



# CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER CRFG

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## Chapter Website:

<https://www.crfg-central.org>

## Facebook page:

[Facebook-CRFG-Central  
Coast](https://www.facebook.com/Facebook-CRFG-Central-Coast)

## YouTube Channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/  
@californiarefruitgrowers  
718/videos](https://www.youtube.com/@californiarefruitgrowers718/videos)

## Chapter chairs contact:

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(underscore between l and c)

## For article submissions:

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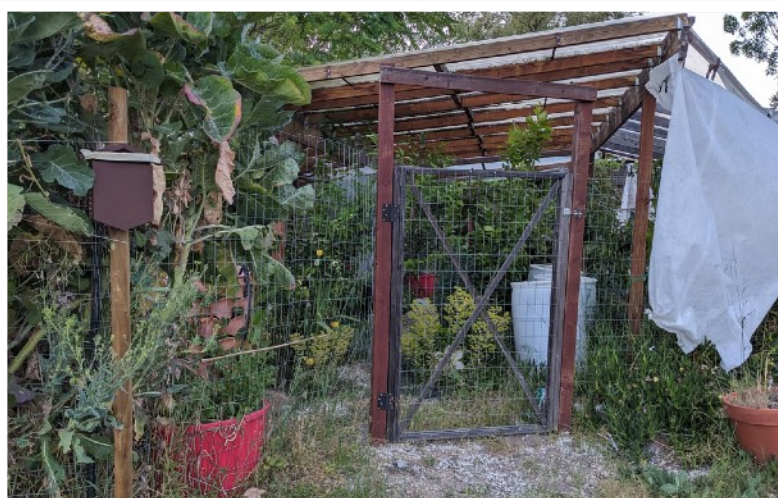


Photo by Shasta Palmer

## Next Meeting:

**Things Worth Growing, Shasta Palmer**

## When:

Saturday, August 10th, 2024

## Schedule:

12:00 pm: Setup for those setting up signs, tables, etc.

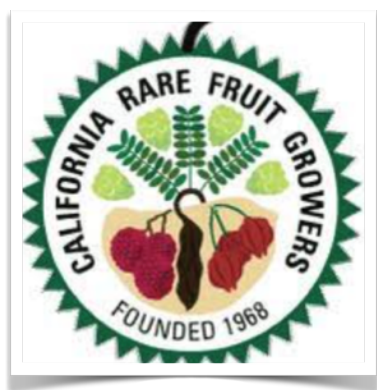
1:00-1:30: Attendees arrive, snack, and socialize

1:30: Meeting

2:00: Guest speaker and tour of property

3:00: Clean up

## Announcements



### Join the Planning Committee!

Current Committee Members:  
Sharon Lovelady (Chairperson), Larry Hollis,  
and Elaine Rathburn

We are currently looking for volunteers to join our committee to help find and schedule future meetings. We meet about every 3 months via zoom.

As a volunteer for the program planning committee, you would be asked to find fun and interesting meeting places. We visit the sites to get more information for the newsletter, Facebook, and website.

Very minimal hours of volunteer time.

If you are not interested in volunteering, we would love your input of places to have our meetings.

Personal connections to the hosts are great and very helpful.

We are also looking for presenters for our meetings.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Sharon, Larry, or Elaine.

Sharon's contact information is  
805-601-2900 or

[smlovelady2011@gmail.com](mailto:smlovelady2011@gmail.com)

### Upcoming Demonstration Orchard Workdays:

Saturday, October 26th, 2024:  
9am-12pm

#### *Bring:*

Your folding chair and food to share (optional). Please bring your own plate and utensils. Also a hat, and shoes for walking on dirt. Wear sturdy shoes for the tour. Bring an umbrella for the sun.

No restrooms, go before you go!

#### *Where:*

Things Worth Growing, Shasta Palmer

3560 Colima Road, Atascadero, CA

#### *Additional Info:*

Golf cart for members that need a ride. Let us know.

