



# GARDEN VIEWS

A Master Gardener Newsletter



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June 2004

## Vegetable Gardening in Limited Space

By Jeri Kuoppmaki, MG

How many of you have thought that you would like to grow vegetables, but just don't have enough space? Perhaps your yard is small, you live in an apartment, condo, or mobile home, or you have already filled almost every space in your yard with other prized plants. Well, that is no excuse, because you can still have your vegetable garden.

Many kinds of vegetables can be readily grown in containers. The key is finding a sunny spot to place your containers where the vegetables will receive five or more hours of sunlight daily. Leafy vegetables such as cabbage and mustard greens can tolerate more shade than root vegetables like radishes and beets. Vegetables that bear fruit such as peppers, tomatoes, and cucumbers will need the most sun.

Containers come in many different shapes, sizes, and materials—baskets; ceramic, plastic, or clay pots; wooden boxes; and tubs. The important thing to remember is that all containers need a number of holes in the bottom for adequate drainage. If the container does not drain quickly after watering thoroughly, additional holes should be punched. Remember, drainage is reduced when the container is placed on a solid surface, such as cement. In such cases, it's advisable to raise the container one or two inches off the floor by setting it on something that will allow it to drain freely.

The vegetable you wish to grow will determine the size of the container. Most vegetables can be grown in containers that allow ample space for root development. For example, shallow rooted plants such as lettuce, radishes, peppers, and herbs need a container with an eight-inch soil depth. Tomatoes, squash, pole beans, and cucumbers need large, deep containers.

Planting and spacing requirements for most vegetables are found on the seed packet or plant tag. A container can sustain only a limited quantity of

plants so base the number of plants you choose on the container size and the eventual size of the mature plant. If you plant seeds, plant more seed than needed, then thin to the desired number after sprouting and when the foliage is touching.

Pick a planting medium that provides rapid drainage, while maintaining enough water retention to keep the root zone moist. A good lightweight potting mix without added soil will work well and be free of diseases and weeds. You can also make your own planting medium by mixing equal parts of sand, loamy garden soil, and peat moss or composted leaves. You will need to heat the mixture in the oven for one hour at 210 degrees F to kill any bacteria, fungi, insects, or weed seeds.

Soil-less potting mixes don't contain many nutrients, so regular fertilization with a complete spectrum is needed (5-10-10 or 10-10-10). Time-released fertilizer can also be used. Do not over-fertilize. It is better to apply half the usual amount twice as often, and you may want to test the pH of your planting medium. The ideal pH is 6.0 to 6.5.



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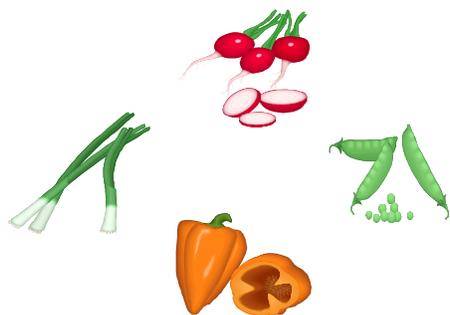
(Vegetables continued from page 1)

One of the most important considerations when container gardening is to provide the proper amount of water. Some vegetables need watering every day, depending on weather conditions, container size, and the size of the plant. It's best to run the water through the hose until it is cool before watering the plant. Hot water from a hose that has been in the sun may retard root development.

There are many possibilities for container planting in limited spaces. A five-gallon window box can grow bush beans, lima beans, beets, lettuce, onions, radishes, spinach, and carrots (if at least 12 inches deep). A one-gallon pot is sufficient for a cucumber plant. A pepper plant can be planted in a two-gallon pot, five in a 15 gallon tub. The following plants will do well in a five-gallon pot: broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, Chinese cabbage, eggplant, and tomatoes. Larger containers will hold multiple plants. Containers can be placed in borders along walkways and among foundation plantings. A fence or a trellis is great for growing many vegetables, especially the vining types such as cucumbers and melons. Pole beans also do well here. Cantaloupes may need a sling (a piece of nylon hose works well) as they begin to enlarge. Strawberries can be grown in a hanging basket, and herbs adapt to hanging baskets and a variety of containers well.

