UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

A Garden Runs Through It

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

June 2020

UCCE Master Gardener Program, Colusa County

UC Cooperative Extension,
Colusa County

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In This Issue

Upcoming events

Click here to read our blog.

Find us on Facebook

No events for June

Once we re-group, we will let you know about our upcoming events.

Advice to Grow by … Ask Us!

PRACTICAL | CONNECTED | TRUSTED

Book of the Month

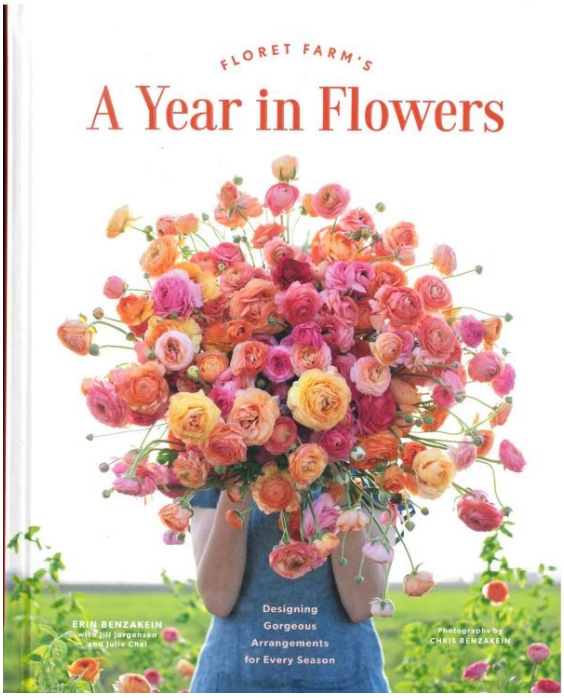
Floret Farm's A Year In Flowers

In a previous newsletter I wrote about Erin Benzakein book, *Floret Farm's Cut Flower Garden* which won the American Horticultural Society Book Award. Now she has written Floret Farm's A Year In Flowers about designing gorgeous arrangements for every season from the flowers and other plants she harvests from her cutting garden which is located in Washington's Skagit Valley.

The new book covers all aspects of floral design from setting up your space and caring for cut flowers to design fundamentals and essential techniques before devoting much of the rest of the book to demonstrating a variety of arrangements for each season of the year.

As well as having a wealth of information, this book is lushly illustrated and a joy to peruse. It is almost impossible to not be inspired to find some seasonal flowers and create your own arrangements. In fact, after I gave my daughter a copy of the first book, she removed much of her lawn and planted her own cutting garden. She is now selling flowers from her garden near Portland, Oregon.

For anyone interested in growing and arranging flowers, even if only for personal use, these two books are must haves.



Submitted by Peggy Townzen

Ornamental Plant of the Month

Looking for FUMEWORT and Safe places to go if you have to go out!!

I decided after 6 weeks of isolation that I would venture out with my mask to a place I considered as safe as possible – my favorite nursery in Glenn!! Geneva has brought in some things that cheered me up to no end. One of the best finds was a plant I had never grown and in a color I rarely am attracted to – porcelain blue. It is a member of the *Corydalis flexuosa* family and is know otherwise as *Fumewort.* I was intrigued by the brightness against the deep green foliage and immediately pictured it in my mind's eye as a container plant on the east side of out covered patio. It gets morning sun and then is protected from about 11:30 on through the day. Every time I see it I'm glad and it cheers me. After nearly 3 weeks it's still putting out new color and I've placed a dripper in it to keep it evenly moist.

It only wants about 3-6hours of sunlight and I think full sun on a 95 degree afternoon would cook it! It slows the blooming in the heat of summer but picks back up to take one through fall. It is native to western China and gets bout one foot high and 8-12 inches wide. If it's in a happy spot it may spread wider from bulblets on the roots. Mine will stay in a pot for now and perhaps might even be a candidate for splitting if it is really happy!

