

BERKELEY HORTICULTURAL NURSERY

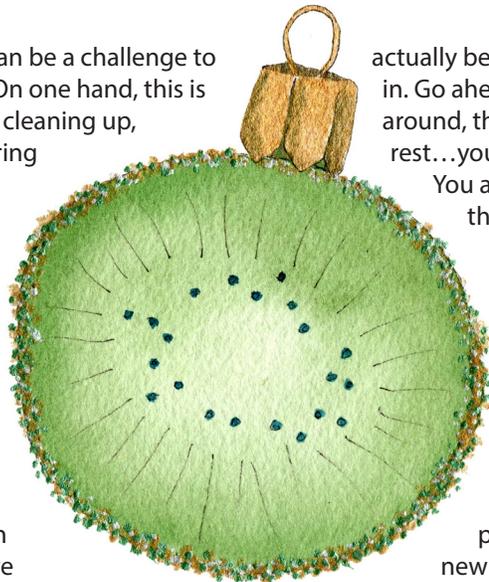
GARDENING SUGGESTIONS

Nov | Dec
2022

Seasonal reminders and nursery news

These shorter days can be a challenge to serious gardeners. On one hand, this is an excellent time to be cleaning up, winterizing, and preparing for the spring growing season. On the other hand, it can be difficult to muster up the energy to get out in the damp, dark, and often gloomy conditions that we experience this time of year. Adding to these weather challenges are all of the rich foods and beverages we consume during the holidays, which can have a way of making us somewhat lethargic. But we say, "get out there"! It is important to stay in touch with your garden.

This is an excellent time to be planting. The only time you should really avoid digging or planting is when the soil is saturated, or during heavy rains. Even then, there are many people who swear by sowing their cover crop seeds during a soaking rain. This works best for smaller-seeded cover crops, not fava beans, which need to be manually poked into the soil. If doing this kind of rain dance is your idea of a good time, my advice is to tread lightly. And if you forgot to add a soil amendment earlier, remember that applying a surface mulch of composted organic matter is



actually better than blending it in. Go ahead and just scatter it around, then let the rain do the rest...you're not being lazy.

You are doing the right thing!

Because of the many events going on in the nursery this year we had to delay our biggest plant deliveries of the year until November. We are hard at work processing tons of new Camellias, Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Maples and Conifers, getting them into our inventory and preparing them for a new home in your garden. I will leave it to buyers Che and Margaret to elaborate on this in our **New Arrivals** column on page 4, but we have our work cut out for us getting these plants tucked into their nursery beds.

Here at The Hort we want to inspire you. When you come in you will be reminded just how lucky we are to be living in a part of the world where year-round gardening is a real option. There are a myriad of choices of winter-blooming perennials and CA natives, dormant fruits, and cool-season veggies to choose. We also make it a point to stock a full selection of soil-builders, garden tools, and other paraphernalia to make your visit a pleasant experience.

WEEKEND SPECIALS

Nov. 4-6

Cyclamen

4" pots – \$6.00 (reg. 7.95)

Nov. 11-13

Gardner & Bloome

Organic Fertilizer

4 lb. bags – \$9.00 (reg. 11.99)

Nov. 18-20

Large Trees (except maples)

#15 pots and larger – 35% OFF

Nov. 25-27

Conifers

all sizes – 30% OFF

Dec. 2-4

Wind Chimes

all styles – 25% OFF

Dec. 9-11

Winter Veggies

cell packs (organic) – \$5.25 (reg. 7.00)