Plant breeders have made container vegetable gardening more practical by developing plants with compact growth habits and relatively high crop yield. Almost any vegetable can be adapted to container culture. Become creative and discover how fun vegetable gardening can be in a limited space.

*Resource: Larry Bass, Extension Horticultural Specialist, Dept. of Horticultural Science, North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, North Carolina State University.* 🍷



## The Indian Canyons of Palm Springs

By Pat Romberg, MG

Some years ago, in fact quite a few years ago, I hiked occasionally with a group in the Indian Canyons in Palm Springs. Recently, while my son from Alaska was visiting here we again hiked one of these canyons.

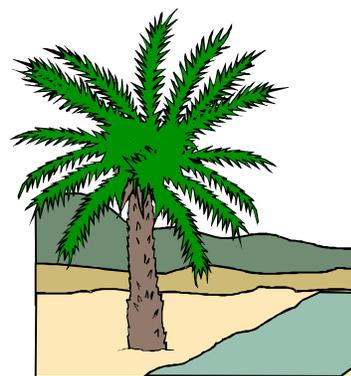
The canyons are natural treasures with huge rock formations, running streams and native palms. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians owns these canyons and considers them sacred.

For years the canyons were invaded by illegal campers who left trash, polluted the streams, and defaced the rocks. The Indians have now cleaned up the canyons, put in good roads leading to them, and have organized the area with guard stations and ranger-led hikes.

Tahquitz Canyon and three others are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Palm and Andreas canyons are noted for having the most palm trees in the world. This area is of historical significance to scientists. The new developments in this area include a cultural museum where exhibits portray the history and culture of the Cahuilla people. The shop sells native jewelry, arts and crafts, books, and music.

Extensive educational programs are held for adults and for children. The classes include the study of desert reptiles and insects, ethno-botany on indigenous plants, making yucca quivers, the Cahuilla language, and Indian history and folklore.

Special points of interest are large flat rocks with round holes of different sizes, which were used by early Indians for grinding grains, seeds, and plants for medications. The streams are now beautifully clear,



clean, and cold. The canyon hikes require some agility and good hiking shoes. Even on a warm day the areas sheltered by tall rocks are cool.

Palm trees in the canyons are left as they grow, with skirts of dry fronds. Visiting the canyons in spring can include seeing some wild flowers in bloom. Our recent visit was in January, too early for spring flowers.

One of the special programs available is an elementary school outreach program. Rangers go to classrooms with a choice of tapes on habitat, animals, and endangered species. This well-organized program developed the band reflects their motto, "Through You My Ancient People, I Am."

The canyons are open daily. There is an admission fee. Call 800.790.3398.

## Flower Power in Integrated Pest Management

By Sally Peerbolt, MG

Learning Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an important part of becoming a Master Gardener. Reducing the use of pesticides and using mechanical barriers and biological controls are effective ways of managing pests in the gardens. One of the primary methods of IPM is to encourage the presence of beneficial insects by using plantings that will feed and nurture the beneficials. Lady beetles, lacewings, parasitic wasps, syrphid flies, tachinid flies and mini-wasps seek pollen and nectar from very specific plants to provide them with the protein and carbohydrates they need to survive.

Many beneficials are minute in size with small mouthparts suited for small, shallow flowers. Flowers with these umbel-type blooms include those in the carrot family (dill, cilantro, fennel, and parsley), and some daisy-like flowers. Some plants have extra floral nectaries, a nectar food source located outside the flower. These include the sunflower and cover crops such as fava beans, cowpeas, and vetch. Although the peony is not a plant commonly grown in this area, the bud is covered with nectar before it even opens.

