Fall Sale: Trees, Shrubs, and California Natives

The cool, rainy weather of autumn is almost upon us, and it’s a good time to be thinking about getting woody plants started in your garden. Planted now when the ground is still warm and moisture is increasingly abundant, trees and shrubs will have an opportunity to establish strong, healthy root systems over the winter while their tops are vegetatively dormant. Friends of the Botanical Garden have a unique opportunity to purchase a wide variety of choice, reasonably priced trees, shrubs, and California natives at the Garden’s Fall Sale to be held Saturday, October 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Botanical Garden.

The volunteer propagators have assembled an impressive selection of plants, some of which are impossible to find at nurseries. Among the plants available will be Podocarpus alpinus, decorative, yew like shrub or small tree from the mountains of eastern Australia and Tasmania; Hymenosporum flavum (Poor Man’s Frangipani), small, narrow tree with cream-colored, fragrant flowers from Queensland and New South Wales, Australia; Dais cotinifolia “Pompon Tree”, attractive 16 ft. tree with a rounded crown and masses of pinky-lilac flowers, Crinodendron pataqua from Chile (Elaeocarpaceae) “Lily of the valley tree,” in summer this evergreen is covered with small bell-shaped white flowers followed by numerous attractive cream and red seed capsules.

Also available at the sale will be a selection of California natives from the Botanical Garden’s collection. Emphasizing shrubs for optimal Fall planting one will find the unusual: Arctostaphylos (many species), Asarum caudatum, Berberis pinnata, Chamaecyparis lawsoniana, Clematis (two species), Lonicera and Ribes viburnifolium. There will also be bulbs from the Garden’s Brodiaea collection, Romneya coulteri, Torreya californica, Vancouveria hexandra, and Zauschneria.

There will be some winter vegetables such as broccoli, chicory including raddichio, lettuce, and alpine strawberries.

Questions concerning growing requirements of plants for sale will be gladly answered. Proceeds from the sale will provide valuable support to the UC Botanical Garden for both physical improvements and educational programs.

Fall Garden Highlights

The Botanical Garden can be enjoyed on a variety of levels. For the intellectually inquisitive it is a museum, containing an extraordinarily diverse collection of plants from around the globe. For those seeking peace and quiet it is a convenient retreat, removed from pressures of the urban environment. Whatever your motives, there are plenty of sights at this time of year that merit one or more trips to the Garden.

If you enter the Garden by the main path bordering the California Native collection, stop and take a look at the glass case exhibit titled “California Endemics.” This display discusses plant species and plant communities that are known to occur primarily or exclusively within the boundaries of the state. As you proceed down the main path, the Mexican collection is on your left. This is one of the most colorful sections of the Garden at this time of year. Members of the Sunflower family (Cosmos, Bidens, Tagetes) dominate the display.

Beds 171A and 171B, in the Mexican collection, border the New World Desert area. They contain many members of the Agave family (Agavaceae). Agaves, along with cacti, are among the most characteristic components of the American deserts. Individuals of many Agave species flower only once in their lifetime. They produce tall, and often enormous flower stalks. The inflorescences of some species resemble medium-sized trees! Unless they produce vegetative offsets at their base, the plants die soon after flowering. According to popular belief, Century plants, a name loosely applied to several species of Agave, live for 100 years, blossom, and then die. Don’t try and set your watch by this life cycle, however. The time required for most to accumulate sufficient food reserves to flower is actually more on the order of 10-20 years. Large specimens of Agave inaequidens and A. nelsonii produced flower stalks in the Garden this summer. Look for the old stalks now; at heights of nearly 35 feet they are hard to miss!

One of the many smaller species of Agave in Bed 171A is A. victoria-reginae. It forms compact, nearly spherical rosettes of rigid leaves. Its distinctive appearance is due to a tracery of white lines that decorates the leaves like icing on a birthday cake. Other specimens reveal the diversity of forms within the Agave family: Dasylirion longissimum with needle-like leaves 6 feet long; Nolina goldmanii with a feather duster of grassy leaves atop a slender trunk; and Yucca australis, a 10 foot tall cylinder of bristling green bayonets.

On the other side of Strawberry Creek stand imposing representatives of a much more ancient family of plants, the Taxodiaceae. Californians are familiar with at least two genera in this group: Sequoia (Coast Redwood) and Sequoia-
A hearty welcome to all new members. We are delighted to have you and hope you will enjoy your association with the Friends of the UC Botanical Garden. Welcome. Special thanks to the people who renewed their memberships.


**Tributes**

In Memory of Marian Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Holtemann

In Memory of Homer Mulligan
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Smith

In Memory of Gilbert I. Rodier, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Hartwell

In Memory of Eric Schmeink
Sucha Burnie

**Tagetes lemmonii**

*Tagetes* is a genus of about 30 species of annual or perennial herbs that occur from New Mexico and Arizona to Argentina. In Mexico many species are used for culinary or medicinal purposes. The modern garden marigolds are mostly derived from four species: *T. erecta, T. lucida, T. patula* and *T. tenutifolia*. *Tagetes lemmonii* is a perennial species that reaches the peak of its flowering period in Berkeley during November and December. The specimen in our collection was collected at an elevation of 5000 feet in the state of Sinaloa, Mexico.

