



Ready, Set, GROW! Webinar Series

Container Gardening

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<https://nmsudesertblooms.blogspot.com/>

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Focus Areas for Today

1. Drainage
2. Soils
3. Container Types & Sizes
4. Drainage
5. Recommended Plants
6. Irrigation **and Drainage!**
7. Repotting
8. Winter Care
9. Fertilizer
10. Drainage!



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Drainage issues in various types of pots.



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Best soil mix



Find more info at

<https://www.ediblenm.com/touch-and-grow-seed-starters/>

What would you like to learn from this webinar?

- What type of container is good for what type plant?

Use large pots for large plants or combinations of small plants, small pots for dwarf flowers and vegetables.













What would you like to learn from this webinar?

- Does it matter if your container is plastic as opposed to terracotta?



What would you like to learn from this webinar?

- Is it better to keep transplanting crops to the appropriate sizes of pots or should I start with the biggest pots possible to avoid having to keep transplanting the crops?



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Is there a way to avoid using a ton of potting soil in those huge containers that are so popular?



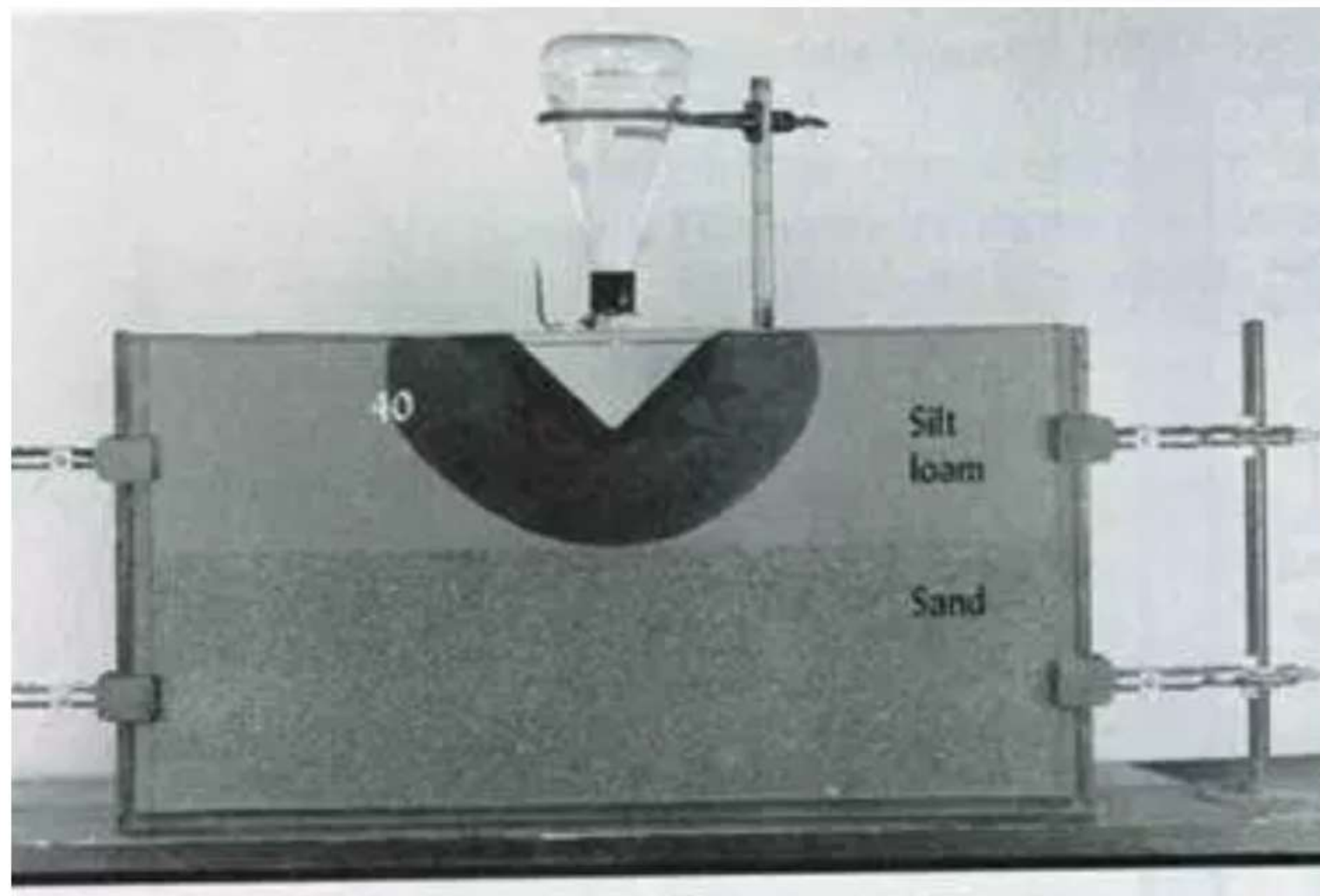
The Myth of Drainage Material in Container Plantings:

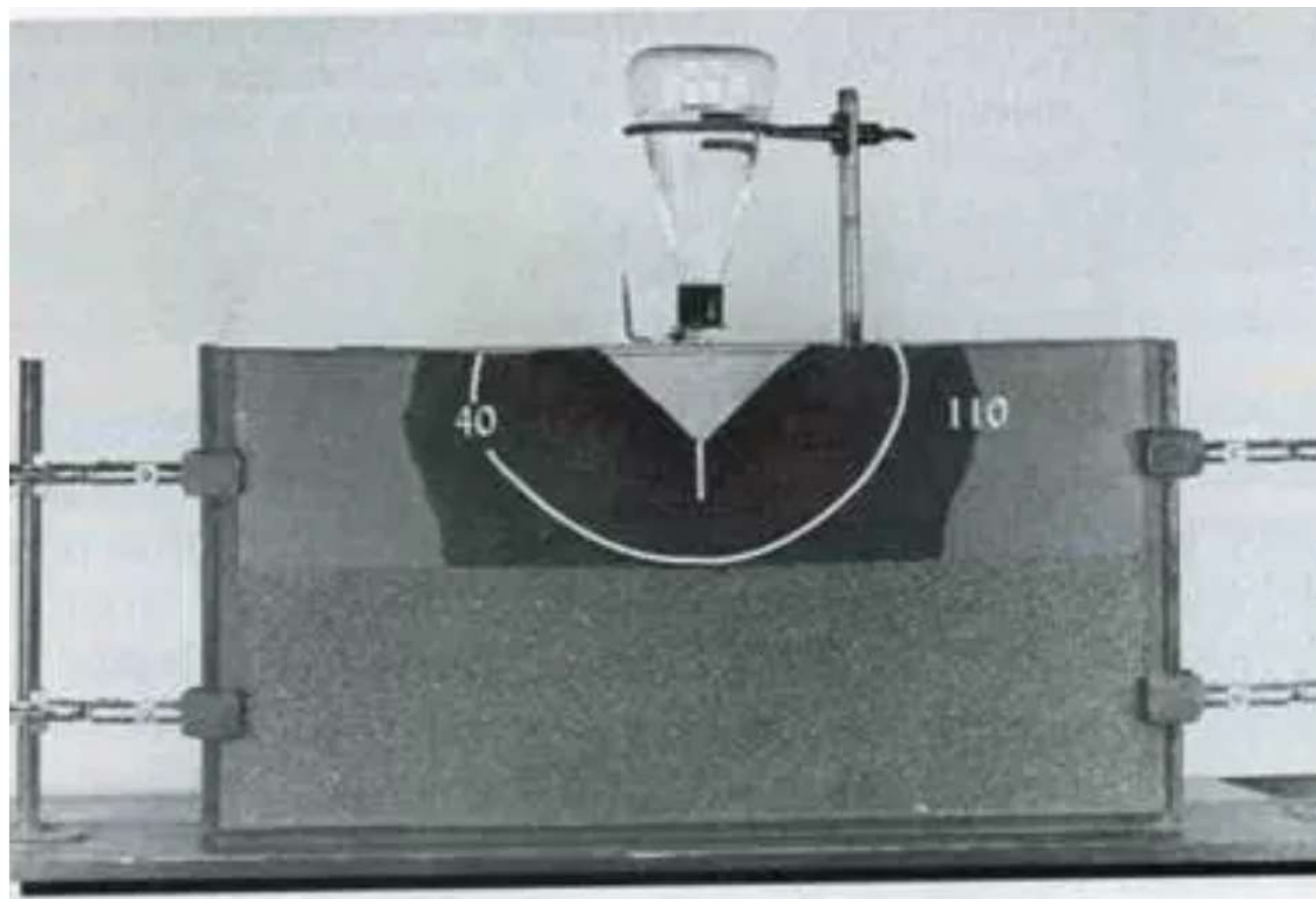
"Add a layer of gravel or other coarse material in the bottom of containers to improve drainage"