#### *Location & Parking:*

Location: 3560 Colima Road, Atascadero, CA

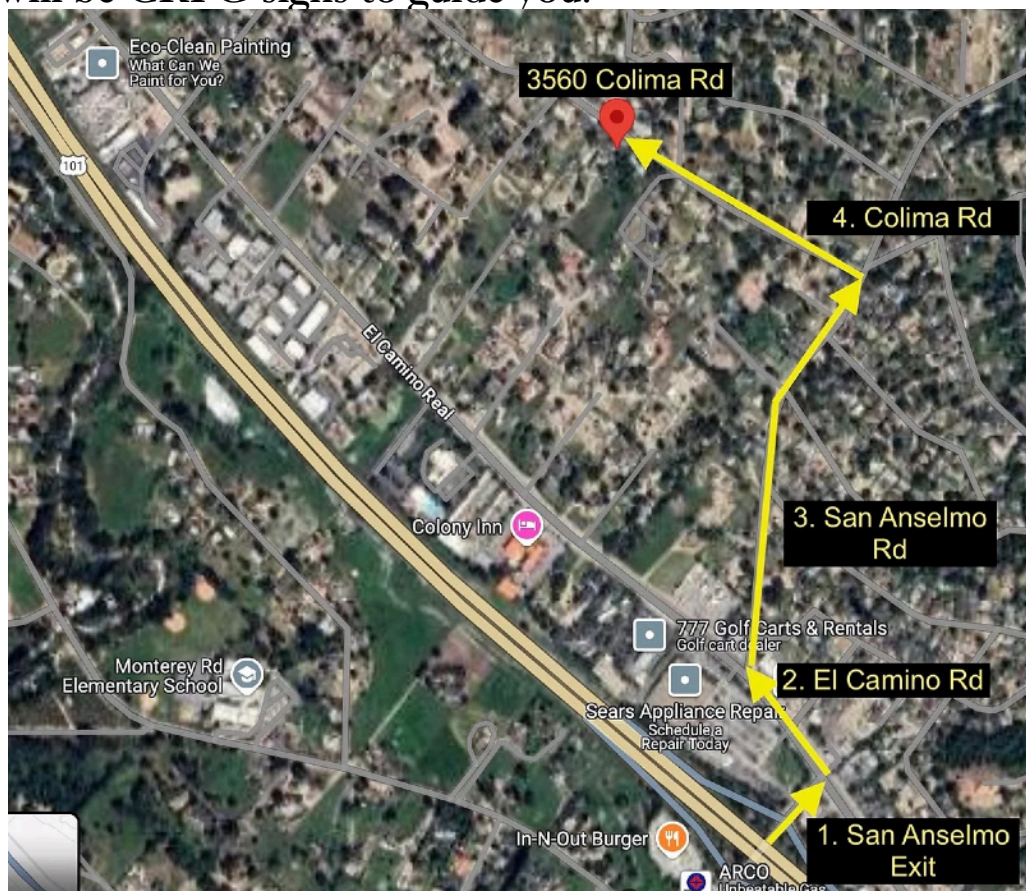
We will have signs out to help guide you.

#### Directions:

1. Take Hwy 101 to Atascadero.
2. Take the "San Anselmo" exit, and head north-east.
3. Turn left onto El Camino Rd.
4. Turn right onto San Anselmo Rd.
5. Turn left onto Colima Road. Park along the road near 3560 Colima Rd. **Please be respectful of the neighbors' mailboxes and driveways.**

## *Parking for August Meeting:*

There will be CRFG signs to guide you.



## *Our Best CRFG Manners While Visiting Homes, Nurseries, Growers, etc.*

1. We never bring pets to meetings/tours and we never even ask if we may!
2. We do our best to use public facilities or our own restroom before the meeting.
3. We do our best not to ask to go inside the hosts' home.
4. We never pick fruit, flowers, foliage, weeds, seed pods and we never even ask.
5. We do our best to car pool and park with great respect to our host and the neighborhood.
6. We never talk when our host is talking. We do our best to stay up close when given a tour.
7. We never "take over" the tour and tell everyone how we do it at our home!!
8. We have thoughtful questions but try not to ask questions that embarrass our host.
9. We do our best to help our host feel good, feel appreciated. We clean up our mess.
10. We stay on the path, with our host ...and never go walking around on our own unless given permission by the host.
11. At the end of the tour, we make a special effort to thank the host. We "gather up" and have some sort of "closure" to the tour.
12. We even write thank you notes when we get home, especially if we asked a lot of questions, were impressed, were surprised, were treated well. We write thank you notes even when we are not the leader.



