

**OUR NEXT MEETING: Thursday 20 June** 

Thereabouts - June, Fruit Trees,

Vegetables, Herbs. Gardening

Australia App

4-5

President's Message, Q & A,

Carrots, Raised Garden Beds

#### The Aims of G.C.O.G. Inc.

- 1. To promote organic sustainable food raising for home gardens and farms.
- 2. To foster research into improved methods of organic farming and gardening.
- To provide information and support to all those interested in the various aspects of organic growing.

#### **Meetings Held:**

#### 3rd Thursday of the Month

The Meeting Place, Cnr Guineas Creek Rd and Coolgardie St, Elanora. Doors open: 7:00 pm. **Begin at 7:30 pm** Entry is \$1 members, \$3 visitors.

# (No meeting in December) Annual Membership Fees:

Single: \$20. Family: \$30.

To renew or start memberships please transfer funds directly into our bank account, send cheques (payable to GCOG) to Diane Kelly, or just pay at the door.

Name: Gold Coast Organic Growers

Bank: Suncorp BSB: 484-799 Account: 0014-21651

#### Seed Bank:

\$2.00 each.

#### **Members Market Corner:**

Please bring plants, books and produce you wish to sell.

#### Raffle Table:

This relies on the kind generosity of members to donate items on the night. Tickets - \$1each or 3 for \$2.

#### Library:

Books 50c, Videos, DVDs \$2, Soil Test Kit \$2. Available to members for 1 month.

#### Advertising:

1/4 page: \$10 an issue, or \$100 per year

(11 issues)

1/2 page: \$20 an issue or \$200 per year full page: \$30 an issue or \$300 per year

2013 Committee	
President	Maria Roberson (07) 5598 6609
Vice President	Roger Peterson (07) 5534 8061 rpeterson.1@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Diane Kelly (07) 5522 7444
Secretary	Karen Hart (07) 5657 0780
Membership Sec	Diane Kelly
Membership Asst	Jill Barber
Newsletter Editor	Angela Anderson w.a.anderson@bigpond.com (07) 5533 0169
Newsletter Asst	Diane Kelly
Website Editor	Dorothy Coe webprint@onthenet.com.au
Advertising	tba
Guest Speaker	Jill Barber
Liaison	(07) 5534 4753
•	jillbarber611@gmail.com
Librarians	Greg Wiltshire (07) 5578 8755
	Judy Reiser (07) 5532 7198
	Ann-Maree Andrew
Seed Bank	Roger Griffiths (07) 5530 5067
Seed Assistant	Lyn Mansfield 0409 645 888
Supper Co-ordinator	Paul Roberson (07) 5598 6609

The position of Trip Co-ordinator has been abolished and the Advertising position has yet to be decided.

#### Newsletter:

Contributions and ideas welcome. Email Angela at w.a.anderson@bigpond.com

#### Thanks to Contributors:

Diane Kelly, Jill Barber, Maria Roberson, Karen Hart, Lyn Mansfield

#### **Notice Board**

## Membership Renewels

**NEW:** You can now pay your membership fee directly into the GCOG bank account.

Name: Gold Coast Organic Growers

Bank: Suncorp BSB: 484-799 Account: 0014-21651

# Remember to put your Name and Membership Number in the comment field.

Note the number in brackets after your name is your membership number - you will need to quote this number in the comment field, if you pay via online banking.

Overdue: Julie Abraham (315), Deborah Anker (336), Judy McCracken (274), Yokiyo Copley (319), Judy Reiser (338), Guy Lewington (339), Barbara Talty (58), Margaret Reichelt (111), Jude Lai (220), Rebecca Bowen (297), Moyra & Julien de Jager (340), Alf & Marina Orpen (341)

May: Chris Larkin (141), Clive Canning (144), Karen Auchere (147), Mary Frawley (150), Bruce Kelly & Heather Ryan (234), Chantel Geldenhuys (268), Brian & Lyn Dick (298), Robert Turner (301), Robert Faulkner (303), Virginia Jacobsen (325)

**June:** Lise Racine (151), Ross & Helena Kelso (184)

## **SEW** - Every 2nd Monday

S.E.W. is a women's group which has the motto "Sowing the seeds of friendship and knowledge through networking".