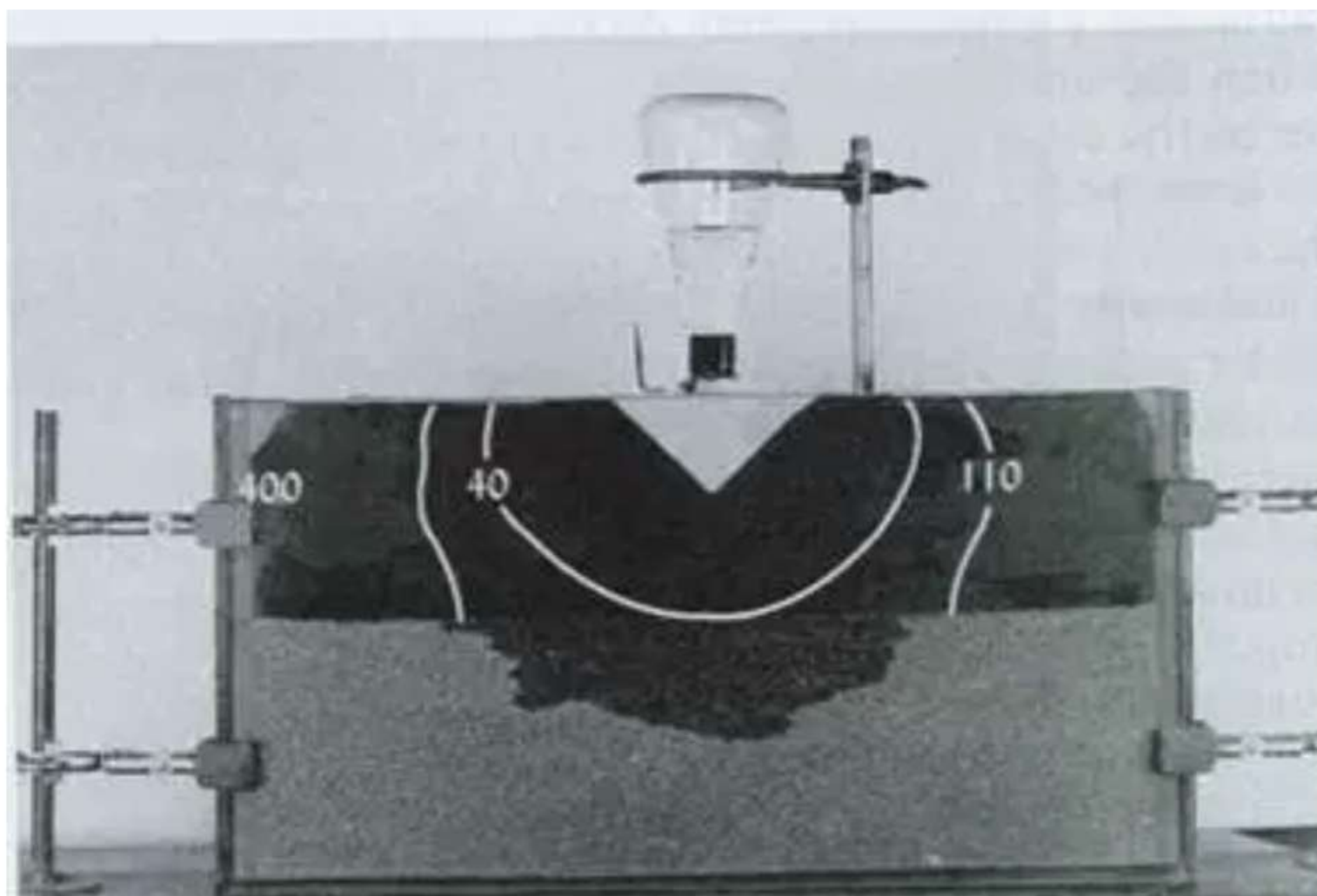
- The advice seems to make perfect sense
- After all, we know that plants need good drainage so their roots receive adequate oxygen, and we also know that water passes through coarsely textured material faster than it does fine material.
- So what's not to like?