In a three-year study of 130 plants Dr. Whitney Crenshaw at Colorado State University found 30 varieties of ornamental plants that attracted the most beneficial insects. Only one plant, golden marguerite (*Anthemis tinctoria*), enticed all five beneficial groups.

The following nine plants, when added to a garden provide food for the majority of beneficials—*anise, hyssop, cilantro, coreopsis, cosmos, fennel, golden marguerite, lavender, sweet alyssum, and yarrow*. By interspersing these plants with other nectar producing plants such as *rudbeckia, goldenrod, zinnias, calendula, marigolds, santolina, catmint, and penstemon*, you can provide a year round succession of insectary plants that offer colorful blooms while feeding beneficial insects. To keep the insects happy and hanging around remember to offer shelter such as tall plants, water, and avoid spraying pesticides. Remember, even "natural" pesticides cannot distinguish between helpful and harmful insects.

Source: *Organic Gardening*, April, May 2004, "Blooms for Beneficials" by Kris Wetherbee.



## Share the Wealth

By Cindy McCabe, MG

Memories, shared experiences, history, advice, and opinions are the reasons many gardeners seem genetically predisposed to seek horticultural gems of the past. Many gardeners throughout the world have had the foresight to encourage and preserve their family's living treasures. Some people remember a section of grandmother's garden that was called her "friendship garden." Neighbors and relatives who visited would customarily depart with a slip of some plant in a handkerchief that was dampened with water. Groups such as the Seed Savers Exchange were founded on the premise of preserving and passing along an important part of our garden heritage.

The perspicacious and amusing authors of *Passalong Plants* (University of North Carolina Press, 1993), Steve Bender and Felder Rushing, want other gardeners to know the truth about botanical evangelism. My favorite quote from the book's introduction is, "A gardener wants every person who will listen to know that working with plants is simply the best way to spend every afternoon for the rest of your life." Gardeners covet horticultural oddities, particularly any plant with a sweet smell. Many plants that are part of our childhood are especially sought

(Share continued on page 8)

**MOVING?**

Please let us know when you change your address or phone number. Contact **Buck Hemenway**, Membership Coordinator, at a meeting or call him at (909) 360-8802. He will make sure the information gets changed on the membership roster so you will not miss out on newsletters and phone calls. Thanks!

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**Garden Views**

The *Garden Views* newsletter is published monthly, September through June, by the U. C. Master Gardeners, Cooperative Extension, University of California, Riverside County. All reporters are Master Gardeners or Master Gardeners-in-training.

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**Sounding Off...**



*We like to get mail, and it doesn't matter if it's email or USPS mail. Let us know what's on your mind. If one of our stories prompts you to share something please do. If you'd like other MGs opinions, just ask. We'd like to make this section of the newsletter your place to sound off with whatever's on your mind. Write or email to Nancy Sappington, 66780 Yucca Drive, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240, [nsappington@esri.com](mailto:nsappington@esri.com).*

**Hort Shorts**

Compiled by **Nancy Sappington, MG**

**New Hardiness Map Delayed**

According to a report in the May edition of *HortIdeas*, the final release of the long-awaited U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Hardiness Zone Map update has been delayed because of concerns that the northward movements of many zone boundaries in the draft of the revised map (apparently reflecting global warming trends) might be inaccurate given the cold temperatures in some parts of the country during the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 winters. The draft revision was originally publicized approximately a year ago. The unofficial original draft of the revised map is still available for downloading at [www.ahs.org/publications/usda\\_hardiness\\_zone\\_map.htm](http://www.ahs.org/publications/usda_hardiness_zone_map.htm). It reflects weather data collected between 1986 and 2002.

**Kitchen Gardeners International** is a non-profit organization that was recently formed to help people connect with their food, the land, and each other by promoting the many benefits—health, environmental, gastronomic, and lifestyle—that come with playing an active role in one's food production and preparation. To learn more about the group's activities, visit [www.kitchengardeners.org](http://www.kitchengardeners.org) or call 207.883.6773.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER . . . . .



