



Sandoval Extension Master Gardener Newsletter

<http://sandovalmastergardeners.org/>

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



Sandoval County

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NMSU and the U.S.
Department of
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**SCMG Newsletter
Submissions
Deadline: 21st each mo.**

Please submit news,
articles, events and
photographs to:
scmgnews@gmail.com

Editor:
Kate Shadock

Revised July 2020

From Barbara Boyd, Acting Board President:

On September 1, 2018 New Mexico State University implemented new NMSU Extension Master Gardener Program State Bylaws. The intent of these bylaws is to establish a governance structure for the Extension Master Gardener Programming throughout the state. One critical component is that NMSU is the governing body with veto power and ownership of the relationship with Master Gardeners through the volunteer agreement, code of conduct and these bylaws. Think of NMSU as our parent organization with the extension agent, in our case, Lynda Garvin, serving as the representative of NMSU with veto power.

Our County chapter has been working through these bylaws and is now coming into compliance with them. The board of Sandoval Extension Master Gardeners voted to move to an Advisory Council structure to support the NMSU bylaws.

There is a President, Vice President, Note Taker (currently using Zoom transcription) and Standing Committee representatives including Outreach, Education, Membership, Finance, and Communication/Website/Marketing/Public Relations/Social Media. The Advisory Council will provide advice and counsel to our extension agent and each Standing Committee will be represented on the Advisory Council.

The NMSU Bylaws are now on our website at <http://sandovalmastergardeners.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2018-09-State-Bylaws.pdf>

And a description of the Advisory Council Structure with the Standing Committees is also available on our website with the chairs or co-chairs of each committee noted

<http://sandovalmastergardeners.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/SEMG-Advisory-Council-Structure.pdf>

Please consider joining one of the Standing Committees to advance our program and to increase creative contributions to our work. Contact the chair or co-chair of a committee you are interested in supporting. And please stay safe and healthy.

~ Barbara

Lynda's Corner:

COVID19 Cooperative Extension and Master Gardener Program Update

Under Phase II of the NMSU Extension Return to Work plan, Extension group programming will transition from virtual only programming to allow for limited group (5 people or less) face-to-face programming.

Extension faculty can provide face-to-face programming for groups of 5 or less clientele when virtual programming is not practical. This does not apply to Extension volunteers (i.e. 4-H and Master Gardener volunteers). This question was raised when the youth exemption plan was written.



Sunflower Photo by L. Garvin

A separate set of guidelines will be developed and approved by central administration for adult volunteer programming. We are still in Phase I, which is telework from home and virtual programming for extension staff. That said Master Gardeners are at your service by phone or email to answer your gardening questions.

If you have a gardening question, please contact the Master Gardener Helpline:

Phone help: (505)907-1353 or email: emailhelpline@sandovalmastergardeners.org

~ Lynda

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Peace Corps Burkina Faso, Jamaica, Guinea-Bissau, Vanuatu

Growing Tomatoes in Sandoval County

Sam Thompson – SEMG 2008

'The Tomato Maven'

There are three key challenges to growing tomatoes in Sandoval county: Low fertility soil, high temperatures, pests, and diseases. This month we'll focus on the challenges of high temperatures and pests and diseases.



SUPPORTING TOMATOES THROUGH SUMMER HEAT

- Smaller tomato varieties do better in high heat
- Water in the morning
- Wilted plant in the afternoon – likely normal; Wilted plant in the morning needs water
- Water consistently to avoid blossom end rot
- Provide some shade for the tomato plants
- Mulch the plants
- In this heat if you only have flowers give them a shake to help pollination.

