



## EPI NEWS

the monthly newsletter of

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY, INC.

April 8, 1987  
Vol. 11, No. 4

### SHOW AMONG TOPICS AT APRIL MEETING

The April 8th General Meeting of the San Diego Epiphyllum Society will feature three of our members speaking and answering questions about three important topics.

Dorothy Breining, our Vice President in charge of the Mother's Day Epi Show will discuss the May 10th event.

Dick Chadwick will demonstrate how to make cuttings. Dick is in charge of the cutting area at the upcoming show and he will have information about the sale and how you can participate.

Rick Latimer, our Program Vice President, will share some potting techniques.

The April 8th meeting will also serve as a clearinghouse for all your questions about the many SDES events this blooming season. Many committee chairpersons will have sign-up sheets and information about exact times, etc. See you there!

### San Diego Epiphyllum Society's Mother's Day Show

#### "South Pacific"

Sunday, May 10, 1987  
10:30am to 4:00pm  
Majorca Room,  
Casa del Prado,  
Balboa Park

CUTTINGS AVAILABLE



### OPEN GARDENS TOUR BECOMES A CARAVAN

Plan now to join us Saturday, May 23rd for a day of beautiful flowers, beautiful gardens and good food.

Fill your car with Society members and join the caravan to 5 gardens. We will visit gardens in Point Loma, South Bay and La Mesa. We will have a continental breakfast at the first garden, lunch at the third garden, dessert at the fourth garden and wine and cheese at the last stop.

Plan now. Reservations will be required, although the tour will be free. The gardens that are to be visited will only be open that day at the designated time.

Call Kathie vanArum at 477-5258 for more information and be sure to read all the details in the May issue of Epi News.

-Kathie vanArum



### EASTER CACTUS AVAILABLE

Cutting table chair Charlie Coons reports that he will have select Easter Cactus cuttings at the April 8th General Meeting.

## AT THE MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Thanks to Tineke Wilders for the fine program she gave at the March 11th, General Meeting.

Tineke is a joy to listen to. Her slides were beautiful, her commentary knowledgeable and articulate.

Tineke focused on the Longwood Botanical Gardens in Philadelphia and the gardens of garden writer Rob Herwig in the Netherlands.

The slides of Mr. Herwigs gardens provided members with a special treat. Not only is Tineke one of the few photographers allowed in Mr. Herwigs plantings, SDES saw the North American premier of these slides.

It was quite a night. Members saw orchid rooms, red and orange gardens, fountains, ponds, a complete pink garden, a grey and white one and so on. It boggles the mind.

Members were saddened by the news of the death of Blendina Boyle's mother on March 11th.

- Gene Schmedding  
( with Sean Minogue)

## NOW IS THE TIME

It's spring cleaning time in the garden. Start by removing dead or unsightly branches. Check containers and remove any debris.

Opinions are divided on this, but, surely one more dose of HI-BLOOM type fertilizer wouldn't hurt.

Aphids are more active now and you should watch closely for these pests on your epis. You'll find they love to eat the old buds.

Keep up the snail patrol, snails/slugs become less active as the air grows warmer and drier.

Check your plants often to help determine the proper watering schedule. An occasional misting may be just the answer as weather gets warmer.

- Sean Minogue



## Botanical Events

April 11th and 12th

San Diego Rose Society 60th Show  
Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park  
Saturday 2pm-6pm, Sunday 10am-5:30p  
Admission \$1.50

Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club  
"Fiesta de las Flores" show and sale  
Avenida Acacias and La Granada Sts.  
Saturday 1p-5p, Sunday 10a-5p  
FREE

April 18th and 19th

Exotic Plant Society 9th Show  
CdP/101  
Saturday and Sunday 11a-4:30p

April 25th and 26th

San Diego-Imperial Counties Iris Soc'y.  
22nd annual show  
CdP/101  
Saturday 12:30p-5p, Sunday 11a-5p

May 2nd and 3rd

San Diego Bonsai Club 22nd Show  
CdP/101  
Saturday and Sunday 11a-5p

Quail Gardens Sale  
Quail Gardens, County Botanical Park  
SUNDAY ONLY 10am to closing  
(arrive early for this one)

YUM YUM !!!!!!!