Dec. 16-18

Books & Calendars

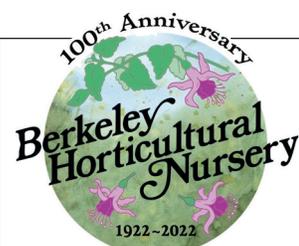
all titles & subjects – 30% OFF

Dec. 23-24

Indoor Plants & Orchids

35% OFF

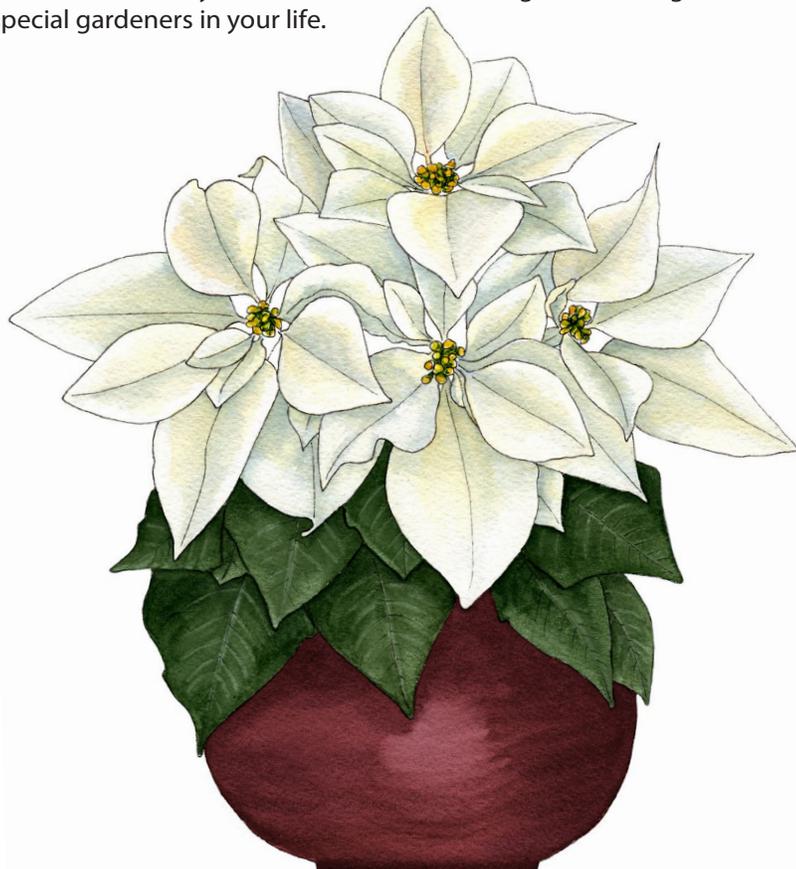
LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND.
NO DELIVERIES ON SALE MERCHANDISE.



Please note that with the time change on November 6, we will be open from **8:30 am to 4:30 pm** through the winter, and closed Thursdays as usual. Visit us early!

Deck the halls!

It's that most wonderful time of year again, and here at The Hort the garden elves are stocking our shelves with delightful holiday goodies. Garland and greens galore are slated to be arriving the week of Thanksgiving. Poinsettias, a perfect way to add holiday cheer to your home, will be coming to us early December. And as always, we will be offering a selection of nature themed glass ornaments, holiday greeting cards, calendars and Berkeley Hort Gift Cards that make great stocking stuffers for the special gardeners in your life.



A word from the General Manager

My first memories of Berkeley Hort are from around when I was 10 years old. I was given the opportunity to have my "first job" that spring, and was incredibly excited to make some money. I won't tell you how much this 10-year old's starting wage was, but let's just say that after an 8-hour shift I didn't even walk with a 20 spot. I always felt I needed to work harder than everyone else did, so the employees wouldn't think the boss's kid was catching a free ride. I started on the Yard Crew, and can't tell you how much fun I had, and how many important friendships I formed. We worked hard, but we also laughed hard. It was an amazing first work experience.

Thinking back, I realize how appreciative I am of those individuals who took time to teach me the nursery trade. How easily they could have written off the boss's kid, but they all took time and had patience with me. Victor Yool, George Ye, Stephen Carey, and John Ballantine are a few names of employees who I will forever be grateful to. Not only did I learn the nursery trade, but I also learned many life lessons from these incredible individuals.

