



CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

January 2009



NEXT MEETING: January 28, 2009
(4th Wednesday, 7:00pm)

Annual Scion Wood Exchange

Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Chair: Dave Yetz

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Vice-Chair: June Andersen (760) 729-3501

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FormerChair: José M. Gallego

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January 28th Program

“Annual Scion Wood Exchange”

What is good scion wood

(From the Orange County CRFG Chapter Newsletter)

Very simply, scion wood is the branch or twig you pruned from your fruit tree.

Currently in a dormant phase, it has the potential to bud out as spring approaches. When successfully grafted onto a similar tree (any stone fruit to any other stone fruit, any avocado to any other avo., etc.), the scion will produce leaves and fruit of its parent tree! Amazing!! Many cuttings -fig, pomegranate, mulberry, grapes, etc.- will root simply when planted.

You should be looking for good sources of wood from healthy, fruiting trees and vines. Talk to your friends and neighbors about harvesting some of their unusual and good tasting varieties, too.

The wood should be about the size of a pencil in width and length, each trimmed such that its "up end" has been sliced at about a 45 degree angle, eliminating upside down planting.

Scions should be bundled into Ziplock or other baggies, clearly marked as to what variety they are, such as: Fig - Black Mission. Bundles of about 5-10 pieces of each variety are ideal. As long as each is securely clinched and labeled, multiple bundles can be stored in bags together. Wrap the bundles in a moist paper towel inside the baggie and store in your refrigerator to keep fresh. And please resist the urge to bring patented varieties.

Message from the Chair

David Yetz, Chairman

Once again the San Diego Chapter put on a great annual potluck dinner at the December meeting. Thanks to all who brought in food and/or helped make the festive dinner a success.

Also I would like to thank José and the past board, and all volunteers who sacrificed many hours last year to make this chapter a success.

We have an exciting New Year ahead of us, and the opportunity to grow another bountiful harvest of fruit. Let's keep the momentum going for 2009! Starting with one of the most anticipated meetings of the New Year--THE SCION EXCHANGE! So... Bring as many different cuttings as you can to the January 28th meeting. Don't forget to do the following:

-Make your cuttings as near to the date of the meeting as possible, the fresher the better. Do not allow them to dry out.

-Should be 6" or longer and about the width of a pencil if possible.

-Properly label each of your bundled cuttings.

-Bring plenty of plastic bags, masking tape, permanent markers and a notebook to ID the plant material you select.
-Cuttings (fig, pomegranate, grape, mulberry etc.) will root when planted in a soil mix.

-Scions (apple, peach, plum etc.) can be used for grafting on rootstock. Scions can be stored in plastic bags in your refrigerator until you are ready to graft.

- Because we are currently within the citrus quarantine area, do not bring citrus cuttings or budwood.

See you all on the 28th of January!

Announcement from Vice President

Just a quick reminder again about our work party at Quail Botanical Gardens on **February 7**, starting about 9:00AM. Quail Botanical Gardens' Volunteer Orientation Session: Date January 24th 9:30am-10:30am at Quail Botanical Gardens. For more info please call Vice-Chair June Andersen at (760) 729-3501

Calif Cherimoya Association Program

Marketing exotic fruits, Bill Vogel speaker, specialty fruit grower in Fallbrook.

February 14th - 10:00am
Fallbrook Utility Building, 990 East Mission , Fallbrook, CA

\$25, student \$15 Space may be limited.

Make check payable to California Cherimoya Association (CCA), and mail it to: CCA Annual Meeting, PO Box 801450, Santa Clarita, CA 91380-1450

For further information, please contact Jim Bathgate at (760)749-3359

CRFG, San Diego Chapter 2009 Calendar

<i>Month</i>	<i>Meeting/Program/Speaker</i>	<i>Event/Field Trip/ Activity</i>
January	January 28 - 7:00PM (Wednesday): Annual Scion Exchange. Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, in Room 101.	
February	February 25 - 7:00PM (Wednesday): Tom del Hotal: "Propagation Methods". Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, in Room 101.	2/7 - Quail Garden 9:00AM Work Party
March	March 25 - 7:00PM (Wednesday):	Work Party: 3/7 - Quail Garden 9:00

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San Diego Chapter

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