown leguminous crops in California include bell bean (*Vicia faba*), field pea (*Pisum sativum*), rose clover (*Trifolium*

hirtum), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), subterranean clover (*Trifolium subterraneum*) and hairy vetch (*Vicia villosa*).

Non-legume grass and cereal cover crops are often grown to provide organic matter to the soil. Commonly planted crops in this category include annual ryegrass (*Lolium multiflorum*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), oat (*Avena sativa*), and wheat. These crops have extensive root systems useful for scavenging nutrients left over from the crops that were planted in the same location. Grass crops should be tilled under before maturity.

Some cover crops are good for addressing specific problems or for specific benefits. For example, mustard crops have aggressive taproots that drill through compacted soils such as clay. Mustards also release a chemical compound that can be toxic to some soil-borne pathogens. Bell beans also have aggressive taproots that can help break up compacted soil.



Rose Clover
Photo by Bob Bugg

Another reason to consider planting a cover crop is for the sake of the bees. A variety of flowering cover crops like mustards and crimson clover are attractive to bees and other beneficial insects. The blossoms also add early spring color to your garden.

Growing a cover crop does require work. And, as with any plant, cover crops do

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require some form of water. You should also have a tiller if you intend to try cover cropping.

You can find more information about specific cover crops in the UC Davis Sustainable Agriculture and Research Education Program (SAREP) cover crop database at <http://asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sarep/research-initiatives/are/nutrient-mgmt/cover-crops>. For each crop in the database you'll find common uses for the crop, planting dates, ideal temperatures and geographic range, water considerations and more. ☀



Bell Bean
Photo by Chuck Ingels

DROUGHT TOLERANT WINTER GARDEN

Cheryl Potts, U.C. Master Gardener, Solano County



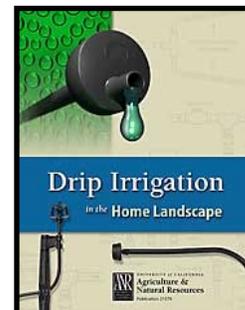
The temperature is in the mid-80's right now, but it really is time to think about getting that winter garden in the ground. Sort of feels like when the Christmas decorations start showing up in the stores and we are still wearing shorts and flip-flops. But so goes the year these days.

Basically, a winter garden is just that; one that we grow in the winter when it is raining and cold. Oh, wait! I forgot. It doesn't rain anymore and winters are barely noticeable here. What to do, what to do?

I am thinking winter gardening needs to be re-evaluated due to the changes nature has given us. Thinking that the watering of my garden will be provided by the clouds above can no longer be assumed. Planting veggies that seem to really like cold, even a few days of frost, are not to be taken for granted. The annual turning off of my drip system mid-autumn is probably a thing of the past.

So what would a drought tolerant vegetable garden look like? First, I would suggest planning on leaving that drip system on. If it does rain, the system can always be adjusted. If you are still hand watering or using a sprinkler system, know that a drip system is considered a far more efficient way to irrigate. I have read that drip, over hand or sprinkler watering, will cut

watering in half. These systems are not difficult to install. There is a book distributed by the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources called *Drip Irrigation in the Home Landscape*, which discusses design, needed materials and information on how to install (anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/Details.aspx?itemNo=21579).



I would also suggest actually using shade. Netting that is used by people to shade their patios works well. Packages of this netting are available in any of the big box or gardening stores. The material can be cut to size and nailed to posts surrounding the garden area. My garden is in raised beds, so we have placed boards across the top of each bed, supported by other boards about 2 1/2 feet high, so the material can simply be draped over the bed in a tent fashion. The material is weighted down in the corners of the bed by rocks for easy access into the bed. A very conscientious gardener may leave the garden unshaded in the early hours of the morning and on not so sunny days, then bring the shading material over their crops when the sun became more intense. I have used my netting in the summer now for several years. I just roll it up and store it away when not in use.

