



WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY™

Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

JANUARY 2019



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The Cherry You Need



Photo: Dave Wilson Nursery

If you have a cherry tree, do you know if it is a Royal Lee or a Minnie Royal? Both need a pollinator and if you aren't sure which one you have, then the best cherry tree to add is **Crimson Royal**, which was known as 6GM25. Crimson Royal is a low chill (200-300 hrs.), self-pollinating cherry that produces large fruit and is ready to be harvested in May. •

2019 Rose Preview

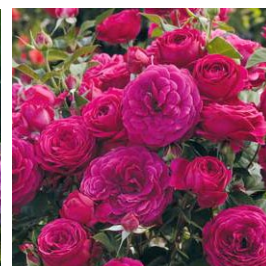
By Melanie Potter



'All Dressed Up'



'Arctic Blue'



'Celestial Night'



This year's rose selection will include many old favorites, popular ones that make the list every year, and the new introductions. Here's a look at the new introductions; maybe they will become your old favorites:

All Dressed Up

A grandiflora that has medium pink old-fashioned flowers.

Arctic Blue

Floribunda with lavender, fully double, fragrant blooms that feature a white reverse.

Celestial Night

A floribunda that was bred from Ebb Tide, it has purple, double ruffled blooms and is disease resistant.

[continued p2](#)

Planting Colorful Winter Natives

By Moosa Creek

When the rains begin, California natives enjoy a second spring. Many flower during winter; others retain colorful berries. Here are some gems that will provide color when skies are gray.

Most manzanitas are covered in delicate bell-shaped flowers in the winter, and their lovely smooth reddish trunks make them stunning additions to any garden. 'John Dourley' Manzanita is a sprawling, low-growing handsome bush that is excellent on slopes. One of the faster growing manzanitas with a small tree form that makes a focal point is 'Dr. Hurd'. Lovely light pink blooms are on 'Austin Griffiths' which is a moderately sized shrub with dark bark.

'Baja Fairy Duster' flowers sport red stamens like mohawk haircuts providing a burst of red in



'Baja Fairy Duster'

[continued p3](#)

Rose Preview continued from p1



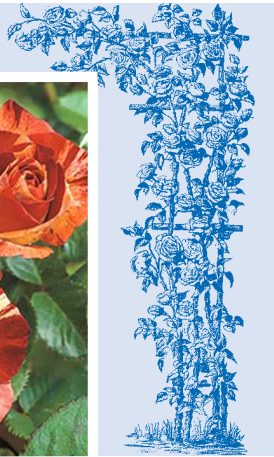
'Eyeconic Mango Lemonade'



'Life of the Party'



'Pinkerbelle'



'Sweet Spirit'



'Tropical Lightning'

Eyeconic Mango Lemonade

Apricot blooms on this floribunda have a red ring in the center of the flower that turns purple.

Life of the Party

A floribunda with yellow to pink old fashioned flowers.

Pinkerbelle

Surprise, it's pink! Blooms of cream are suffused with pink and lavender and finished with a pink picotee edge. There's also a spicy verbena fragrance

to enjoy on this hybrid tea.

Sweet Spirit

This red grandiflora has fully double blooms and a strong, sweet fragrance. Disease resistant.

Tropical Lightning

A climber that grows 8'-10' tall and has smoky orange blossoms streaked with stripes of creamy white. Petals have a distinctive coral blush and subtle hints of purple.

Shop early for the best selection! ●

Putting Container-Planted **Berries To Bed**

By Kate Karam, Monrovia Nursery



Have you heard about raspberry, blueberry, or blackberry plants bred for containers? Compact and easy care, they dot patios, balconies, courtyards, and backdoors across the country.

With winter here, you might be wondering if they need special care to survive the season. Here's some advice on how to keep your berries happy this winter.

Your plants should have stopped producing fruit and need to rest in order to pump out the produce all over again next spring. Plants may still be leafy and green, or losing some of their luster. Both situations are normal.

- Do not fertilize again until they begin to sprout out.
- If winter rains don't do the job, keep watering so that soil stays evenly moist. Do not allow your plants to dry out.
- If you have heavy rains, do not allow water to pool in saucers underneath planters. Drain as needed.
- A thin layer of compost (about 1 in.) applied now to the surface of the soil will break down over winter, feeding microbes in the existing soil.
- Any pruning for shape or to remove damaged canes should wait until early spring. Note that many berries fruit on two year old canes, so pruned branches may wait a year to fruit. This is normal. ●

TRUSTED SINCE 1926

BONIDE®

Colorful Natives continued from p1

the garden through much of the year. They are hummingbird favorites as well as are the tubular red flowers of Island Bush Snapdragon, a tough small shrub that survives many conditions and blooms most of the year. For more red, you can't beat the berries that adorn the bushy evergreen Toyon. Mockingbirds, jays and many other birds rely on these for winter food.

