

Garden Clippings

Orange County Independent Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 16 Number 08

September 2010

September Meeting

Saturday, September 11, 2010

The SECOND Saturday of the month

New Location:

Rancho Santiago Community College
2323 North Broadway, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Schedule

8:15 – 9:00 a.m.	Setup Plants 'n Things
9:00 – 9:45 a.m.	Business Meeting
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.	Plants 'n Things
10:00– 11:00 a.m.	Enrichment Program
11:00	Clean up

Members with last names starting with **H - Q**, please bring a breakfast snack. Other members are also welcome to bring goodies. Also, remember to bring along any items you wish to contribute to our Plants 'n Things raffle, any gardening catalogs or magazines you'd like to share, and any greeting cards for Rita Corpin's World History class.

Board Meeting: follows September 11 general meeting.

Enrichment Program: WATER!

Darcy Burke is a spokesperson for the Metropolitan Water District. She will give us lots of handouts, talk about where our water comes from, and explain what the MWD of O.C. water supply allocation plan is.

Reminder! Dues are due!

Please pay at the August meeting or mail to:
Diane Wilkinson
2612 Sherwood Ave.
Fullerton 92831

Gardening Events

Fullerton Arboretum. Pre-register for all classes by calling 657/278-3407

Sat Sept. 11: " Salvia Spectacular Plant Sale" 10am-4pm. Potting Shed

Hundreds of salvias for sale as well as many other related plants.

Sat.-Sun Sept. 18-19: "Living Sustainably: 5-Session Permaculture Workshop Series Session 1: Community-Scale Food Production"
Sat. 10:30 am – 4:00 pm, Sun. 1-5pm. \$48, discount if registering for all 5 workshops.. Pavilion classrooms.

Participants will consider local food resources and cultivation potential within their own homes and neighborhoods, including taking stock of personal and community food, space, labor, and assets for Sunday follow-up.

Flowerdale Nursery

Sat Sept. 11: "Growing Winter Heirloom Tomatoes" 11am- noon. 2800 North Tustin Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705 (714) 633-9200.

Free class on how to grow winter tomatoes.

Sat Sept. 25: "Cool Season Vegetables"

Contact Flowerdale Nursery for time.

OCIMG extends its condolences to Jean Rice for the loss of her daughter-in-law, tragically killed in an automobile accident in August.

Leaves from the President



Our first meeting of the 2010-2011 year started out great. Even with the last minute change for the meeting place, we had a good attendance. The speaker, Don Case, was very knowledgeable and discussed a topic many members were interested in. Virginia Carlson needs to be thanked for getting us off to a good start on speakers.

I am trying to set up a speaker's bureau for various garden clubs. If you don't mind speaking in public for an hour or so and have a specific topic you would like to share, this would be a good opportunity to earn some volunteer hours and get our name out there in the community. If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know at the next meeting. See you in September.

Jill O'Neill, President
Orange County Independent Master Gardeners

New Trainee Class Starts September 11!

Second VP Robert Shaw will meet with the new class on the 11th to introduce them to OCIMG and master gardening. Unless otherwise indicated, meetings will be at La Habra Branch Library. Please contact Bob if you'd like to sit in on a class or assist with running the class.

11 Sept.: Introduction/Bob Shaw

18 Sept.: Composting/Francine Kaplan

25 Sept.: Tree Selection and Care/ Don Case

2 Oct.: Plant ID and Commercial Operations at Flowerdale Nursery or Blue Hills Nursery

Book Review by Jill O'Neill

Wicked Plants: The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother & Other Botanical Atrocities

by Amy Stewart.

At the last board meeting the group was discussing poisonous plants. Many members indicated that they had read Amy Stewart's book, but for those of you who haven't, it is a good read. She not only discusses 'Wicked Plants' but also the history behind most of them. She covers everything from Arrow Poisons to Killer Algae to Yews. Most of the plants you will recognize and you probably are growing a few in your backyard. Did you know that it is legal to have opium poppy seeds but it is strictly illegal to possess a opium poppy plant? Or that Morning Glory is getting a reputation with teens because eating the seeds gives them a LSD type trip? For your information and to wow and awe your friends, read this book, it is definitely worth it.

