Fruit Tree Ins-and-Outs: Why Commercially Cultivated Fruit Tree Species Are Different From Other Trees

The SCHS is pleased to have Joanna Golvinsky, the founder of Fruitstitute, a Los Angeles-based fruit tree care and education service, present a unique webinar on the specialized care of fruit trees. Golvinsky will be breaking down the biological differences between commercially cultivated fruit tree species as compared to other trees, and the implications this has for management.

In this program, Golvinsky will explain how commercially cultivated species of fruit trees are grafted and genetically engineered for optimal fruit production, making them fundamentally different from trees growing in residential and urban environments, or growing in forests. Meyer lemons, Fuji apples, Santa Rosa plums, etc., are not trees you will find growing in the forest and they all need humans and specialized care in order to be functional fruit producing landscape trees. The orcharding industry, technically recognized as the “tree fruit” industry, has established the standards of management for growing fruit. However, fruit trees grown in a residential landscape have a different purpose than those grown for the commercial market and therefore require different management practices.

Golvinsky holds a master’s degree in Health and Social Change from USC Annenberg School of Communication and is currently studying for her arborist certification. She formally trained in fruit tree care at Huntington Ranch, and also worked in edible gardens on the streets of South L.A. with the Ron Finley Project. Through her hands-on experience Golvinsky realized that fruit trees growing in L.A. landscapes were not only underserviced and mismanaged, but that there was also a void in knowledge on how to properly care for them. Fruitstitute was established as a service with the mission of teaching people that all fruit trees need specialized care to grow great fruit. (Learn more at www.fruitstitute.com.)

In this evening’s program, Golvinsky will enlighten us to the differences of growing fruit commercially and residually, and illuminate why most of the “rules” on fruit tree management don’t apply to residential fruit trees. We look forward to learning more about how to care for our home orchards in order to maintain healthy and abundant fruit trees.

We invite you to tune in by registering for this free webinar at www.socalhort.org. We’ll see you there! 🍊
On June 10th the SCHS was pleased to welcome speaker Saxon Holt, photojournalist and sole photographer of more than 30 garden books, to talk about his new book Gardening in Summer-Dry Climates, coauthored with landscape architect Nora Harlow. His program derived from the book’s objective which is to expand the climate conversation to include the entire Pacific Coast, all of which is summer-dry, but cannot all be considered Mediterranean. Gardening in Summer-Dry Climates is also part of Holt and Harlow’s online Summer-Dry Project (www.summer-dry.com) which is helping Water Use Classification of Landscape Species (WUCOLS) update the state database of plant photographs and descriptions.

Holt spoke briefly about his career as a photojournalist (www.saxonholt.com, www.photobotanic.com) and how he is currently using his skills primarily to promote a “gardening where you are” philosophy. He encourages gardeners to understand and work in harmony with their region to create healthy ecosystems, one yard at a time, by becoming “stewards of the land, attuned to the local environment on behalf of all creatures” because “every act we do adds resiliency.” He went on to talk about the Pacific coast regions described in his book, and further broke them down into “ecotopes” defined as the “smallest ecologically distinct landscape feature in a mapping and classification system.”

Gardens that share common ecotopes can benefit from using plants that are adapted for various vegetation border zones, called “ecotones.” These are places where “ecological systems meet and mingle, sometimes forming new communities” including our own gardens. If consciously designed using climate-appropriate plants, they will help support wildlife and conserve biodiversity. By considering local micro-climates and trying to connect wild nature with our built landscapes, we can have a positive impact on surrounding habitats that are under threat in our summer-dry climates. Gardeners who need to rely on supplemental water can plan for building a healthy green infrastructure by connecting individual gardens to local ecotones.

As a photojournalist, Holt has observed that gardeners are increasingly opting for climate-adapted plants and he believes part of his job is to help others understand the importance of this practice by showcasing gardens planted to a new standard of beauty that works with – rather than against – our summer-dry climate. He shared a series of garden photos from his book illustrating design solutions including water-banking through the use of bioswales, rain barrels or cisterns; firescaping to mitigate danger during the fire season by planting low-water grasses such as carex or succulents closer to structures; and also increasing carbon-sequestration by planting to cover a lot of ground. When selecting plants, Holt suggested considering which cultivars can coexist in your environment (especially crucial when selecting native species), as well as recognizing their eventual scale as they grow. He also recommended checking local botanical gardens for practical examples when planning your space.