## *August Meeting Information:*

### Things Worth Growing, Shasta Palmer Bio and Property Information

We have 2 acres in Atascadero. Around 7 years ago I started towards the goal of 365 days a year of fruit and vegetables on site. I still haven't achieved this goal yet, but hopefully will someday. Many of the varieties we have will not be producing for another 3-5 years, but we do have a few things up to 7 years old. I have a terrible habit of planting things far too close, so there may be some kerfuffling over that, but try as I might I just can't seem to help myself. The last count I had was over 100 varieties of perennial edibles. Some of things that are growing (but may just be a year or two old) are: chocolate sapote, white sapote, citrus (over 10 varieties easily), avocados, dragon fruit, ice cream bean trees, blue sausage tree, currants (red, white, black, pink and golden), mulberries, apples, peaches, pears, plums, nectarines, cherries, feijoa, Himalayan Chocolate Berry, honey berries, blueberries, raspberries (red, gold, purple), blackberries, boysenberries, service berries, figs, paw paws, edible bamboo, strawberry tree, strawberry guava, lingonberry, wintergreen berries, pepino, asian pears, chee fruit, loquat, pistachio, pecan, walnut, almond, hazelnut, chestnuts, macadamia, persimmon tree, passion fruit (purple and the sweet green pulp variety), white walnut (butternut), hickory nut, grapes, jujubee, gooseberries, guamuchil, cherimoya, kiwis (cold hardy, fuzzy and trying arctic this year), olives,

pomegranates, autumn olives, blue lilly pilly and cactus fruit (prickly pear and apple cactus).

Things I'm trying to graft and/or add this year are hawthorn, mayhaw, medlar, and service tree.



Orchard - Photo by Shasta Palmer



## July Meeting Notes

By Terri Monell.

Our meeting this month was a fruit tasting meeting with two grafting demonstrations. Lots of fruit was brought by many for all to taste. Varieties of oranges, sweet limes, plums, dried figs, dates, cactus, apriums, olala berries, loquats, physalis, macadamia nuts and more. This meeting was open to the public and there were store items for sale as well like bird netting, pruners, grafting knives, bird scare tape, grafting tape, NoCry gloves and tree tags. In addition, there were plants and trees for sale and garlic too. Approximately 45 people were in attendance.

Larry Hollis demonstrated how to do bark grafting on several large branches of a white sapote tree in the CRFG orchard with some yellow sapote scion, etc. He had a variety of scion that was grafted and labeled and Larry is hoping that the weather will be kind enough for the grafts to take.

Manny Magaña demonstrated grafting loquat scion onto an existing quince tree in the orchard. Grafting loquat trees to quince rootstock can help them adapt to different soil types because quince rootstocks are less sensitive to salinity and asphyxia than loquat roots. Grafting can also help loquat trees grow in colder climates, as loquats typically grow in tropical and subtropical regions, and this also dwarfs the loquat.

The next CRFG-SLO chapter meeting will be on Saturday, August 10, 2024 at Things That Grow in Atascadero with Shasta Palmer on her two acre piece of property with a wide variety of vegetables and fruit trees, some of which are in their very early years of growth.

## July Meeting Photos



Entering the demonstration orchard - Photo by Erica Williams



Tasting table - Photo by Dara Manker



Larry H. Discusses bark grafting - Photo by Jenny Weaver

Photos continued on Page 11



# CRFG Demonstration Orchard Workday - Saturday, July 6th, 2024

Article and Photos by Dara Manker

A group of volunteers helped spruce up the CRFG Orchard in preparation for our annual fruit tasting meeting that was to be held there the following weekend. We had 14 people show up despite the forecast that it would be a very hot day.

During our 3 hours there we accomplished the following:

- Tackled a large pile of wood chips requested by orchard co-manager Jesse and delivered to us by Cal Poly. With shovels, pitchforks and wheelbarrows, we distributed the load across the back section of the orchard.
- Potted 30 rootstock in 1 gallon pots.
- Brought down the height of many trees via summer pruning.
- Got rid of weeds around many of the small fenced trees.
- Cleaned up the potting area under the Sycamore tree.