Mulch! Do not forget to mulch. I tend to forget this for my vegetables even when I remember to mulch my flowers. I have heard said that if compost is gold, mulch is platinum. The warmer the sun, the more important the mulch.

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(Continued from Page 2—Drought Tolerant Winter Garden)

Planting in a raised garden bed saves water over an opened soil area. Also consider planting plants closer together than is suggested on the seed packets, again, saving water. The Green Blog from the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources suggests planting in hexagon patterns, putting plants closer together, saving water, and actually allowing plants to provide their own shade for each other.

Weed! We must remember that weeding does not just make our garden prettier, but know that those weeds are wanting as much water, if not more, than you spinach. So keep them gone!

If we have a drip system, we tend to get lazy about watering, as it is being done for us. However, we should pay attention to our plants varied watering needs. A plant needs more water when is new. Once it is well established, its water needs

lessens. Adjust the drip. Then, when the plant is busy giving you its fruit, more water is required. Again, adjust the drip. Plant only what you are going to use and share. We have a tendency to want to plant more than is needed. Just as we, today, are cautioned in our water use, be cautioned in number of plants, as each plant will drink its share of precious water.

Do you have your rain barrel yet? I don't, but know that saving water is becoming a real issue. I am seriously considering developing a rain saving plan.

A bit of caution. We should not forget hats and sunscreen when out working in our gardens, even in winter. So go ahead and plant what you usually plant in your winter garden. Just be aware our weather is changing, so we must make some adjustments in our thinking. ✨

HIRING A LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE COMPANY

Part 1

Ted Mendenhall, U.C. Master Gardener, Solano County



Since the economy tanked a few years ago there have been all manner of people looking for ways to make money. I have seen many people thinking that mowing grass is a good way to make easy money. After all, anyone can mow grass. I have seen folks pushing a mower down the street from house to house. I have seen mowers strapped

down to cars, or in the trunk. It used to be that most people knew a young man who lived down the street and they could get him to mow their lawn. But those days are gone. Lawn care is big business. It might be true that anyone can mow grass, but not everyone can mow a lawn.

So how do you choose one company over another? There are a couple of things that stand out to me and one is—when you call for an appointment and set a time, is the person who is coming out on time? Or, if he is going to be late, will he call to let you know? As a landscape maintenance professional, I try to call if I am running late, even by a few minutes, just to let the customer know. I believe that communication is very important in the initial visit, so you will need to ask a lot of questions, such as:

- How long have you been doing this?
- Do you have references?

- Are you going to be doing the work, or will you have others doing it?
- Will the people doing the work be able to communicate with me (the client)?
- Do you know how to adjust the irrigation?
- Do you know how to take care of the garden as well as the lawn?
- What kind of chemicals do you use?
- Will you remove weeds?
- If you can't come over to do the job because of holidays or an act of nature will you make up the day? (If it is raining, I do not perform work because of the damage it will cause to the property).

These are all good questions but the most important thing is to be to be there the first time they come to the property and watch them work.

Landscape maintenance companies do not need contractors licenses; just a business license. A contractors license would be for any work over \$500, such as wall retainers, decks, cement work, etc.

I told someone I was self employed and they commented on how lucky I was not to have a boss. I told him that everyone of my clients was my boss. ✨



THE AWESOME AVOCADO

Pearl Eddy, U.C. Master Gardener and U.C. Master Food Preserver, Solano County

The avocado tree (*Persea americana*) is dense, evergreen, fast growing and can bear fruit (actually a berry) within one to two years after planting, if it is a grafted tree.

Trees started from a seed may take eight or more years to produce, and you will have no idea until then what kind of fruit you will get. Some mature trees may grow to 80 feet, but trees can be kept pruned down to a more suitable height if desired. They need full sun to be productive but will grow in the shade. They like loose, well-drained soil. It is important to choose a cultivar that is hardy in our area. Among these are the 'Fuerte', 'Zutano', 'Bacon', 'Mexicola' and 'Mexicola Grande'. These last two can withstand frosts down to 17 degrees F, but their fruits are smaller. Pests include rats and squirrels which strip the fruit; snails, mites, fungi and a virus.

