LSU AgCenter Research · Extension · Teaching

Gardener's Gazette

A LAFAYETTE PARISH MASTER GARDENERS PUBLICATION

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 9

October 2024

Louisiana Master Gardener

LPMGA General Meeting
October 2nd, 12 Noon
Southside Library
Lafayette, LA

Board Meeting
October 15h, 1PM
IRA NELSON
2206 JOHNSTON ST.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you haven't been to the shade house lately, this is a pic I shot last Friday. Our inventory is through the roof! It looks like a jungle in there. Don't forget – if you are on Facebook, please go to our page and share a Plant Fest post. And likewise for the Plant/Seed Swap, which will take place Saturday, October 5 at the Demo Gardens.

The deadline for signing the Hold Harmless Waiver for 2024 is October 1. (This is a new form being required by LSU. You will need to sign it again for 2025.) There are hard copies of the form in the cottage, or you can pint it from the Members Only section of our web site. You only need to turn in the last page of that file. I will collect signed copies at Plant Fest; after that you will have to bring your form to the Ag office to meet the October 1 deadline.

Many thanks to Marc Wiley for installing the lights over the potting bench on the outside of the cottage. He did a very professional job and those of us with old eyes appreciate the visual aid.

At the general meeting on Wednesday, October 2, the slate of officers will be presented and there will be an opportunity to nominate additional active members in good standing for one of the offices.

The election will be via electronic voting in November, and the new officers installed at the December 4 social. Pam Womack is now accepting reservations and payments for the social.

I hope to see you soon at one of our several upcoming events.

Bootsie Durand

MEETINGS AND PLANTFEST

2024 LPMGA General Meetings
First Wednesday Monthly
Daytime: 12:00pm
Evening: 6 pm

2024 LPMGA Board Meetings
1pm on Third Tuesday

Dates, times, topics, and locations are subject to change

GENERAL MEETINGS	BOARD MEETINGS
October 2	October 15
November 6	November 19
December 4	December 17

FALL CUCUMBERS

LPMGA have a great crop of volunteer cucumbers at our Ira Nelson demonstration garden.

A LOOK AT OCTOBER'S BOARD MEETING

Yvonne Lanoux is working on getting our name standardized between the state agencies. It seems that we are referred to in several different ways.

The Board approved a one time amount to upgrade the 20 year old railroad ties around our Rose Demonstration Bed. They have fallen into disrepair. We are fortunate to have a show place for the community to see what the Master Gardeners are all about.

They approved the sale of specific MG apparel, T shirts and aprons, to our students in the class. Many of these students are already working at propagation and will be working at our plant sales.

Fall is on the Way & Time to Plan(t) Your Fall Garden

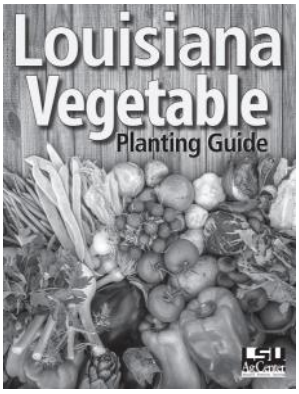
The recent "cool snaps" have brought an air of relief to many of the plants in the landscape. Although we didn't experience quite the heat and drought of last summer, it did get rather hot and stay very dry at several points over the last few months. The recent cooling is a wonderful reminder that fall is on its way and with fall comes one of the most rewarding times to plant a vegetable garden.

Common vegetables grown in the fall include cole crops such as broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kale, Brussels sprouts, and collard greens. I've always found it fascinating that all of these varieties originated from a single species, *Brassica oleracea*. Other fall vegetables that perform well include lettuce, Swiss chard, radishes, and sugar snap peas (a favorite of many school garden students). With our school gardens, the fall garden is one of the most rewarding gardens to plant since the students have an opportunity to see the entirety of the growing process. Unlike the spring garden, the students will have the chance to experience peak harvest of the many vegetables that are grown over the cool season.

An excellent resource that is one of the LSU AgCenter's most utilized and requested publications is the Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide. This publication is useful for both the beginner and experienced gardener and offers great tips on recommended varieties, planting dates, fertilizer applications, and much more. The guide can be found online here: Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide (lsuagcenter.com)

Happy gardening and here's to hoping the cooling trend continues!

Maddox Miller, LSU AgCenter



Big smiles 😜

from the handbook committee after completing the first meeting of the very interesting revision of the by laws. More fun is forthcoming!

