

News from Nan

PHOTOGRAPHY

WILD BIRDS AND WEEDS

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Bird in our back yard eating seeds

Every day lately we have a lot of birds in our Glen Ellen backyard feeding on weed (aka “native plant”) seeds. We have seen Goldfinches, House Finches, and Juncos all pecking away at the late-ripening seeds. Sometimes there are more than a dozen birds at a time. They are fun to watch.

In September we watched a webinar called “Gardening for Wildlife” given by the Sonoma Land Trust. The speaker was Master Gardener Bill Klausing. One of the many points Bill made was that local birds are accustomed to eating seeds of plants native to the region (Sonoma County). If you want to attract and nurture birds in your yard, you need to have lots of native plants (aka “weeds”).

Remember that what might look like a weed to a human (especially the property owner or resident) might look like a banquet to a hungry bird!

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◀ WILD BIRDS