**Garden Notes**

We are pleased to announce that the Botanical Garden was recently awarded two grants. The first, from the Prytanean Alumnae of UC Berkeley, provides funds for production of an outdoor table display summarizing the history of the Botanical Garden. The design will be similar to the display, also funded by the Prytaneans, that was recently placed in the Mather Grove. The second grant was awarded by the Institute of Museum Services, a federal agency that assists museums in modernizing their programs and facilities. Funds from IMS will supplement general operating expenses during the current fiscal year.

As a consequence of the extensive repairs done to the overpass on Centennial Drive above the Garden, a large area between the Drive and the Mather Grove has been graded to allow additional parking for summer visitors to the Garden. The number of spaces available is several times that in the old Garden Parking Lot, but the area is not paved so it may be unusable during the winter time. Negotiations are underway with campus authorities to transform this newly paved parking area into a metered, contoured, paved lot of a more permanent nature.

**Darwin and the Beagle**

During 1973 and 1974, the Garden's curator, Dr. James Affolter, spent seven months in South America retracing Charles Darwin's travels during the famous Beagle voyage. Darwin spent four years in South America, collecting in the rainforests of Brazil, digging for fossils in the deserts of Patagonia, and geologizing across the high passes of the Andes. Dr. Affolter will discuss Darwin's experiences during the voyage and how they contributed to the young English naturalist's conversion from creationist to evolutionist in his lecture on September 13. The presentation will include slides from such stops along Darwin's route as Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, the Falkland Islands, the Chilean Andes, and the Galapagos. Dr. Affolter's lecture will be held at 8 p.m. in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building on the Berkeley campus. This event is free to Friends (admission for non-members is $2.00). Memberships will be available that evening. As the Friends of the Garden work toward increasing their membership, we hope that you will bring a guest to this exciting lecture and introduce them to the benefits of being a FRIEND.
Contributions of Cash, Goods, or Services Have Been Received from the Following Friends:

American Association of University Women, Mendocino Branch
Maureen Burke
Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Carlin
Friends of the Fort Bragg Library
Timothy A. Gaskin
Harland Hand

Dr. Fred E. Heitman
Bob Huston
James J. Jones
Laird, Norton Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Mecham
John Nichols
Francis Salmeri
Soho Recreational Association
Carter P. Thacher

Road Closed
The 1984 Cal Football schedule will necessitate the closing of Centennial Drive at Centennial and Rimway on the following Saturdays: September 15, 22, 29, October 20, and November 10 & 17. The Botanical Garden will remain open at its usual schedule (9-4:45) and can be approached from Grizzly Peak Blvd.

Symposium on Camellias
The Friends of the Botanical Garden and the Northern California Camellia Society Research Committee are sponsoring a Symposium on Camellias which will be held February 1-3, 1985 at the Botanical Garden. Included in the topics to be covered will be the golden *Camellia chrysanthba*, the fragrant Camellia, collecting species, classification, and growing Camellias from seed. If you would like to receive the brochure, please call the Education Program at 642-3352 or write Symposium on Camellias, Education Program, UC Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive, Berkeley, CA 94720 before November 1.

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Toast the UC Berkeley Alstroemeria

In September 1983, Sunset's cover showed a field of popular new cut flowers—alstroemeria, or Peruvian lilies. From late May into early July, you can see that dazzling display at the Garden. In response to the tremendous interest in these flowers, Sunset wrote a follow-up article in the June 1984 issue describing improved ways to germinate the alstroemeria seed. The Garden is accepting pre-orders for their freshly harvested seeds which will be mailed out in November. If you wish to order, send a check for $2.40 for 40 seeds (before September 30th), payable to UC Regents and mail to SEEDS, P.O. Box 1901, Berkeley, CA 94701. If you are visiting the Garden, you can purchase Thompson & Morgan seeds at the Information Center.

In toasting the alstroemeria, the Garden hosted an Alstroemeria Wine Tasting Festival in early June. Over 450 people wandered throughout the Garden, tasting a variety of foods and wines and listening to the music of a string trio. The celebration was such a success for the Garden that June 2, 1985 will mark the 2nd annual Alstroemeria Wine Tasting Festival. A limited edition screenprint by artist Hisao Yokota was created especially for the Botanical Garden's Festival and is still available at the Information Center.

The Garden would like to thank the following for their donations and participation in the Festival which made the event such a wonderful celebration: The Bread Garden, Caymus Vineyards, Congress Springs Vineyards, Felton-Empire Vineyards, Fetzer Vineyards, Hacienda Wine Cellars, La Ferme Beaujolaise, Marcel et Henri, Martin Brothers Winery, Paul Masson Champagne & Wine Cellars, Rodney Strong Winery, Santa Barbara Olive Company, Santa Ynez Valley Winery, and Santino Winery.

