

Sandoval County

# Master Gardener

## Newsletter

<http://sandovalmastergardeners.org>

New Mexico State University  
Cooperative Extension Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



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**SCMG Newsletter Submissions Deadline:**  
**15th of each month**

Please submit news, articles, events and photographs to:  
[scmgnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:scmgnewsletter@gmail.com)

Editor: Dudley Vines  
Asst. Editor: Keith Lewis

## COORDINATOR'S CORNER

I hope that each of you has been enjoying our spring weather. Since March I have recorded 2.68 inches of rain here in the sand hills of Corrales. Many of you have probably experienced even more. We are fortunate to be receiving precipitation. The prolonged drought had taken a toll on many of our established natives but now when I look out over the mesa rather than brown I see green, it is a very welcome change.

Thank you to all who grew plants for our plant sale and to those of you who purchased plants. We raised

approximately \$1000 this year. Congratulations to all who made it happen, particularly Julia Runyon and her team! The Board will put the money to good use.

Now for the bad news, Dudley Vines, our extraordinary newsletter editor, is taking a leave of absence next year so we are looking for someone to step up and edit the newsletter. Dudley has graciously agreed to help the new editor to become established and comfortable with the job. The SCMG newsletter is a vital communication method with our membership and the

public so please talk to me if you are interested in the job.

We are embarking on what for many of us is the busiest time of year – a time when your back aches at the end of the day and your skin turns colors your doctor warns you about. As you take your aspirin and reach for your soothing skin cream remember the words of Thomas Jefferson:

*No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden.*

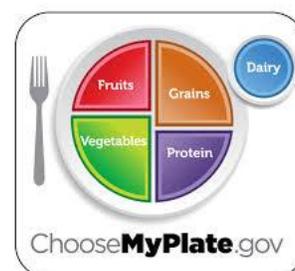
Happy June, everyone! *Sam*

## FROM LYNDA'S DESK

I can't believe how wet and cool this spring has been. What a boon for all the vegetation. Everything is green and lush. The first week in May I attended the National Extension Conference on Volunteerism in Portland, ME. Although much of the conference was geared toward 4-H, the sessions I attended were either specifically for or applicable to Master Gardener programs. The one I'm most excited about is the "Eat Well" volunteer program with University of Maine Cooperative Extension. The program recruits volunteers from the Master Gardener program and trains them to do food tastings and food prepara-

tion of fresh produce at local food pantries. In order to increase consumption of fresh produce, education on what it is and how to prepare it needs to happen. By doing food tastings, supplying recipes, and doing simple cooking demonstrations, food pantry recipients learn firsthand about the variety of fresh fruits and vegetable available during the growing season. The program provides 30 hours of training in the USDA MyPlate dietary guidelines for Americans, home food safety, food preparation, cooking techniques, cooking demonstrations, poverty awareness, and more. This is an easily replicable program

that we could do in Sandoval County. Nicole Lujan, the county Home Economics Agents is onboard to assist in the training. Stay tuned as the program comes together. It will provide a greater diversity in service and outreach hours available for Master Gardeners as well as positive benefit to the residents of Sandoval County. *Lynda*



## Plant of the Month

# Chocolate Flower

by Jan Koehler, SCMG Intern

### Chocolate Flower

Scientific Name: *Berlandiara lyrata*

Other Common Name: Chocolate

Daisy, Green Eyes

Type: Perennial

Family: Asteracea

Native Range: NM, AZ, TX, OK, CO, KS

Zone: 5-9

Height: 12-18"

Bloom Time: Late spring to mid-fall in NM

Bloom Description: quarter sized yellow with chocolate colored centers

Sun: Full sun

Water: Low

Maintenance: Low

Suggested Use: Specimen plant or informal gardens

Flower: Fragrant

Leaf: green, pinnate, lyre shaped

Attracts: Butterflies, bees

Tolerate: Drought



### Culture and Care

The early morning is magical in a garden with singing birds, combinations of bright colored flowers and wonderful scents floating in the morning air. None is more appealing to the chocolate lover than the scent of *Berlandiara lyrata* that blooms during the night and fills the air with its delicious aromas in the early morning.

