

University of California – Master Gardener Program

UC Hansen Agricultural Center in Santa Paula

Fact Sheet

Hansen Agricultural Center serves as a venue for the agricultural research and educational activities for the University of California in Ventura County. The farm has an interesting history and continues to be farmed. The research area of the farm is being utilized for various crops, ornamental and irrigation trials. Beautifully maintained theme and demonstration gardens are used for adult and youth education programs. The Potting Shed showcases a variety of healthy plants propagated and grown by Master Gardeners. A state-of-the-art greenhouse and shade houses are used to store and maintain healthy plant materials. This site is a perfect training ground for Master Gardeners to learn the fundamentals of UC science-based gardening practices.

The Faulkner family lived on this property for over 100 years before it was purchased by the UC Hansen Trust in 1993. The house, built in 1894, is an outstanding example of Queen Anne style architecture and is listed on The National Register of Historic Places.

Objectives:

- To provide and support educational opportunities related to gardening.
- To provide a comfortable and engaging setting for training and educating Master Gardeners.
- To promote and demonstrate UC science-based gardening practices.

Activities:

- Practice and maintain regular gardening practices, including weeding, cleaning, deadheading, planting as needed in the eleven theme gardens.
- Propagate, pot, weed, and water plants in the Potting Shed area.
- Support the work of the Master Gardener demonstration garden.
- Have fun, make gardening friends, and join us for the monthly volunteer potluck.

Volunteer Workdays:

- Tuesdays – 8:30 to 11:30
- Wednesdays – 8:30 to 11:30
- Thursdays – 8:30 to noon
- Saturdays - Eight times a year