The cheerful aster-like flowers of Blue Eyed Grass are perfect along your walkway or tucked in a mix of low-growing natives. A rare, thorny, unusual plant used for restoration projects is Spineshrub, which is covered in small waxy flowers in winter. Its thorns would make a good barrier for areas that need protection from visiting dogs or other unwanted visitors! Many of

the California Lilacs burst into bloom in late winter, such as the white flowered Snowball Ceanothus or the early blooming Hoaryleaf Ceanothus. If the more traditional blue flowers inspire you, consider the low-growing, tough, Valley Violet variety with its profusion of violet blue flowers upon which beneficial native insects thrive.

Native plants can deliver enjoyment and food for the wildlife year-round and with very little care. Pepper your landscape with winter-color varieties and you'll enjoy a show of blooms and wildlife before spring.

Editor's Note: *Plants are subject to availability. If what you want isn't available, we can help you find a substitute.* •

Pantone Color Of The Year 2019



How will you incorporate living coral, the Pantone color of the year for 2019 into your garden? It is described as a vivid, warmly saturated shade between pink and orange. It's probably already there but if it isn't, this is an easy color to include and found on blooms and foliage. Roses like 'Fragrant Cloud' and 'Sedona' deliver as do Sweet Peas, Zinnias, Diascia, Dahlias, Poppies, and Echinacea. Find coral colored foliage on Nandina, Heuchera, Canna Lilies, and Coleus. For easy and additional pops of color, shop a home goods store for cushions, pillows, and garden art. •

TO DO LIST: January



PLANTING

This is the ideal time to plant bare root roses, fruit trees, and ornamentals. Shop early for the best selection.

Plant These Vegetables Now:

Artichoke, Asparagus, Beets (seed), Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots (seed), Celery, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi (seed), Lettuce, Onions, Parsley, Parsnips, Peas, Radish (seed), Spinach, Swiss Chard, and Turnips (seed).

LOOK FOR

Camellias, Azaleas, Holly, Pyracantha, roses and fruit trees. **Don't miss** Pansies, Violas, Stocks and Snapdragons.

PRUNING

Now Is The Time to Prune: Roses, deciduous trees, shrubs, and vines including fruit trees, grapes and berry vines.

Pruning Tools: Use well-maintained, sharp shears. Replace worn Felco pruner blades and springs with new ones for easier pruning.

PEST CONTROL

Dormant Spray for diseases and overwintering insects. Use oil spray to control overwintering insects and insect eggs.

Use Liqui-Cop to **control fungus** on fruit trees and roses, Peach Leaf Curl and more on peaches and nectarines.

LAWN CARE

Apply High Yield Weed & Feed to **prevent crabgrass and other weed seed** from germinating as the weather warms up later this month.

ROSES

Ada Perry's Magic Formula: Apply to established roses and add with fertilizer when planting. •

Bare Root Rose Planting

By Walter Andersen, Jr.



During the Bare Root season, Walter Andersen Nursery purchases only the best bare root roses. When the roses arrive from the grower, they are unpacked, pruned and immediately planted into new five gallon containers using our custom Sunshine Rose Planting Mix. This ensures less plant failure than the old method of healing the plants into bins of wet wood shavings.

To plant bare root roses, select a warm, sunny location. Dig a hole approximately 20" wide and 18" deep. Mix the soil you removed from the hole with about 50% E.B. Stone Rose Grow Mix. If the soil is extremely bad, add a little more Rose Grow Mix. Form a mound in the bottom of the hole with this mixture and spread the roots as evenly as possible over the mound.

The bud union or graft should be about 2" above the soil level. Fill the remaining portion of the hole with the rose mix and firm the soil. Make a basin approximately 18" to 24" in diameter around the newly planted rose and water thoroughly. If you are planting in containers, use at least a 14" diameter or larger pot. A larger pot allows more room for the roots and reduces the frequency of watering. Use a good potting soil for superior results. Feed monthly with a good

rose food. We use Gro-Power the first of each month beginning in February with great results.