The avocado is actually a "super food," containing nearly 20 vitamins and minerals, including potassium, lutein (good for your eyes), folate, vitamins B, C, E, and fiber. They are high in monounsaturated fat, good for lowering bad cholesterol. The fruit does not usually ripen until it is picked from the tree. The flesh of ripe fruits will yield when pressed gently. It's best to purchase harder, unripe fruit and then ripen the fruit at home to avoid excessive handling in the markets. Allow from two to five days for home ripening. You can hasten ripening by placing them in a brown paper bag with an apple or banana. Do not store unripened fruit in the refrigerator because, after being chilled, they will never ripen properly. Once ripe, they can be stored in the refrigerator, unpeeled, for up to two weeks.

One way to tell if the avocado is ready to use is to try to lift off the little "cap" on the top of the stem end. If it lifts off too easily and the color in the depression is brown, it is too ripe. If it is difficult to remove, it's not ripe enough. If the cap comes off easily and the depression has only some green, it is ready to use. To get to the avocado meat, slice it lengthwise all the way around to the depth of the pit. Then gently twist each side in an opposite direction to separate halves. One way to remove the pit is to whack it firmly with a large knife and twist it loose. Sprinkle surfaces with lemon or lime juice to retard browning. Wrap tightly in plastic to store in the

refrigerator for 1 or 2 days. These pieces can also be frozen. You can puree flesh with one Tbsp. lemon juice per 2 avocados and freeze in a tightly-closed container or plastic bag with the air removed. Frozen avocado can be kept 3 to 6 months at 0 degrees F. When you thaw frozen pieces or halves, you will discover that the texture is not the same, but they work great for making guacamole, dressings, soups and spreads. If you have the time, make it up as guacamole and freeze, covering the surface with a little lemon juice or plastic wrap to prevent browning.

Avocado halves can be grilled, flesh side down for a few minutes, after removing the seeds and brushing on some lemon juice and olive oil. Fill the hole with salsa, a little sour cream, and chopped cilantro. Scoop it out with a spoon or serve with tortilla chips. Also, the grilled avocados can be peeled, sliced and used in tacos with corn, black beans and salsa.

To pickle avocados, start with a very firm ripe fruit. Cut in half, pit and peel. Slice crosswise into ½-inch wide slices. Place 1 ½ tsp. peppercorns, 1 ½ tsp. crushed red pepper, and 4 cloves garlic, peeled and thinly sliced, into a pint jar. Add the avocado slices to the jar. Meanwhile, in a pan, combine ½ cup white balsamic vinegar, 2/3 cup water, ½ Tbsp. kosher salt and 1 Tbsp. honey. Boil vinegar mixture

until ingredients are dissolved. Cool completely. Place a rosemary sprig and a thin lemon slice into the jar and cover all with the brine. Cool in refrigerator for at least 6 hours before serving with hummus, warm pita bread, salads, or added to sandwiches.

My favorite guacamole starts with 3 ripe peeled medium avocados, mashed with a potato masher (to leave lumps). Add 1 cup chopped tomato, ½ cup diced onion, 1 jalapeño pepper, minced, several stems cilantro, chopped, ½ tsp. salt, 2 Tbsp. lime (or lemon) juice, 4 or more drops Tabasco and 1 clove minced garlic. Mix all together, taste and add more seasoning, etc., if desired. Cover container and refrigerate. This can be frozen.