Who knows what the future will bring, but I am planning on being here for the next 100 years. There are not words to say how grateful I am to the community, present and past employees, and our customers. If you are ever in the nursery, don't hesitate to say hi.

To the next 100 years. —TC

THE SEED CORNER

Perhaps it's cold and rainy outside and your garden looks like a giant mud puddle. Maybe you have memories of the great produce that you harvested in the summer. Well now is the perfect time to give something back to your garden.

Plant a cover crop.

Fava Beans ~ Fava beans accumulate large quantities of nitrogen, which is available to subsequent crops. They have deep taproots that help open up heavy, compacted soils. The leaves decompose quickly but the stems break down slower and help to loosen clay soil. You can eat the beans in spring. We also sell

the 'Windsor' broad bean, which is the favored eating fava.

Annual Ryegrass ~ Ryegrass is quick to germinate and is very vigorous. It grows well in our Bay Area clay and can tolerate wet soil. In the spring, mow or till under the grass. The grass residue breaks down quickly adding needed organic material to improve soil structure and drainage.

Crimson Clover ~ Crimson clover also fixes nitrogen and produces lots of great humus to work back into the soil. Crimson clover is beautiful and is a great beneficial insect attractant.

These winter cover crops not only add nitrogen and organic material to your soil, they also protect the soil from erosion and help control weed seed germination and growth. Organic matter will help soil organisms such as earthworms and fungi. Their by-products are in turn used by other organisms in the soil. Fava beans take a little more work. They should be treated with a bacterial inoculant and then planted about 1½ inches deep. They are worth the extra work. All other cover crops are easy to plant; just spread the seeds and rake a little soil over them. Your soil will appreciate it.

THE GARDENER'S CALENDAR

November Checklist

- › Cut back floppy or overgrown perennials.
- › Last chance for spring-flowering bulb planting (check your fridge).
- › Plant winter annuals: Poppies, Stock, Sweet Peas, Pansies, Violas, and Primroses.
- › Apply an organic plant food for slow release of nutrients.
- › Be vigilant for cool weather weeds like bluegrass and oxalis.

December Checklist

- › Deadhead (remove spent flowers from) Chrysanthemums.
- › Clean and organize your garden tools.
- › Give Cymbidium orchids bloom food.
- › Sow wildflower seeds.
- › Turn that compost!
- › Plant green manure (cover crops) in your vegetable plot.

1922 to 2022 – 100 years at the Hort

Wow—what a year it has been! I hope you were able to enjoy some of the festivities. There was music, food, giveaways, raffles and speakers for most of the year.

The **Broken Compass Bluegrass** band initiated our stage on April 30th. Then starting in August there were musical acts on the stage or patio every weekend. Who knew we'd own a stage?

There was amazing food. We enjoyed wood oven pizza and paella from **Anaviv** catering, tacos from **Cholita Linda** and **Taqueria Los Gallos**, Burgers from **Rock Club Burgers**, Japanese street food (Okonomiyaki) from **Okkon**, and soft serve ice cream from **Brown Cap** Organic Soft Serve.

But most of our delicious food was provided by **Jane Hammond Events**. JHE provided us with bag lunches, gumbo, jambalaya, banh mi, spring rolls, all sorts of yummy sandwiches, beverages, cookies, and delicious desserts. We could not have done this without Jane Hammond and her team. They took care of many aspects of the celebration—both on event days and behind the scenes. So a big shout out to the Jane Hammond* team.

Paul and I attended most of the events. I enjoyed the activities, but most of all I loved meeting our nursery neighbors. I met so many wonderful people, some who have been coming to the nursery for years and some that discovered the nursery that day.

Of course, a big thank you to the staff at Berkeley Hort. They graciously handled the extra work and stress of putting on the events during the year. They took on extra work and made special accommodations without complaint; and added their own ideas, which made everything run smoother.

Here's to another 100 years. Thank you all for being a part of the first 100.

—Jeanne

*Jane Hammond is retiring at the end of 2022.