TIME FOR A GARDEN STROLL

"Hi Master Gardeners, we have not had a garden stroll in quite some time. If anyone could like to host a fall stroll or preparing for a spring stroll, let me know."

"It's time for a another stroll"

Cindy Wiley
337-207-6424
Cindy4wiley@yahoo,com

THANK YOU MARK WILEY

LPMG Mark Wiley installed lighting over our propagation shed.

This is a much needed improvement for our folks who work every week to grow what we sell.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT PLANT THIS IS?

By Karn Trahan

This plant is a perennial herb with culinary, medicinal, and ornamental uses. It is native to Eurasia, North Africa and the Mediterranean region. It is rich in proteins, crude fiber and minerals. In our climate (humid), it is grown as a semi-hardy annual. It grows in small leafy clusters on woody stems in rocky or sandy soil. To propagate, cut sprigs several inches long directly under a leaf base or node. Remove leaves from lower half of shoots and plant cuttings individually in small pots in planting compost. It can also be rooted in water. If planting seeds, start in late February indoors, or plant seeds in garden from April until early summer. Scatter seeds on surface of damp seedling compost. Cover with plastic and place where it will get sufficient light. After germination, remove cover. In 4 to 5 weeks, move to individual pots. Water about once a month, allowing soil to dry out between waterings. Repot when roots peep out of drainage holes.

This plant is easy to overwater and is resistant to drought. You can trim it back after flowering, but the flavor is not compromised by letting the plant bloom. It needs no fertilizer and is relatively pest-free. It is used in cooking meats, seafood, stocks and soup. A tea may be brewed with the leaves and may help with coughs. It is said to have anti-bacterial and anti-fungal properties.

Note: It may interfere with anticoagulants.

Do you know what plant this is?

Members of the 2024 LPMG class are already hard at work in our propagation and demonstration beds.

Left to right: Luci Rasolomaharavo, Ann Rolke, Daphne Thomas and Harriet Castille.

ANSWER WHAT PLANT IS THIS?

Thymus vulgaris: Thyme

Last year we received a donation of $5,000 from the Thistlewood Foundation to plant Louisiana irises. Louann McClelland-Long is the chair for this committee. She intends to begin planting sometime in October or November. **BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AN EMAIL FROM HER AND LET HER KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING!**

SOUTHERN GARDEN SYMPOSIUM

LECTURES-WORKSHOPS-CHARM

OCOTBER 18 & 19 2024

thesoutherngardensymposium.org

SOUTHERN GARDEN FESTIVAL

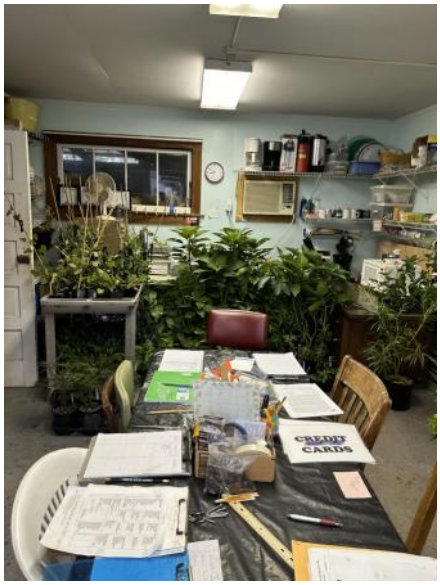
OCTOBER 5, 2024

3502 EAST SIMCOE STREET

Familypromiseacadiana.org

PLANTFEST 2024

LPMG PREPARE FOR THE SEPTEMTER 28TH EVENT!



Fall Planting Guide for Louisiana Gardens

By: Mandy Hatman

Fall in Louisiana offers ideal conditions for many plants. The soil is still warm, encouraging root growth, while cooler air temperatures reduce stress on plants. Here's your guide to fall planting in the Pelican State.

Best Bulbs to Plant Now for Spring Blooms

In Louisiana's warm climate, many traditional spring bulbs need special care. Plant these in late November to early December:

⇒ Narcissus (Daffodils): Choose heat-tolerant varieties like 'Carlton', 'Ice Follies', or 'Sweetness'.
⇒ Louisiana Iris: Plant these native beauties in moist areas.
⇒ Crinum Lilies: These heat-loving bulbs thrive in Louisiana.
⇒ Amaryllis: Plant outdoors in south Louisiana for spring blooms.
⇒ Tulips and Hyacinths: Pre-chill these bulbs for 6-8 weeks before planting. Treat as annuals in Louisiana's warm climate.

