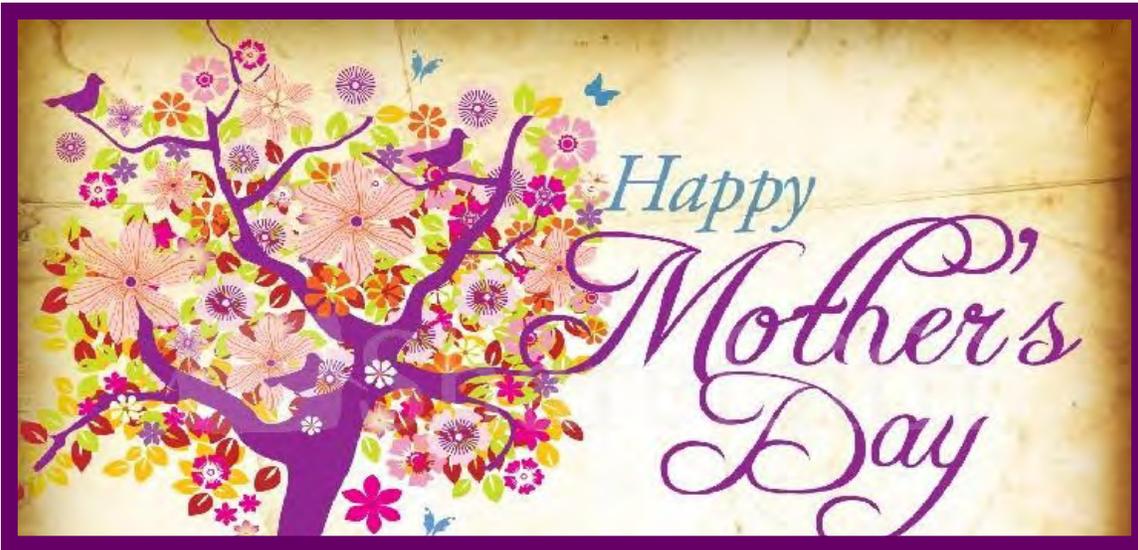


Happy Mother's Day!



For many of us it was our Mothers and Grandmothers that first instilled a love of gardening in a little girl or boy that just wanted to tag along and play in the dirt. Whether gardening has become a life long passion or we just have fond memories or those times we often have our maternal influences to thank!

Sometimes it is nice to take a moment to thank the women in our

lives for those wonderful memories and for the knowledge they have passed on to us, that we may one day pass on to our children.

We have a lot of special gifts to thank mom on her day. New hummingbird feeders, garden hats, and even color bowls that have been specially potted. We also offer gift cards if you can't decide. Come in and see if there is something that reminds you of your mom!

Rillito Nursery & Garden Center
6303 N La Cholla. Tucson AZ . 520-575-0995
Hours Mon-Sat 8am-5pm ~ Sun 10am-4pm

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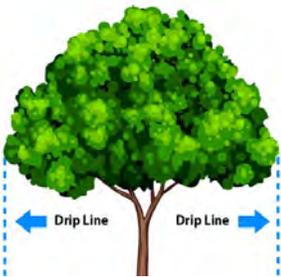


May Garden Checklist

As we continue to get warmer and warmer, please make sure your watering schedule is reflecting our hot temps.

Grass: Plant Bermuda lawns when soil warms up in early May, to 65 degrees or higher at night. Fertilize Bermuda grass lawns each month beginning late April or early May. We recommend a **Four seasons lawn food 21-7-14**. Mow your lawn down to half of an inch until the winter rye grass dies. This encourages new growth and is healthy for the Bermuda lawn. Water grass early in the morning.

Trees and Shrubs: It is still a wonderful time to plant citrus and shade trees. If you are planting them make sure they get plenty of water. For the first week we recommend every day water for about an hour second week and for the rest of the summer every other day for 2-3 hours on a long slow drip.



It is best to place the irrigation at the edge of the root ball when first planted.

Pick any grapefruits that were left on the tree before the birds get to them first. Netting also helps, but try to keep it off the ground so ground squirrels or lizards don't get caught in them.

Make sure mature mesquite trees are thinned before monsoons come, if they are not thinned they will act as a wall towards the wind and be blown right over. When planting taller new trees make sure they are staked properly to help protect them from the wind.

End of the month around Memorial day will be time again to fertilize your citrus. We carry a wonderful product for in ground citrus **Fertilome fruit, citrus, and pecan tree food a 19-10-5**, and will have the micronutrients citrus need in our area. We also have special food for citrus in containers as well.