The Chocolate Flower is a perennial wildflower native to the US Southwest and Mexico. It is often found growing along roadsides where few desirable plants thrive.

Its hardiness, long blooming season and delectable fragrance make it a perfect addition to the water-wise gardens of NM. In order to maximize the pleasure of the chocolate scent include plant clusters in borders near walkways or seating areas of the garden.

The Chocolate Flower is hardy from zones 5 to 9 and grows at elevations as high as 7,000 feet. It prefers full or

partial sun in soil that has **not** been amended. It will spread and naturalize as well as propagate by seed.

The Chocolate flower will need little additional watering once it is established although seeds will need to be kept moist for germination. Seeds may be started in fall or spring. Established plants should not be overwatered or fertilized as they will become leggy.

Compact plants of this species are more aesthetically pleasing in the garden. The long blooming season from spring through frost is an added plus.

The Chocolate flower thrives in hot arid rock gardens and is a magnet for pollinators. ♻️

### References:

<http://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=BELY>

<http://www.santafebotanicalgarden.org/august-2012/>

<http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/chocolate-scented-daisy/chocolate-scented-daisy.htm>

## Special Class

# Make your dreamscape a reality

***HOMEscape Solutions provides information to help solve landscaping challenges***

**by Cathryne Richards, SCMG**

HOMEscape Solutions, a 4-week course, will be presented in Sandoval County this August through September by Master Gardeners Darlene Bassett, Suzanne Maxwell, Cathryne Richards and Charlene Spiegel. This class is designed for both new Master Gardeners and homeowners who want more information about solving landscaping challenges. HOMEscape Solutions provides the tools to make your "dreamscape" possible.

The concept for the class was first discussed by these Master Gardeners who wanted to provide more "nuts 'n bolts" on how to develop properties here in Sandoval County.

Darlene has taught the Landscaping Class for Southwest Homeowners Gardening Class, Gardening with the Masters and for various other Training classes over the last 14 years.

Cathryne said she personally took the Master Gardener Training to learn how to deal with the Placitas soil, water and plants. She also has attended the Xeriscape Conference held here in Albuquerque for 6 years, in addition to other continuing education courses in order to find out what to do with her sloped, rocky, wind-swept lot.

Charlene moved to Rio Rancho from California 6 years ago and like many other New Mexican "transplants", needed to know how to grow plants in this arid high desert soil and transform her ½ acre of sand dunes into



***Charlene Spiegel, Darlene Bassett, Suzanne Maxwell and Cathryne Richards will be presenting HOMEscape Solutions this fall.***

something more appealing. She discovered HOMEscape Solutions in 2010 and has been actively involved ever since. Charlene has also been a Rio Rancho Tree Steward volunteer for the last 5 years and became a Master Gardener in 2014, continually honing her knowledge and expertise in all things related to gardening.

Suzanne Maxwell has been a Master Gardener and involved with sustainability, permaculture, and developing community gardens in Placitas for the past several years. She also serves on the Placitas Library garden committee,

Together they have come up with a curriculum that will create a forum with support groups for Masters Gardeners and homeowners to work together in teams to create their dream landscapes, transforming their ideas into reality in their own backyards.

The idea is to provide on-going sup-

port groups, guidance, feedback and assistance in developing the HOMEscape plan of your dreams. Some of the topics covered in the class will be: site planning, hardscape selection, the use of native plants, garden harmony by using Feng Shui, permaculture and creating outdoor rooms.

The four classes will meet on Friday evenings, August 21<sup>st</sup> and September 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 9:30 PM and on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 3 PM, with a 2-week period between classes for team home visits and "hands-on" project startups. Participants are asked to commit to the entire 4-week course. Classes are held at the Sandoval County Extension Center, 711 Camino del Pueblo, Bernalillo, New Mexico. The course fee is \$85/person and includes a complete materials and resource kit, Friday night appetizers and Saturday lunches.

*See "dreamscape" next page*

"Dreamscape" continued

This class is limited to 20 participants and fills up fast, so sign up early – however your confirmed registration will NOT be complete until your registration fee has been paid to SCMG.

