

## *Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian*

### **Stunning storms and 2023 Garden Trends, Part two**



The citron lemon (*Citrus medica*) is the original citrus fruit from which all lemons have been cultivated.



The architectural elegance of a bare Pistache tree in winter.

Photos Cynthia Brian

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For those big broom plants that are difficult to eradicate, MOFD has a special tool available to lend to the public which will pull out these unwanted invaders, including the taproot. Contact MOFD to borrow this useful device. Thank you, Bruce, for the nudge to work on making our gardens fire safe while it is still winter.

In my last column, I discussed popular trends predicted for 2023 by the Garden Media Group with suggestions as varied as vertical gardening to the age of 100 being the new 50!

([www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1623/Digging-Deep-with-Goddess-Gardener-Cynthia-Brian-2023-Garden-Trends-Part-1.html](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1623/Digging-Deep-with-Goddess-Gardener-Cynthia-Brian-2023-Garden-Trends-Part-1.html))

Gardening at age 100 will require raised beds to avoid having to bend over as well as provide a manageable height for wheelchairs. This year, classic columns, statues, boxwood hedges, and iconic Greek gardens offer inspiration, especially with Gen Z. Stone walls, archways, and olive trees are in demand. For a timeless arrangement, roses, agapanthus, cyclamen, and water-wise succulents are included in designs as key plants. A staple of Greek design is gravel gardens, excellent choices for large and small spaces, requiring minimal maintenance in drought times.

Arbors have graced gardens throughout history. They provide shade and add a focal point to any landscape design. Although Greek decor will be progressively popular, when considering an arbor, select one that will complement the style of your home and garden. Choose durable materials that will withstand the weight of vines.

Climate action is also addressed in the trend report. The first hardiness zone map was drawn in 1960 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The country is half a zone warmer since the last map was updated in 2012 indicating that the climate velocity of heat will increase 13 miles per decade. Our earth's climate is projected to warm by an additional 11 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of this century. Planting climate-resilient trees will be one way to combat this warming planet. Reforestation produces clouds that cool the climate. Trees sequester and store carbon, conserve energy through their shade, decrease stormwater runoff, filter air pollutants, and reduce urban heat. It is critical to plant the correct trees in the correct places to increase biodiversity and resilient ecosystems. Hiring a gardening coach or arborist for specific zip codes will become increasingly important.

Orange is the designated color of the year. Orange has spiritual connotations deeply rooted throughout history. In Buddhism, it is the color of perfection and illumination. In Confucianism, it is the color of transformation. In Hinduism, Krishna's dresses are orange. In Western culture, orange is considered earthy, amusing, exciting, and warm. It is also the preferred pigment for prison apparel. Showcasing plants with orange or terra cotta hues will be the rage in garden centers this year.

Although we don't need to implement suggested trends, it's always beneficial to understand what is happening in the world. With a new year ahead of us, we can plan how we want to spend the next 11 months and how we want our landscapes to look and operate.

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