TOMATO DISEASES

- Curly Leaf Virus -spread by the Beet Leafhopper – stunts plant growth, leaves turn yellow and get leathery. No cure for CL; must pull out and toss all the diseased plants. Do not compost!
- Verticillium and Fusarium - both soil borne fungal disease. Lab test needed to determine which disease is present

PROTECTING TOMATOES FROM PESTS

- Inspect plants early in the day. Pick off and discard Tomato Horn
- Tomato Fruit worms are small, striped and could be green, yellow, or brown
- Nematodes – microscopic worms that live in the soil and feed on the roots
- Use floating row covers – pest protection and light shade
- Grow disease resistant varieties
- Grow companion plants beside the tomatoes



Photo: <https://extension.umn.edu/>



Photo: Cosmos - Pixabay

COMPANION PLANTS FOR TOMATOES:

- Onions, carrots, chiles, asparagus, basil, chives, parsley, and garlic
- Cosmos, dill, alyssum, and California Bluebell, Plains Coreopsis and Buckwheat
- Consider using insectary plants to attract beneficial insects to feed on the harmful ones.

https://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_h/H169/welcome.html

King David Came Over For Great Species

Kate Shaddock – SEMG 2018

Master Gardener’s recognize this headline as the mnemonic technique to encode the hierarchical order of scientific plant identification, also known as taxonomy. Modern taxonomy ranks are kingdom, division*, class, order, family, genus, species.

HISTORY:

The development of sophisticated optical lenses allowed organisms to be extensively studied. Andrea Cesalpino (Italy 1519-1602) published **De Plantis** (1583) that described more than 1500 plant species. He first recognized two large plant families, still in use today, Asteraceae and Brassicaceae

Carl Linnaeus, a Swedish Botanist (1707-1778) revolutionized modern taxonomy. He implemented a standardized binomial naming system for plant and animal species. The first word describes the genus and the second word describes a characteristic of the specific organism. For example, *Magnolia grandiflora* describes the native southern magnolia with large white flowers. The Latin binomial name is consistent across the globe. Linnaeus also introduced the standard of class, order, genus, and species.



Photo: European White Water Lily; Wikipedia

DOES IT REALLY MATTER?

Many gardeners prefer using the common name for plants as it’s “easier”. Easier can lead to confusion, especially with instant global communications. The European white-water lily, *Nymphaea alba*, for example, has 15 different common names in English, 44 common names in French, 105 common names in German and 81 common names in Dutch. It’s much easier to learn ***Nymphaea alba*** than the combined 245 names in other languages.

Taxonomy is even more important when it comes to something that might, or might not, be edible. The Florida pistachio sold at the local nursery could be a *Pistacia vera*, with edible nuts, or it might be a *Jatropha curcus* (Barbados nut) with highly poisonous nuts. Since both are sold with the same Florida pistachio label the “easy” name could be tragic.

MAKING PROGRESS?

The term clade was first introduced in 1958. In July 2004 systemic and evolutionary biologists from 11 nations met to create a new association, **the International Society for Phylogenetic Nomenclature**, known as the **PhyloCode** for short. Their purpose is specifically designed to regulate the naming of clades. To learn more about PhyloCode, click [here](#). Essentially. The PhyloCode does not require the use of ranks. If you’ve recently looked up a flower, the *Hibiscus syriacus*, for example you might be surprised by the taxonomy displayed. **Note:** Space requires three columns, rather than one.

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--|--------------|----------|--|---------|-------------|
| Kingdom | Plantae | | Clade | Eudocots | | Family | Malvaceae |
| Clade | Tracheophytes | | Clade | Rosids | | Genus | Hibiscus |
| Clade | Angiosperms | | Order | Malvales | | Species | H. syriacus |

*Taxonomy ranks may show as Kingdom, **Phylum**, Class, Order, Genus, Species. Phylum and Division are both taxonomic levels below kingdom and above class. Phylum is the classification level of the animal kingdom. Division is the alternative classification level in the kingdom Plantae and Fungi.

Southwest Plant of the Month

Beebalm or bergamot



Monarda fistulosa var. menthifolia

General Information

Plant Form Flower

Plant Size 3' x 2'

Plant Type Perennial

Water Usage Medium

Sunlight Sun, Partial Shade

Colors Pink, Purple

Physical Description: Lavender to pink flowers clustered in 3" heads on long leafy stems. Intensely fragrant, minty leaves. Spreads by rhizomes.

Care and Maintenance: Mildew if irrigated by spray. Spent stems must be cut back to basal rosette.

Gardener's notes: Native southwestern mint that attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Leaves and flowers used herbally. Related red-flowered beebalm, *M. didyma*, although often available, suffers in dry heat.

Information from: <https://desertblooms.nmsu.edu/plantadvisor/>