## Volunteers Needed!

To register, call Sandoval County Extension at [\(505\) 867-2582](tel:5058672582). HOMEscape Solutions needs 3 more Volunteers to fill the following positions:

2 Assistant Team Leaders. Must be a Master Gardener or Trainee and able to commit to the entire HOMEscape Solutions class agenda and time line.

1 Hospitality Volunteer. Able to Assist with set-up, clean-up and snacks and lunches on the Friday and Saturday dates.

Volunteers will go through the entire HOMEscape Solutions training and are asked to cover the cost of meals which is \$45.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer call Cathryne Richards (see your SCMG roster, or email [scmgnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:scmgnewsletter@gmail.com) for info).



HOMEscape Solutions leaders Charlene Spiegel, Suzanne Maxwell and Cathryne Richards are ready to get their hands dirty.

## Committee News

# Fund raising plant sale makes \$1000

by Julia Runyan, SCMG

This year's plant sale was a great success! With the help of many Master Gardeners, we have made around **\$1000**. I especially want to thank the wonderful members and interns who helped with the pricing and selling of the plants: Shirley Rice, Katherine Dambrino, Judy Moore, Joan Roschevitz, Shelley Rine, Linda White, Connie Larkin, Claire Heywood, Jessie Whitman and Annette Glore. I am grateful for all of these people who spent their time to come and help. A great big "thanks" to all of them and to everyone who donated plants! ☺

*If two wrongs don't make a right, try three.*

Laurence J. Peter

## How to

# NMSU to host subsurface irrigation workshop in Valencia County

New Mexico State University turfgrass specialist Bernd Leinauer has developed a subsurface drip irrigation system that reduces water usage by watering grass at its roots.

"Subsurface drip irrigation can reduce water used for irrigation by 20 to 30 percent," Leinauer said. "This type of system waters right at the roots, which minimizes water loss to overhead evaporation, wind and overspray."

Valencia County Cooperative Extension Service will host a hands-on workshop Saturday, June 13. Participants will help install a subsurface drip irrigation system during the workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, click [here](#). ACES news by [Jane Moorman](mailto:jmoorman@nmsu.edu), [jmoorman@nmsu.edu](mailto:jmoorman@nmsu.edu)



**Blasted aphids!** You can spray aphids with insecticidal soap, but maybe the simplest treatment can be seen in the background - just blast them with a strong spray of water. They don't seem to be able to find their way back.

## Newsletter

# No experience required

by Dudley Vines, SCMG

After two years as editor of the SCMG newsletter, I will be calling it quits at the end of September. Not because it's not fun; it is a lot of fun. I've enjoyed every minute, but I'm taking a leave of absence from SCMG due to elderly parent stuff.

I started off kind of meekly with the newsletter, I think. But I soon started adding new material like articles from other Master Gardener newsletters and local newspapers, book reviews, "how-to" articles, guest columns, humor and garden lore, and even goofy fiction when we needed another page or two. We lost Maryellen Sherman's monthly Rose Notes column when she moved away, but a few months ago we added a new monthly piece called "Plant of the Month" by Jan Koehler. I changed the format recently to give the newsletter a fresh look.

I hope everyone has enjoyed the newsletter. I've had a lot of fun putting it together. Leaving SCMG was a tough decision to make, but that's just the way it has to be right now. Hopefully it will be a temporary absence.

**Position open for newsletter editor.  
No experience required.**

Now SCMG needs a new editor to step up. And since we have several newsletter issues to go before I leave, I can show you how I do it. It's not difficult, and will fulfill all your volunteer hours (except for "outreach").

The newsletter has always been created using Microsoft Publisher, but any publishing software would work. It would be very hard to create the newsletter without a publishing software application. So if you're a Mac-type person, you might choose to use your own publishing software. Anyone

who has a Windows computer with Microsoft Office probably has Publisher on their computer already.

If you have used Microsoft Word, you can use Publisher. Even if you haven't used Word, I can show you how to use Publisher for the newsletter.

If you don't have Publisher, we can figure out how you can edit the newsletter anyway. There are free publishing apps online, or perhaps we can obtain Publisher for you. Mainly, we need someone to volunteer who has a genuine interest in producing the newsletter. If that's you, I can get you set up and show you how before you take over. If you don't have a computer, you can even work at the Casita – but I have to say that might not be real convenient if you don't live in Bernalillo.