We do have several people signed up for April Goodies. Thanks to all those that made special green treats for March. Remember, I try to have both tables with the same goodies thereon. I hope all approve.

Those signed up for April are:  
Michele Davis                      Lee Holcombe  
The Ogdons                         Elsie Raphael  
   Nita Stroberger

Thanks-Penny Bunker

## SCALE INSECTS

Epiphyllum offer the perfect environment for scale insects, a group of pests that can cause major destruction.

Several different species of scale insects plague California gardens. A review of their common traits and a carefully applied program of control will help us protect our plants from scale damage.

Scale eggs hatch into tiny creatures called "crawlers". These immature scales are mobile, able to walk about on plant surfaces. During this stage scales can be blown by the slightest breeze or inadvertently be transferred from plant to plant by man or other animals.

A few days after landing on a plant the crawlers insert their mouthparts into the plant and withdraw vital juices. Some species secrete toxins into the plant while feeding.

Once the scale has attached itself to the plant most species lose the use of their legs and remain in the same spot for the rest of their lives.

It is because of this trait that scale insects can be difficult to discover until their populations reach dangerous levels. Early detection is further hampered by the small size of the insects during their juvenile "crawler" stage.

Often the first sign of scale insect infestation is the presence of honeydew, a sweet sticky substance excreted by some scale species (also by aphids, mealybugs and whiteflies). Honeydew will drip to lower foliage and become blackened by fungi called sooty molds. (Sooty molds do little direct harm to plants.)

If the infestation is small it may be possible to avoid the use of sprays. Remove the scales by hand and make a periodic (every three weeks) inspection of the infested plant and its neighbors. A 10X magnifying lens will be helpful in locating the crawlers. Spray may not be necessary unless the number of scales increases.

If your plant has many scales, if any parts of the plant look unhealthy or if there are large quantities of honeydew or sooty mold present,

serious control measures should be initiated.

During the plants' dormant period many scales can be controlled with a single application of spray oil, either alone or in combination with an insecticide like carbaryl (Sevin), malathion or diazinon. Oil combined with an insecticide often has increased effectiveness, but this solution should not be applied after new buds begin to swell.

During the growing season more detailed information is required and the control measures become more involved.

Closely examine your infested plant. Keep in mind that some scale form a protective "armor" coating shortly after the crawlers settle which is quite resistant to sprays.

If the crawlers are seen, wait several weeks before spraying. If scales are attached but still small spray at once. If adult scales are present remove them or break them open with a knife or tweezers, shake them over a sheet of paper to catch any eggs, then apply an insecticide spray.

Because of the differences between the various scale species and the potential for overlapping generations it may be necessary to apply multiple sprays (one spray every three weeks until three sprays have been applied).

Carbaryl, malathion and diazinon can be safely used on most ornamental plants. Epi lovers seem to feel safest about malathion.

### USE OF SPRAY OILS

In addition to any label warnings and instructions, users of spray oils should consider the following...

1. Only petroleum oils specifically made for use on plants should be used.
2. Improperly used oils may injure plants.
3. Some oils should not be used during the growing season.
4. Many spray oils will damage conifers.
5. Oils should not be used...
  - a. on plants suffering water stress
  - b. when temperatures are above 85F or under 45F
  - c. within 30 days (before or after) application of sulfur

-Sean Minogue

## SOUTH PACIFIC


To reserve your table, contact Dorothy Breining or Ernest Angus at the next meeting.

There are still a few tables available and we don't want anyone to miss out. This is always a fun day for all of us and it's also a good chance to get better acquainted with club members. There will be a potluck at noon for the workers and exhibitors. For those of you who plan to exhibit, but have never done so before, please see me or Jeannie Burger about your exhibitor's tag.

If you would like to help at the show, we need Hosts and Hostesses, helpers for K. P. (see Vernon Hook about this) We also need cuttings-- lots of them. Dick Chadwick is in charge of the cutting area. Cuttings should be marked with the name of the plant as well as the color. Please remember to bring cuttings that you would be willing to buy.