**CATCH US IN SEPTEMBER**

Garden Views Staff

## These Plants Are Wild

By Cindy McCabe, MG

More than 200,000 vascular plants populate this earth and every one of them started off somewhere as a wildflower. Wildflowers that were beloved by significant masses of people figured strongly in folklore and custom. Plants that proliferated in many different places around the globe acquired numerous common names.

The foxglove, for instance, has 43 common titles. In England, the foxglove was a "fairy" plant. Its corollas were given by fairies to foxes, and the foxes wore them as gloves to sneak, with magical silence, into chicken coops. Among other powers, foxgloves were supposed to lure back children kidnapped by fairies.

Less fanciful heirloom plants marked the seasons and even the time of day. In Cedar Falls, Iowa, the residents stored their winter clothes when "the blue flags bloomed." British country folk told time by wild chicory flowers, which open at 7 am and close at midday. The culinary staple, garlic, was introduced to England in 1548 from the Mediterranean area, where it was thought to be an aphrodisiac. Garlic was held at arm's length in the Orient and believed to possess magical qualities. In Germany, miners wore cloves of garlic when going underground to ward off evil spirits. We all know about the benefits of garlic when confronted with "vampire activity."

Many of these ancient plants have been shown to contain certain beneficial qualities despite their primitive origins in folklore. Foxglove, for example, has provided an important source of a modern heart medication, and garlic has lowered cholesterol in recent trials. Many wild plants contain antibacterial, anti-fungal, and antibiotic qualities; others have stimulant or sedative properties; some restore energy or relieve pain. We pay these plants, which are living antiques, only passing acknowledgement and even blame them for reclaiming gardens, which were once their domain. Don't expect wild plants to

fend for themselves. It is up to us, as well as future generations, to preserve these important examples of living history. 

## Success With Epiphyllums

By Pat Romberg, MG

Members of the cactus family are usually associated with deserts and arid regions. However, cactus can also be found in the tropical rain forests of Mexico, the West Indies, and Central and South America. These cacti are not rooted in the ground but grow high in the trees of tropical rain forests. They grow in moss, leaf mold, and litter.

*Epiphyllum* is a Greek word meaning "upon the leaf." The flowers of *Epiphyllums* appear on long leaf-like branches. There are approximately 20 species of *Epiphyllums*. They are true cacti in a genus by themselves. The species *Epiphyllum* has large, fragrant night blooming flowers, usually white. I have found these to be more frost-tender than the hybrid varieties.

Hybrid *Epiphyllums* have blooms in brilliant shades of red, orange, pink, and yellow. They come in different forms—ruffled, pinwheels, and pompons. Some have extremely large blooms. They thrive in warm weather, filtered sun, and well-drained soil. The soil should never be completely dry, but allow the top one-third to dry between waterings. Then water thoroughly enough for water to flow from drain holes.

Suitable growing locations for *Epiphyllums* under lath, shade cloth, under leafy trees, or areas with a few hours of morning or afternoon sun. They prefer temperatures that range between 45 and 70 degrees F., but will tolerate heat if kept well shaded with humidity.

If exposed to freezing temperatures for very long, *Epiphyllums* will freeze. I have put *Epiphyllums* in small plastic covered greenhouses, placed next to a wall and under a roof overhang during the winter. This provided adequate frost protection during the San Gorgonio Pass winters. Areas with less severe winters may not need frost protection. However, they should be protected from strong, cold winds. Cool winter temperatures and long nights promote bud formation.

Commercial potting mix can be used if it is coarse and fast draining. Mixes can be improved by adding perlite, fine bark, pumice, or small gravel. A recipe for homemade mix is one part leaf mold or

(*Epiphyllums* continued on page 6)

(*Epiphyllums* continued from page 5)

azalea/camellia mix, one part fine redwood bark, one part perlite. You can add one-half part charcoal.