*A big thank you to all volunteers from orchard co-managers Manny, Jesse, and Dara!*





# You Can Still Buy Rootstock, And It's Already Been Potted For You!

Send your purchase request to Manny:  
mannym25@gmail.com

Please include your full name, phone number, and type and quantity of rootstock.

Price: \$5/potted rootstock.

## Apple: M.7 EMLA

Semi-dwarf rootstock, Produces trees about 50-60% of standard. Good resistance to collar rot and fireblight and adapts well to a wide range of soil types and climates. Has a tendency to sucker.

## Sweet Cherry: Prunus avium, "Mazzard"

The most-common standard-size sweet-cherry rootstock. Produces a very vigorous tree with good anchorage. Some tolerance to root fungus. Will grow on a wide range of soils.

Plum/Apricot:

## Prunus Marianna 2624

Compatible with plums, apricots, some almonds. Not compatible with peaches and nectarines. Produces a semi-dwarf tree well adapted to many different soil types. Can be shallow rooted the first couple years and susceptible to leaning until established so staking may be necessary. Somewhat prone to suckering. Tolerates wet soils. Resistant to root knot nematodes, lightly resistant to phytophthora, but prone to bacterial canker.

## Prunus mariana GF 8-1

Produces a standard sized tree (10 – 15 ft). Is very robust and adapts to all types of soil. Mariana produces good crops of plums, but doesn't anchor well when it is young and tends to produce root suckers. It resists root knot nematodes, root asphyxia, oak root fungus, crown gall, and prune brown line, but is susceptible to bacterial cankers.



Rootstock ready for sale - Photo by Dara Manker



## Rare Plants for Sale!

Our club was fortunate enough to receive donations of unique plants from Jack Swords, Seth McMillan, Manny Magaña, and Bob Simola that are now being offered for sale to our members! Sales from these plants will help the club provide more scholarship opportunities!

Send your purchase request to Manny: [mannym25@gmail.com](mailto:mannym25@gmail.com)  
Please include your full name, phone number, and type and quantity of plant requested.

If you have some rare plants that you would like to contribute to the club, please reach out! Any and all donations are appreciated and sales go to a good cause!

Plant	Quantity Available	Pot Size	Price
Yellow Sapote	2	1 gallon	\$5
Yellow Fig	1	1 gallon	\$5
White Sapote	2	4" Tree Pot	\$5
White Sapote	7	1 gallon	\$5
Pomegranate DPUM 132 Sambarskii	2	1 gallon	\$5
Pomegranate DPUN 139 MYAG R.	6	1 gallon	\$5
Lucuma	2	1 gallon	\$5
Capulin Mexican Cherry	6	1 gallon	\$5
Fig - Mystery Variety	2	1 gallon	\$5
Surinam Cherry	2	1 gallon	\$5
Surinam Cherry	6	5 gallon	\$10
Grape NY7616	1	1 gallon	\$5
Grape DVIT 1047 Psarotherico	1	2 gallon	\$10
Grape DVIT 106 Veronese	1	2 gallon	\$10
Dragon Fruit	4	1 gallon	\$5
Cherry of the Rio Grande	16	1 gallon	\$5
Cherry of the Rio Grande	6	5 gallon	\$10
Pitangatuba	3	1 gallon	\$5
Strawberry Guava	1	1 gallon	\$5
Alpine Strawberry growing with an Apple Rootstock	1	1 gallon	\$5
Macadamia	9	1 gallon	\$5
Macadamia	1	5 gallon	\$10
White Mulberry	1	1 gallon	\$5
White Mulberry	4	5 gallon	\$10
Jaboticaba Sabara (black)	7	4"	\$5
Jaboticaba Sabara (black)	2	2 gallon	\$10
Fuji Apple	1	1 gallon	\$5
Cassava	1	1 gallon	\$5
Cherimoya	60	4"	\$5
Cherimoya	3	1 gallon	\$5
Mint	2	4"	\$5
Guabiju	5	4"	\$5
Blackberry	4	1 gallon	\$5
Cape Gooseberry	2	4"	\$5
Cape Gooseberry	1	1 gallon	\$5

## Pheromone Loops and Scion Store Items Still Available!

If you missed the scion store or realized you forgot something, now is your chance to get it before it is gone!

