



*Fall Issue, 2024*

## Sutter-Yuba Master Gardener Newsletter

### **Location:**

UCCE Sutter-Yuba  
142A Garden Hwy.  
Yuba City CA 95991  
Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### **Master Gardener Office Hours:**

Tuesday: 9 a.m. to Noon  
Thursday: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Contact:**

530-822-7515  
[sutteryuba@ucanr.edu](mailto:sutteryuba@ucanr.edu)

### **Website:**

<https://ucanr.edu/syucmg>

### **Facebook:**

<https://facebook.com/sutteryubamg>

### **Donate:**

Support our program and make a gift donation online: <https://ucanr.edu/syucmgdonate>

UCCE SUTTER-YUBA  
**OPEN HOUSE & FALL FUNDRAISER**

MEET YOUR LOCAL UC FARM ADVISORS  
\*AGENDA ON BACK

UC CALFRESH COOKING DEMONSTRATION

UC MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE

4-H FALL FUNDRAISER PUMPKINS

UC MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT WORKSHOP

\*\* ALL FUNDS RAISED STAY LOCAL

**Saturday, October 5th**  
10:30am - 1:30pm

Agricultural Building/UCCE Office  
142 Garden Hwy, Yuba City  
[cesutter.ucanr.edu](http://cesutter.ucanr.edu)

CHECK OR CASH ONLY

CalFresh  
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Agriculture and Natural Resources

### **Learning Garden Workshop**

Please join us for the October workshop at the Learning Garden, Gate 7 of the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds.

When: October 19, 9-11 a.m.

Topics: Cover crops, winterizing, frost protection



## Yuba-Sutter Native Plant

Submitted by UC Master Gardener Lesley Harvell

**Croton setigerus (Eremocarpus setigerus)**

**Common: Turkey-mullein, Croton or Doveweed**

**Family: Euphorbiaceae**

Annual monoecious herb, native to western North America. Forms a spreading somewhat prostrate mound, covering anywhere from 3 to 24 inches in diameter.

Leaves are pale green, alternate, ovate with rounded tip. The entire plant is thickly covered with stellate gray hairs, irritating to some.

Blooms May through October. The inflorescence has both male and female flowers, each are unremarkable and covered with soft bristles.



Turkey-mullein is toxic to animals. Native Americans used the crushed plants to stun fish to make them easier to catch. High food value for bees, butterflies, and moths. The seeds are favored by birds, dove, quail, and wild turkeys .... hence the common names. Turkey-mullein grows in full sun in dry, open, often disturbed areas from 0 to 3200 feet in elevation. Needs no water; as a matter of fact, it does not do much until the summer season is in full swing. Very noticeable in open areas late summer, early summer when all other "weeds" have died off. Many bees can be seen on the flowers the whole bloom period.



## Don't Move Firewood!

Did you know that moving firewood from one location within the state to another could spread invasive insects and also spread plant diseases?

Bringing firewood from home, even dry, aged, and seasoned wood, can spread pests. Once you arrive at your destination, pests can emerge from the firewood and spread to the surrounding area. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer, shothole borers, and goldspotted oak borer, kill millions of healthy trees every year and can be spread to new areas on firewood.



Buy it where you burn it!

Buy firewood within 50 miles of where you plan to stay or buy firewood that is certified, heat treated. Be a good steward and protect the areas you love; buy it where you plan to burn it!

To learn more, please visit <https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/>

Adapted from the [Don't Move Firewood! - Pests in the Urban Landscape - ANR Blogs \(ucanr.edu\)](#) July 1, 2014, post

## Free UC IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Webinars for 2024

These are a series of webinars that are free and open to the public. Advance registration is required in order to receive the webinar logon details. These webinars are hosted by UC experts and are held the third Thursday of every month to help learn about pest identification, prevention, and management around the home, garden, and landscape.

**October 17, 2024**—*Spooky Insects (Halloween special)*

**November 14, 2024**—*Rat Management*

**Copy and paste URL to learn more and register:** <https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucipm-community-webinars/>

## Advice to grow by ... Ask us!

If you have a plant or gardening question, contact us or us or drop by the office with a sample. Check our website or Facebook for workshop announcements.

## African Violets

*by Peggy Drown, UC Master Gardener*

National Garden Bureau has named the African violet as its houseplant of the year for 2024. Native to Africa, as the name implies, they were discovered in 1892 in the area known now days as Tanzania. In 1926, seeds were imported to the United States. Since that time, African violets have been developed into more cultivars than any other flowering houseplant. The African Violet Society of America recognizes over 16,000 registered cultivars.

It seems to be a wide-spread misconception that African violets are “fussy.” There are a few non-negotiable cultural practices that must be followed, but isn’t that true with most plants? African violets prefer to be in an east-facing window with bright light but no direct sunlight. They are happiest when in a warm, somewhat humid environment. Water your African violets by placing them in a saucer of water and allow them to “drink” up the water for a few hours. Do not, however, leave them in standing water as they are easily killed by overwatering. Watch for mealybugs on the underside of the leaves. (Refer to UCANR Publication 74172 at <https://ipm.ucanr.edu>).

African violets are relatively easy to propagate. If you have a friend with a healthy plant, you can ask for a leaf. Take it home and submerge the petiole in water, taking care not to get water on the leaf blade. When sufficient adventitious roots form, plant the petiole/blade in potting soil created especially for African violets.

### Office Hours

The Sutter-Yuba Master Gardeners have office hours every week, when we are available to help with any home gardening questions you may have.

- Tuesday morning, 9-a.m. to noon.
- Thursday afternoon, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Samples help with identification and diagnosis, and the office hours are a great time to bring the samples and questions to our group.

If you can’t make it into the office, please send us an email outlining your question or concerns. If you can also provide a picture, that helps with diagnosis, as well. Our email address is [sutteryu-ba@ucanr.edu](mailto:sutteryu-ba@ucanr.edu) and our telephone is (530) 822-7515.

#### ***Our Mission:***

*“To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California and be guided by our core values and strategic initiatives.”*

- UC Master Gardener Program Mission Statement

It is the policy of the University of California (UC) and the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) not to engage in discrimination against or harassment of any person in any of its programs or activities. UC ANR's complete