I hope that you can find many other ways to enjoy this special gift of nature. ☀



Photo by Melinda Nestlerode

WATER LILIES IN YOUR GARDEN

Kathy Klobas, U.C. Master Gardener, Solano County

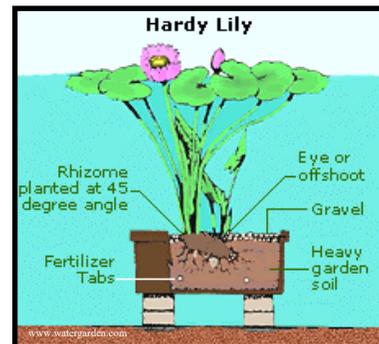


Almost every art lover has seen prints from Monet's beautiful water lily oils. They are serene, impressionistic views of his pond and famous bridge. The shimmering water lilies are a colorful carpet of tranquility amid the watery reflections of light on the surface of the pond. Little known fact: When Monet planted the gardens at Giverny the local planning council did not approve of his putting waterlilies in the pond because they feared they would invade the local waters! Fortunately, Monet ignored them, and we can see his visions of lovely water gardens in his famous artworks.



You can create your own version of this calming garden in your pond or even in pots. In fact, water lilies grow easily in containers in the yard, patio or even indoors. You can get plants in pots, or rhizomes/tubers of hardy varieties at a local nursery or water garden nurseries, even on-line. Water lilies, scientific name *Nymphaea*, are aquatic perennials that grow with their roots in submerged soil. The wide, flat, long-stalked leaves float on the surface with the showy flowers at water level or above on stiff stalks. The flowers can be 6" to 12" in diameter, but there are dwarf varieties also, which grow 3" to 5". Colors of hardy types are white, copper, yellow, pink or red. They bloom mid-summer, can overwinter in the water, and some are fragrant. There are tropical varieties that come in purple and blue but require a warmer climate, Sunset Zone 9 or lower, and are often treated as annuals to be replaced every spring.

Once you have the ones you want, plant the rhizomes in plastic pots or special water-plant pots. Plant at a slight angle with the cut end deeper and the growing tip about 3/4" above the soil level. Use ordinary garden soil, with no compost or lightweight materials that may float out into the water, and cover the soil with up to 1" of washed gravel. Dark gravel rather than white will show less from above the water surface. Some gardeners recommend small lava rocks as they are somewhat porous. The gravel is to prevent the soil from washing out of the pot. Do not cover the crown with soil or gravel. You can fertilize with a controlled-release product at this time, and at monthly intervals afterwards.



Now the lily is ready to be submerged in water. In a pond, set it so that the top of the pot is under about 6" of still water, away from fountains or moving water. Lilies need at least 4-6 hours of sunlight to flourish and bloom. You can adjust the pot height by placing it on sturdy level surface such as a concrete block or upside-down clay pot. Pond fish can complicate keeping the pond clean, and they may nibble the water lily parts.

If using a container for your patio or deck, select one that is at least 12-15" deep with a diameter of 2 or 3 feet. Planning ahead, place your container where it will be staying, remember that water weighs 10 pounds per gallon; a moveable stand may be useful! The garden pot can be non-rusting metal, ceramic or wood that is waterproof and either has no drainage hole or has one you can block with layers of newspaper and soil, wax or landscape fabric. Wooden barrels can be lined with heavy plastic so that chemicals and alcohol residues will not leach out.



Water lilies need space to spread out and need some uncovered water surface so sunlight can reach the roots. Fill the container with ordinary garden water, unsoftened and not chlorinated, so

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that the top of the pot is 6" or so below the surface. Alternately, the pot can be set 2" underwater, and gradually lowered as the stalks grow. When placing the potted tuber into the larger pot lower the pot containing the tuber into the water slowly and at an angle to release air pockets and assure it will not float.

It can take 6 weeks for the planting to stabilize. Don't be alarmed by dark cloudy water or an algae bloom. It will clear up as the lily leaves shade the water surface. Keep the water level up, trim dead leaves and debris in the water. Don't skip fertilizing as waterlilies since they are quick growers! You can divide the roots every other year, but never dispose of unwanted plants near a natural body of water. They will naturally go dormant in the colder weather, reappearing in the spring. Sit back and enjoy your soothing water garden! ☀



UNEXPECTED GIFTS...