- Dorothy Breining

**HELP !!!**



SDES needs a filing cabinet to house its records. If you have one in your attic or garage contact a Board member.

## SD/WAP WORK PARTY

A work party was held at the San Diego Wild Animal Park on Saturday March 21st. Those attending were...

George Plaisted  
George French  
Pat Barret  
Rick Latimer  
Charlie Coons  
Elinor Latimer  
Dick Chadwick

A good hardworking team. They made the inventory of all the plants in the large epiphyllum house, trimmed the plants and made new name tags.

Thanks for all the help.

-Dick Chadwick

## EDITORIAL

At the April 8th General Meeting Dick Chadwick will tell you where and when to bring your donated cuttings for the sales at the Mother's Day show. Dick undoubtedly will say "please" and "thank you" and phrase his request in a very diplomatic way.

Here are the nuts and bolts about cutting sales and you. Simply put, our society could not exist with out your generous support through the donation of your cuttings to our Mother's Day sale. Nearly half of the SDES operating budget for the year is raised at this one day event.

All of our programs, all of our events depend on the revenues generated by the sale of your carefully labeled epi cuttings and potted plants.

So I too will be diplomatic and courteous as well, but perhaps more urgent than Dick will be on Wednesday night.

PLEASE, in the next few weeks spend a few hours with your clippers in one hand and your marking pen in the other. Go to your FAVORITE PLANTS and cut all you can.

PLEASE, in the next few weeks, tell all your friends about our beautiful Mother's Day show. Get a copy of our flier and put it up at a neighborhood store, or some other place WHERE IT WILL BE SEEN.

Then PLEASE, get ready for some hard work and volunteer to help on Mother's Day or at any of the other events listed in this issue. This year SDES has events in nearly every corner of the county, your help is needed.

Finally, PLEASE attend as many of the events as possible, enjoy the flowers and the friends, share the joy of our flowers with the many people who will discover epis this spring.

THANK YOU for your continued support.

-Sean Minogue



## SPRING 1987 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

### APRIL 24th, 25th & 26th TWIN EVENTS

San Diego Home/Garden Magazine  
2nd Annual Spring Show  
Pat O'Brien Pavillion,  
Del Mar Fairgrounds  
Admission \$5.00

SDES will have booth with blossoms,  
plants and literature staffed by  
members. Milt Turner will have  
information about hours, worker  
passes and more at the April 8th  
SDES meeting. Sign up to work then.

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Coronado Floral Association  
62nd Annual Flower and Garden Show  
Spreckles Park, Coronado  
Admission \$1.50 (children \$.25)  
Saturday 1pm to 5pm, Sunday 10 to 4

SDES will have display with blooms  
and literature. Mr. and Mrs. George  
Watson are coordinating this event  
and will have sign-up sheets and  
details at the April 8th meeting.

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### MAY 2nd and 3rd

San Diego Wild Animal Park  
Epiphyllum and Fuschia Show  
Nairobi Village, SD WAP  
Admission free with park entrance  
Saturday and Sunday 9am to closing

SDES and the local branch of the  
Nat'l Fuschia Society join for this  
tribute to flowers. SDES members will  
have display tables, SDES will have  
information and organize cutting  
sales to benefit the park. Our annual  
pot luck will be Saturday afternoon  
at the Epi House. Sign up at April 8  
meeting. Workers are admitted to  
park free of charge. Setup displays

Friday (all day) or Saturday morning. Use  
security entrance at rear. Saturday set-  
up 7:00am to 9:00am (cars must be off  
grounds by 9 sharp.)

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### MAY 9th and 10th A new show, a huge show

Mira Mesa Mall's  
Mother's Day Flower and Garden Show  
Mira Mesa Mall, 8150 F Mira Mesa Blvd.  
FREE

SDES will participate in this show for the  
first time. Details on April 8, contact Milt  
Turner.