The group meets every second Monday, from 10.00 am to 12 noon at 270 Ferry Road, attendance is free, and children are welcome.

BYO plate of food to share with others.

Any enquiries contact Lyn on 0409 645 888 or <a href="mailto:secretary@goldcoastpermaculture.org.au">secretary@goldcoastpermaculture.org.au</a>

# Gold Coast City Council Active and Healthy Program

# Community Gardening Workshops Composting and Worm Farming

Come along to Council's free sustainable gardening workshops where you can learn all about composting and worm farming to recycle your waste and improve your garden. Tea and coffee are provided and all you need to bring are closed shoes.

Time: Saturday between 10am and 12pm May 25th - Helensvale Community Centre June 15th - Robina Library

For more information or to register for a FREE workshop near you, call (07) 5581 6855.

#### **Gold Coast Permaculture**

Enjoy the morning with Dan "the herb man" sharing his expertise in all things herbs. Herbs are a wonderful way to enjoy productive gardening, providing fresh flavours to your cooking and soothing aromas.

**18th May** - 10am to noon at 270 Ferry Rd, Southport. Morning tea is provided. Please pay on the day, \$20 waged, concession/ unwaged \$10

# **Life Changing Events**

Every4-7 weeks we screen a new documentary film focused on health, food, social responsibility and our environmental impact on our planet.

After each film we are joined by an expert panel of speakers who are hand picked for their contribution to our community and field of knowledge.

Check out the website for more details. The Arts Centre, Gold Coast @ 6.30pm (Doors open 5:45pm):

**Mon June 17th** – Carbon Nation. The good news about climate change and how we can live off the grid in the city!

www.lifechangingevents.net.au

## President's Message

Hello Everyone,

I would like to start by congratulating all those who put in a lot of time and effort each month producing our newsletter. It has great community feel and is full of topics and hints that are relevant to our region and cliamate. As you can see, most of the content is provided by a few dedicated and diligent members who keep us informed as well as entertained. How wonderful it would be and how even more enriched our newsletter would become, if all members were to participate in sharing even the smallest of gardening details with us. We are always hungry to hear what you are doing out there, from growing right through to eating your garden. Please make this the year that you get involved and share a bit of yourself with us.

I have noticed that there are quite a few overdue membership reminders printed in the newsletter, I ask that members bring their membership up to date at your earliest convenience. We now offer you the option of direct payment into the GCOG bank account, as well as the previous methods of posting a cheque or simply paying on meeting nights. All details needed for these payment options are printed on the NOTICE BOARD page of the newsletter each month.

Thank you to members who are still searching for and finding any overdue library books that may have gone astray over time. We have a few show up from time to time which is great. Remember just keep looking through those book shelves at home, after all these books have to be somewhere.

The SEED TABLE is becoming even more user friendly thanks to Lyn and Rogers efforts. Lyn has been busy building up a picture and description list of the seeds we carry so you have an extra visual aid and more info about the plants you will be growing. This will no doubt be a boon to the beginner gardeners amongst us, as well as just plain handy to us all.

This time of the year sees citrus trees loaded with fruit and ripening up nicely. In our region citrus grow really well and without much trouble, sure there may be a few pests about, but usually nothing that causes total devastation. Trees may suffer the occasional bout of sooty mould and leaf miner however these can be dealt with by spraying affected areas with an organic pest oil.

Another common complaint from growers is Gall wasp damage, again easily dealt with by cutting of the gall before it hatches (check for galls now) and destroy the lumpy bits by burning or sealing them in a black plastic bag and leaving in the sun for 2 or 3 weeks to cook. Do not compost branches with galls in them because the larvae will hatch and live to fight another day.

Citrus trees are pretty hungry and should be fertilized lightly at the beginning of each season to maintain strong but steady growth. Trees do not need to be pruned in order to fruit like a lot of other fruit trees do, however you may want to give them a little hair cut to keep their growth in check in smaller gardens. Prune after fruit has been harvested and don't delay because they start flowering again in a very short time.