Sherry Richards, U.C. Master Gardener, Solano County

Master Gardeners are volunteers who provide horticultural and educational research-based information to the home gardener. In Solano County, we volunteer with the University of California Division of Natural



Agricultural and Resource (ANR) at UC Davis. A few of the things we do as Master Gardeners include, for example, information tables at Farmer's Markets and other venues. We speak to local organizations, or at libraries, about gardening topics like tree pruning, seasonal planting or garden water conservation. We write and distribute public newsletters, write blogs and staff hotlines.

It has been my pleasure for many years to provide volunteer time to the University. I enjoy meeting with the public and interacting with them. I love to garden, get my hands in the soil, smell the fragrance of flowers, look at the beauty of leaves and plants, feel the sun on my face, check for good and bad insects and see other of nature's creatures that inhabit a garden. Hours pass sometimes, when I just intended to pull a weed or two. It's a peaceful experience for me. *My garden is a gift...*

One day last June, I had the opportunity to take part, as a Master Gardener, at an information table at the Vallejo Kaiser Permanente Hospital. It was their "Celebrate Life" event which is a day in which they honor and celebrate cancer survivors. There are many notable speakers and panel discussions for the attendees. There are informational tables and demonstrations. Just to name a few of them: massage for health, aromatherapy for health, cosmetic dermatology, life care planning, healthy food selection and preparation. "Aaron" the comfort dog, was there. Comfort dogs can bring a calming influence to people.

Our group of four Master Gardeners gathered garden



information pamphlets to hand out. We made table floral displays with flowers from our gardens. We brought along enough succulent cuttings, donated by Master Gardeners, to give one to anyone dropping by our table. Kaiser Permanente

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provided basil, thyme and coriander herb seed papers to hand out. We talked with many people at our table during this well-attended event.

Usually, we answer questions and provide gardening advice and we did, along with handing out succulent starts and herb seed papers. Sure, we answered gardening questions but there was something much more in the air that day, for me personally, that touched my heart and brought back special memories. *Unexpected gifts...*

Some years ago, every summer I would visit, for a few weeks, with my best friend Linda and her husband in Tennessee. She had cancer treatments for many years during these visits. I offered to plant a small herb garden for her each year. She loved to cook. I think somehow, during that time, cooking was a way for her to maybe forget cancer, for a little while.

I remember the first year the herb garden had to be moved because their dogs liked to pull out and toss the herb plants in the air. Unfortunately, the new location, safe from dog amusement, had biting ants, who didn't like their home disturbed, so the herb garden was moved again where it remained for several years.

I remember how many times she would call me and say how much she loved cutting and using the herbs when she cooked for her family. We would laugh about the dogs and the ants! Go figure how herb seed papers can bring back such happy memories of little herb garden in Tennessee. *Unexpected gifts...*

I felt an out-of-the the ordinary camaraderie with the other Master Gardeners I worked with at this event. There was just something special about being together that day at that event. *Unexpected gifts...*

There was a joy in my heart for another reason. Happy memories of when I was a little girl gardening with my father. You see, he loved succulents. *Unexpected gifts...*

For more information about this event, please see our "Under the Solano Sun" Blog – July 2016, By Sharon Rico, Master Gardener, <http://ucanr.org/blogs/USS> ☀

UNEXPECTED GIFTS

Thought I was sharing about plants & soil
Succulents, herb seed paper needing little toil
Smiling faces, listening, talking, sharing
Sun shining, family and friends, with such caring

Doctors, nurses and others helped made it a grand day
What more can I say?
My heart was touched; happy memories came my way
Unexpected gifts on a very special day