You are invited to become a member of the Friends of the UC Botanical Garden. This organization was developed to provide assistance to the Botanical Garden in improving and extending the plant collections, enriching the education program, and meeting general capital requirements.

Members, in return, are offered special programs on plants and gardening, 20% discount on selected UC Press books (such as *California Spring Wildflowers* by Munz), preview privileges for the Annual Spring Plant Sale of unique plants from the Garden's collection, and mailings of the Friends Newsletter and seasonal self-guided tours.

Student and Senior Citizen memberships are discounted to $7.50. Standard dues are $15 for an individual. The Friends of the Botanical Garden function as a support group under the auspices of the UC Berkeley Foundation, and dues and gifts are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State __________
ZIP ______ Phone ______

NEW ______ RENEWAL ______

Make checks payable to: FRIENDS OF THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

Friends of the Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. WENDY MITCHELL, Editor
1984-85 Calendar of Garden Events

September 12-November 14 Adult Educational Classes: "From the Rainforest to Your Living Room." Instructor Fred Dorton, noted plant writer and collector. A course about orchids, bromeliads, and other exotic plants including their ecology, classification and culture. The class will include field trips and greenhouse and outdoor explorations. Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Botanical Garden Meeting Room, $35.00 members, $40.00 non-members, for information call 642-3352, secured parking is available.

September 13 Plant Sale, Thursday, 10-3, Lower Sproul Plaza, UC Berkeley Campus, featuring orchids, bromeliads, houseplants, ferns, and succulents.

September 13 Lecture: "Darwin and the Beagle" by Dr. James Affolter, Curator, UC Botanical Garden. Thursday, 8 p.m., Life Sciences Building, Room 2503, members free, guests $2, parking available on campus. See article in Newsletter.

September 30 Friends Annual Membership Meeting, Sunday, 2 p.m., Garden Meeting Room. See details in Newsletter.

October 13 Fall Sale: Trees, Shrubs, and California Natives, Saturday, 10-3, Botanical Garden, featuring a wide array of unusual and hard-to-find species. See article in Newsletter.

November 8 Lecture: "Honeypots and Triggerplants: A Look at Plants of the Australian West" by Dr. Robert Ornduff, Director, UC Botanical Garden. A photographic safari through the plains, forest, and mountains of Western Australia with special emphasis on plants of horticultural interest. Many of these plants are in the garden's collection and will be available for sale at the Spring Plant Sale. Thursday, 8 p.m., Life Sciences Building, Room 2503, members free, guests $2, parking available on campus.

December 1-2 Holiday Season Plant Sale, Saturday and Sunday, 10-3, Botanical Garden Meeting Room, featuring orchids, bromeliads, houseplants, ferns and succulents, as well as dried and fresh wreaths personally decorated to your taste at the sale.

December 7 Holiday Cheer for Garden Volunteers, Friday, 2 p.m., Garden Meeting Room.

February 1-3 Symposium on Camellias, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, See Newsletter article for more details.

March 14 Lecture: To Be Announced

May 11 Friends Preview Plant Sale, Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Botanical Garden. New members are welcome to join the day of the sale. The Garden will be closed to the public during the preview sale.

May 12 Spring Plant Sale and Bay Area Museum, Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Botanical Garden. The public is invited to attend the Garden's annual Spring Plant Sale and participate in Bay Area Museum Sunday.

June 2 Alstroemeria Wine Tasting Festival, Sunday, 1-3 p.m., a special benefit event for the Botanical Garden. Invitational brochures will be sent to members in early May. The Botanical Garden will be closed to the public for this event.

Fall Garden Highlights

*Continued*

dendron (Giant Sequoia). As you stand on the main bridge over Strawberry Creek, two relatively young Giant Sequoias loom nearby. They were planted as seedlings in 1945 and still retain the beautiful conical form typical of young trees of this species. If it is a hot October afternoon, you can find relief in the Mather Redwood Grove on the other side of Centennial Drive. Enjoy the shade and cooler temperatures and examine the plants in this reconstructed Coast Redwood plant community. Examples of species whose relatives grew with the redwoods over 10 million years ago are assembled in the Miocene Forest. This collection is on your right as you enter Mather Grove.

Specimens of several eastern hemisphere members of the Redwood family grow in the Asian collection. Note the Umbrella Pine (*Sciadopitys verticillata*) in Bed 246, an attractive specimen plant, and the young Tasmanian Cedar (*Athrotaxis*) nearby. Like most members of the Redwood family, *Athrotaxis* was much more widely distributed in the geological past. Although the genus is now confined to Tasmania, an island off the southeast coast of mainland Australia, fossils from the Eocene have been found in Great Britain. The Dawn Redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*), which grows along the creek in the Asian collection, named from fossils before living trees were discovered in 1941. Unlike most other members of the family, the Dawn Redwood sheds its leaves during the winter.