Insects and fungus are best taken care of as soon as you notice them. We recommend Bayer All in One Rose and Flower Care for roses planted in the ground. It cannot be used on container plants without burning the plant. There are organic controls available for treating container roses and you can consult with our nursery professionals for help.

Use Ada Perry's magic formula around each established plant after pruning or in the bottom of the hole at planting time with new roses. Cultivate gently into the soil around established plants and water well. Use again in July. ●



Bare Root Fruit Tree Planting

By Walter Andersen, Jr.



Before Planting

Soak the roots in a container of water overnight, but no longer than 24 hrs. You can add a solution of SUPERthrive or Dyna Gro Liquid Gro-Plant Food to the soaking water. After you plant, use this water to hydrate the planted fruit tree.

Planting

Dig a hole large enough to accommodate the root system. Do NOT prune roots unless they are broken. Back fill with a 50/50 mix of native soil E.B. Stone Big Harvest Bale. After planting, sprinkle a handful of E.B. Stone Sure Start Fertilizer around the trunk and water well.

Tips

- If your tree is grafted, plant the tree with graft above soil level.
- YOU SHOULD PLANT BARE ROOT TREES WITHIN 24 HOURS.
- Keep the roots covered and do not let them dry out. ●



Old Ben:

Winter Bird Feeding

By Old Ben



If you feed birds, you're in good company. Feeding birds is one of North America's favorite pastimes. A report from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that about 65 million Americans provide food for wild birds.

Wintertime Is Not Easy

In much of North America, winter is a difficult time for birds. Days are often windy and cold; nights are long and even colder. Vegetation has withered or been consumed, and most insects have died or become dormant. Finding food can be especially challenging for birds on cold days. Setting up backyard feeders makes their lives easier and ours more enjoyable.

Types of Bird Food

During the spring and summer, most songbirds eat insects and spiders, which are highly nutritious, abundant, and for the most part, easily captured. During fall and winter, non migratory songbirds shift their diets to fruits and seeds to survive. This is the time of year when bird feeding enthusiasts roll out the welcome mat and set the table.

Which Seed Types Should I Provide?

Black oil sunflower seeds attract the greatest number of species. These seeds have a high meat to shell ratio, they are nutritious and high in fat. Their small size and thin shells make them easy for small birds to handle and crack. Although sunflower seeds are the overall favorite, some birds prefer other seeds. For example, blackbirds like corn, and doves prefer millet and

safflower. Nyger is a delicacy for small finches such as goldfinches, and siskins. Nyger seeds are small. Offer them in special Nyger feeders. Most ground feeding birds prefer white millet to black oil sunflower seeds. Best sellers are Old Ben's No Mess, Nyger and our new Old Ben's Anniversary Mix. This mix will attract small, medium and large birds. It's 95 percent no mess, too.

Water, Water, Water

A dependable supply of fresh water will attract many birds to your yard, including species that don't normally visit feeders. A shallow, easy-to-clean birdbath is best. Clean your birdbath often and keep it filled with fresh water.

Feeder Placement

Place your feeders close to natural shelters such as trees or shrubs. Evergreens are ideal for providing maximum cover from winds and predators. A distance of 10 feet from trees and shrubs seems to be ideal. You can provide resting and escape cover for ground dwelling birds, such as Song Sparrows by placing a large, loosely stacked brush pile near your feeders.

[continued p8](#)

Old Ben's Promise

- I believe ingredients should come from nature, not a lab.
- I believe wild bird food should be made only with ingredients I am proud to share.
- I believe wild bird food should be simply prepared with as little processing as possible.
- I believe wild bird food should be made with a commitment to quality.
- Nature has nothing to hide; neither should your wild bird food.
- I use ingredients from natural sources across my entire line - NO artificial anything.

Old Ben's Specials

Valid January 2-31, 2019

Old Ben's Anniversary Seed Blend
Ingredients 95% No Mess Blend | Packaged in the USA
 Sunflower Chips Medium, Millet (Hulled), Peas, Peas, Chopped Tree Nuts, Peanut Pick Outs, Nyger, Cranberries, Calcium, Mealworms

Guaranteed Analysis:	
Crude Protein	19.6
Crude Fat	41.4
Crude Fiber	2.8
Ash	4.6
Moisture	5.9

Attract Birds like a magnet!
 Attracts Small, Medium and Large Birds
 Birds you may attract with Old Ben's Anniversary Blend are: Gold Finches, House Finches, Purple Finches, Song Sparrows, Blue Jays, Grass Quits, Red Wing Black Birds, Doves, Wrens, and many other species.