~ SOLANO COLLEGE WINTER PLANT SALE ~

December 1, 2, and 3, 2016

Thursday: 8:00am to 6:00pm * Friday: 8:00am to 5:00pm * Saturday: 9:00am to 1:00pm
Louise Wilbourn Yarborough Horticulture and Plant Science Institute (formerly Building 1000) at Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield

The Horticulture Club at Solano Community College will host its annual Winter Plant Sale from Thursday through Saturday, December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The sale will feature the ever-popular wreaths and swags made by the Horticultural Department, as well as holiday planted gifts, winter vegetable starts, CA natives, plants and trees for outdoor landscaping, succulents, houseplants, floral arrangements, etc., all in time for the holidays.

Drawings for door prizes will occur throughout the sale. Proceeds from the sale provide scholarships, equipment and reference materials for Solano Community College horticultural students.

Contact Ken Williams (707) 975-6856, or kennav27@aol.com for further information.



WREATH WORKSHOP



Join the Master Gardeners-Solano for our 22nd Annual Wreath Workshop



DECEMBER 10, 2016
 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
 Community United
 Methodist Church
 1875 Fairfield Avenue
 Fairfield, CA 94533

Join the Master Gardeners for a festive afternoon of wreath making on December 10, 2016. The \$50 fee (per person) includes all materials to create one wreath from fresh redwood and a selection of ornamental greens; dried hydrangeas; pinecones; dried lemons, oranges and other fruits; dried lavender; many other organic decorations; ribbon and bows; and the wreath frame and wire and refreshments.

Master Gardeners provide wreath-making assistance and delicious refreshments.

This is a wonderful annual tradition for families!

Contact Jennifer at (707) 389-0645 or
jmbaumbach@ucanr.edu to RSVP today!



FALL GARDENING GUIDE



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
P L A N T I N G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Edibles: Plant loose leaf lettuce and spinach, set out seedlings such as onion and garlic for next year's harvest. ◇ Ornamentals: Anything that's not frost-tender, including groundcovers, vines and perennials. ◇ Dig, divide and replant overgrown perennials after they finish blooming. ◇ Put tulip and hyacinth bulbs in the refrigerator for six weeks before planting. ◇ Buy and pot amaryllis or 'Paper White' narcissus bulbs for Christmas blooms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Edibles: Plant cool weather vegetable transplants such as broccoli, kale, chard and cauliflower. Plant radishes and peas from seed. Put in biennial and perennial herbs, such as chives, Greek oregano, parsley, marjoram, winter savory, lemon or common thyme. ◇ Plant spring-blooming bulbs and tubers. ◇ Winter and spring-blooming annuals available now include sweet peas, Iceland poppies, primroses, snapdragons, cyclamen, pansies and violas. ◇ Deciduous trees, shrubs and vines are often ablaze now, so shop nurseries for favorite color choices. Plant right away. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Edibles: Plant bare-root berries and grapes, and dormant roots of asparagus and artichokes. Seeds of broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and lettuce can be planted indoors. ◇ Plant for early spring color, with flowering quince, acacias, camellias, primroses and cyclamen. ◇ Decoratively pot living holiday gifts, including herbs, which grow well indoors in a sunny window. ◇ Plan spring deck, patio and porch plantings.
M A I N T E N A N C E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Keep deadheading shrubs and annuals. It will encourage annuals to bloom a bit longer and keep shrubs looking tidy. ◇ Fertilize roses for the last time this fall. ◇ Renovate a tired lawn by dethatching, aerating, fertilizing and over-seeding. Lower the blades of your mower to 1 inch after summer's heat. ◇ Add organic matter/compost to vegetable beds after double-digging and loosening soil to a depth of 24 inches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Adjust water schedule once rain begins. If no rain yet, keep vegetables irrigated. ◇ Apply dormant fruit spray to trees after leaves drop. Use 50 percent copper or lime sulfur product for peach leaf curl on peaches and nectarines. <u>On apricots</u>, use fixed copper spray rather than lime sulfur. ◇ Fertilize fall-planted annuals and vegetables with a high nitrogen fertilizer. Cut back mums to six inches above ground when they are finished blooming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Continue to fertilize fall-planted annuals and vegetables to provide needed nutrients for root development. ◇ Keep poinsettias in a warm, sunny location, away from drafts. Water weekly and fertilize monthly through April. ◇ Put your living Christmas tree outside until a few days before December 25, lessening stress. ◇ Before storing garden tools for winter, clean, sharpen and oil garden pruners and shears, and wash mud off shovels and rakes. Oil wooden handles of all tools.
P R E V E N T I O N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Remove fallen fruits, vegetables, diseased leaves and weeds from garden beds to reduce next year's garden pest and disease problems. ◇ If no rain yet, or very little, continue to irrigate. Once consistent rain begins (fingers crossed), check for areas of standing water, the breeding ground for mosquitos. ◇ Apply copper or other recommended controls if you see brown rot or citrus blast on your citrus trees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Bait for snails and slugs with an iron phosphate-based bait. ◇ Fight cabbage loopers by using floating row covers to keep the adult white butterflies from laying eggs on leaves. ◇ Apply pre-emergent weed control among plantings and on your lawn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Hoe and pull weeds diligently. Mulch to keep weeds down. ◇ Apply a dormant spray to kill insect eggs and pests such as aphids, mites and scale, as well as fungi and bacteria. ◇ If a freeze warning is in effect, turn off drip irrigation and remove the end plug for drainage. <div data-bbox="1149 1591 1487 1927" data-label="Image"> </div>