Probably any SCMG member could do this job. I just told you that you don't even have to have a computer, and that I'll train you. All you need is a desire to be the editor. How much easier can it get?

### ***What does the editor do?***

What does the job entail? Basically, the editor starts with a newsletter template, pastes articles into the template, then arranges it all to look nice.

Articles can be submitted by anyone, but most often it is the project chairs who provide material. I urge SCMGs to take photos when they're at a workshop or volunteer on a project, or even when they're working in their own garden. Write a few words and send it all to scmgnewsletter@gmail.com, and put down the hours on their volunteer time sheet.

You can also find articles on the internet or in newspapers. We ask for permission to reprint articles when they come from outside SCMG.

Of course the editor proofreads and corrects the material, and can write articles if he or she wants to.

### ***Publishing software makes it easy***

After deciding what to include in the newsletter, the editor has to do the actual editing, which means making material fit in the space available and arranging it esthetically. The publishing software facilitates this.

The publishing software provides simple and easy tools for cutting and pasting, adjusting the size of photos and text, and making text overflow to where you want it to continue.

### ***FAQ***

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions about being editor:

Q: Do I have to be a computer genius to use publishing software?

A: No. But you do have to invest the time to learn how to use it.

Q: How hard is it to learn to use the publishing software?

A: If you're not afraid of computers, it's not hard. If you've ever used software where you cut and paste and select fonts, you're ahead of the game.

Q: If I become the newsletter editor, will people respect me and hold me in high esteem?

A: Absolutely.

Q: Someone said I'd have to be crazy to volunteer to be editor. Is that true?

A: No, and I resent the question.

Q: Is being editor more fun than other projects?

A: All I can say is I get my hours in without picking up a shovel. ☺

## Events

# 6 gardens, ten bucks

by Carol Dimeff, SCMG

Here's a sneak preview of the **2015 Corrales Garden Tour**, to be held Sunday, June 7th. See a wonderful diversity of landscaping and meet your fellow master gardeners. The official flyer for the Garden Tour is on the next page.

SCMG volunteers will be answering garden questions, handing out promotional materials, and selling raffle tickets for the SCMG quilt fund raiser. ♻️

*Photos by Carol Dimeff at the Corrales home of Margie (pictured) and Bill Schneider.*



*Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.      Anon.*



Photograph by David Muench

# 2015 Corrales Garden Tour

## Sunday, June 7

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sixth Annual Garden Tour—six gardens, built or revitalized by owners using many water-wise xeric plants.

### Tickets \$10

On sale pre-tour online and at the following locations from May 1 - June 6

Available on day of tour at tents on Corrales Rd.

Get tickets online at [www.corrales-gardentour.com](http://www.corrales-gardentour.com) and at the following locations:

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Village Mercantile           | Frontier Mart           |
| Great Outdoors Garden Center | Alameda Greenhouse      |
| Plants of the Southwest      | Osuna Nursery           |
| Jericho Nursery              | Santa Ana Native Plants |

Questions?

[info@corrales-gardentour.com](mailto:info@corrales-gardentour.com)

(505)350-3955

[www.corrales-gardentour.com](http://www.corrales-gardentour.com)

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*While visiting Corrales don't miss the Corrales Wine Loop, art galleries, B&B's, restaurants, shopping, and more. For more information on all that Corrales has to offer go to [www.visitcorrales.com](http://www.visitcorrales.com).*

# How to

# Mail-order trees

by Dudley Vines, SCMG

I receive several mail-order nursery catalogs each year, and I usually thumb through them and then toss them out. But this year a grafted apple tree that produces both Red Delicious and Golden Delicious as well caught my eye. Maybe you shouldn't look at these catalogs if you're hungry.

I worried a little that ordering trees by mail might not be a great idea. But on the other hand, this nursery wouldn't have been sending out catalogs all these years if it didn't work.

Finally I decided it would be nice to have that tree in our yard since my wife prefers red apples and I prefer green varieties. So I placed an order online, and in about a week I found the tree on my porch.