A balanced fertilizer can be applied monthly from spring to fall. Use a low nitrogen fertilizer in November and February. Do not fertilize during December and January. Too little is better than too much.

To start new plants, make cuttings six to eight inches long. Allow to dry on the cut end before planting. They should flower in one or two years. *Epiphyllums* are best suited to hanging pots because of their long, strap-like branches on which blossoms form. In hanging pots they have adequate space, are protected from snails, and slugs, and display their blooms best. Their spectacular spring blooms are quite an attraction.

Rainbow Gardens, 1444 Taylor Street in Vista, CA (619.758.4290), sells *Epiphyllums*. For a fee you can receive the Rainbow Gardens' catalogue of *Epiphyllums*.



## Plant of the Month—Yarrow

By Donna Claypool, MG

Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) is a member of the sunflower family, *Asteraceae* (*Compositae*). It is found nearly worldwide and has many names: milfoil, plumajillo (little feather), sneezeweed, and nosebleed. The scientific name *Achillea* is derived from the Greek hero Achilles who claimed that its blooms made an excellent poultice for stopping bleeding. Roman soldiers also used it for that purpose. Milfoil is French and means one thousand leaves.

California Indians thought it to be a potent love charm. They drank a tea, made from the entire plant as a tonic. Yarrow steam was used to clear their sinuses. In Sweden, a variety is used as a substitute for hops in making beer. Yarrow should be used with caution because it contains some alkaloidal poison.

*Achillea millefolium* is a perennial that grows in all zones. It has aromatic, feathery leaves on tough stems, with a flattish cluster of small, white flower heads with broad rounded rays, 1/8-inch long, surrounding 10 to 30 tiny disk flowers. Leaves are lance-shaped to 8 inches long and divided into very fine segments. It grows in clumps from 18 to 30 inches high and spreads by underground runners. Flower colors range from white to pink to red. Yarrow blooms from March to October.

Hybrids of *A. millefolium* and *A. taygetea* ('Galaxy' series, 'Summer Pastels', 'Debutante') bear flowers ranging from pastels to vivid colors. 'Moonshine' bears yellow flowers and silvery leaves.

Give it full sun and cut back after flowering. It is drought tolerant but looks best with some water. Divide crowded clumps; in a few years, the center of the plant will get woody. Dig it up in the fall, throw the center on the compost heap, and replant the young side growth. If you start from seed, you have to wait two years for flowers.

Yarrow is a versatile and useful plant. It controls erosion when planted by seed on slopes. It is also a good ground cover on dry slopes where fire control is a concern. Just trim it annually with a string trimmer.

Yarrow can be a substitute for turfgrass with supplemental water, and it requires only monthly mowing. It is good as turf in areas where it receives only light or occasional foot traffic. It is not for use in high traffic areas.

Yarrow offers a haven for beneficial insects attracting lady beetles, bees, and parasitic wasps as well as butterflies.

Blossoms from yarrow dry well. Harvest it at peak size and color. Pick flowers after the dew has dried but before temperatures rise. Make small bunches and tie with a rubber band. (Don't use string as the bunches will fall apart when they shrink.) Hang them upside down until dried and leave plenty of space for air circulation.



## Help! A Plant Just Ate My Mother!

By Alison Shilling, MG

In Hawaii, ringspot virus was devastating the papaya crop. In the mid-1990s gene manipulation provided resistance to the virus and rescued many farmers' livelihood.

Worldwide in 2003, 55 percent of the soybean crop, 21 percent of cotton, 16 percent of canola and 11 percent of corn was produced from genetically-engineered (GE) seed—pest-resistant or herbicide-tolerant. Yet in the same year, the European Union banned all imports from GE crops; Japan and South Korea severely restricted them, and countries in Africa rejected GE corn even for their malnourished populations. Mendocino County passed a ban on growing GE crops, and four more California counties have similar measures on the ballot for November 2004. What is the problem?