I used some new potting soil that holds the moisture so it won't fry when we finally get to the hot months that we know will come. It is a great hummingbird and butterfly attractor for the same reasons it caught my eye.

Submitted by Cynthia White

Edible Plant of the Month

ROSES AND HERBAL INFUSED OIL

Did you know you can make infused oil, hence; lotion bars, lip balm, bath salts and more using dried rose petals and herbs?

Roses which are ready to release their petals will fall easily into your hands while the center of the flower remains intact. Petals that resist when you tug on them are not ready to be collected, and if you persist you may accidentally pull off the whole flower which will make drying that much more difficult Roses and herbs should be collected mid-morning after the dew has evaporated and there has not been a rain event for at least 2 days prior. Place freshly picked rose petals or herbs in a paper bag; this will help remove any extra moisture.

To dry rose petals or herbs, I usually just spread them out in single layers on paper towels, newspapers or clean dish towels and let them air dry for several days. I have also seen rose petals dried on large screens away from direct sunlight. You could also use a dehydrator set to extremely low heat for a few hours. Herbs can be picked, gathered by variety, and hung upside down kept in a darkish corner, or cabinet until they are dry and ready to use.

The basic rose infused oil (or herbs such as lavender) can be incorporated into salve, lotion, cream, balm, and soap recipes. Shelf life of strained, infused oils is around 9 months to a year.

To make: fill a canning jar about half-way with dried rose petals or herbs. Cover with about twice as much of your favorite oil (sunflower, olive, and almond works great). Cap the jar and tuck away for about 4-6 weeks, shaking occasionally during this period. When the infusing time has passed, strain and you are ready to use the oil for all kinds of wondrous things.

You can also enjoy a relaxing, luxurious bath using dried rose petals or dried lavender. Simply add a small handful of dried rose petals or dried lavender to the center of a face cloth, tie with elastic bands, secure the cloth over the faucet and run the water. You can also add the facecloth directly in the bath water. Add in some Epsom or sea salts and let the fragrance of the roses or lavender envelop you serenity.

Submitted by Annelie Lauwerijssen

Recipe of the Month

Lemon Lover's Pound Cake

1 cup butter

3 cups sugar

6 large eggs

5 T lemon juice

2 T grated lemon zest

1 tsp lemon extract

3 cups flour

1/2 tsp baking soda

1/4 tsp salt

1 1/4 cups sour cream

Cream butter and sugar.

Beat in eggs, one at a time, then juice zest and extract.

Combine dry ingredients

Add to creamed mixture alternately with sour cream. Do not over beat!

Pour into a greased and floured tube or bundt pan.

Bake at 350 degrees 55-60 min, toothpick should come out clean

Cool 10 min in pan, turn out and cool completely.

Icing

1/4 cup sour cream

2 1/2 cups powdered sugar

3 T lemon juice

2 tsp grated lemon rind

Mix together until smooth,

Drizzle over cake

Garnish with additional zest

(tossed with a T of granulated sugar) if desired.

Serves 12, 660 cal/slice

Submitted by Penny Walgenbach

Yellowjackets

Yellowjacket wasps prey on other insects and scavenge on human food and garbage.

Yellowjacket

Yellowjackets, sometimes called "meat bees," defend their nests, as do other social wasps and bees, but are more likely to sting if disturbed while foraging. Stings generally cause pain and short-term injury, but some people suffer severe allergic responses. Prevent injury by avoiding wasps and removing food sources. Trapping or nest treatment can reduce yellowjacket populations.

Make sure it's a yellowjacket.

- Yellowjackets are ½ to 1 inch long with jagged bright yellow and black stripes. Their narrow "waists" are barely visible. Unlike other common wasps, yellowjackets scavenge on food. They nest in holes in the ground, inside wall cavities, or in hanging nests totally enclosed in gray paper with a single entrance.
- Honey bees are less brightly striped than yellowjackets and have more hair. They usually aren't attracted to food (although they may go to sweets) and are unlikely to sting unless trapped or stepped on. They often nest inside cavities in trees or houses.
- Paper wasps have long slender waists, build paper nests with many open cells under eaves, and are rarely aggressive.
- Mud daubers are dark-colored and thread-waisted. They build small, hard mud nests and rarely sting.