*The bare-root tree was packed with a wad of wet newspaper strips on the roots and wrapped in heavy plastic.*

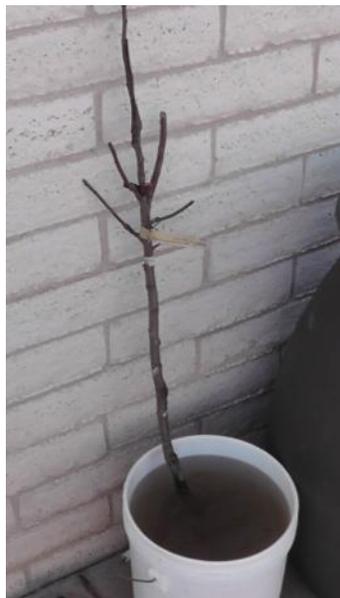
The accompanying instructions advised hydrating the roots by soaking in water for 4-6 hours (but not more than 24). So into a bucket it went.



*After planting, I made a temporary connection to my drip system because I'm too lazy to water by hand.*



*Fedex Ground delivered the tree in about a week.*



While it soaked, I prepared the planting hole.



Two weeks later, it looks like every branch is leafing out. Late this year I will replace my temporary drip tube loop with an expandable ring that I can enlarge as the tree grows. ☺



## Information

# Beneficial Insects and Other Arthropods

***Beneficial arthropods can prevent or limit pest problems in the yard and garden.***

**by W.S. Cranshaw**

*Colorado State University Extension entomologist and professor, bioagricultural sciences and pest management. CSU Fact Sheet 5.550, 2/2009*

Most insects and other arthropods found in the yard and garden do not feed on or harm plants. Many of these are just passing through or have innocuous habits. Others feed on and destroy pest species. In many cases, the activities of these beneficial species can completely prevent or greatly limit pest problems. It is important to recognize these beneficial arthropods so they may be appreciated and conserved.

Beneficial arthropods are categorized broadly as either predators or parasites. Adult or immature stages of insect predators, or both, actively search out and eat prey insects. Predators include lady beetles, lacewings and spiders. Insect parasites develop in or on a single host from eggs or larvae deposited by the adult parasite. Common insect parasites are tachinid flies and the braconid and ichneumonid wasps.

### Insect Predators

#### Lady Beetles

Often called ladybugs, lady beetles (Figure 1) are the most familiar insect predator. Most adult lady beetles are round to oval, brightly colored and often spotted. Lady beetles are further discussed in fact sheet 5.594, *Lady Beetles*. The immature or larvae stages, however, look very different and often are overlooked or misidentified. Lady beetle larvae are elongated, usually dark colored, and flecked with orange or yellow (Figure 2).



**Figure 1. Twospotted lady beetle laying eggs.**

Adult and larvae feed on large numbers of small, soft-bodied insects such as aphids. One group of small, black lady beetles (*Stethorus*) is important in controlling spider mites and others specialize in scale insects. Lady beetles can rapidly control many developing insect problems, particularly if temperatures are warm.



**Figure 2. Typical lady beetle larva.**

One species of lady beetle, however, the Mexican bean beetle, is a plant pest. This common Colorado insect is found feeding on bean leaves. It is distinguished from other lady beetles by spotting and color in the adult stage. Larvae of the Mexican bean beetle are yellow and spiny.

#### Green Lacewings

Several green lacewing species (Figure 3) are commonly found in gardens.

The adult stage is familiar to most gardeners: a pale green insect with large, clear, highly-veined wings that are held over the body when at rest. Adult green lacewings primarily feed on nectar and other fluids, but some species also consume a few small insects.



**Figure 3. Green lacewing adult.**

Green lacewings lay a distinctive stalked egg. Lacewing larvae emerge in four to 10 days. These larvae, sometimes called aphid lions, are voracious predators capable of feeding on small caterpillars and beetles, as well as aphids and other insects. In general shape and size, lacewing larvae are superficially predators capable of feeding on small caterpillars and beetles, as well as aphids and other insects. In general shape and size, lacewing larvae are superficially similar to lady beetle larvae. However, immature lacewings usually are light brown and have a large pair of hooked jaws sticking out from the front of the head (Figure 4).