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY'S  
MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SHOW  
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
Theme "SOUTH PACIFIC"  
Sunday 10:30am to 4pm

The biggest and the best. Plant and  
cutting sales all day, details about setup  
and table availability at April 8th meeting.

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### May 13th

SDES General Meeting MINI-SHOW  
CdP/101 7:30pm

Rick Latimer will have details about the  
mini-show at the April 8th General Meeting.

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### MAY 17th

EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY of AMERICA ANNUAL SHOW  
Los Angeles State and County Arboretum,  
Arcadia, California  
Another beautiful tribute to Epis. SDES  
members will participate in the SDES  
efforts or display as ESA members.  
Contact Milt Turner on the 8th of April.

SDES BUS TOUR '87  
SUNDAY May 17th

If you were a bus load of Epi Lovers, in the L.A. area the day of the ESA show, where would you go? If you guessed the Arboretum you are correct. But where else? Many surprise additions this year to our bus tour. Milt Turner will have details at the April 8th meeting. You will be able to sign up then.

\*\*\*\*\*

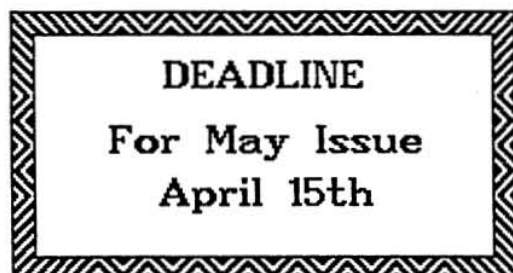
SDES OPEN GARDEN TOUR "Epi Caravan"  
SATURDAY May 23rd  
( See article on front page.)  
Changes afoot for the annual open garden event. This year a structured tour will delight with Epi and fine eating. Kathie vanArum will have detail about locations and the very special visiting times on April 8th.

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SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY'S  
1st Annual Show  
SUNDAY MAY 24th  
South Coast Botanical Gardens  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Palos Verdes Peninsula  
Oh, that South Bay. Epi lovers now have another opportunity to share their flowers and plants. The newest epi group has ambitious plans for their first show and SDES will participate. Milt Turner will have information about this show April 8th.

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SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN  
FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL SALE  
SATURDAY and SUNDAY, MAY 30 & 31  
Courtyard, Casa del Prado, Balboa Pk.  
This annual event features all sorts of exotic and unusual plants for sale. SDES offers cuttings, plants, a small flower display and plenty of SDES members sharing enthusiasm and know-how. Sign up at the May General Meeting.



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## EASTER CACTI ON DISPLAY DURING APRIL AND MAY !

SDES member Leo Kihm will present a display of blooming Easter Cacti in the glasshouse in Nairobi Village at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. Exact starting date will be determined by Mother Nature but the display is expected to open Mid-April and run through Mother's Day.

Leo is internationally recognized as a leading Easter Cacti hobbyist and his past displays at the SDWAP and SDES Mother's Day shows have always recieved much attention. Don't miss it this year. Exact dates will be announced.

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### WORKSHOPS PLANNED FOR LATE SPRING

SDES Education and Research Committee members Sean Minogue and Helen Barkdoll have plans for two "Show and Do" type workshops to be held later this Spring.

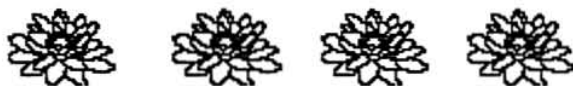
The workshops will cater to beginners as well as veteran epi growers. One will address such topics potting soils, general epi culture and propagation. The other workshop will be geared to more advanced subjects such as grafting, pollenating and seed propagation.

Dates will be announced in May for these events.

( ADVERTISEMENT ).

**RAINBOW GARDENS NURSERY AND BOOKSHOP**, 1574 E. Dorothea Rd., La Habra Heights (Phone: 213/697-1488) We're going to have an **ABUNDANT** blooming season this year and all are invited! Come see our blooms and while you're here, take a look at our thousands of potted plants for sale, 3"-1 gallon sized potted plants ( \$2.00-\$10.00). We also have walk-in specials, including potting mix, fertilizers, epiphyllum books, and stationery. We're open every Saturday and Sunday in April and May **WITHOUT AN APPOINTMENT** 9:00 a.m.- 4:30p.m. (all other times, it's best to call first to make sure we're around).