Happy gardening, Maria.

# **Handy Hint - Planting Carrots**



Ross Davis showed me a trick for beautiful long carrots ...

- Push your spade completely into the soil
- Wiggle it back and forth so it pushes the soil to make, say a 5cm wide gap at surface level.
- Fill with coarse sand
- Sprinkle your seeds, etc

To Be Continued in 4 months ... Angie

# Q & A - March Meeting By Karen Hart

Jill has donated some **lupin seeds** to the club, can be grown as a green manure crop. They can be eaten, need to be soaked first and eaten as sprouted seed.

Neil spoke about aquaponics and has a good book which the library will purchase.

A member has not had much success with carrots. Marie says that they are very easy to grow. Tiny seed so only plant 2 and a half times depth. Cover with fine soil. Pat down soil to remove air pockets. Carrots take 10 days to germinate – need to keep soil moist, but not too wet. Dig over first to fine tilth. Sprinkle finely, like seasoning food. They take 4 months (16-18 weeks). Varieties available from the club are Great Western Red – a huge carrot, but grows well in clay; Chanteney – a fatter, shorter variety. They sit happily in the ground until needed, but should be dug before flowers form. High value food.

- All seeds need soil contact, so pat down after planting.
- High nitrogen soils for leafy greens. Root crops to follow.
- Beetroot Bull's Blood variety available leaves can be eaten as well.
- Leeks very easy to grow. Seedlings can be grown in a 'pocket'. They may take up to 2 weeks to germinate. Very good value, with 200 seeds in a packet.
- Parsnips are easy to grow here. Fresh seed needs to be sown every year – a winter crop.
- Rock dust SAFE sells rock minerals, also, Guy Lewington, a member, can supply it as he has his own mine near Gatton. Cracker dust, blue rock, etc., is still fairly large, but rock minerals have more 'ingredients'.
- Does anyone know anything about Sweet smother grass? – Ian has seen it growing - it needs to be cut higher than normal grass. It grows well in shade.

# **HELP - Climbing Bean!!!**

Help! Could whoever gave me this 7-year climbing bean plant contact me (5534 4753) so I know what to do with it - it's taking over my garden (house to follow?)!!

- Do I just let it keep growing?
- Will it feed an army if I let it go?
- When does it produce beans? and so on...
   Desperate, Jill



# **Question - Raised Beds**

Thanks for the photo Lyn. This is a new garden bed at Ashmore State School built by Ashmore Community garden group. It is a similar style garden to the ones they build at 270 Ferry Road (GC Permaculture HQ). Di is curious as to how they avoid erosion – why doesn't rainfall & watering make the beds collapse? It is a cheap way of creating raised beds! Love to hear your answers. Ed.



# Marty Skok's: Australian Native Bees Jill Barber

Last month, Marty was kind enough to come and infuse us with some of his enthusiasm for Australian Native Bees, and his talk was packed with information. He brought a live hive that could be viewed, as well as an example of a hive killed by natural predators. His powerpoint presentation accompanied his talk initially on how housing developments have changed the habitats of native bees and how to be proactive in rescuing hives. It progressed rapidly to pests which endanger hives and different types of native bees. He's obviously made quite a study of them! There was also a honey tasting, showing the guite striking differences between native and European bee honeys. I asked Marty to forward me a summary of his talk, and what follows is a combination of this and my notes from his talk.

There are **ten major groups of native bees**: Stingless Bee\* – consists of about ten species, and was previously called Trigona. These are the only stingless bee of over 1500 species in Australia. They are black and look like small flies. They make and store small amounts of honey, which has a major difference from European bee honey, and it is stored in small jars or pots instead of combs. Tree loppers often find hives in hollows of trees, which they normally just mulch. Unless it is really necessary, it is better not to cut down the tree or remove the hive from the log. Marty has also found many hives in water meter boxes. Finally, it is illegal to remove or bud a hive in National Parks or Reserves. Budding is when you drill a hole in the back of your box and then place it in front of the existing hive. The bees will fly through the box and eventually build another brood in the box. Stingless bees are great at pollinating mango, watermelons and macadamias. They also love citrus, strawberries and avocados, just to mention a few.

