**WEB**

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**“Grubs Q&A”**

**Q. What are the huge grubs that we are finding around the edge of our compost pile? They are as large as fingers. What will kill them?**

A. These monster grubs are the larvae of rhinoceros beetles, a beneficial predatory insect. It is best for your garden if you let the grubs mature. They eat the organic material that is available around the compost pile and then transform into the beneficial beetle.

**Q. The lawn seems to be running out of steam. It is not as green as it was in May. Will it help to fertilize again?**

A. Probably not. The key to maximum use of fertilizer is to have plenty of water. Did you fertilize in May with slow-release lawn fertilizer? As the summer progresses, the most we can hope for is enough rain and irrigation to maintain a healthy growth rate and color. I recommend fertilizing lawns in this area about May 1 and October 1.

**Q. What are the recommended tomatoes for fall gardens and when should we plant them?**

A. Use determinant heat setters, such as Solar Fire, Tycoon, Tigress, Valley Cat, 6O2, Cherry Surprise (BHN 968), 444 and Phoenix. Plant them about August 1.

**Q. Is there a blooming annual that we can plant in full sun this summer? How about one for the shade?**

A. In the sun plant zinnias, vincas, cosmos and moss roses. In the shade, begonias and pentas are good choices.

**Q. If we prune some branches off our live oaks now, do we still have to paint the wounds to protect them from oak wilt?**

A. It is less likely that live or red oaks will become infected with oak wilt if they are pruned in the hottest part of summer or the coldest part of winter. But, it is safest to paint the wounds 12 months of the year.

**Q. Why doesn’t coral vine get planted more than it is? It’s spectacular.**

A. Coral vine, also called Queen’s Crown, is an aggressive vine that grows into the tops of trees and over houses. The bloom is spectacular, but the aggressive growth is a problem.

**Q. Please remind us what the ratio of sugar to water should be in our hummingbird feeders.**

A. Mix one part sugar to four parts water by volume.