Flowers: It is time to replace petunias, pansies, snapdragons and other winter annuals, with vinca, portulaca, gomphrena, purslane, zinnias, angelonia, cosmos, salvia, gazanias, parrots beak lotus and many more. Flowers will benefit from a small fertilizer in the heat of the summer. A good product is the **Grow More 20-20-20**.

Vegetables: Seeds for beans, cantaloupe, melons, okra, and squash can still be planted. We have starts for peppers, melons, beans, eggplant, artichoke, asparagus, strawberries and various types of herbs. Veggies will need fertilizer to help get them through the intense summer. We recommend **Maxsea Acid 14-18-14 plus iron and zinc., and Millers Rose Food**.

When visiting our nursery, check in on your smart phone or write a recommendation, show an associate and receive 5% off your entire purchase!

One use only. Some restrictions may apply.



Fertilize your citrus with the best!

We carry the best fertilizers for plants here in the desert. The best fertilizer for citrus in the is the Ferti-lome Fruit, Citrus, and Pecan Tree Food. Ferti-lome products are specially formulated for our alkaline soils so they do not cause burning.

Citrus will need to be fertilized 3 times a year to avoid using too much. Valentines Day, Memorial Day, and Labor Day are in ideal times to fertilize. By applying only three times a year this allows the product to completely dissolve in the soil and give the plant all the necessary nutrients before applying again.

Ferti-lome is very easy to apply. Just one pound per inch of truck diameter and sprinkle all around the full root zone and canopy of the citrus trees in the ground.



Then work into the top part of the soil and water down. The time release will allow the tree to take up what it needs when it needs it.

For other trees and shrubs you may have in your yard. We also carry and tree and shrub fertilizer from Ferti-lome. With slightly different numbers than the citrus this product will work great for all ornamental trees and shrubs planted in the ground.



Color of the month: Orange!