The Reality:

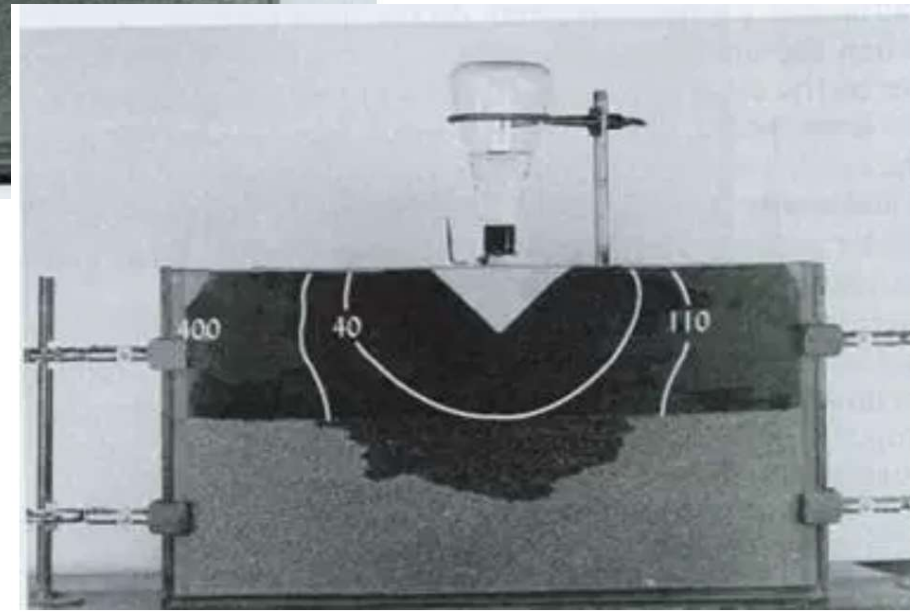
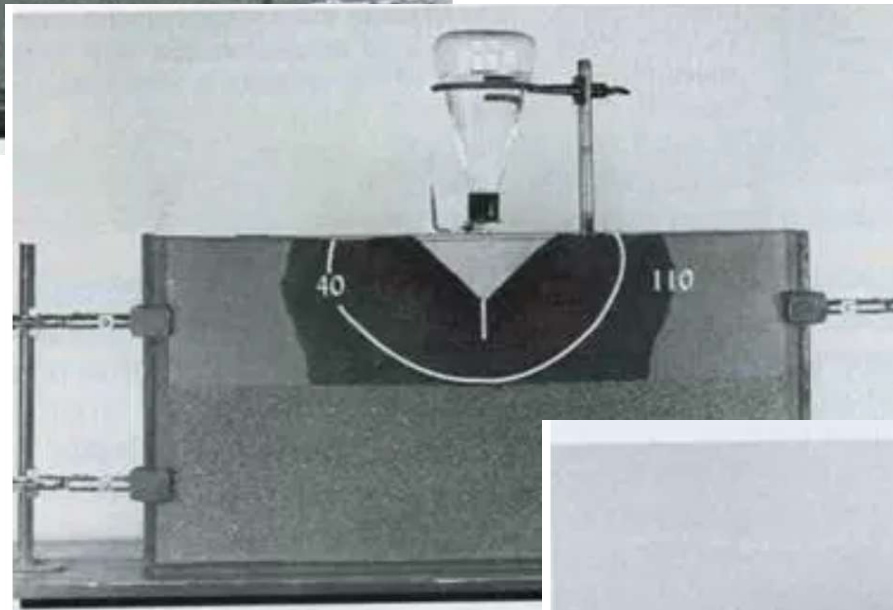
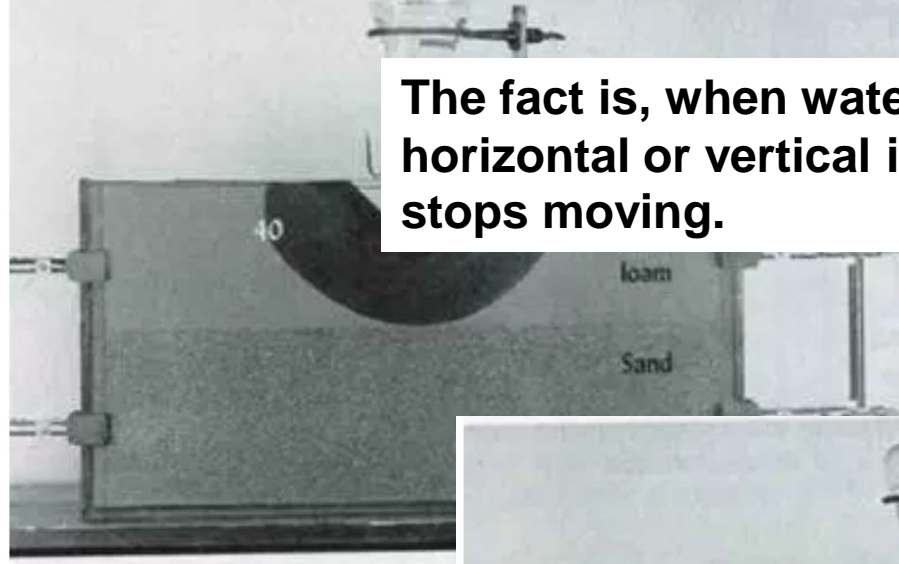
- Over 100 years ago, soil scientists demonstrated that water does not move easily from layers of finer textured materials to layers of more coarse textured. Since then, similar studies have produced the same results.
- Researchers found that more moisture was retained in the soil underlain by gravel than that underlain by sand.
- Therefore, the coarser the underlying material, the more difficult it is for water to move across the interface.
- Imagine what happens in a container lined with pot shards!
- Soil interfaces inhibit water movement.



