



Russell Nursery Gardening News

Celebrating 22 years in business

October 2014



Open daily
9:00am-5:00pm
9-4:30 After Nov 01

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THANKSGIVING

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A Fresh Approach to Planting Bulbs *by Susan Tice*

When I first saw photos of Dutch garden designer **Jacqueline van der Kloet** bulb gardens, I was struck not only by how beautiful they were, but also by how well they would work in our relaxed West Coast gardens. She leans towards soft colours punctuated with splashes of bright ones and plants in a loose natural style.

Her work can be seen in large public gardens all over the world, but the principles can be adapted to create beautiful displays in gardens of all sizes.



Jacqueline's Signature Style



Traditional Style

Traditional bulb plantings are based on contrasting blocks of bold colour. Jacqueline picks a colour scheme, selects the bulbs and mixes them all together in the wheelbarrow. In traditional plantings, the bulbs are spaced with geometric precision, but she literally throws them on the beds and plants them more or less where they land. The results are reminiscent of

Impressionist paintings.

The majority of course, are spring blooming but summer bloomers can be added to the mix



Plant Design & Consultation Service

Need some help? Just ask! We can help with planting plans for new beds and/or advise on existing garden beds in need of renovation..

[For Information](#)



Russell Nursery is the authorized BC distributor for Hall's English Greenhouses. Many of the models are set up at the nursery. For more information, please visit our website:

HallsGreenhousesBC.com

Halls Greenhouses come in all shapes and sizes and can go into even a small space.



Wall Garden 62



Silverline Sunroom

to provide a long season of colour. Spring bulbs could be followed by alliums, lilies, gladiolas and dahlias.

Most of us add bulbs to mixed borders as an after-thought, tucked in here and there, but Jacqueline starts with bulbs and adds complementary perennials, grasses and shrubs to give structure, round out the beds and hide the old foliage as it dies down.

While starting from scratch isn't likely to be an option in most gardens, reworking empty spaces might be. When bulbs are planted in isolation, there is always the issue of what to plant when they die down and what to do with all that messy foliage. [Read on for more...](#)



Multi Season Bulbs

Garlic - The Great Traveler *by Susan Tice*

The history of garlic can almost be described as the history of human migration. Garlic is native to Central Asia, specifically the Caucasus region between the Black and the Caspian Seas, and over many millennia it has been carried to almost all corners of the world. Garlic flavours many of the world's cuisines. It is steeped in folk lore and legend. (Everyone knows that wearing garlic is the best way to keep vampires at bay!)

Folk wisdom attributes garlic with a variety of curative properties, many of which have been proven by contemporary science. Garlic is mentioned in ancient Egyptian, Greek, Indian, and Chinese writings as well as the Bible and Koran.



"Oh, and by the way. Did I mention that I'm garlic intolerant?"

Garlic was first brought to North America by immigrants from Poland, Germany and Italy, but most of the varieties we use now came into the US in 1989. In the 1980's the USDA tried to get permission to collect new garlics in the Caucasus region, then part of the Soviet Union, but were denied because of military installations in the area. In 1989 the Americans were finally granted permission to enter the region, but were heavily guarded and allowed to travel only at night. They travelled along the old Silk Road and purchased garlics from local markets, often naming them for the towns and villages they were found in. (**Red Russian garlic**, one of our most popular varieties, was actually brought into BC by the Dukhobors in the early 1900's and is now considered to be a BC heritage variety) [Read more...](#)

Microgreens are the New Kale *by Faye Ford*

For the past couple of years, we've been inundated with the wonders of **kale as the latest superfood**. Recently however, while putting out trays of winter veggie starts, I have heard whispered confessions, "Actually, I don't *really* like kale." Enter a new way to grow and eat the very freshest produce possible with a huge nutritional kick -- **microgreens**.

Microgreens are simply any edible leaf, grown to either cotyledon (seed leaf) stage, or first/second set of true leaves, up to 2" tall. They can be grown anytime, anywhere, and can be cut at



Popular 86 in a tiny space!.



Hexagonal - A nice feature



Silverline Conservatory at the HCP

Roses for 2015



'Doris Day'

New for 2015

The **2015 Rose Catalogue** is now posted on our website. Bare root roses arrive in mid-February. Please contact us by email if you would like to place and order.



'Neil Diamond'

New for 2015



Different Stages

nutrients, from the Greek word 'phyto' meaning 'plant'. When they are exposed to light, they develop chlorophyll, which is antiseptic and anti-inflammatory. Many sources say that microgreens promote good health, fight disease and even cure illness. **It is claimed that broccoli microgreens have 50 times the cancer-fighting benefits of mature broccoli!** Certainly do your own research, then enjoy the fresh taste of a variety of greens. [How to grow microgreens...](#)



Broccoli Seeds Sprouting

whatever stage you find most pleasing, generally within 4 weeks of sowing, sometimes as early as 5 days, depending on the crop you have chosen.