Honey bee

Paper wasp

Mud dauber

Stay calm to avoid stings.

- If a wasp lands on you, don't swat it or run. Wait for it to leave, or gently brush it away.
- Don't disturb nests. Wasps flying from a hole in the ground or a building indicate a probable nest.

Remove attractive food sources.

- Keep food, including pet food, covered or indoors.
- Outdoors, cover soda cans so wasps don't crawl in.
- Keep garbage in sealed cans and empty regularly.
- Pick up and dispose of ripe fruit.

Use traps to reduce yellowjacket numbers.

- Yellow lure traps hung along the perimeter of a property can reduce foraging of some species around patios or picnic areas.
- Homemade traps using meat bait hung on a string just above soapy water may also be used.
- Place traps away from areas where people gather, such as picnic tables.

What if you find a nest?

- Ask your Mosquito and Vector Control District if they treat nests, or locate a licensed pest control operator. Nests might be far away and hard to locate.
- If you choose to treat nests yourself, wear protective clothing on your body, hands, and head. Use an insecticide that shoots a long stream into the nest entrance and is labeled for treating yellowjacket nests.
- Paper wasp nests shouldn't require treatment unless they are near human passageways.

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.

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Integrated Pest Management
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April 2019

Gardening Guide

UC Master Gardener Program of Colusa County

Zones 8 and 9

	June	July	August
PLANTING	• In the flower garden you can still plant seeds of marigolds, zinnias, cosmos and sunflowers. You can set out transplants of perennials like yarrow, verbena, black-eyed Susan, and dahlias. • In the vegetable garden you can plant seeds of pumpkins, squash, and corn.	• You can still plant seeds of annuals: zinnias, marigolds, sunflowers and alyssum will grow and bloom this year.	• 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.
MAINTENANCE	• Be sure to water early in the day to conserve water and minimize plant disease. • Regularly check your sprinklers and drip emitters for needed repairs and adjustments. • Monitor soil moisture in hot weather to be sure you are irrigating enough. (Use a metal rod to push into the ground. If it goes in easily, the soil is moist.)	• 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.	• 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.
PREVENTION	• Before the full heat of summer arrives mulch your beds to control weeds and conserve moisture. 	• 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.	• Continue to weed. Be especially sure to get weeds before they flower and set seeds. 

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.

	June
☐	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.
☐	Camellia, citrus, gardenia, grape and other plants adapted to acidic soil - If leaves are yellowing (chlorotic) between green veins, plants may benefit from foliar or soil application of iron and zinc chelate and mulching.
☐	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.
☐	Cherry spotted wing drosophila - Harvest early, apply spinosad as soon as fruit begins to develop any pink color.
☐	Citrus - Monitor for damage and pests such as leafminer and scales.
☐	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 with netting to exclude birds and other vertebrate pests.
☐	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.
☐	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.
☐	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.

Seasonal IPM Checklist

- [ ] 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.
- [ ] Powdery mildew - Check for signs of disease on apple, crape myrtle, grape, rose, and stone fruits.
- [ ] Prune pine terminals only during candling (new shoot growth), late spring to early summer, to retard growth and in young pines direct growth.
- [ ] 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, such as for black spot, hoplia beetle, powdery mildew, and thrips.
- [ ] Scale insects - If damage has been unacceptable, monitor the crawler stage and when abundant apply horticultural oil or another insecticide.
- [ ] 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 PROGRAM
THINKING SAFE AND GREEN