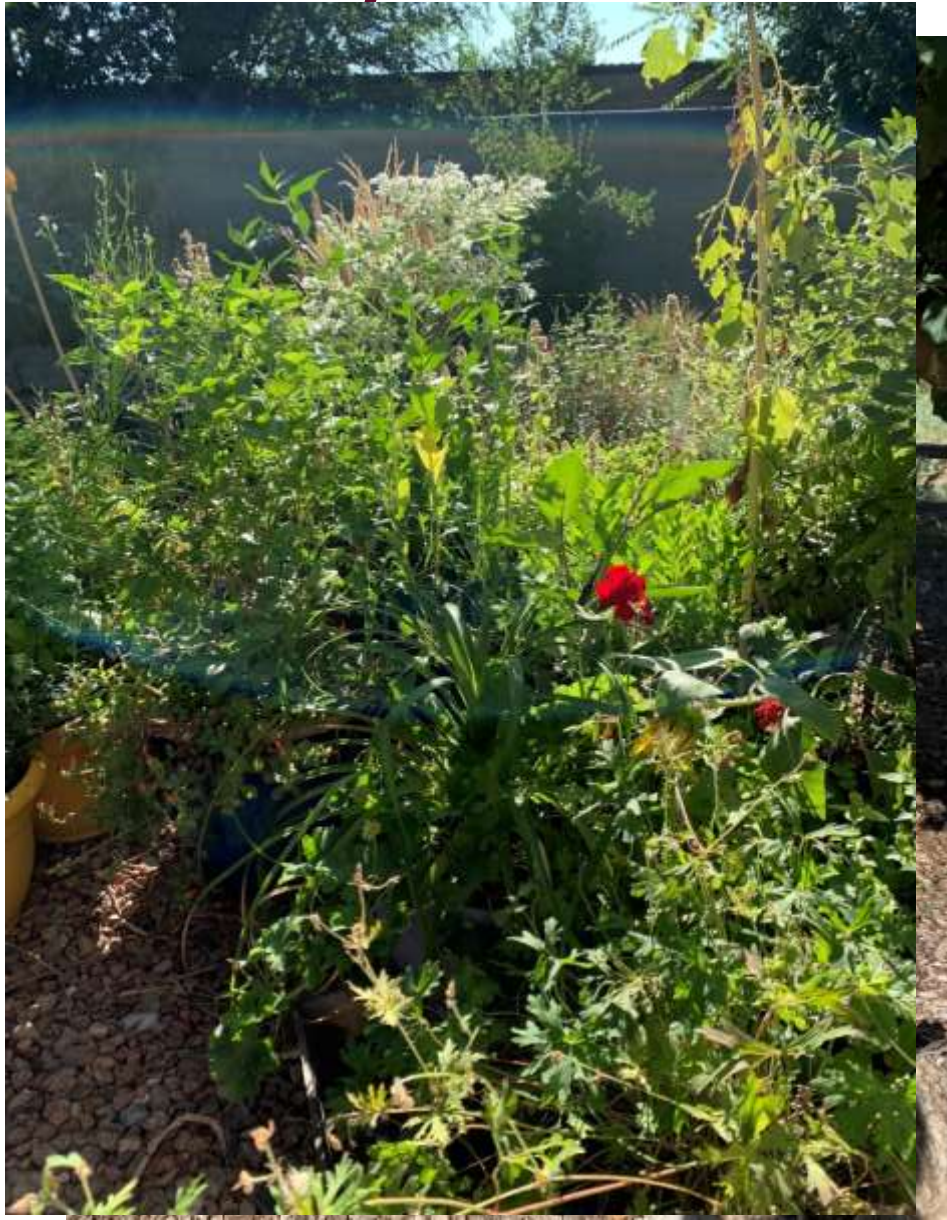




The fact is, when water moving through a soil reaches a horizontal or vertical interface between different soil types, it stops moving.



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Best perennial herbs for containers



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Are there any foods that grow well in small spaces?