Whether you are just planning your landscape, or working in an established space, by using the principles and plant lists found in Gardening in Summer-Dry Climates you can begin developing a summer-dry garden that is personally satisfying from both an aesthetic and an ecological perspective.

To watch this program on YouTube, click the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7d7zMXtHd08
COVID-19 UPDATES FOR LOCAL GARDEN VENUES

Venues open at press time are marked ✨ and ☝️ for those that are online only.

Organizations and venues are offering more events and classes, both online and in person, while maintaining safety protocols, limited attendance and hours.

Please continue to check with your favorites for updated info if you are planning a visit.

 CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN (formerly RANCHO SANTA ANA)
1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711
909.625.8767  www.calbg.org

 CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
818.398.5420  www.cnps-sgm.org

 CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
L.A./Sta Monica Mtns Chapter / Sepulveda Garden Ctr
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436
818-782-9346  www.lasmmcnps.org

COASTKEEPER GARDEN
1560 E. Santiago Cyn. Rd., Orange 92869
714.850.1965  www.coastkeeper.org

DESCANSO GARDENS
1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011
818.949.7980  www.descangardens.org

EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER
1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
626.398.5420  www.ecnca.org

FULLERTON ARBORETUM
1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831
657.278.3407  www.fullertonarboretum.org

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108
626.405.2100  www.huntington.org

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007
626.821.4623  www.arboretum.org

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF L.A.
900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007
213.763.3466  www.nhm.org

RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS
6400 E. Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach 90815
562.431.3541  www.rancholosalamitos.org

RANCHO LOS CERRITOS
4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807
562.206.2040  www.rancholoscerritos.org

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN
230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024
760.436.3036  www.sdbgarden.org

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes 90274
310.544.1948  www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org

THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION
10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352
818.768.1802  www.theodorepayne.org

UC RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDENS
900 University Ave., Riverside 92521
951-784-6962  www.gardens.ucr.edu

Yvonne Savio
To see more events as they’re posted, check: www.gardeninginla.net/submit-your-garden-events.

LINKS TO UPCOMING EVENTS & WEBINARS

Please check with individual organizations for class fees & details

California Garden & Landscape History Society
- Upcoming Online Events -
www.cglhs.org/upcoming-event-

California Native Plant Society
- Upcoming Online Events -
www.cnps.org/event/virtual-native-plant-events

Los Angeles Central Library program:
Recycling and Repurposing Household Throwaways Into New Garden Tools
with Yvonne Savio
Zoom Class - July 10 at 2 pm
To register, contact: Ana Campos
213-228-7128 or acampos@lapl.org

Poly/Ana, a not-for-profit service organization hosts:
Nature Is the Teacher -
An Observation Walk in Altadena
with Leigh Adams & Shawn Maestretti
in-Person Event - July 24 from 8-11:30am - $30.
For more details and to register, go to:
www.studio-petrichor.com/events
(Location will be given upon registration.)

Waterwise Community Center,
Chino Basin Water Conservation District
- Upcoming Zoom Classes -
www.cbwcd.org/328/Programs-Events
Until we are able to meet again in person, monthly programs will continue to be scheduled as online webinars.

**July 8**
- Webinar - Joanna Glovinsky, founder of Fruitstitute will talk about managing residential “Fruit Tree Ins-and-Outs”

**July 11**
- Live Event - Joanna Glovinsky will give a fruit tree pruning demo at Arlington Gardens - EVENT AT CAPACITY -

**August 12**
- In Person - Jill Morganelli, instructor with the UCLA Extension Horticulture Program will speak on gardening tools

**Sept. 23**
- Webinar - 2021 Horticulturist of the Year Award Program Please note event date is the 4th Thursday, with no other meetings in September. - EVENT DETAILS TBA -

**October 14**
- VENUE TBA - Johanna Silver, former Sunset editor and author will talk about Growing Weed in The Garden

**GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

“In the trees the night wind stirs, bringing the leaves to life”

- E.B. White

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**NEWSLETTER July 2021**