

## NEWS AND NOTES



WASTE MANAGEMENT ORANGE COUNTY

The Bagster is a new supersized trash bag that holds up to 3,300 pounds of trash, green waste or recyclables.

## More than a trash bag, less than a trash truck

By **CINDY MCNATT**  
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Chronic remodelers and enthusiastic fall gardeners might want to check out the Bagster from Waste Management Orange County. It's bigger than your everyday trash canister but smaller than a dumpster, and holds up to 3,300 pounds of trash, green waste or recyclables.

The way it works is you buy the bag at your favorite hardware store for \$29.95. Fill it, then contact WM for a pickup. Easy.

Find out how to purchase the Bagster, how to schedule a flat-fee pickup, and what you can toss in it at [thebagster.com](http://thebagster.com) or 877-789-BAGS.

### John Derian returns to Target, again

I always loved the "natural history" look of John Derian designs. And while he launched a stationery line at Target last year, this year for a limited time, as always, Target carries his decoupage accessories until Sept. 5.

The collection features up to a 100 home-related products priced under \$25. Love the bug plates.

For the latest home and garden news, go to [ocregister.com/homegarden](http://ocregister.com/homegarden).

John Derian designs nature-inspired accessories for Target.



TARGET

# Yellow is mellow in garden

Remember when yellow leaf colors meant there was something wrong with your plants? Some so-called experts still think so. I had a "tree expert" mention to me that I might have a look at my Deodar cedar — it looked a little "yellow-ish."



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I didn't tell him that it was an Aureum, which means "gold." He might have guessed. I've got yellowish plants all over my landscape, and I love them more than the burgundies and blues of other foliage plants.

Yellow, gold and chartreuse make other plants pop. Pair them with purple and you've got an eye-catching combination. Plant yellow in front of dark green, like a hedge, and it sparkles. The yellows also look quite pretty in a shady spots where darker leaves seem to disappear.

Most times, yellow foliage is achieved when breeders jump on a natural mutation. If a dark green plant sprouts a yellow leaf stem, that stem is propagated to create more yellow plants.

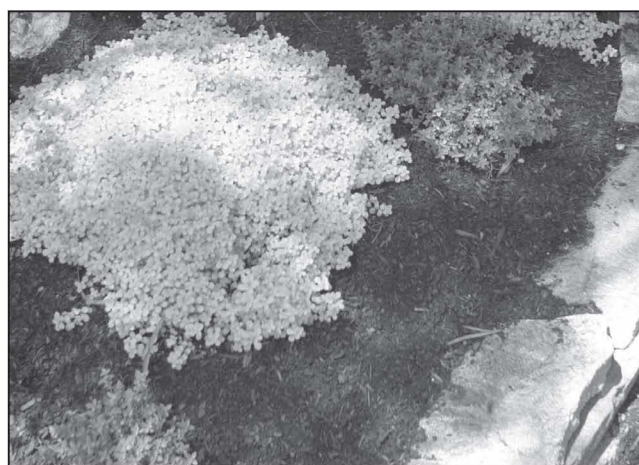
The yellow in the leaf happens when carotenoids (yellow pigments) are more predominant than chlorophyll (green), lycopene (red) or carotene (orange).

But not all light leaf foliage plants are stable. You've got to keep your eyes on them, as some will want to revert to green. If a dark green shoot is not removed, it can easily take over the entire plant because more chlorophyll (green) means the shoot will be more vigorous than the rest.



PHOTOS: CINDY MCNATT, THE REGISTER

Light green ipomea, or sweet potato vine, lightens up a shady border garden.



Golden sedum pops in a dark border space.

My golden privets are an example of shrubs that want to be dark green. Only the new growth is yellow — later in the season, the shrub grows darker. I cut it back to stumps in the winter, so only the new growth appears in spring.

Yellow and gold plants

don't make the best flowering plants because there is less photosynthesis occurring in yellow leaves, meaning less chlorophyll produced, meaning less energy. And that energy is needed to produce flowers. If flowers are your goal, choose the darker green variety or

cultivar of whatever plant you are considering.

Sometimes plants turn yellow because there is something wrong with them. Most common in our soils is chlorosis — a lack of nitrogen, magnesium, iron or all three.

Tropical and subtropical plants such as citrus, gardenia and palms turn yellow in the winter when these nutrients are locked up in cold soils and are unavailable. Chlorosis is diagnosed because the leaf is yellow, but the leaf veins remain green.

Treat these plants with a chelated iron supplement and know that once the soil warms up, they will revert to a healthy green.

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