When **setting up a hive** for your bees, keep these **vital points** in mind:

- Native bees will not work <18°c or >35°c
- Always only face the hive from a north to an east direction.

- Household poison will kill the bees
- Remove any spiders that decide to make a home on the hive or near the main flight path.
- If you obtain a log, cap off the ends with timber and place the nest in a warm spot in your garden.
- The bees prefer the morning sun, and need to be protected from the heat of the day and cold wind.
- Having a water source and nectar source within 100m is optimal, but they will forage up to 500m from their nest.
- Movement of the nest is either 1ft every 2-3 days or 1km. Any more or less will confuse them resulting in a weakened nest, which will become vulnerable to attack by predators.

#### **Problems** for your bees:

- <u>Eucalyptus</u> Torelliana (Cadaghi) During January and February, the seeds of this tree can cause a serious problem for your hive. The bees love this tree for the **resin** which is used in nest building and also sealing up the hive. While they are collecting this material they carry the small seed from this plant back to the hive and it is deposited on the entrance or inside the hive. If these seeds are not removed there is a possibility of the entrance being blocked and consequently the hive will die.
- •Swarming of the hive in summer months has just begun to be understood. It occurs mainly during the summer months and is quite remarkable to see. During this event a hive population can be reduced by over half and for a new bee keeper, can be quite worrying. It can be either through mating or from having foreign mating bees in the hive.

Marty has never seen a strong hive suffer from this in the long-term. In fact, they actually become stronger. The safest way to keep these social bees is to leave them in the log in which you got them. Marty has split many a hive over the years, and he mostly loses these to their predators.

**Predators** include **Phorid flies**, the larger **Syrphod flies** which resemble a wasp and

the dreaded **South African Small Hive Beetle**. All these lay eggs, and it is therefore of great importance to seal up gaps in the bees' nest to prevent pests from destroying it. Also, perforated metal strips can be placed at the entrance to keep the beetle out. Cockroach poison can be taped to the outside of the hive as well to kill the beetle.

White ants and termites can also be a problem, so placing the nest on a brick in some water until the bees have repaired their defences can help with this.

**Chemicals** are killing off bees at an alarming rate, as the use of pesticides is widespread.

#### 2). Yellow and Black Carpenter Bee

These are the largest native bees in Australia, and can give a nasty sting. They are faithful to their home, preferring to lay eggs in the same hole they were born in and hibernate in. They are great pollinators in fruit growing areas. Females have bright yellow fur and a black abdomen, while males are covered with yellow and brown fur. People often think they are Bumble bees, but Australia has no native Bumble bees.

#### 3). Green Carpenter Bee

These bees nest burrows in the stalks of the grass tree or in soft dead timber as land clearing has destroyed homes for these bees.

#### 4). Reed Bees

They nest in plants such as raspberries and blackberries and also in the dead frond of the tree ferns.

#### 5). Blue Banded Bees

These can sting, but are not aggressive. Males cling to plant stems at night. Nests are invaded by the Neon Cuckoo Bee who wipes out the Blue Bandeds' eggs, then the latter raises the Neon Cuckoos! They collect the majority of their nectar from blue flowers, but will also feed on some non blue flowers such as tomato or eggplant. They make nests in the ground, but also nest in mudbrick homes, and will use sandstone to make a home.

#### 6). Teddy Bear Bees

This bee is about 17mm in length, and shallow nests in soft soil and under houses, and it is another bee mistaken for a Bumble bee.

#### Leafcutter Bees

This is the bee responsible for the circular

cuts on the edges of leaves in the garden (used for nest building). They like the soft leaves of roses, bauhinia and buddleia.

#### 8). Resin Bee

Resin bees nest in pre-existing holes or gaps in timber, stone or bricks. They build a wall between their brood and to seal off the nest holes. You will notice this bee near your stingless bee hive it you have one.

#### 9). Homalictus Bees

These bees are tiny - about 6mm long, they come in many different colours, from blue, red and green with purple, and there are around 160 to 170 to a nest. Females live together in a nest which branches underground. They all take turns in guarding the nest entrance.