To those who can't make it, our color catalog is still \$1.00 (refundable). Send to **RAINBOW GARDENS**, Box 721-SD, La Habra, CA 90633-0721. Thank you. Chuch Everson // Jerry Williams  
Rainbow Gardens



**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY/WORKSHOP**  
**APRIL 18TH, 1:00 P.M.**  
**808 ETHEL PLACE, NATIONAL CITY**

Sean Minogue will be hosting a photo opportunity and botanical photography workshop at his home in National City, Saturday April 18th at 1:00 p.m. The event is open to members of SDES, San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society and the local chapter of the U.C. Extension Master Gardeners.

The purpose of the workshop will be to offer an introduction to set-up, lighting and composition of plant and floral studies. Instructions and demonstrations will be given by noted art photographer Joseph Janes.

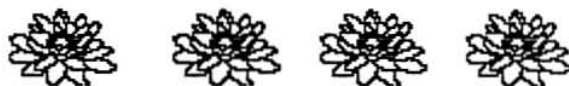
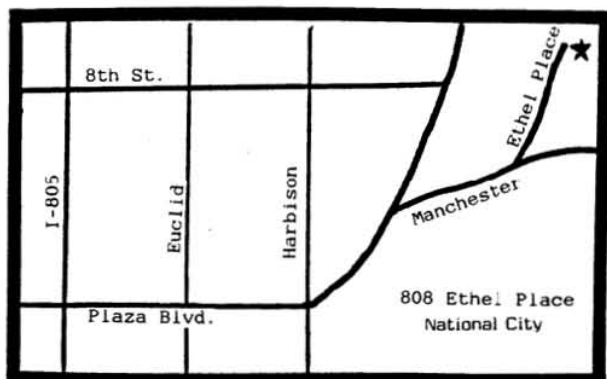
Along with John Noble, scenic designer for Noble Design and Set Construction, Mr. Janes will help participants to combine their favorite plants and flowers into beautiful photographs. Noble Design will supply backdrops, pedestals, fabrics and some lighting equipment.

Those attending should bring a camera, plenty of film and a tripod (if you have one). They should also bring **ANY** plants or blossoms

they would like to photograph.

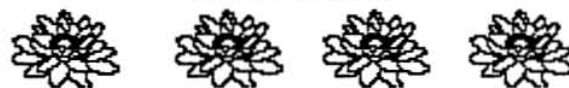
For more information please call Sean Minogue, 475-4478.

Map not to scale, some streets omitted.  
Top of hill, end of cul-de-sac.



**CALIFORNIA EPI CENTER** will be open Saturdays **ONLY** 10:00 to 5:00 during April, May and June. If you'd like to come at another time, please call for an appointment. If we're here, you're welcome to come by. All of the plants and cuttings offered in our catalog are available at the nursery **AND** we have a large selection of epi baskets, many in bud, at reasonable prices (\$6.00 and up). Our all new **FULL COLOR 1987 "Flowering Jungle Cactus"** catalog is \$2.00(refundable). We've also increased the catalog size substantially to 48 pages, 174 photos and 542 plants...and it includes epiphyllums, Christmas/Easter/Rattail Cacti, rhipsalis, night blooming jungle cacti, hoyas, haworthias and more. Wholesale is available to dealers. Please send wholesale inquiries on nursery letterhead and include nursery number and resale number. California Epi Center, Box 1431-SDES, 1444 E. Taylor St., Vista, CA 92083. (619) 758-4290.

(ADVERTISEMENT)



**NEXT MONTH IN EPI NEWS !**  
**OXYGEN, HYDROGEN AND CARBON**  
**AND YOUR PLANTS**  
**EPI NEWS APRIL 8, 1987 PAGE 7**

A HELPFUL HINT  
FROM DICK CHADWICK

Last summer I had a problem with thrips in my "Birdnest Fern". Finding something to kill the thrips and not the fern was quite a problem.