Feeding Directions
 Feed the desired amount in a tube style feeder, platform feeder, or hopper feeder.
 Keep feeders clean and full.
 Keep clean fresh water available.

Wild Birds Just Love Old Ben's and You Will Too!

OLD BEN'S WORKSHOP, P.O. Box 421505, San Diego, CA 92142 www.oldbensworkshop.com

Introductory Price

Old Ben's Anniversary Seed Blend

Celebrating 10 years in Business!

Attracts Birds Of All sizes.

95% No Mess. **20lb. bag**

Sale \$34.99 Reg. \$44.99

Old Ben's Premium Finch Blend

Attracts Finches like a magnet.

20lb. bag

Sale \$39.99 Reg. \$49.99

Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed

Classic mix that attracts a variety of wild birds. No fillers. **20lb. bag**

Sale \$24.99 Reg. \$29.99

Hummingbird Nest Building Kit

Hummingbirds are now nesting!

Sale \$11.99 Reg. \$15.99

All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.

Ask Old Ben!

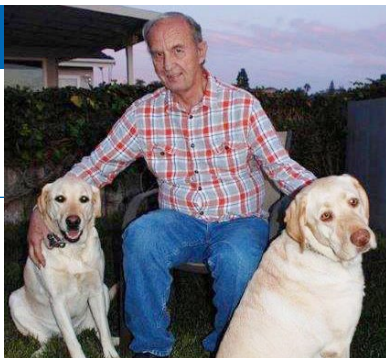
Email Old Ben your questions to:
askoldben@aol.com



Words From Walter

Who Was Ada Perry?

By Walter Andersen, Jr.



Can you imagine a young woman in the middle of the twentieth century who loved plants so much that her whole life was dedicated to admiring and growing flowers and shrubs? The first name that might come to mind is Kate Sessions. Well that is probably true, but Kate Sessions was active before that, making quite a name for herself in the early 1900s.

Ada Perry was born at the beginning of the twentieth century. Ada found a job at the Harris Seed Company in downtown at 6th & B Streets in San Diego. The Harris Seed Company was the preeminent seed store at the time. They not only sold flower seeds and plant foods but also supplied local farmers and ranchers with many other seeds for food crops and pastures. Ada worked for them for several years, gaining much valuable knowledge in all phases of horticulture.

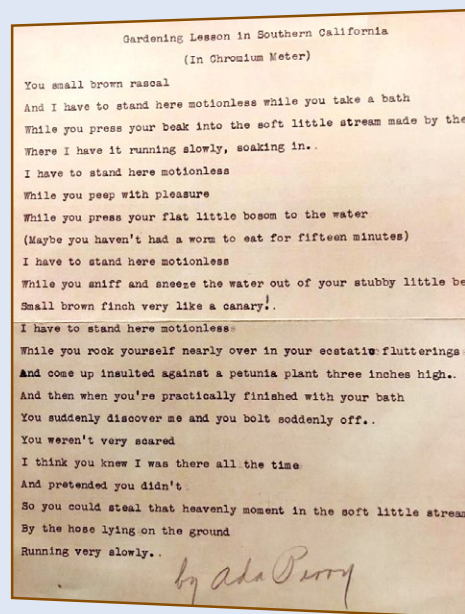
About 1939, Ada came to work at Walter Andersen Nursery, when the nursery was on Rosecrans St., near Pacific Highway. It was one of the largest nurseries in San Diego. Ada also hosted a garden show on a local radio station for a while in the early 1940s. Ada lived in a small home in Encanto. Her father had purchased several acres of land in the area, and some of his children, including Ada, had built homes on the Perry property.

Ada started planting plants of interest to her around her small home and dedicated much of her free time to nurturing and studying them. She became well versed with horticulture and was eager to share her knowledge. She wrote many articles for 'California



Ada Perry pictured on the right.

