



CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

February 2009



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February 25th Program

“Propagation Methods” by Tom del Hotal

Please join us as popular speaker, Tom Del Hotal, instructs us on the propagation methods of rare fruits. Tom is a long time member of CRFG, has taught classes at Southwestern College and is the owner of Fantasia Gardens Nursery in Lemon Grove. He will share methods and techniques of propagating, such as rooting cuttings, air layering, budding, and he will explain the different types of grafts that can be used. Hopefully, you will be able to get all of your questions answered on this exciting subject. Following the talk we will enjoy fruit tasting. Please remember to bring fruit from your garden to share if you can. As usual, we will end the evening with the “Opportunity Table Drawing” of plants. Remember, if you donate a plant or plants for the table, you will receive one free ticket (see Jack S. for details).

Thanks!

The Board would like to thank the following people who helped make last months meeting a success. Those who brought food or donated plants to the “Opportunity Table”: David A., Ed H., Leo M. and William C. Remember to write your name down so we can give you credit. Also a big thanks to Barry R., Jack S. and Zhanxing F. for all your continued support. The meeting could not function without you.

Volunteers Needed!

More volunteers are needed to help staff the booth at the Del Mar Home and Garden Show on February 27th, 28th and March 1st. In addition to volunteers at the table, we need people to bring fruit to be displayed on the table. If you can help out with this, please contact June Anderson.

Message from the Chair

David Yetz, Chairman



Nagami Kumquat

Photo by David Yetz

Greetings CRFG members. Early February has brought with it much needed rain to water our fruit trees. This morning I ventured outside, it was a picturesque day just after the rain. The sun was shining and the air was cool and clear. My pomegranate trees were beginning to burst into new leaves –red and bronze, looking almost as if they were on fire.



Artic Star Nectarine in bloom
Photo by David Yetz

Several of my peach trees were covered in full bloom. My Artic Star nectarine trees had just burst forth in glorious pink/maroon flowers. I gathered several citrus fruits to take back to the house-tangerines, blood oranges, kumquats and cocktail grapefruit. Many of the citrus trees were covered simultaneously in both flowers and fruit. We are very fortunate to live in the San Diego area. While most of the country is still covered in snow and experiencing inclement weather, we are able to have fresh squeezed Orange Juice-direct from tree to the breakfast table. This is truly a great place to live.



Scion Exchange, February 2009
Photo by David Yetz

Last months scion exchange was a huge success with many varieties available. We had a large attendance of members and guests. Thanks to all who brought in cuttings and scion wood. Be sure not to miss this month meeting when Tom del Hotal will be giving us tips on propagating the cuttings and grafting the scions. Tom is a dynamic speaker and his lecture "Propagation Methods" is one you will not want to miss.

Several members have asked me where to obtain rootstock for grafting. With the help of Jim Neitzel, I have placed an order for apple (MM 111) and plum (Marianna 2624) rootstock. Delivery is expected in early March; if you are interested in rootstock please see me for availability and cost.

Hope to see you all on February 25th 7:00pm!

CRFG, San Diego Chapter 2009 Calendar

<i>Month</i>	<i>Meeting/Program/Speaker</i>	<i>Event/Field Trip/ Activity</i>
February	February 25 - 7:00PM (Wednesday): Tom del Hotal: "Propagation Methods" Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, in Room 101	2/27, 2/28, 3/1 – Home and Garden Show
March	March 18 – 7:00PM (Wednesday): Board Meeting March 25 – 7:00PM (Wednesday): Nino Cupiolo: "Cherimoyas" Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, in Room 101.	3/7 - Quail Garden 9:00AM Work Party
April	April 22 - 7:00PM (Wednesday): TBD	Work Party: 4/4 - Quail Garden 9:00AM

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