After the party

As the curtain falls and the dust settles after our 100th anniversary celebrations, I take a breath and say with a sigh, "That was fun!" These live music and food events gave me an opportunity to bond with our community, to provide a venue for live-music, and to make some new friends. To all of the musicians who graced our stage or patio, all of the food trucks, caterers, and guest speakers I say thank you!

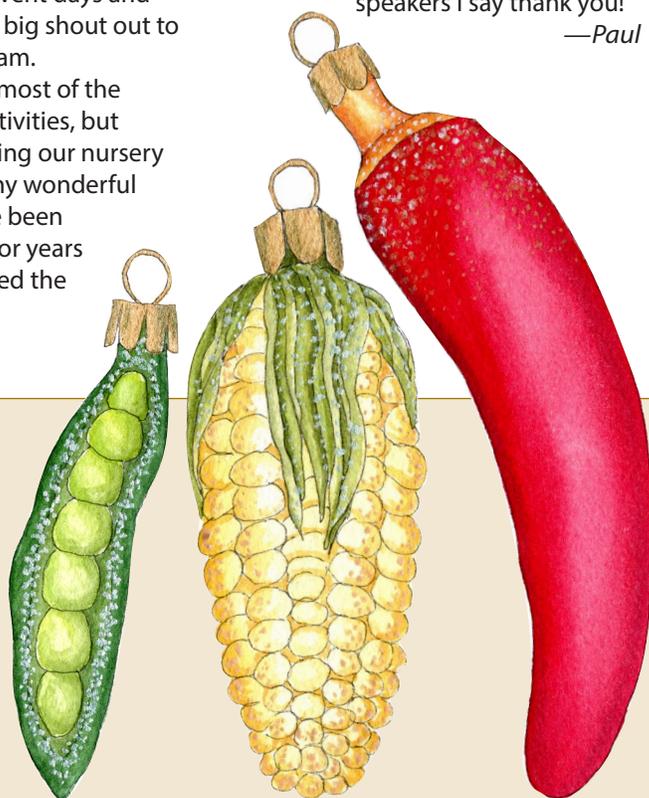
—Paul

The year-end at Berkeley Hort

We will be open until noon on Saturday, December 24 for your last-minute shopping convenience. There will be plenty of holiday gift ideas, and deep discounts on all our indoor plants and orchids.

Then the nursery will be closed for its annual winter nap until Monday, January 2, 2023.

Cheers!



NEW ARRIVALS

Azaleas & Camellias

We have been ordering our selection of amazing Azaleas and Camellias from Nuccio's Nursery in Altadena, CA. for at least 45 years. These are consistently the BEST quality of all plants that we order every year. Azaleas & Camellias are a staple for any Bay Area garden.

#1 Azaleas	\$19.95
#1 Camellias	\$29.95
#5 Camellias	\$89.95

Rhododendrons

This diverse plant group can be found on just about every continent in the world. Their flower colors & forms vary greatly, as well. Look for a great selection of colorful hybrids and rare species from our friends at Log Cabin Nursery in Springfield, OR.

#1 size pots	\$22.95
#3 size pots	\$49.95

Roses

This year we have at least 70 different varieties available! They are offered in small fiber pots that can be planted right into the ground. They make for easy holiday gifts. Choose from colorful climbers, floribundas, grandifloras & hybrid teas from Star Roses.

Fiber Pots	\$46.95
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Bareroot Organic Strawberry Plants

Over a decade ago we collaborated with a Certified Organic grower, who closed up after only 3 seasons. Now they are back! We are pleased to announce the return of these tasty treasures from ION Growers.

Bareroot Plants \$1.95 each

Japanese Maples

A small forest of these graceful small trees will be arriving from Oregon in mid-November, including at least 60 different cultivars. The maples will be undergoing their annual fall molt of orange, gold, scarlet and crimson leaves, but enough of their gorgeous foliage should remain to give an idea of each variety's characteristic leaf size and shape.

#2 to #20 size pots prices vary