☎ Contacts

Jill O'Neill, *President*

Diane Wilkinson, *Treasurer*

Anne Porter, *1st^d Vice Pres*

Robert Shaw, *2nd Vice Pres.*

Fred Snyder, *Plant Clinic (*

Jill Patterson, *Newsletter Editor*

Submit articles by the 10th of each month via:

e-mail

or snail mail:

Jean Rice, *Vol. Hours*

Website: [http:// www.ocmastergardeners.org](http://www.ocmastergardeners.org)

Speaking of Wicked Plants...

U.C. Davis has created a flyer warning pet owners of the toxicity of lilies. The ASPCA Poison Control Center links lilies and other poisonous plants among the "Top 10 Pet Poisons of 2008".

Rita Corpin kindly brought in a copy of the flyer and it's reprinted below. More information is available at the website:
<http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/whatsnew/article.cfm?id=2006>

Most cat owners don't know it, but lilies are lethally toxic to cats. In fact, they're so poisonous that a cat can suffer fatal kidney failure just from biting into a lily leaf or petal, licking lily pollen from its paws, or drinking water from a vase with cut lilies in it.

All members of the *Lilium* group produce a chemical—present in all parts of the plant—that can damage cat kidneys, but Easter lilies, stargazer lilies, and Asiatic lilies seem to be the most hazardous. (Calla lilies and peace lilies are not of the *Lilium* group, and are harmless to cats.)

Some cats appear to be more susceptible than others to lily toxicity, and the severity of the resulting kidney failure also varies from cat to cat. Some poisoned cats recover with minimal therapy, while others require costly dialysis to live long enough for the kidneys to repair themselves. Many cats never recover kidney function following lily toxicity, and die or are euthanized within days of becoming ill.

If you think your cat may have chewed on or ingested lily, don't wait for signs of illness— seek veterinary care immediately. If you live with cats, keep lilies out of your home!

Editor's Note: The word "lily" in the name does not necessarily indicate that a plant is a member of the *Lilium* family. Examples include daylily (*Hemerocallis*), magic lily (*Amaryllis*), and canna lily (*Cannaceae*). There are many other plants toxic to our pets. The Cat Fanciers Assn. has an extensive list of plants poisonous to cats at: <http://www.cfainc.org/articles/plants.html>

Wicked Pests: Citrus Leafminer

Citrus leafminer is a very small, light-colored moth, less than 1/4 inch long. It has silvery and white iridescent forewings with brown and white markings and a



distinct black spot on each wing tip. Citrus leafminer has four life stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult moth. Adults do not damage plants and live only 1 to 2 weeks. After mating, the female lays single eggs on the underside of host leaves, preferring young leaves. Eggs hatch in about 1 week and the larvae begin feeding in the leaf, producing tiny mines. The larva emerges from the mine as a prepupa and rolls the edge of the leaf over, causing a curling of the leaf. Inside that



curled leaf edge the leafminer becomes a pupa. The pupal stage lasts from 1 to 3 weeks.

Citrus leafminer can survive as a larva only in the

tender, young, shiny leaf flush of citrus and closely related species. Very young trees produce more new leaves year-round, thereby supporting larger citrus leafminer populations. Young trees with heavy leafminer populations are unlikely to die. Summer heat in the inland areas of California seems to suppress leafminer populations, but in cooler coastal areas, the insect population may remain high from summer through fall. The flush growth of citrus trees attacked by leafminer looks unsightly, but the best course of action is to let the natural enemies of the citrus leafminer feed on and parasitize the larvae in the mines, rather than using insecticides. Pruning once a year limits the number of times a tree produces new growth and thus forestalls repeated infestations.