Cool-Season Vegetables for Louisiana Gardens

Plant these from September to February, depending on the specific vegetable:

⇒ Leafy Greens: Lettuce, spinach, collards, mustard greens, and Swiss chard
⇒ Root Vegetables: Carrots, radishes, turnips, and beets
⇒ Brassicas: Broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage
⇒ Alliums: Onions and garlic (plant October to December)
⇒ Peas: English and snow peas (plant September to October)

Trees and Shrubs That Thrive When Planted in Louisiana's Fall

Fall is the best time to plant woody plants in Louisiana. Plant these from October to March:

⇒ Deciduous Trees: Southern live oak, bald cypress, southern magnolia
⇒ Fruit Trees: Citrus, figs, persimmons (plant in early spring in north Louisiana)
⇒ Shrubs: Azaleas, camellias, viburnums, and native hollies

Planting Tips for Louisiana

⇒ Prepare soil well, incorporating organic matter. Louisiana soils benefit from added compost.
⇒ In south Louisiana, create raised beds to improve drainage in heavy soils.
⇒ Water thoroughly after planting and monitor moisture levels, especially if rainfall is scarce.
⇒ Apply a layer of mulch to regulate soil temperature and retain moisture.
⇒ For vegetables, consider using row covers to protect from unexpected cold snaps.
⇒ Follow LSU AgCenter guidelines for specific planting dates in your region of Louisiana.

By taking advantage of Louisiana's fall planting season, you'll set your garden up for a beautiful spring display and a productive cool-season vegetable harvest. Remember to adjust planting times based on your specific location within the state.

Happy planting, Louisiana gardeners!

Louisiana Master Gardener™
An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

The more interesting the plant, the more interesting the swap!

LSU AgCenter Research & Extension

LAFAYETTE PARISH MASTER GARDENERS

FALL PLANT & SEED SWAP

Like Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners on Facebook and visit our website www.lpmga.org

For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site: www.lsuagcenter.com

Saturday, October 5

LPMGA Demo Gardens

300 Coliseum Road
Lafayette, LA

Open Trading
9am to 11am

- **Get there early for the best selection**
- **Bring as many different plants and seeds as you'd like to trade**
- **Label with variety, color, planting hints or any other helpful info**

Formal TABLE Swap
10:30am

- **Bring one quality plant for the Formal Swap at 10:30am**
- **Numbers are drawn randomly**
- **1-to-1 trade – Bring one, pick one**
- **Please remember that all plants need to be identified**

Some of the plants that have been requested (common names):
Tea cup Fig, Byzantine Gladiolus, Heirloom Roses, Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow, Cleome, Blue LA Iris, Rick Rack/Fish Tail Cactus, Minnie Pearl Phlox, Voodoo Lily, Gloriosa Lily, Red Texas Sage, Texas Star-any color, Althea-White or Dark Pink, Dragon Wing Begonias, Lycoris-Spider Lilies, Rain Lilies-Zephyranthes, Daylilies, Passion Flowers, Balloon Flowers, Chinese Lanterns, Plumeria Cuttings, Hibiscus, Dutchman's Pipe, Dwarf Red Bananas, White Agapanthus, Angel Trumpets, Devils Trumpets-Any color especially White, Purple and Double Purple

For more information contact Lynn Hair at limaalfahotel@gmail.com
Plants that do not find a home will be donated to Habitat For Humanity or LPMGA.

PLANTFEST

SATURDAY 28TH

8 AM TO 1 PM

IRA NELSON

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Lafayette, LA 70501-6884

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for the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site at www.lsuagcenter.com

OCTOBER 2024

PLANTFEST SEPTEMBER 28TH, 8AM TO 1PM, IRA NELSON

October 2nd, 12 Noon, LPMGA General Meeting, Southside Library,

October 15th LPMGA Board Meeting, 1 PM Ira Nelson

Gardener's Gazette is issued to all members of the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners' Program. All members are encouraged to submit news, educational features, and photographs. **The deadline for all submissions is the 17th of each month for publication in the next month's issue unless otherwise noted.**

Please send newsletter items to:
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It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in our meetings, please call the LSU AgCenter 291-7090

Please note: All meeting and event dates, times, and locations are subject to change.