Here is what is still available:

Bird netting 35x50 ft extra heavy grade Raschel knitted \$80

Bird netting 17x100 ft medium black and white netting \$70

Pruners \$15

Budding knives \$15

Green grafting tape \$2

Aluminum tree tags \$4/10ct.

Pheromone loops have arrived! Codling moths are key pests of apples and pears. Pheromone loops deceive the male moth, thereby helping to disrupt the mating cycle. Place 2 to 3 loops in the top third of your apple and pear trees. Petals should be about 90% off and small fruit setting before you loop your trees!

Please contact Terri Monell at 805-546-8981 if interested or you have questions. Pick up is in SLO.

### A Request from Terri:

CRFG and friends,

If you have been collecting, or are willing to start collecting, the plastic sleeves that come with the hard copy newspapers, I would greatly appreciate them and your efforts saving them. These plastic sleeves are a perfect length and size for the pheromone loops that I sell to the masses. Bring them to any meeting or contact me if you are willing to drop them off at my home.

Reduce-Reuse-Recycle-Repurpose!

That is my motto!

Kindly,

Terri Monell





# Upcoming Plant Festivities

## Land Conservancy SLO

### Invasive Plant Removal

**When:** The second Wednesday of each month at 9 AM.

**Where:** The Pismo Preserve.

The LCSLO staff helps you identify invasive species and will teach best practices on removal.

Make sure you fill out the waiver before you arrive:  
<https://app.waiverforever.com/pending/DoRJ5BynRS1697822715>

Click here to see more volunteer opportunities:  
<https://lcslo.org/volunteer/>

## Master Gardeners' Events

ATGB: Open Garden Day

**When:** July 20, 2024 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
 Garden of the Seven Sisters

**Where:** 2156 Sierra Way  
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

**Contact:** [anrmgslo@ucanr.edu](mailto:anrmgslo@ucanr.edu)

**Sponsor:** UC Master Gardeners of San Luis Obispo County

**Details:**

On July 20th, The Garden of the Seven Sisters will be open to all! Join us for a variety of events including:

- Create Your Own Mini Succulent Garden
- Fruit Tree Pruning Demo
- Helpline Plant and Pest Clinic
- Tours of the Demo Garden
- Plant Sale
- And more!

2156 Sierra Way San Luis Obispo CA

Register here: <https://ucanr.edu/opengardenday24>

## Los Osos Library Plant Swap

**When:** Sat. July 27<sup>th</sup>, 10am-4pm.

All ages and plants welcome!

Bring in any plants, cuttings, starts and pots you'd like to share; then take home a new plant for yourself. Don't have a plant to share? We'll have extras, so come anyway! Also, check out our seed library while you're here to inspire your gardening.

## July Library Events



County of SLO  
 Public Libraries  
 BIBLIOTECAS PÚBLICAS  
[WWW.SLOLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.SLOLIBRARY.ORG)

### KIDS & TEENS

#### Los Osos Library

Nintendo Switch  
 Fri 7/5 @ 2:30-4:30  
 Bilingual Family Concert w/ Nathalia  
 Thurs 7/11 @ 10:30-11:30  
 Electronics 101  
 Fri 7/12 @ 2:00-3:30  
 Instrument Petting Zoo  
 Fri 7/19 @ 3:00-4:00

Pokémon Party  
 Fri 7/26 @ 2:30-4:30  
 Plant Swap \*FOR ALL AGES\*  
 Sat 7/27 @ 10:00-4:00