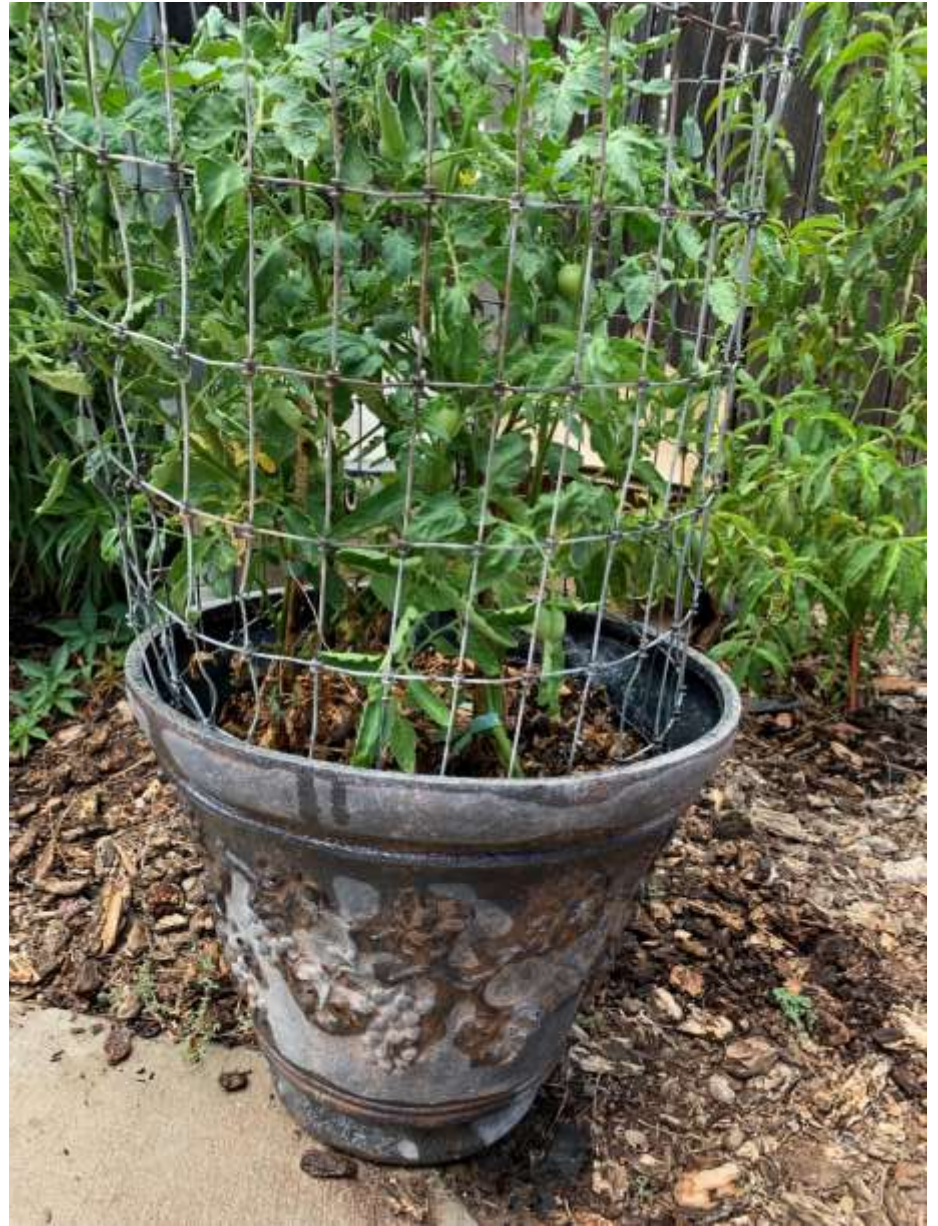


Photo credit Carol Bennefield

What would you like to learn from this webinar?

- How to keep flowering plants throughout the summer.

- Annuals vs. Perennials
- Pretty Foliage Plants!



What would you like to learn from this webinar?

- Can one expect the same growth and production from container gardening (pots) as in-ground gardening....and if so, how does one achieve it.



What would you like to learn from this webinar?

- Combining ground and container gardening for herbs, vegetables and native plants and flowers!







What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Tips for keeping plants hydrated

1. PALE-COLORED POTS
2. GLAZED POTS
3. MULCH
4. OLLAS

Mulch Potted Plants too!



Ollas



Olla Irrigation



- You may fill ollas by hand or with drip emitters inserted into each olla. Each emitter sized to just fill each olla with a given timer setting – slight overflow reduces efficiency, but provides surface water (perhaps for weeds).

Caution!

- Prevent entry of insects (especially mosquitoes) and other animals (mice, etc.)
- Cover with screening in addition to flagstone or paving tile.





For more OLLA INFORMATION:

<https://nmsudesertblossoms.blogspot.com/2020/04/oh-yes-ollas.html>



Olla Irrigation

Surface irrigation may be needed for 1 to 2 weeks (or more) depending on the weather, type of plants, and condition of the plants.

What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- When to repot... and how.



Photo from HGTV.COM

What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- How to winter over