**Figure 4. Green lacewing nymph. Photo courtesy of Harold Larsen.**

See "beneficials" next page

"beneficials" continued

## Syrphid Flies



Figure 5. Syrphid fly adult.

These flies are called by several names, such as flower flies or hover flies. Most are brightly colored, yellow or orange and black, and may resemble bees or yellowjacket wasps. However, syrphid flies are harmless to people. Usually they can be seen feeding on flowers.

It is the larval stage of the syrphid fly that preys on insects. Various colored, the tapered maggots crawl over foliage and can eat dozens of small, soft-bodied insects each day. Syrphid flies are particularly important in controlling aphid infestations early in the season, when cooler temperatures may inhibit other predators. Similar in appearance to syrphid fly larvae is a small, bright orange predatory midge (*Aphidoletes*). These insects often can be seen feeding within aphid colonies late in the season.



Figure 6. Syrphid fly larva.

## Predatory Bugs

True bugs (Order: Hemiptera) are predators of insects and mites. All feed by piercing the prey with their narrow mouthparts and sucking out body fluids. A red and black species of predatory stink bug, capable of feeding on fairly large insects such as caterpillars

and potato beetle larvae, is most conspicuous. More common, but less frequently observed, are the various light brown damsel bugs, also called nabid bugs. Damsel bugs are found on the foliage of all crops, where they seek out aphids, insect eggs and small insect larvae.

Most common of all the predatory bugs are the small (less than 1/8 inch) minute pirate bugs. Minute pirate bugs are most frequently seen in flowers or in crevices of a green plant, where they feed on thrips, spider mites and insect eggs. Other predatory bugs common in yards and gardens include ambush bugs and assassin bugs.

## Ground Beetles

Various species of ground beetles are found under debris, in soil cracks or moving along the ground. Immature stages are distinctly different from adults and more often are found within the top few inches of soil. Ground beetles are general feeders with powerful jaws. Almost any garden pest that spends part or all of its life on the soil surface may be prey for these insects.

## Mantids

Mantids are uncommon in most of Colorado but are familiar insects to most gardeners. Mantids are general predators that feed on almost any insects of the right size. They have one generation per year with winter spent as eggs within a pod. One species of mantids, the Chinese mantid, is sometimes available for sale. Mantids are discussed in more detail in fact sheet 5.510, [Mantids of Colorado](#).

## Hunting Wasps

A large number of wasps from several



Figure 7. Hunting wasp (*Ammophila*) at prey with caterpillar.

families prey on insect pests. Many take their prey, whole or in pieces, back to their mud, soil or paper nests to feed to the immature wasps. These hunting wasps can be important in controlling garden insect pests. For example, the common *Polistes* paper wasps, when hunting, may thoroughly search plants and feed on caterpillars, often providing substantial control of these insects.

## Predatory Mites

Several mite species are predators of plant-feeding spider mites. Typically, these predatory mites are a little larger than spider mites but are more rounded in shape and faster moving than their prey. Predatory mites often can provide good control of spider mites. Low humidity can restrict their activity. They are also more susceptible to insecticides than are plant-feeding species.

## Spiders



Figure 8. Crab spider.

All spiders feed on insects or other small arthropods. Most people are familiar with many common web-making species. However, there are many other spiders – wolf spiders, crab spiders, jumping spiders – that do not build webs but instead move about and hunt their prey on soil or plants. These less conspicuous spiders can be important in controlling insect pests such as beetles, caterpillars, leafhoppers and aphids.

## Insect Parasites

### Tachinid Flies

These flies are undistinguished-looking

See "parasites" next page

"parasites" continued

gray or brown flies covered with dark bristles. Most look like other common flies, but they differ markedly in their habits. Adult tachinid flies lay eggs on various caterpillars, beetles and bugs, usually near the head. The eggs hatch



Figure 9. Tachinid fly eggs (white) laid near head of hornworm caterpillar.

almost immediately, and the young maggots tunnel into their host. After feeding internally for a week or more, the tachinid fly larvae eventually kill the host insect.



Figure 10. Tachinid fly feeding on nectar.