MASTER GARDENERS IN THE COMMUNITY

Master Gardeners Will Staff an Information Booth at the Following Locations

VALLEJO

At the Vallejo Farmers Market throughout the year on

SATURDAYS
9:00am to 2:00pm

BENICIA

At the Benicia Farmers Market, through October 27, 2016

THURSDAYS
4:00pm to 6:30pm

VACAVILLE

At the Vacaville Farmers Market, through October 8, 2016

SATURDAYS
8:00am to 12:00pm

FAIRFIELD

At the Fairfield Farmers Market through October 6, 2016

THURSDAYS
3:00pm to 7:00pm

HOME DEPOT

Master Gardeners will be at the Fairfield Home Depot every other Saturday

March 5, 2016 through October 15, 2016
10:00am to 2:00pm

**2121 Cadenasso Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533**



Gardening Resource Guide

Presented by the
University of California Cooperative Extension
*Master Gardeners of
Solano County*

The New Solano Gardening Resource Guide is now available for sale for \$20.00.

The guide includes valuable information such as:

- Solano's climate zones and soil types
- Nurseries, specialized vendor and other garden related suppliers
- Arborists, landscapers and other service providers
- Soil and water testing laboratories
- Relevant laws
- Gardening calendar
- Gardens and other places to visit
- And so much more!

At this time, the Resource Guide may be purchased in person (by appointment) at the MG Office at 501 Texas Street, first floor, Fairfield (707-389-0645) or jmbaumbach@ucanr.edu

Vegetable Planting Guide

-  preferred time to seed in a greenhouse or other protected area (e.g. coldframe, well lit window)
-  preferred time to transplant
-  preferred time to direct seed
-  seeding
-  transplanting

Seeding and transplanting dates may vary between varieties. Please check seed package or nursery for additional information.

Weather can modify planting and harvesting dates.



Information provided by Robert Norris, Department of Plant Sciences, 2008

SUMMER/FALL Vegetables for the Sacramento Area												
JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
brussels sprout												
cabbage												
parsnips												
cauliflower & broccoli												
carrots												
rutabaga												
lettuce												
lettuce												
lettuce												
turnips												
spinach												
spinach												
fava beans												
peas												

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Baumbach".

Jennifer M. Baumbach

Master Gardener Program Coordinator



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