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Gnats in houseplant soil!



Find helpful info at

<https://nmsudesertblooms.blogspot.com/2018/07/draining-or-retaining-fungus-gnats-and.html>

What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Best organic fertilizers



What would you like to learn from this webinar?
- Can roses be grown in containers?



Tree & Shrub Roots: Where are they?

- Absorptive, active roots are shallow AND extensive



- 90% in upper 3 ft. of soil
- 75% in upper 1 ft. of soil
- Extend laterally 2-4 times the plant height

3 Rules of Design for Containers

1. THRILLERS

2. FILLERS

3. SPILLERS

CONTAINER GARDENING - SUGGESTED PLANTS

(Teresa Edens, ABQ Area Master Gardener) Spring 2018

Thrillers

Cordyline
Phormium
Draceana
Blue salvia-upright blue spikes- 'Victoria'
Thunbergia- black eyed susan vine
Purple fountaingrass-pennisetum-annual
Millet
Pennisetum –“Fireworks”
“Bright lights” chard
Juncus “Blue Mohawk” sedge
Gomphrena – “Firecracker”

Fillers

Angelonia
Coleus
Nemesia
Diascia
Euphorbia (annual)
Geranium
Profusion zinnia
Petunias
Lobelia
Pentas
Helichrysumn-“icicle”
Fiber optic grass
Marigold
Dahlia

Spillers

Licorice-helichrysum
Ipoea – sweet potato vine
Creeping jenny-perennial
Trailing zinnias-angustifolia
Bacopa-blue or white
Calibrachoa-many colors
Verbena-trailing habit
Lobelia- trailing
Dichondra
Scaevola-fan flower
Moses in a cradle-purple
Persian shield
Swedish ivy
Dahlberg daisy
Hakone grass-shadier

Thanks!

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