

COMPOSTING

Benefit your garden and reduce the amount of trash you send to the landfill by making your own compost, with or without the assistance of worms. Master Gardeners give classes in both types of composting; call or email our hotline for details. Information and composting videos can be found at <http://www.uccemg.com/>

The City of Irvine website explains both composting and vermiculture (worm composting): <http://www.cityofirvine.us/howtocompost.php>

LOCATE AN ARBORIST

To find a certified arborist, visit our website at: <http://www.uccemg.com/> — >General Gardening — >Arborist. You're invited to add your comments about your favorite arborist on that page.

You can also visit: <http://www.treesaregood.com> for more tree information and to verify arborist certification. Another good website for selecting and learning about trees is:

<http://urbantree.org/index.shtml>

SOIL TESTING

You can purchase a soil test kit at many retail garden centers and do the testing yourself or send a soil sample to a testing laboratory. For information on soil test kits and testing laboratories, call or email our hotline or visit our website at <http://www.uccemg.com/> —> Soils/Fertilizers/Compost—>Soil

RESOURCES FOR GARDENERS

Our public website is up and running! More gardening information is being added every day — pictures, videos, free downloadable information, and all manner of garden information specific to Orange County. Our website also lets you know where we will be giving lectures and seminars around the county.

- In both spring and autumn, we give a series of free lectures at the Great Park and in Irvine.
- Our Speakers Bureau has trained speakers who can speak at your garden event.
- There are scheduled events at the Great Park for children.
- We also do an annual full-day seminar in autumn.

For details on the above and much much more, check our website at:

www.uccemg.com

The Agricultural & Natural Resources website offers garden publications with information on home orchards, lawns, weeds, drip irrigation, and insects. Many can be downloaded free; others can be ordered through the ANR Catalogue at:

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>

California Master Gardener Handbook, *Home Orchard*, and *Pests of Landscape Trees and Shrubs* are all highly recommended books that can be ordered through the ANR catalogue.

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENERS
OF ORANGE COUNTY



Master Gardener Hotline Autumn-Winter Brochure 2011

Information for Home Gardeners
from our Garden Hotline



Contact our Master Gardener Hotline
for free help with gardening questions:

Hotline Phone: (714) 708-1646

Hotline Email: hotline@uccemg.com

Master Gardener Website

<http://www.uccemg.com>



NEW TO VEGETABLE GARDENING?

For *Vegetable Garden Basics*, visit:

<http://ucanr.org/sites/gardenweb/General/>

For information on all aspects of vegetable gardening:

www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/veggies.html



LAWNS & GROUND COVERS



Whether you need information on lawns or on alternatives to lawns, our hotline is ready to provide you with answers to your specific questions, so don't hesitate to call or email us.

To investigate alternatives to lawns, visit:
<http://www.californianativeplants.com/>

For in-depth information on each type of grass and its characteristics

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/TURFSPECIES/index.html> This is part of an excellent UCCE website on turf grasses:

If you must have a lawn, Bermuda, St. Augustine, and Zoysia grasses are more drought-tolerant and commonly recommended for our area. For information on lawn care, visit:

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/TOOLS/TURF/>

VEGETABLES FOR WINTER

Winter vegetables are also known as cool season crops. They should be planted toward the end of the warm season. Months to plant various winter vegetables are shown in the table below, although in our climate, other months are often possible although production may not be optimum.

For additional information on individual plants, visit:

http://vric.ucdavis.edu/main/veg_info.htm

Vegetable	Months to
Beets	Jan—Sept
Broccoli	Jan-Feb
Cabbage	Aug-Feb
Cabbage, Chinese	Aug-Oct
Carrots	Jan-Sept
Cauliflower	July-Oct & Jan-Feb
Swiss Chard	Feb-May
Chives	Feb-April
Endive	Dec-Aug
Garlic	Oct-Dec
Kale	Aug-Oct
Kohlrabi	Aug-Sep & Jan
Leeks	Jan-April
Lettuce	Aug-April
Mustard	Aug-Feb
Onions, green	All Year
Parsley	Dec-May
Parsnips	Mar-July
Peas	Aug & Dec-March
Potatoes, White	Feb-Aug
Radish	All Year
Rhubarb	Dec-Jan
Rutabaga	July-March
Spinach	Aug-March
Turnips	Aug-Oct & Jan

BARGAIN OF THE YEAR: BARE-ROOT PLANTS



Starting in December, nurseries begin to stock bare-root plants, such as deciduous fruit trees, roses, and other ornamentals. Bare-root plants remain available until the weather warms up.

There are several significant reasons to buy bare-root plants, rather than plants in pots.

- They are generally less costly than potted plants.
- Because they aren't as bulky and heavy as potted plants, nurseries usually have a larger selection than they will have later in the year. (and they are easier for you to carry and to plant.)
- You can evaluate the health of both roots and branches to ensure that you're getting a sound plant. Potted plants often have circling roots that can cause problems later in the plant's life.

To learn about planting fruit trees, visit:

homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/8048.pdf

To learn about planting roses, visit:

ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/filelibrary/5673/14708.pdf

Information about growing a variety of backyard fruits, and identifying common problems of fruit trees can be found at:

<http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu> and at
<http://ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/fruit.html>

For information on unusual fruits, take a look at the California Rare Fruit Growers website at:

<http://crfg.org/>
<http://crfg.org/pubs/irrfacts.html>



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