The many kinds of tachinid flies are important natural controls of many insect pests, particularly caterpillars. However, tachinid flies rarely are observed by the average gardener, and their beneficial activities often are overlooked.

### Braconid and Ichneumonid Wasps

These are a large and diverse group of insect parasites. Some are small and attack small insects such as aphids. Others live in the eggs of various pest insects. Larger parasite wasps attack caterpillars or wood-boring beetles. External evidence of these parasites' activity is often more obvious than with the tachinid flies. For example, aphids that are parasitized by these

wasps are typically small and discolored and called "aphid mummies." Other braconid wasp species spin conspicuous pupal cocoons after emerging from a host.



Figure 11. Ichneumon wasp.

### Purchasing Insect Predators and Parasites

Several insect predators and parasites are available through garden catalogs and other outlets. These include lady beetles, praying mantids, *Trichogramma* wasps, green lacewing eggs and others.

At present, Colorado State University entomologists cannot highly recommend any of these beneficial organisms for insect pest control in the yard and garden. Field performance of released organisms has been marginal. Certain insect diseases, such as *Bacillus thuringiensis* and insect parasite nematodes, are recommended. Also several insect natural enemies (whitefly parasite, mealybug destroyer, predatory mites) are recommended for greenhouse insect management. See fact sheets 5.556, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, and 5.573, *Insect Parasitic Nematodes* ([find CSU Fact Sheets here](#)).

***When insecticides are needed, choose ones that are selective and less likely to harm insect predators and parasites.***

predators and parasites. Before making insecticide applications, always check plants to see if the existing beneficial organisms are abundant enough to provide control. Whenever possible, use insecticides that are more selective in their activity and less harmful to the insect predators and parasites.

### The Use of Flowering Plants by Beneficial Insects

Many insects are important in the biological control of plant pests have special food needs during their adult stage. An important example of this are syrphid (flier) flies that must feed on pollen or nectar to mature eggs. Many other insects use pollen and nectar (and honeydew) to sustain them, often allowing them to survive longer, produce more progeny and provide an overall higher level of biological control. Lady beetles, green lacewings and parasitic wasps are among the natural insect enemies that utilize nectar and pollen in this manner.

The availability of flowering plants that provide these supplementary foods can increase the beneficial activities of these natural enemies. However, it is also clear that there is a wide range in how useful flowering plants are for this purpose. The majority of plants are not available to the insects whose mouthparts are much shorter than others, better known nectar feeders such as bees and butterflies.

Some plants that have high visitation and use by beneficial natural enemies:

- Achillea (Yarrow)
- Basket-of-Gold
- Butter-and-Eggs
- Camomille
- Coriander
- Dill
- Edging Lobelia
- European Golden-rod
- Fennel
- Lavenders
- Masterwort
- Moon Carrot
- Sedum
- Sweet Alyssum
- Veronica

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[www.ext.colostate.edu](http://www.ext.colostate.edu)

In the yard and garden, it is important to recognize naturally occurring insect

# The Bulletin Board

## Openings for 2016 Board

for the 2016 Election at the Annual Meeting in September:

- Coordinator (1-year term)
- Asst Coordinator (1-year term)
- Secretary (2-year term)
- Member-at-Large (2-year term)

Please contact Nancy Bresenham, JoAnn Beuerle, Sandy Liakus, or Julia Runyan to tell us about yourself or a suggested candidate. Contact information is in your SCMG roster. Or email SCMGnewsletter@gmail.com.

## Education Committee Meetings

**June 9:** 2-4pm at Extension office in Bernalillo

**June 23:** 2-4pm at Extension office in Bernalillo

## International MG Conference

SEPTEMBER 22-25, 2015

MID-AMERICA CENTER, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

## Quilt Raffle

The fund raising committee is selling tickets for two quilts being raffled off. The drawing will take place just before the close of The Corrales Garden Tour on June 7th. Both quilts will be displayed at the Kirby Garden during the tour for your last minute ticket purchases.

## Lost Dog

Has only 3 legs, blind in left eye, missing right ear, tail broken, and recently neutered. Answers to the name of "Lucky."

