OUR NATIVE PLANT NURSERY IN VALLEJO

The Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District has hosted the Jepson Chapter’s nursery since 2002. Here (yellow rectangle in photo), volunteers grow plants to sell at our semi-annual plant sales or donate to local groups. The nursery is run by the Chapter’s Horticulture Committee that is chaired by Board member Barbara Reiley.
The propagation facility occupies about 3,000 square feet. Propagation sessions occur on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 AM to Noon. Tasks typically involve:

- Planting seeds or cuttings in a growing medium;
- Stepping plants up to 4” pots and then gallon pots;
- Weeding/trimming plants;
- Sanitizing used containers prior to reuse; and
- Hikes to open spaces in Solano County to collect seeds and cuttings.
**Demonstration Barrels:** 10 half-wine barrels planted with “mother plants” border the west side of the nursery. Cuttings from these mother plants are used to propagate new plants.
**Propagation Platform:** The table on the propagation platform is used for putting seeds and cuttings in potting media and then transferred to Shade Structure 1. Potting media is stored on the platform, separated from the ground. This is Step #1 in plant propagation.
Shade Structure 1: This is where seeds and cutting are grown. The is Step #2 in plant propagation.
Shade Structure 2: This is where the plants that are stepped up to 4” containers grow. This is Step #3 in plant propagation.
Shade Structure 3: Shade-loving plants stepped up to one-gallon containers are moved to Shade Structure 3. Sun-loving plants that are stepped up to one-gallon containers are moved to adjacent plant benches open to the sun. This is Step #4 in plant propagation. The next step is taking the plants to the plant sale.
**Best Management Practices:** All tools are sanitized with alcohol. All plants are kept on plant benches a minimum 30” from the ground. We clean old soil from used containers and sanitize them with mild bleach solution before re-use.
Best Management Practices (BMPs): Plans are being prepared for a new nursery layout that will incorporate all nursery BMPs and allow the Chapter to join the Accreditation to Improve Restoration Program and attain certification for growing Phytophthora-free plants.
Come join us – contact breiley45(at)yahoo.com!