#### 10). Masked Bees

These remarkable bees use pre-existing holes in wood or stems to make their nests. They are about 10mm long, and weave their brood from a cellophane-like secretion.

To attract native bees to your garden, you must give them different nectar and pollen sources, and you also need to create habitat for them. Bundle reeds and bamboo together, drill holes of different sizes in wood, cap off the end of a log or make a soft mudbrick home for them to nest in. A Styrofoam box section can be placed over the hive to insulate it, so that the temperature stays between 18 and 35 degrees.

#### For further information:

- Aussie Bee website Aust Native Bee Research Centre: www.aussiebee.com
- Australian stingless bees by Russell Zabel: www.uq.net.au/~zzrzabel
- Stingless bee hive design by Tim:
   www.sugarbag.net/hives
   He gives instruction on hive construction (charges \$500/hive)

#### Where to buy Stingless Bees:

- Peter Davenport, Elanora QLD (in boxes)
   Phone: 07 5533 9383
- Russell and Janine Zabel, Hatton Vale QLD (in boxes) 0404 892 139
- George & Julie Hood, Cleveland QLD (in boxes) 07 3286 4475
- Frank Adcock, Nashua, Northern Rivers area of NSW (in boxes) 02 6629 1431
- \* Tetragonula carbonaria, Tetragonula clypearis, Tetragonula davenporti, Tetragonula hockingsi, Tetragonula mellipes, Tetragonula sapiens.

## Gardens for All Seasons From Diane Kelly

#### Fungal diseases & nitrogen:

Take care not to overuse nitrogen-based fertilisers. Plants that have been fed a nitrogen-rich diet are more susceptible to fungal diseases because their tissues are more tender and watery.

## **Biofumigation:**

When soil-borne pests and diseases have been a problem, there is no need to turn to a synthetic soil fumigant. Some plants, notably mustard, can be used as biological fumigants to suppress the pests in a naturally occurring compound. When the roots and foliage of mustard are chopped or crushed, chemicals called glucosinolates are released. These are broken down by an enzyme to form isothiocyanate (ITC), a natural fumigant. To be effective, the biofumigant crop needs to be thickly planted and chopped into small sections before being incorporated into the soil.

Other plants with biofumigant properties include radish, turnip and canola. Surprisingly, the humble marigold (Tagetes spp) can also be used as a biofumigant. Root exudates from the plant release alpha-terthienyl, a powerful compound with nematicidal, insecticidal, anti-viral and cytotoxic properties. It is especially useful in the garden to control root-knot nematodes. Plant it in a bed intended for vegetables susceptible to this pest about two months before planting the vegetable crop. To get maximum benefit from planting marigolds as a biofumigant, chop the plants and dig them into the soil before planting the desired crop.

Vegetables susceptible to root-knot nematode include beans, capsicum, carrot, celery, cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, pumpkin and tomato. Many fruit trees are also susceptible, and growing marigolds around their base might help prevent problems.

# Sources of Phosphorus and Potassium:

Phosphorus for the garden is found in worm castings, fish emulsion, compost, animal manures, bone meal and rock phosphate.

As well as being found in wood ash, potassium can be provided by compost, fish emulsion, worm castings, seaweed emulsion, animal manures and blood & bone with potash.

#### Earthworms and Copper:

Bordeaux spray contains copper, which is an allowable input in organic agriculture. However, it can kill earthworms. To prevent this happening when you spray your fruit trees, spread a temporary cover over the soil beneath them. Cardboard, newspaper or a sheet of plastic would do.

## Using "Mozzie Blocker":

You might find a cultivar of *Lepto-spermum liversidgei*, commonly called lemon-scented tea tree or olive tea tree, marketed under the name of "Mozzie Blocker". This mozzie repellent plant grows to about 2 m, but can be kept pruned to a compact bush. Trim it lightly just before sitting outdoors and leave the prunings scattered around so they are walked over.

Try rubbing the leaves on bare arms and legs, but test for allergy on a small area first. It is worth trying it near animal housing too.