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

#3

HEAT ILLNESS AWARENESS

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

According to the National Weather Service, an average of 235 heat-related fatalities occurred annually between 1975 and 2004. Moreover, about 25,000 heat-related illnesses or injuries occurred from 1991-2000. Children are at greater risk for heat stress because their bodies have a larger surface area per pound of weight. Youth that are vigorously exerting themselves in summer heat are at higher risk for contracting heat illness. By taking several simple precautions, people can control and/or reduce exposure to conditions that may cause heat illness. ***English and Spanish language safety videos on heat illness are available for loan from the ANR Environmental Health & Safety Library at http://safety.ucanr.org.***

Heat Illness Disorders and Symptoms

1. Heat Stroke - sweating stops and the body fails to regulate its temperature. Victims may die if they don't receive immediate medical treatment. Characterized by: mental confusion, fainting, or seizures; hot dry skin usually reddish in color; and high body temperature.
2. Heat Exhaustion - profuse sweating results in dehydration. Characterized by: fatigue, dizziness, and nausea; pale and moist skin; and possibly slightly elevated temperature.
3. Heat Cramps - cramping thought to be due to loss of salt through sweating. Characterized by muscle spasms in arms, legs, and abdomen during or following physical activities.
4. Heat Syncope - dehydration while standing still causes blood pooling in lower portions of the body. Characterized by fainting while standing still.
5. Heat Rash - occurs under hot and humid conditions where sweat does not evaporate readily. Characterized by irritated/itchy skin with prickly feeling and small red bumps on skin.

Treatments for Heat Illness Disorders

1. Heat Stroke - call 911 immediately, soak victim's clothing with cool water, move victim to shaded and cool area, fan victim to increase cooling of their body.
2. Heat Exhaustion - have victim rest in shaded and cool place and drink fluids. Do not serve caffeinated fluids such as soft drinks, iced tea, or coffee.
3. Heat Cramps - have victim rest and drink non-caffeinated fluids.
4. Heat Syncope - have victim rest in a shaded and cool place, and drink non-caffeinated fluids.
5. Heat Rash - wash and dry skin. Wear loose clothing and keep skin dry.

Precautions to Prevent Heat Illness Disorders

Example of shade area to reduce chance of heat illness. Courtesy of Calaveras County CE.

1. Master gardeners and others should acclimatize themselves to the prevailing weather conditions.
2. Always drink plenty of fluids such as water and sports drinks. During warm weather, plan to have at least one quart of water available per person per hour of the outdoor activity. Avoid caffeinated drinks.
3. Wear a summer hat with a brim and loose-fitting, light-colored, and lightweight clothing like cotton.
4. Schedule vigorous activities during coolest portions of the day and take frequent breaks on hot days.
5. If someone is feeling symptoms of heat illness, they should take a rest period in a shaded area. Master gardeners should help find access to shade – this may be any area where the affected person is protected from direct sunlight, such as under an umbrella, a portable structure, or inside a ventilated building or vehicle.

If a treated victim does not recover from heat illness in a reasonable amount of time, promptly seek medical attention. Plan ahead to know how to summon medical assistance and direct emergency responders to your location or how to transport the heat illness victim to a medical service provider.
Any incidents of heat illness shall be promptly reported to the master gardener's county Cooperative Extension office.

Master Gardener activities!

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

June Drop—The dropping of immature tree fruits during the early summer; believed to be caused most frequently by embryo abortion or an extremely large crop load. In our area it happens before June.

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!*

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
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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	COLOR	LETTUCE	SPINACH
CALCIUM	IRON	MINT	STARCH
CARBON DIOXIDE	LEAF	OXYGEN	SUGAR
SUNLIGHT SHAPE	LEAVES	PARSLEY	TEXTURE

Starting with Seeds

GARDENING ACTIVITY #5

Summary:

Groups will explore different seed types, then construct a tiny greenhouse where they can observe several seeds germinating.

Why Do This?

Seeds are the beginnings of most plants. These little miracles contain everything needed to start a new plant. Working with a variety of seeds helps us to understand how many seed types there are. Watching a sampling germinate further demonstrates the variety of seeds as well as demonstrating the miracle of seeds.

