

The Leaflet



California Rare Fruit Growers – Central Coast Chapter – Vol. 19 Mar/April 2016

Festival of Fruit 2016 Year of the Edible Landscape A to Z Apples to Zapotes

The Central Coast chapter is hosting the Festival of Fruit for 2016. The planning committee has been hard at work the past few months putting together preliminary plans for this event. Committee meetings have been held at the SLO Grange on Broad St., the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Any member wishing to volunteer their services for this event is encouraged to attend or contact a committee member. The 2016 Festival of Fruit promises to be one of the best ever.

CRFG WORKDAY AT DEMONSTRATION ORCHARD

A special workday at the CRFG Demonstration Orchard at Cal Poly was held on February 6. This event was well attended with plenty of volunteers. It was a great opportunity for members to hone their pruning skills and learn from each other while helping out with the much needed pruning. Orchard Managers David Gurney and Tucker Schmidt along with Larry Hollis were on hand to assist and answer any questions. During this year's Festival of Fruit hundreds of attendees will have the chance to visit our orchard. We want it to look its best.



PHOTO/MEL SMITH



PHOTO/MEL SMITH

Above: Central Coast chapter volunteers hard at work in the orchard.

ANNUAL SCION EXCHANGE

The Central Coast chapter held its annual scion exchange on Saturday, February 20th. This is our most important fundraiser for the year. 40 plus volunteers gathered at Cal Poly on Friday night to help with setup. The event opened to the public at 1 pm on Saturday. The turnout is believed to be the best ever. Our “Gifted Grafters” put on amazing demonstrations.



PHOTOS/MEL SMITH

Inside at the Scion Exchange.



PHOTO/MELSMITH

Grafters picking out scion wood.



PHOTO/MELSMITH



PHOTO/MEL SMITH

“Gifted Grafters” hard at work.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM JOE SABOL/ANNUAL PROPAGATION MEETING

Dear CRFG Members and Friends... all along the Central Coast:

YOU are invited to our annual Propagation Meeting... this Saturday!!! We will be meeting at the Seven Sisters Demonstration Garden (Master Gardeners!!). You know the location... 2156 Sierra Way, here in SLO. Parking is a challenge so... ride the bus, your bike, or park down the street and get some walking in. Weather will be perfect on Saturday!! We will be outside... under the shade. Pheromone loops will be there on sale... \$1 each or 12 for \$10.

Program: Experts will be demonstrating a wide variety of plant propagation techniques. Members and guests will be assisting with the "hands on" propagation of many fascinating fruiting plants to be used in the Festival of Fruit in August. This meeting is free and open to the public. Don't miss this important meeting!! Come at 1 p.m. to enjoy refreshments, social time and welcome our guests!! Many of our members have already agreed to "plant sit" the plants we will be propagating... and take good care of them until August 27th.

Also the semi-dwarfing rootstock R 225 - OHXF 333 arrived!! This is a semi-dwarfing pear rootstock. It is 1/2 to 2/3 standard size. It's resistance to fire blight, collar rot, woolly pear aphids and pear decline make this a very healthy stock. Compatible with all Pears. All this rootstock was preordered and is sold out but if you were one of the lucky ones to preorder the rootstock is has arrived and will be at the March meeting!

We sure hope YOU will make plans to be at this very educational propagation meeting on Saturday!!