Genetic engineering, also called recombinant DNA technology, transgenesis or genetic modification, involves the insertion of one or more genes into a species, often from a different family or even phylum. In the United States more than 60 GE crops are approved without restrictions for commercial planting, having passed field-testing approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Federal Drug Administration. In addition to better disease and pest resistance, these crops provide higher yields and often other benefits such as higher nutrient levels.

Even the proponents of this technology admit to some problems: some people developed allergies from soybeans modified with the Brazil-nut gene; Monarch butterflies (and other non-target species) are dying from exposure to corn modified to resist the corn borer. Accidental spread of transgenic genes is well documented—in Japan, 25 of 80 random samples of supposedly conventional soybean products were significantly contaminated. Current literature suggests that more care is now being taken with separation, advocating a one-mile distance, but this is not reassuring when, in Scotland, canola transgenes spread ten miles from the mainland to an island. The technology is not a panacea. Alfalfa, the most widely planted crop in California, can be modified to resist Round Up<sup>R</sup> (glyphosate), which can then be used to eliminate weeds

that kill a number of horses each year. However, some weeds not killed by Round-Up become more plentiful. Even so, most farmers are in favor, because of the \$44 per ton more they get for non-weedy hay and because lower pesticide use results in less polluted run-off.

Other theoretic and unsubstantiated concerns cited by opponents are that GE traits could spread from the crop to its weedy relatives creating "superweeds," or that the crop itself could invade nearby wildlands. Opponents object that they cannot find out whether a product contains GE components. The Cartagena Protocol 2003 of the World Trade Organization mandated labeling, but the United States along with China and Russia have not ratified this.

The technology is costly. The producing company holds the patent and has often engineered the plant not to produce viable seed, (like hybrids) which means that poor, third world farmers cannot save seed but must buy it each year if they want the improved characteristics. The huge investment required also means that few GM varieties are engineered.

Even though the United States along with Canada, Argentina, and Australia, is protesting the European moratorium on GE crops, saying that it is "not based on the sound application of science," U.S. agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Army Corps of Engineers are now opposing the use of modified creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis stolonifera*) on golf courses. They say that the possibilities and consequences of escape pose too great a risk. Scotts Co., which is testing 400 acres in Oregon, insists that golf courses keep the grass too short to permit flowering. In my opinion, that is idealistic. A creeping plant could easily worm its way into the rough, and prevention of that would be as troublesome as the eradication of weeds is at present on greens. A future use of GE plants is far more radical. At present, many protein-based drugs (such as insulin) are produced in fermentation vats using microorganisms or even mammalian cells. These could be produced more cheaply and safely by GE plants and in 2003, there were 34 'bio-pharm' field test sites. However, even under

(Biotechnology continued on page 8)

(**Biotechnology** continued from page 7)

ideal conditions, (using a non-food plant with no near relatives), it would be vital to prevent escape into the wild by physical barriers and engineered sterility.

Should governments regulate biotechnology, or should the consumer decide? It seems to me that the obvious compromise is to label products, and let those who are concerned educate themselves about the issue. There are bills before both Houses this year to mandate labeling. 

## A Gardener's Heritage

By **Cindy McCabe, MG**

Fashion is usually associated with skirt lengths or tie widths, but it has an influence much greater than just clothing or home furnishings. When gardening is popular, the landscape changes from one decade to the next. Cycles of flowers are almost as volatile as haute couture. When lapel buttonholes disappeared from men's jackets, bachelor's buttons were no longer hybridized in different colors or with stem lengths to serve as boutonnières. Fashion has sometimes harmed current garden selections, but it has also led to innovations in the flower world. Trends in garden design have brought more white forms of flowers and many hybrids into cultivation.