Cape Honeysuckle



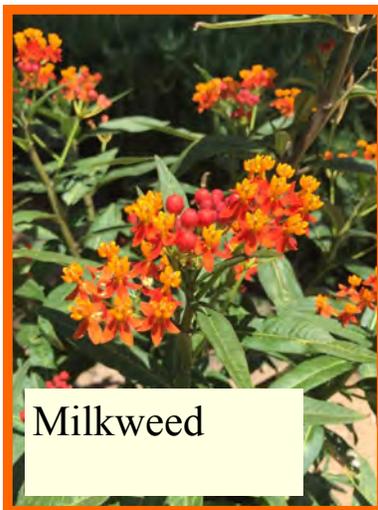
Globe Mallow



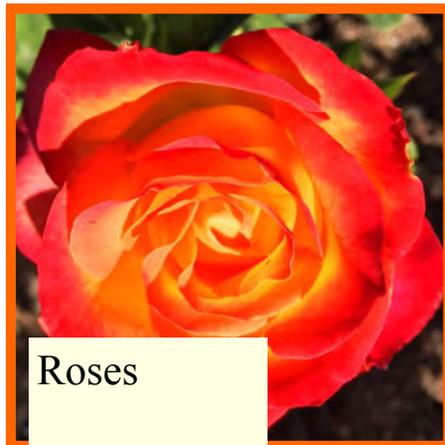
Mexican Flame Vine



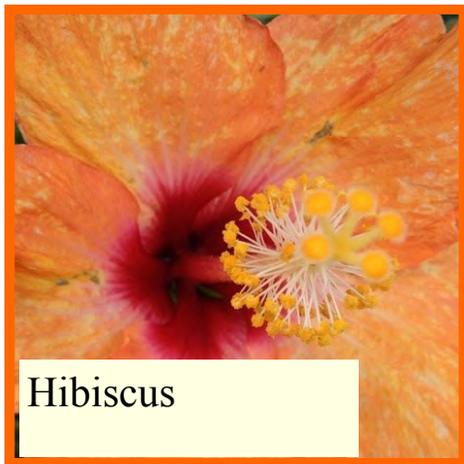
Orange King Bougainvillea



Milkweed



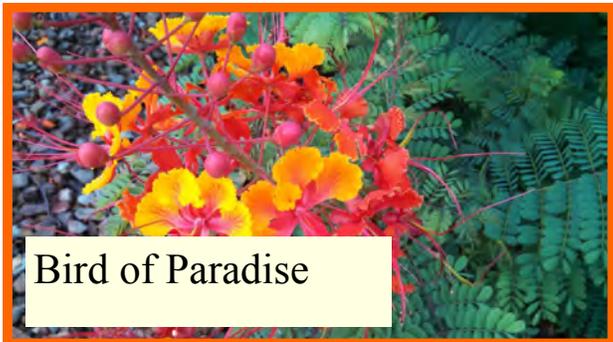
Roses



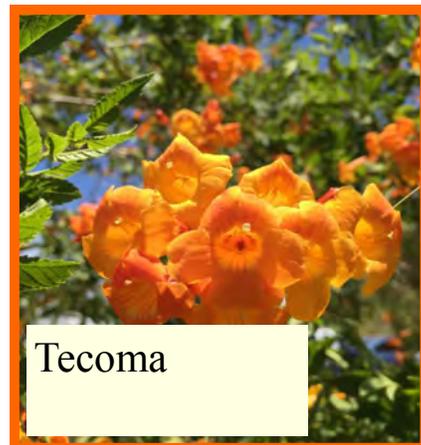
Hibiscus



Parrots beak lotus



Bird of Paradise



Tecoma

Plant profile: Red bird of paradise

Originally from the tropical West Indies, this plant is widely grown for its exotic flowers.

Size (H x W): 6'-10' x 6'-10'

Blooms: Orange

Exposure: Full Sun

Minimum temperature: 15 degrees F

Water: Moderate to low

Pruning: In spring cut back far to stimulate new growth

Fertilizer: N/A



Plant profile: Cape Honeysuckle

A beautiful evergreen woody vine or sprawling shrub. Self-clinging branches can be pruned and shaped to form an accent shrub or hedge.

Size (H x W): 8'-10' x 8'-10'

Blooms: Orange

Exposure: Full sun

Minimum Temperature: 25 degrees F

Water: Moderate to high

Pruning: Frost damage in March or dead inner growth throughout the year

Fertilizer: Tree and Shrub food in spring





Staff Picks: Queen Victoria Agave

Picked by: Roni B

The Queen Victoria Agave, *Agave victoriae-reginae* or royal agave, is a native of the Chihuahuan desert region of Mexico where she's recognized as an endangered plant.

Growing naturally, they're almost always found on rocky canyon slopes. Endangered due to overharvesting, imagine the trouble one must go to to traverse the steep rocky slopes. This alone tells of her striking beauty.

The Queen is a small variety growing to a foot tall and 18 inches wide at full maturity, however there are roughly a half dozen subspecies as well as hybrids. A longer living agave, this one matures at roughly 10-15 years or more, sending up a 4-6 foot tall stalk with cream flowers tinged in reddish-purple. After blooming the plant dies. However, only the mother plant dies and they produce numerous small basal offsets (babies) in time so chances are good your patch will continue to thrive. It also reproduces by seed in case you're desperate to save your genetics. There are spines at the tips of the leaves, however it is not a cactus. Rather, agaves are succulents in the

asparagus family: Family asparagaceae. Picture the long flower stalk before the flowers pop. Yep, it looks like a giant asparagus stalk. Amazing, how members of the same family can be so unique.

With her small size and slow growth the Queen works very well in a pot or in a small succulent garden, but may get lost alone in a medium to large yard. Best placed along pathways, near



entryways or anywhere it can be admired up close. Place one each in pots flanking your entryway. Hardy to 15 degrees and able to survive heat, though some afternoon shade is preferred, this agave is a tough one. In addition it's very drought resistant, but would prefer a monthly watering all seasons except in winter.

In all, the Queen Victoria is slow growing, tough, beautiful and is thought to be one of the most desirable agaves

Rillito Nursery & Garden Center has been serving Tucson since 1994. We are a family owned and operated business striving to provide the ultimate nursery experience and customer service. We supply the healthiest plants and highest quality garden necessities. Spread out over three acres, we supply a wide arrangement of annuals, shade plants, desert plants, roses, citrus, trees and shrubs.

Recipe from the garden: Strawberries n cream pie

This is my favorite pie, a nice cool and refreshing pie in the heat of summer.

Ingredients: 1 package (8oz) cream cheese
1/3 cup sugar
1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
1 cup whipping cream whipped
1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 tablespoon shortening
4 cups fresh strawberries, washed and hulled

Directions:

Heat oven to 450 degrees F. Bake pie crust until golden brown, generously prick with fork and bake for 9-11 minutes, either pre-made pie crust or your own favorite recipe. Cool.

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Gradually add sugar and almond extract blend well. Fold in whipped cream. Spoon into cooled pie crust. Arrange strawberries pointed side up over filling. Chill. In a small saucepan over low heat melt chocolate chips and shortening, stirring constantly until smooth. Drizzle over strawberries and filling. Chill until set. Store in refrigerator.