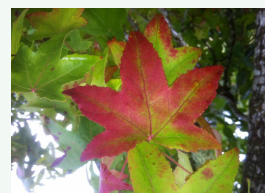
While **sprouts** are usually grown in dark, moist conditions and eaten just after germination, **microgreens** are grown in sterile seed-starting mix, brightly lit after germination, and it's the leaf that is eaten, not the root or seed.

These tiny greens are loaded with phyto

Trees, Glorious Trees

It is finally starting to feel like fall around here. Cooler temperatures (and probably a little drought stress) have triggered the colour changes that mark the season and get brighter every day. If your garden needs some colour at this time of year or you were wishing that you had some shade this past summer, its tree planting time. Trees planted in the fall have a big head start over those planted in the spring, as warm soils encourage good rooting. This is also the time of year when you will find the best selection as all the new trees we have been growing on come ready.

We have a particularly good selection of Japanese Maples this year, including some new dwarf varieties for small spaces and patio gardens. For a full list, photos and descriptions please follow the links to our website.



Liquidamber

[Japanese Maple Catalogue](#)

[Tree Catalogue](#)

Planting Primer

Since fall is a prime planting time for trees and shrubs, we thought it would be a good time for a few reminders...

1. **Read the plant tag carefully** to determine appropriate site and spacing. One of the most common planting errors is to put plants too close together. **Remember:** They will grow!

2. **Water plant well in its nursery container**. Soak in a bucket or gently dribble with hose.

3. **Remove plant from pot and tease and spread roots** gently outward. Entwined roots need loosening - slice vertically and splay. If the roots are a solid mass, slice an inch or so right off the bottom.

4. **Dig the planting hole the same depth as**, and 2 to 3 times wider than

Join our mailing list
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- *New arrivals
- * Maintenance & pruning reminders
- *Class schedules
- *Notice of our fall sale



Heads up
all you veggie growers!

Linda Gilkeson
will be speaking at
Russell Nursery in March,
date to be finalized.
She will talk about **'Plan Now**
for a 12 Month Harvest',
to get us all ready for the
growing season.

Stay tuned for more info, or
let us know if you want to be
on the list for her class.
Space will be limited.



Fallen Tree Art Studio
(at Russell Nursery)

CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

the root ball.



5. **Set plant in hole , ensuring that it is at same depth** as in the container. Do not plant too deeply - the root flare should be at the soil surface. Make sure the fullest, most attractive face of the shrub is showing.

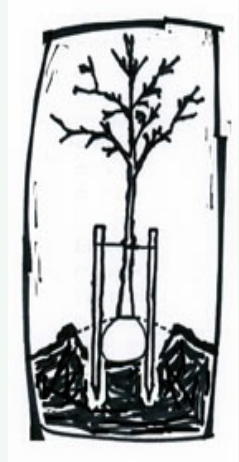
6. **Backfill** half of hole around plant with native soil. Add no more than 25% soil amendments like compost. Exception is heavy clay - mix in one third gritty compost or bark mulch.

7. **Water into the partly filled hole** to settle the soil, then top up with the rest of the soil. Gently tamp soil around plant, avoiding compaction. Mulch around plant with compost or bark mulch.

8. **Create donut collar 6 inches out from base of plant.** Avoid getting mulch close to woody stems or crown of plant.

9. **Stake trees** with a sturdy stake on either side of the root ball.

10. **Water slowly and deeply .**



Class Schedule

Fall classes are in full swing, but there are more to come. Dates for **Tool Sharpening Workshops, Pruning Classes and Wreath Making Classes** are all on our [website](#).

Summer Veggies in Review 2014 *by Faye Ford*

As the summer vegetable garden becomes a warm and happy memory, and the winter one settles in with hope and promise, it's time to take a look back at how it all worked. Planning for next year has to start now, while we can remember what did well, what didn't, and our ideas for doing better next year.

General observations would have to include the fact that this was one incredible summer! The hot and dry conditions were just what summer crops love, in particular tomatoes! Have you ever seen so many?

What made you happiest in your summer veggie garden this year? Was there something that really worked for you? A new variety or technique perhaps? Did you use containers in a new way? We'd love to hear from you! Growing food is so rewarding, and sharing the knowledge as well as the produce makes it even better. [Read on for the rundown...](#)



Critter Proofing Your Bulbs *by Susan Tice*



Like us on Facebook



Two years ago every single bulb that I planted was dug up by squirrels. Last year not even one.

The difference? On the advice of Ben at Van Noort Bulbs, I soaked all my bulbs in Bobbex concentrate for a few minutes before planting them. I will definitely be doing that again this year as there seems to be more squirrels than ever!

Rabbits and deer both love the fresh emerging bulb foliage, but will leave it alone if it has been sprayed with Bobbex. Spray the foliage as it emerges, the flower heads as they are forming and as they are opening. It won't hurt the blooms at all or even show. It is possible to have tulips and deer in the same garden!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM ALL OF US AT RUSSELL NURSERY!

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