Teen Notebook Making  
 Sat 7/27 @ 2:00-3:00

Teen Advisory Board  
 Sat 7/27 @ 3:00-4:00

#### Morro Bay Library

Nintendo Switch  
 Weds 7/3 & 7/31 @ 3:00-5:00

Sensory Playtime  
 Sat 7/6 @ 10:00-11:00

Pokémon Party  
 Weds 7/10 @ 3:00-5:00

Legos  
 Weds 7/17 @ 3:00-5:00

Instrument Petting Zoo  
 Weds 7/24 @ 3:00-4:00



### STORYTIMES

Los Osos Library | Thursdays @ 10:30  
 Morro Bay Library | Tuesdays @ 10:30

### READ TO A DOG

Los Osos Library | Wednesdays @ 3:15  
 Morro Bay Library | Wednesdays @ 3:30

### ADULTS

#### Los Osos Library

E-devices Class  
 Wednesdays @ 9:15-10:00  
 Floral Clay Pot Painting  
 Weds 7/10 @ 10:30-12:30  
 Empower Yoga  
 Weds 7/10-7/31 @ 6:00-7:00  
 Read Together  
 Thurs 7/11 @ 5:30-6:45  
 Flower Hammering Craft  
 Sat 7/13 @ 10:30-11:30  
 Book Discussion  
 Thurs 7/18 @ 5:30-6:45

#### Morro Bay Library

Book Group  
 Weds 7/3 @ 10:00-12:00  
 Collage Boxes Craft  
 Weds 7/10 @ 10:30-12:00  
 Flower Hammering Craft  
 Sat 7/13 @ 1:30-2:30  
 Board Game "Night"  
 Thurs 7/18 @ 1:00-4:00

**Do you know of any upcoming plant related events?**

Submit them to the newsletter for them to be including in the next edition!

[CRFGCCNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CRFGCCNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM)

## Article Submissions

### More on Bark Grafting

Article and Photos by Larry Hollis

Bark grafting is often used to convert an orchard of mature trees from one cultivar to another without tearing out the trees and replanting. The existing trees are "stumped" or cut down, leaving the stump or the stumps of the scaffold branches, then scions of the desired cultivar are grafted onto those stumps. For instance when Hass avocados became desirable, the previously preferred Fuerte trees were grafted with Hass scions. With proper care the trees will grow back and be in production in three years, less than half the time required to replant the orchard with young trees. You can see an example of this in a Cal Poly avocado grove facing Hwy. 1 (see picture next page) just west of the Highland entrance to Cal Poly, where you will see an orchard of white tree stumps. I don't know the details of this specific grove, but I suspect the desire is to change the avocado variety in that grove and/or to lower the canopy.

This technique can also be used on any larger tree branch when other grafting techniques might not work as well due to large differences in diameter between scion and branch/rootstock. This technique requires the bark on the receiving





tree to "slip", meaning the bark will easily separate from the wood beneath. Deciduous trees can only be bark grafted when they are actively growing and not when they are dormant and the bark won't slip.

After sawing off the branch you intend to graft, place the blade of your knife, preferably a straight not curved blade, vertically, so you can make a 1-2" inch vertical cut through the bark and down to the wood. With practice you can then twist the blade slightly and lift the bark flap on one side of the cut to provide an opening for the scion to be inserted. Prepare the scion by making a tapering cut, similar to a whip graft, about 1-2" long. The bottom end of the scion should come to a point, if it isn't quite pointed a small back cut can be made. The scion is then inserted between the loosened bark and the wood beneath, with the cut surface facing inward toward the wood of the branch. Several wraps of grafting tape are then wrapped around the branch or stump to securely hold the scion in place. A small nail can also be nailed through the scion and into the tree. The cut surfaces of the stump/branch are then coated with grafting seal or wax. If the scion is succulent or green wood it is best to wrap it with parafilm to prevent it from drying out before the graft union can form. Otherwise seal any exposed cuts in the scion.



Stumped orchard at Cal Poly SLO



## Article Submissions

### Swaar Apple: A Great Keeper

Article and Photos by Jenny Weaver

I swear the Swaar apple is a great keeper! I know because I harvested it on 10/12/23 and I enjoyed eating it on 6/27/2024. That's 8 1/2 months later!

I put one (the only one that grew last year) in a paper bag and into my refrigerator's produce drawer. The research I read said that the Swaar improves with age and after about a month in storage it would be even sweeter. The bag got pushed to the back of the drawer and forgotten about until I found it recently. At the end of June, it was a bit shriveled looking but it was still in good shape inside! It had a bit of "fridge flavor" but when it was cooked up with cinnamon and maple syrup, it was a delicious dessert.