Garden' a monthly magazine printed by the San Diego Floral Association. In the 1950s, she authored a weekly gardening column for the San Diego Union newspaper and she became well known locally. In 1948, she started giving free garden classes every Saturday under a huge ficus tree at our nursery. Ada conducted all of the classes and sometimes invited a guest speaker to focus on specific areas, such as a fertilizer company giving the latest information on new products. Ada would seek out rose experts to help with new varieties. Bulb suppliers would come and talk about the latest in gladiolus or tulips. At the time, there was a new chemical company in the Los Angeles area that specialized in sprays and plant foods for our specific area called ChaChemCo. They had a very loyal following of the founder, Dr. Ralph Chacon. A few who read this will recognize Terr-O-Vite, probably the best selling liquid fertilizer in Southern California until about 1975. Terr-O-Vite was formulated specifically for our hard alkaline soils. It is also one of the



An Ada Perry Poem.

first fertilizers that had a wetting agent in it to soak though hard packed soils. They also made pest controls to ward off insects and help reduce problems with mildew and rust. Ada loved the products of Dr. Chacon, and promoted them.

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Who Was Ada Perry? continued from p6

Ada was known for the large showy hats that she always wore, and she would have a new one every three or four months.

Ada probably loved roses more than most other plants. She would plant the new rose varieties each year and write about them in the San Diego Union, giving good or bad reviews based on what she experienced in her own rose garden. She would mention to the customers, "If your rose does not perform up to your expectations just dig it up and get rid of it. No use wasting time on something you don't like, when there are many others from which to choose". Her garden was her laboratory, she constantly tried new fertilizers and minerals on her roses to encourage larger blooms, or stronger canes, or just improve the overall vigor of her favorite plants. She put together a formula that she would print every year in the San Diego Union. A cup of this, and handful of that. She called it her "Magic Formula". Customers who took her advice and used this formula could see that Ada knew what she was talking about.

There are several plants honoring Ada Perry, including: 'Spuria Iris' by Eleanor McCowan in 1975 described as wine red with yellow center. Miniature Rose 'Ada Perry' by Dee Bennett in 1978, described as very double light salmon-pink. Robert Ammerman named one of his rhizomatous begonias after Ada in 1979. Annabelle Stubbs named a scarlet and rose trailing fuchsia after her as well, which was introduced in 1983.

Around 1973, Ada had a stroke, which really slowed her down, but somehow she managed to get her column to the Union for the Sunday garden page. By this time, she was no longer able to host her garden classes at the nursery, but she was able to come in once in a while with the help of her younger sister Athlone Perry, who lived nearby.

She loved to see what was new. Ada passed away at her home in the latter part of 1983.

In 1998, Ken Andersen thought avid rose growers might benefit from the 'Magic Formula', and arranged for a large fertilizer manufacturer to mix it into one bag that would be easy to use, instead of buying a little of this and a little of that and mix it all up. This bag of "Ada Perry's Magic Formula" rose food was thus introduced. It was a hit! After several years a new package design was introduced, with a color label and is also available in a convenient five pound box. The label has been upgraded recently to include use on vegetables which also thrive with 'Ada Perry's Magic Formula'.

Ada has a niece who lives in Oregon, who recently planted Ada Perry roses on her grave in Washington State. Somehow, this is a fitting tribute. •



Ada in one of her showy hats in Ada Perry's logo.



Magic Formula® packaging.



Ada's home in Encanto where she nurtured and studied the plants and roses she grew.



Garden Classes

JANUARY

Saturday classes are **FREE** and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Topics are subject to change. See the full schedule at www.walterandersen.com/calendar/.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

1/5

Coming Up ROSES! Rose Class
& New Introductions

1/12

Bare Root Fruit Trees:
How, Where & NOW!

1/19

Landscape Favorite:
Azaleas & Camellias

1/26

IV Organics
with Charles Malki

POWAY | 9:30AM

1/5

Rose Pruning & Care
with David Ross

1/12

Fruit Tree Pruning & Care

1/19

Rose Pruning & Care

1/26

Meadow Gardening

Dates To Remember



12/31

Poway store closes at 2pm

1/1

Both stores closed for
New Year's Day •

Old Ben continued from p5

Helpful Hints for Successful Bird Feeding

- Avoid overcrowding at feeders by placing numerous feeders several feet apart.
- Keep your feeding area and feeders clean.
- Keep food and food storage containers dry and free of mold and insects.

- Check your feeders for safety. Sharp edges can scratch birds and lead to infections.

If You Build It, Will They Come

It may take a while for birds to discover a new feeder. If you are not seeing birds within a few days of setting up your feeder, try sprinkling some seeds on the ground around the feeder to make the new feeding site more obvious. •



Old Ben's wooden feeders and nest boxes are back in stock and better than ever!



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

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Poway, California 92064
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Open 9am-5pm daily



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