Some Helpful Information:

Seeds come in many shapes and sizes. Each type has its own characteristics of growth and dispersal mechanism. A tiny seed will travel better on the wind. A seed with a tough outer coat will make it through an animal's intestines intact. A pointy seed may work its way into the soil deeper than a rounder one. Big seeds are tougher. They aren't as dependent on perfect soil moisture conditions early in life as tiny seeds are.

Seeds look different as they germinate. Some seeds grow straight up out of the ground, while some push up a curved portion of stem that pushes through the soil before the leaves unfurl towards the sky.

Time:

1 hour

Materials:

seeds - a variety such as corn, beans, sesame, sunflower, radish, peas, wheat, carrot, lettuce. (Read package carefully.
sandwich size ziplock bags
1/4 cup of potting soil per student
1/4 cup measure (or three tablespoons)
popsicle sticks
construction paper
scissors
12" lengths of yarn or string
stapler
spray bottle of water
tape

Preparation:

1 Collect materials, snip yarn lengths.
3 Construct a ziplock greenhouse. See the illustration for directions.
4. Decide how you will distribute seeds so every group gets some of several types and one unique type that no other group has.
5. You may want to hand out everything except the soil and water. It helps with an active group to have one adult monitor the soil and one adult monitor the spray bottle(s).
6. Optional: You can cut out the construction paper greenhouse frames ahead of time. Then you will not need scissors for everyone.

Step by Step:

1. Break into groups of 3-4.
2. Distribute a mixture of seeds to each group.
3. Tell all the groups they are to separate their seeds and categorize them. They can use color, shape, size, type or whatever classifications they choose. Let them know that their group has one unique seed that no one else has.
4. Have groups tell about their categories. After everyone has shared categories, they can then show which seed was the unique one that only their group had.
5. Show them the greenhouse baggie you made and explain how to make one.
6. Distribute materials and have everyone make their own greenhouse. Plant only two or three seeds per greenhouse; otherwise, they get too crowded, roots tangle and transplanting becomes too difficult.
7. The greenhouses can be taped up on a window low enough to see or be taken home to be put on a window and observed daily. When the plants get big they can be transplanted into pots or into outside garden areas. (If grown indoors too long they won't transplant well.) Refer to seed catalogs or packages for best time of year for planting outdoors.
8. Have everyone take a turn predicting what will happen. How long it will take? How will different seed look different as they grow? How might they look similar?

Extensions:

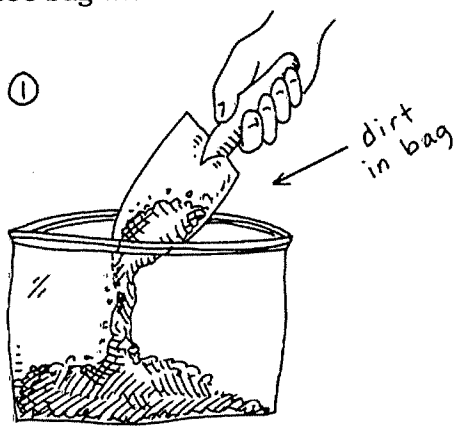
- Make notes of predictions and check them out with time.
- Cut open a green pepper and note all the seeds inside. Discuss why there are so many. What would happen if every pepper seed grew? Would the world be covered with peppers?
- Make art by gluing seeds to construction paper like a mosaic.
- Have everyone take an old sock and wear it outside their shoe. Walk through a meadow or weed patch. Water the sock and see what grows!