I got the scion wood at our CRFG Scion Exchange in 2019. I was helping clean up and found a lonely scion so I took it home. It took until 2023 to produce one fruit! This year it has none. It's growing near the ocean in Pismo Beach and I am guessing that it is a high chill apple since it was originally planted in the Hudson River Valley in New York state.

Trees of Antiquity, located in Paso Robles, sells dormant Swaar Apple trees. Here's what they say about the fruit. "USDA Certified Organic"

"Dutch settlers in Hudson River Valley named this Swaar, heavy apple. The Swaar apple has flesh that's firm, fine, creamy white and dense. The Swaar apple is flavored with a spicy, sweet, rich and aromatic essence. The fruit is at its best when mellowed to sweeten in storage upwards four to six weeks. Once Swaar softens the flavors explode. The Swaar apple is one of a few late keepers that hang on the tree into winter. Downing, in 1878, referred to the Swaar as 'a truly noble American fruit and one of the finest flavored apples in America.' One of the favorites at our previous apple tastings. Please see below for further insight on our heirloom apple tree Swaar and discover additional consideration for selecting the appropriate fruit trees to buy for your home and small farm."

And here are some tips on growing it:

"USDA Zones: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Heirloom: Yes

Uses: Desserts / Pies,

Fresh Eating

Harvest Period: Late

Bloom Period: Late

Pollination Requirement:

Requires different variety with same bloom period

Origin Date: New York 1700's

Storage: 3-6 months

Rootstock: MM 111 (semi-dwarf)

Years to Bear: 2-4 years

Recommended Spacing: 10-12 ft.

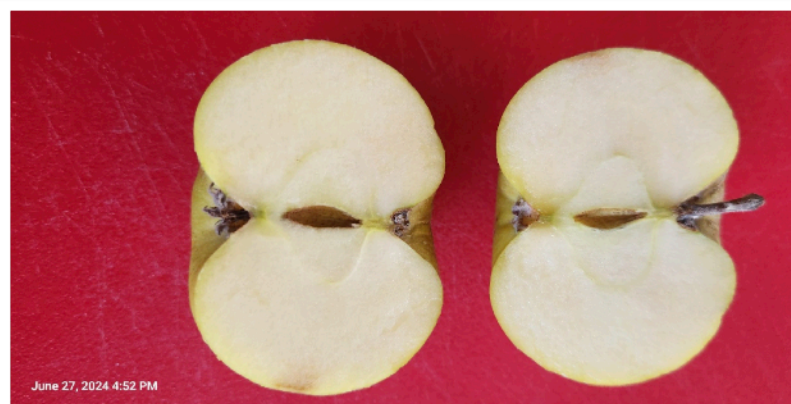
Mature Size: 12-16 ft.

Pruning: Summer prune to maintain 8 ft.

Water Requirements: 12-15 gallons per week May through Sept."

The Swaar apple was firm inside. There was only a small spot of darkening.

Continued on next page.



## Article Submissions

### Swaar Apple: A Great Keeper Continued:



I sprinkled the slices with maple syrup and cinnamon and baked them.



We enjoyed baked Swaar apple slices with walnuts for dessert 8 ½ months after our first harvest.



## July Meeting Photos



Some of the plants for sale - Photo by Erica Williams



Members and guests around the tasting table - Photo by Dara Manker



Members talking and tasting fruit - Photo by Erica Williams



## July Meeting Photos



Members visit and try fruits - Photo by Dara Manker



Marv discussing grafting - Photo by Jenny Weaver



Larry H. Cutting bark during grafting demonstration -  
Photo by Jenny Weaver



## July Meeting Photos



Plants for sale - Photo by Dara Manker



Larry H. Finished bark grafts - Photo by Jenny Weaver



Nell handling the plant sales - Photo by Dara Manker



## July Meeting Photos



Manny kicks off the meeting - Photo by Dara Manker



Larry H.'s Grafting demonstration - Photo by Erica Williams



## July Meeting Photos



Members visit - Photo by Erica Williams



Nell, Gabrielle, and Elaine smile for the camera - Photo by Erica Williams



Larry H.'s grafting demo - Photo by Erica Williams



## July Meeting Photos



Manny's grafting demonstration - Photo by Erica Williams



Manny's grafting demonstration - Photo by Erica Williams



Members visiting - Photo by Erica Williams