# **High Biodiversity = High Productivity:**

A long-term experiment comparing plots growing monocultures and plots planted with from one to 16 different species

found the high-biodiversity plots to have 2.7 to 2.9 times the above and below-ground total biomass compared to the monocultures.

Over time, the productivity of the biodiverse plots increased. The plots of high biodiversity provided to be less susceptible to weedy species than were the plots of monoculture and those of low biodiversity. The more species-diverse plots withstood stress better and recovered faster

### Wetting Agent versus Coir Fibre:

Research has shown there to be less benefit from using water crystals in potting mix than from incorporating 10 to 20 per cent of coir fibre dust into the medium. This is worth remembering next time you are re-potting, but for plants already potted, a wetting agent of some sort will be beneficial in retaining water.

# Is it Iron or Nitrogen Deficiency:

Deficiencies of both iron and nitrogen can cause leaves to yellow, but how do you tell the difference? If nitrogen is deficient, the older leaves are affected first, becoming yellow all over. Sometimes they turn red, look stunted or drop prematurely.

If an iron shortage is the problem, it appears first in the youngest foliage. Leaves turn yellow between the veins, but the veins remain green. In a severe case, the young leaves can look a very pale, creamy colour.

**Butterflies:** are attracted to yellow, purple, orange and red. Flat flowers with easily accessible nectar are preferred. Choose plants of different heights and ones that flower at different time of the year.

Gardens for All Seasons Mary Horsfall



# **HERB FARM**

Michael & Sandra Nanka 491 Springbrook Rd MUDGEFRABA, 4213

#### Opening times

Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday 9 am – 4 pm

Phone: (07) 5530 3253 www.herbcottage.com.au

- Culinary, Fragrant and Medicinal Herbs
- Vegetable and Herb Seeds
- ♦ Craft, Herb Vinegars, Jams & Preserves
- Essential & Fragrant Oils, & lots more

# The Diggers Club

Australia's largest garden club is helping gardeners grow healthier vegetables, tastier fruit and the most beautiful flowers.

- Heirloom vegetable & flower seeds, herbs, plants
  - Gardening advice, free seeds and discounts for members
    - We deliver direct to your door in QLD03 5984 7900

<u>DIGGERS.COM.AU</u>

# & Thereabouts - June From Diane Kelly

Have a little rest, for this is the month of the armchair gardener! However, if you haven't had time to earn the relaxation, there is still time to plant some species for the spring. June and July are also good months for planting and the maintenance pruning of deciduous fruit trees and vines, and ornamental vines, bushes and trees.

**Vegetables:** This is not a big month in the vegetable garden. Some sowings are still done, but mainly for garden continuity.

**Flowers:** Some varieties will still produce a reasonable spring display if planted now. Sow linaria seeds where other annuals have failed. They grow and flower very quickly.

**Plantings include:** alyssum, balsam, calendula, Californian poppy, godetia, Iceland poppy, impatiens, linaria (some of these are quite beautiful), marigold, nasturtium, petunia and phlox.

Fruit: When planting deciduous fruit trees, deep holes are not necessary, but good preparation will pay dividends. Break the resident soil up in the bottom of the hole and churn in some organic matter (manure is ideal). Make a type of potting mix with the soil you have removed from the hole by adding organic matter, and sand if it is high in clay content, and more organic matter if it is sandy.

Tease out the roots if they are pot-bound or tangled, and splay over a mound of mix in the bottom of the hole. Fill in with the mixture, apply an undercoat of organic matter, an overcoat of mulch, a feed or liquid fertiliser, and water regularly. Treat vines in the same fashion.

# FRUIT TREES - BOGI

From Diane Kelly

**Custard Apples:** Peak harvest period, harvest every 3-7 days. Don't let trees dry out.

Figs: Dormant period. Don't let trees dry out.

**Lychee:** Don't let trees dry out. Fertilise trees this month. Mature trees (5 years and older) 1.5 kg organic fertiliser with sulphate of potash added per sq m to the drip line of trees. (For trees under 5 years, use only 50 grams.)

**Low Chill Stone Fruit:** Fertilise trees with 50 gms of organic fertiliser with sulphate of potash added per sq m to the drip line of trees. Prune off 2/3 of new growth.