## Master Composter Workshops

**6/3/2015 Home Composting Basics:** 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at [Palo Duro Senior Center](#), 5221 Palo Duro NE, Albuquerque, NM ([map](#)). To register call 505-888-8102 or send email to [register@nmcomposters.org](mailto:register@nmcomposters.org).

**6/6/2015 Home Composting Basics:** 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at [Taylor Ranch Library](#), 5700 Bogart NW, Albuquerque, NM ([map](#)). To register call 505-897-8818 or send email to [register@nmcomposters.org](mailto:register@nmcomposters.org).

**6/20/2015 Composting With Worms (Vermicomposting):** 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm at [Open Space Visitor Center](#), 6500 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque ([map](#)). To register call 505-897-8831 or send email to [register@nmcomposters.org](mailto:register@nmcomposters.org).

## Corrales Garden Tour

June 7, 2015. See a wonderful diversity of landscaping and meet your fellow master gardeners. SCMG volunteers will be answering garden questions, handing out promotional materials, and selling raffle tickets for the SCMG quilt fund raiser.

## Gardening With the Masters

Gardening with the Masters is a long-standing monthly lecture series, presented by the SCMG. Master gardeners and other invited experts offer useful horticultural presentations for the high desert home gardener. The lectures are free and open to the public. Upcoming events:

**June 2:** Container Gardening - Kristen Ikenberg

**July 7:** Residential Rain Water Harvesting – MG Sandy Liakus

*Inclusion for special needs populations is standard for all Senior Service Programs. If special accommodations are required please contact the staff upon registration.*

*Meadow Lark Senior Center*

*4330 Meadowlark Lane SE*

*Rio Rancho, NM 87124*

## Subsurface Irrigation Workshop

Valencia County Cooperative Extension Service will host a hands-on workshop Saturday, June 13. Participants will help install a subsurface drip irrigation system during the workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The workshop has been developed by NMSU turfgrass specialist Bernd Leinauer. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, contact Newt McCarty (Valencia County Agricultural Extension Agent) at [jnewton@nmsu.edu](mailto:jnewton@nmsu.edu) or 505-565-3002. Participants are asked to RSVP by June 10. The workshop is co-sponsored by Toro Company.

## Food Preservation Workshops

This summer, starting in June, the Bernalillo County Cooperative Extension Service will be conducting classes in making jams and jellies; pickles; salsa; canning tomatoes, fruit, and vegetables; and freezing and drying foods.

Pre-Registration is required, and the fee for each canning class is \$20. Call Bernalillo County Cooperative Extension Service for reservation and information 243-1386

Click on the link above for complete information.



# SCMG June 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p><b>SCMG Board Meetings</b> Third Tuesday of month, Sandoval County Extension Office, 3:00pm</p>	<p><b>Click on links for details</b></p> <p><b>Telephone Hotline</b> Daily 9:00-12:00, 1:30-4:30 in the Casita</p>	<p><b>NOTE: the official SCMG calendar is on the <a href="#">website</a></b></p>			
	1	2 - <a href="#">Gardening With the Masters: Container Gardening</a>	3 - <a href="#">DeLavy House garden 9-11am</a>	4 - <a href="#">WaterWise Garden 8:30-11:00am</a> - <a href="#">New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</a>	5	6 - <a href="#">Home Depot Plant Clinic 10am-2pm</a>
7 - <a href="#">Corrales Garden Tour 9:00-4:00</a> - <a href="#">Corrales Growers Market 9:00am-12:00pm</a>	8	9 -Educ Committee 2-4pm at Extension offices	10	11 - <a href="#">New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</a>	12	13
14 - <a href="#">Corrales Growers Market 9:00am-12:00pm</a>	15 <b>Newsletter Articles DUE!</b>	16 -SCMG Board 3-5pm	17	18 - <a href="#">New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</a>	19	20
21 - <a href="#">Corrales Growers Market 9:00am-12:00pm</a>	22	23 -Educ Committee 2-4pm at Extension offices	24	25 - <a href="#">New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</a>	26	27 - <a href="#">Santa Ana Plant Clinic 10am-2pm</a>
28 - <a href="#">Corrales Growers Market 9:00am-12:00pm</a>	29	30				



# SCMG July 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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