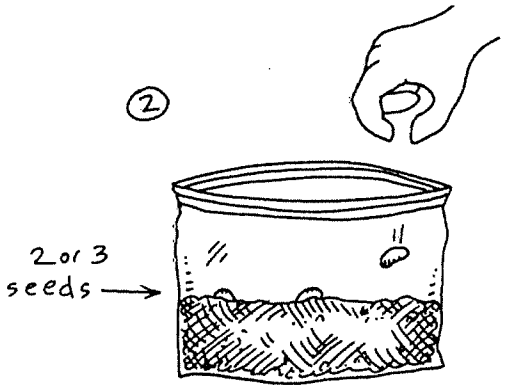
Handout • Gardening Activity #5

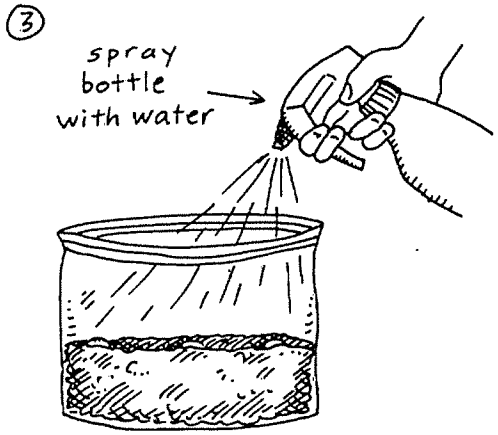
STARTING WITH SEEDS

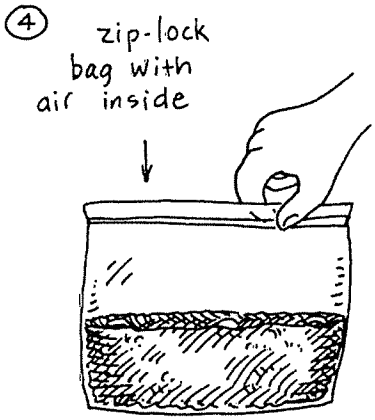
Constructing a Ziplock Greenhouse

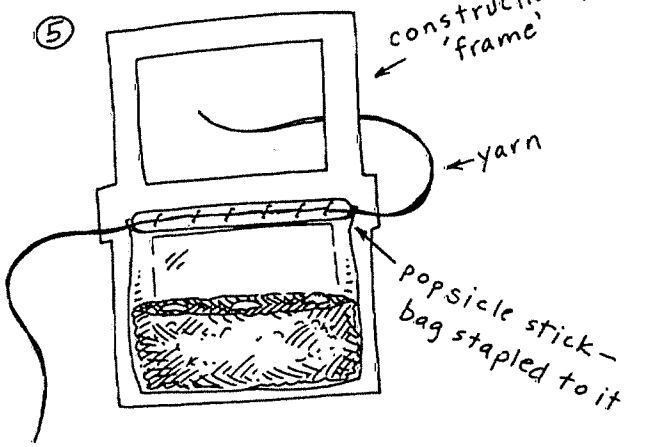
1. Put soil into ziplock bag.
2. Drop 2-3 seeds in, spaced apart.
3. Spray water into bag.
4. Close bag with air in it.
5. Create construction paper frame. Place popsicle stick and yarn at top edge; staple in place.
6. Fold paper house frame over bag.

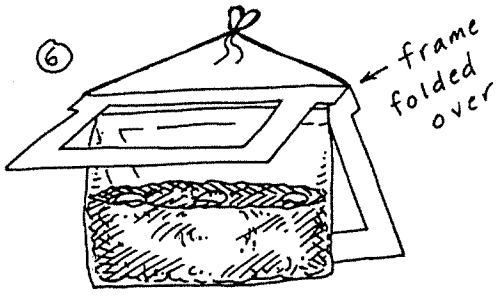












Garden Club of Colusa County activities

Don't know at this time.

Did a friend send you this newsletter?

- You can get your own newsletter sent directly to your inbox by clicking here.

Additional Links

Integrated Pest Management	ipm.ucanr.edu
UC Davis Arboretum	arboretum.ucdavis.edu
Invasive Plants	www.cal-ipc.org
Plant Right	www.plantright.org
Save Our Water	saveourwater.com
California Garden Web	cagardenweb.ucanr.edu
McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens	turtlebay.org
UCANR Colusa County	cecolusa.ucanr.edu
UC Master Gardener Program (statewide)	mg.ucanr.edu
California Backyard Orchard	homeorchard.ucanr.edu
ANR publications	anrcatalog.ucanr.edu