**Mango:** Apply gypsum if soil pH is 6 or more. If below 6 pH, apply lime, 50 gms per sq m of either. Mature trees (5 years and older) 1.5 kg organic fertiliser with sulphate of potash added per sq m to the drip line of trees; water in well.

**Passion-fruit:** The water can be tapered off. Harvest fruit every 3-4 days under vines.

**Pawpaw:** If you have not applied boron, apply now. 1 teaspoon per tree. 40% of annual organic fertiliser can be applied e.g. 20 gms per sq m.

**Persimmon:** Decline water needs. Apply a little garden lime and gypsum, 20 gms per sq m.

**Strawberries:** Plants should be coming away well. A little organic fertiliser with sulphate of potash can be applied now. Use fish emulsion or kelp spray regularly over plants to keep in good health.

**Bananas:** Keep up the water. When fruit are formed, bag fruit with banana bag, tie bag to top of stem and drape down to bell. Leave open at bottom for air. Cut off bell to get larger fruit.

**Citrus:** Harvest should start this month, and continue until August. Keep up watering.

**Avocado:** Add garden lime, 20 grams per sq m to drip line and gypsum 20 grams per sq m again to drip line. Early varieties can be picked. Don't let trees dry out.



#### **VEGETABLES**

#### MAY:

Asian greens, Asparagus crowns, Beans, Beetroot, Broad beans, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celery, Celeriac, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leek, Lettuce, Onion, Parsnip, Pea, Potato, Radish, Rhubarb, Shallots, Silverbeet, Spinach, Strawberry, Tomato, Turnip.

#### JUNE:

Asian greens, Asparagus crowns, Broad beans, Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celery, Celeriac, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Onion, Parsnip, Pea, Potato, Radish, Shallots, Silverbeet, Snow pea, Strawberry.

# Prostate Awareness Twin Towns & Tweed Coast

Just a click away: www.prostateawarenessaustralia.com or contact Ross Davis for more info: rossco12@bigpond.com

## Gardening Australia - App From Dorothy

Have a look at a new App from Gardening Australia. It has what to plant now info, how to info, an easy to use diary to capture your observations and photos.

http://www.abc.net.au/gardening/ resources/vegie app.htm

#### **HERBS**

#### MAY

Annual: Borage, Calendula, Chamomile, Chervil, Coriander, Dill, Garlic, Giant Red Lettuce, Herb Robert, Italian parsley, Misome, Mizuna, Mustard Lettuce, Nasturtium, Rocket.

#### Perennials & Bi-Annuals:

Catnip, Chicory, Chives, Perennial Coriander, Fennel, Hyssop, Lavender, Lemon Balm, Lovage, Marjoram, Mint, Mushroom Plant, Oregano, Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, Salad Burnet, Winter Tarragon, Thyme, Upland Cress, Watercress, Winter Savoury.

#### JUNE

**Annual:** Borage, Calendula, Chamomile, Chervil, Coriander, Dill, Garlic, Giant Red Lettuce, Herb Robert, Italian parsley, Misome, Mizuna, Mustard Lettuce, Nasturtium, Rocket

#### Perennials & Bi-Annuals:

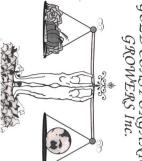
Catnip, Chicory, Chives, Perennial Coriander, Fennel,

Hyssop, Lavender, Lemon Balm, Lovage, Marjoram, Mint, Mushroom Plant, Oregano, Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, Salad Burnet, Winter Tarragon, Thyme, Upland Cress, Watercress, Winter Savoury.

Can still plant, but it is getting towards the end of the season – Basil, Ceylon Spinach.

Whilst every effort is made to publish accurate information the association (including Editor, Executive Officers and the Committee) accepts no responsibility for statements made or opinions expressed in this news-letter.

# GOLD COAST ORGANIC GROWERS Inc.



Meetings held:

3rd Thursday of the Month

Cnr Guineas Creek Road Meeting place:

& Coolgardie Street

Thursday 20 June 2013 Elanora, Gold Coast Next meeting:

NEWSLETTER