In 1975, the Hardy Plant Society published the *Plant Finder*, which listed all known cultivars of plants in commerce within the U.K. The first edition listed 22,000 plants. In 1994 that number rose to 65,000 cultivars. But despite the increase in hybridization, oriental poppies and crocuses lost large numbers of hybrids from their ranks. In fact, in those 19 years of plant development, approximately 700 hybrids were no longer in commerce. Since hybridizers must sell their product, their "innovations" are subject to the whims of the times.

The pioneer life was not easy, but it was more comfortable when accompanied by plants from "the old country." Heated, glass houses were introduced to North America in the late 1700s. The advent of steam travel in the early 1800s saw explorers from the tropics satisfying the garden appetites of wealthy aristocrats. Eventually,

the hardiest of the new arrivals filtered into the public domain. Tender tropicals remained the property of the well-heeled citizens who could afford to protect them in expensive glass houses.

It seems like it is human nature to want to grow plants that we enjoyed in a different state or country and mostly require special conditions. A non-native plant can succeed and persist from one season to the next only if its basic needs are met, and sometimes those are very different from the habitat at hand.

Hybridizers may tinker with plants to lengthen their stems or render them dwarf, but few man-made changes can rival the adaptations in which nature enables their survival in a harsh environment. Diversity seems to be the key to ensure certain plants will endure for centuries.

What might be considered an heirloom in one community would be ignored in another. Sweeping generalizations are impossible, but a few traits recur. Heirlooms tend to be more fragrant than their modern counterparts. Many heirlooms are taller and have more subdued colors than the newest hybrids. Above all, heirlooms tend to be more disease-resistant, because they are genetically closer to modern-day weeds. Every gardener knows that weeds can be the hardiest plants on the planet! 

(**Share** continued from page 3)

after and prized. Our most valued garden possessions are often those that elicit an emotional response. Above all, *Passalong Plants* reminds us that there are two acceptable ways to respond when gifted with a plant:

1. You can inform the giver that you cannot thank them, or else the gift will not grow.
2. Or you can offer polite thanks, in which case the door may be closed to a future conversation.

My favorite is... the best way to thank a person for a cutting is to share a piece of that plant with someone else! 

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 **MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR** 

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**HAPPY SUMMER MASTER GARDENERS!** Garden Views takes a break during July and August. Look for the next edition in early September. In the meantime, stay cool, and enjoy some of these summer activities.

**June 16, 6:00 pm -- MG GRADUATION DINNER**

At Benedict Castle, 5445 Chicago Avenue, Riverside.

**MEETINGS**

**Garden Views Staff Meetings --**

TBA -- Please contact Nancy Sappington, 909-793-2853, for date, time and location of the August meeting.

**June 9, 6:30 pm -- Advisory Board Meeting at Cooperative Extension Office**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**Phone Squad:** Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Call Phone Squad Coordinator Shelley Wardrop to volunteer, 909-788-8197.

**TOURS AND EVENTS**

**Saturday, June 5 -- Cactus Caper**

A celebration of the new cactus garden with exhibits, tours, and wine tasting, 2-6 pm, Ganna Walska Lotusland, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, reservations 805-969-9990. Admission is \$50.00.

**Saturday, June 19 -- Festival of Fruit**

California Rare Fruit Growers' Festival of Fruit, including speakers, fruit tasting, plant sales and tours. Cal Poly Pomona, 805-584-6244, [www.crfg.org/festival](http://www.crfg.org/festival).

**Saturday and Sunday, June 26-27 -- International Gourd Art Festival**

Welburn Gourd Farm, 40635 De Luz Road, Fallbrook, 760-728-4271.

**Saturday and Sunday, June 26-27 -- Lavender Festival**

Rusty Acres Herb Farm, 4233 Rosa Rancho Lane, Rainbow, 760-731-7349.

**Friday and Saturday, July 2-3, 10:30 am-4:30 pm -- Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale**

At Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, 626-405-2100.

**Thursday, July 8, 8:00 pm -- Geraniums for Hot Climates**

Lecture with Robin Parer, Southern California Horticultural Society, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, 838-567-1496, [www.socahort.org](http://www.socahort.org)