Finally I was advised to try "Cokes" brand malathion. I tried it on the "Birdsnest Fern" with good results, then I tried it on the "Maidenshair" fern, polystichum and polypodium ferns with excellent results and no damage to the ferns.

Apparently it is the carrier used in "Cokes" malathion that makes it safe to use on the most delicate ferns.

With any new product it is wise to try a "test plant" first, note the results and if it is safe, then use it on the other plants needing treatment.

- R. J. Chadwick

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PLANS ARE MADE  
FOR CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Pat Barret has been named chair of the 1987 SDES Christmas Awards and Installation Banquet.

It may sound early but now is the time to think about this years' dinner and let Pat know any suggestions that you might have.

Pat, one of our very active newer members is anxious to hear your ideas.

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MEMBERSHIP UP  
BURGER REPORTS

Jeannie Burger, SDES Membership Secretary reports SDES membership is now at 265.

Jeannie made the report to the SDES Executive board at their March 25th meeting.

Under our current membership policy a more precise count of active epi lovers will be possible than previously available.

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NEEDED  
TO KEEP EPI NEWS  
GOING STRONG

Please send articles, ideas, comments and photos to Epi News.

The news letter can improve only through your kind efforts.

Your cultural questions can be answered by our knowledgeable panel of experts.

Let Epi News know what your needs are and how you would like to see us change.

- Sean Minogue

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

To simplify information Epi News will often use the specific brand names of products. This is not intended as an endorsement of these products over unnamed brands.

When using any chemicals label instructions must be followed. Federal and state laws as well as common sense require that great care be used in application of insecticides and fertilizers.

Always be certain that you know exactly which pests you wish to control prior to selecting any method of control.

FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS EXACTLY.

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THANKS FOR THE HELP

As you may have noticed this issue of Epi News is huge. So many folks need to be thanked.

To all who sent in articles, thanks and keep it up!

You may also have noticed that this issue looks very different. Thanks to our new computer program and all the graphics. Thanks for this go to Laura and Joe Janes. (Thanks to Laura also for the proof reading.)

Please let me know you thoughts. More changes are on the way, I hope you will continue to enjoy EPI NEWS.

- Sean Minogue

## 1987 ENCINITAS FLOWER FESTIVAL WANTS YOU

SDES members are invited to participate in the 10th Annual Encinitas Flower Festival, according to John Noble and Paul Replogle, officials of the event.

This years Flower Festival will be the first held at the new location, Moonlight State Beach. The event usually focuses on sporting events, entertainment and a parade, this year flower and botanical displays and sales are being included for the first time.

The event will be held June 6th & 7th and display and sale booths are still available.

Contact Paul at 294-4355 (days) to reserve your space.

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diluted isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) and spray your clippers when you are through with one plant, before you begin on another. Wipe the surfaces of your clippers dry with a cotton ball ( the new wave "Cosmetic Puffs" will do the job ).

Obviously sick plants should be isolated or thrown away ( put in a plastic bag and place in the trash).

- Sean Minogue

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## KEEP PESTS AWAY ? KEEP IT CLEAN.

Many pest problems can be avoided by simply keeping your potted plants and gardens clean.

Fallen leaves and other debris provide a perfect breeding ground for insects as well as plant damaging fungi.

Snails, earwigs and a host of other pests seek out these cool hiding places during the day and then at night it is a short commute to the nearest branches for dinner.

Always check around woodpiles and compost piles for large numbers of insects laying in wait to attack your epis.

### ALSO

Many plants become infected with disease by simple negligence. One easy way to avoid contaminating healthy plants is to clean your clippers each time you move from plant to plant.

Keep a spray bottle filled with

## U. C. PUBLICATIONS KEEP YOU IN THE KNOW

The University of California Cooperative Extension can provide you with just the information you need to keep your garden growing.

Contact the San Diego County Farm and Home Advisors office for more information about UC Publications. (619) 565-5376.

