

MEETING

Wednesday

June 4, at noon

Clifton Chenier Auditorium
220 West Willow, Lafayette

NO MEETING IN JULY

LPMGA BOARD

MEETING

1 PM MONDAY,

JUNE 16

IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE
CENTER

WHAT'S INSIDE

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ting that sooty mold
- MG Events, Reports, &
Announcements
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Needed !
- June/July Calendar

JOIN US FOR THE JUNE 4 MEETING

You are invited to join us for the June Lafayette Master Gardener Meeting. The annual report will feature a presentation highlighting the efforts of *School Gardens Initiative Program*. It will be held on Wednesday, June 4, at noon in the Clifton Chenier Auditorium .

The program will include an overview of the School Garden Initiative by Charles Hebert, LSU AgCenter 4-H County Agent and Committee Chair, followed by individual highlights of this

school year from the six Lafayette Parish Schools: Acadiana High, Charles Burke Elementary, L. Leo Judice Elementary, Lafayette Middle, Judice Middle and St. Thomas More Catholic High School. These schools implemented

the program during this past school year. We will have a personal testimonial from a master gardener on their experiences.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Babette Werner

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of our committee chairs and volunteers who have done a tremendous job for the past 5 months. Your efforts are appreciated and make a difference in our community.

Please read the email correspondence from our organization. We have emailed our first e-ballot to vote on a revised Mission statement and a new Vision statement.

There are many handbook changes and bylaw changes that will be presented to you in the upcoming months.

PLANTFEST 2014: Please put the following dates on your calendar and we hope that you will volunteer in your area of interest: Plantfest 2014 will be comprised of several events. The LPMGA plant sale will be held on September 13th at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center and chaired by Becky Taylor.

An event which will be feature vendors of plants and nature related items will be held on September 20th at Sugar Mill Pond Development and chaired by Colette Anzalone.

This will be a scaled down event with children's activities, demonstrations and a limited number of vendors. Our intent is to provide a fun and educational event for the public. We will be seeking committee volunteers in the next few weeks.

Activities at the Horse Farm are on hold during the fall due to drainage work; therefore, the change in venue. We hope to have a speaker's event also. We are researching our opportunities at this time

Babette

2014 BOARD: President
Babette Werner 2010
Vice President
Heather Warner-Finley
2012 Recording Secretary
Jay Ruffin, Jr 2012
Corresponding Secretary
Carolyn Rink 2013
Treasurer
Sandra Scheuermann 2012
Board Member at Large
Judy Corne 2006
Prior President
Marc Wiley
Agent/Adviser
Gerald Roberts
Volunteer Coordinator
Mary Ann Armbruster
Newsletter Editor
Theresa Rohloff

GERALD'S CORNER

Hello Gardeners,

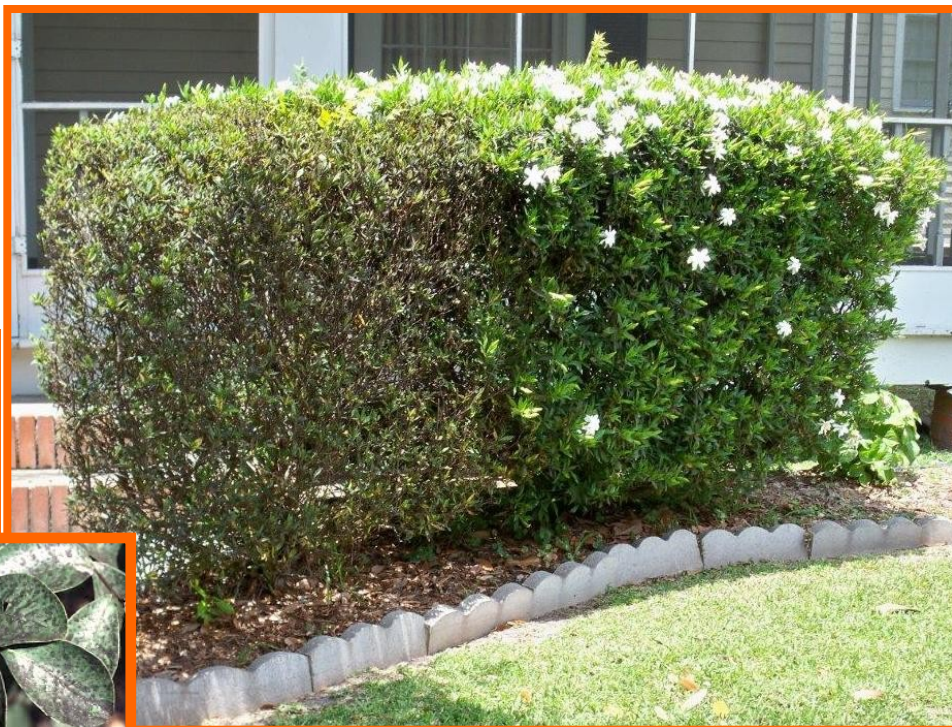
By mid-to-late summer, I usually receive numerous calls from concerned homeowners regarding a variety of plants such as crape myrtles, gardenias, citrus, tomatoes, camellias, and pecans that have leaves covered with a crusty black substance. The complaint often describes leaves yellowing or dropping and the plant appears to be dying. This black crusty substance is called sooty mold and is very common, especially during the summer months.

Sooty mold is caused by fungi, but there is no need to apply a fungicide since insects are the root of the problem. Sap sucking insects such as aphids, white flies, mealy bugs, and soft scale secrete a sticky shiny substance called honeydew that falls on the surface of the leaves and also on anything the is located near the affected plants including other plants, vehicles, furniture etc. The insects are usually located underneath the leaves. Sooty mold grows in the honey dew and once it covers the surface of the leaves of plants it reduces the amount of light that hits the leaf surface, thereby reducing photosynthesis and the plant's ability to make food. The result is usually low vigor, yellow leaves, defoliation, and reduction in the quantity and quality of fruits, vegetables or blooms. If sooty mold is not controlled it could eventually kill some plants. I have personally made site visits to some homeowners whose gardenias were partially defoliated. On other occasions I have seen homeowners who are frustrated with Japanese blueberry trees covered with sooty mold, along with all of the plants underneath the trees. I highly recommend that before you place certain plants in your landscape, be aware of its pest problems. Several homeowners who have large Japanese blueberry trees told me that if they had been aware of the tree's susceptibility to sooty mold they would not have planted the trees.

The recommendation is not to try and directly control the sooty mold but to control the above mentioned insects. The key is to detect the insect infestation when it is low which will decrease the time needed to bring it under control. Systemic insecticides such as imidacloprid or acephate, or a contact insecticide such as malathion or insecticidal soaps or horticultural oils are options to control the insects. In terms of the use of horticultural oils, you must apply and make sure you get complete coverage on the plant including underneath the leaves. A caution regarding horticultural oils, please read instructions regarding daytime temperature limits to avoid injury to plants. Once again it is very important to monitor plants weekly to insure early detection, which will lead to more effective control.

Please see picture of frost-proof gardenia which I looked at recently. These plants were showing signs of sooty mold since last year but the homeowner didn't realize the impact of not addressing the problem. See the difference in the gardenia appearance such as fewer leaves and little or no flowers which reduces the fragrance of this Louisiana Super Plant.

Happy Gardening!!! **Gerald P. Roberts**
Horticulturist/Master Gardener Program Coordinator
LSU AgCenter
1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325
Lafayette, LA 70501
GRoberts@agcenter.lsu.edu
Office (337) 291-7090
Fax (337) 291-7099



EVENTS, REPORTS, AND BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE

BRING YOUR REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE TO MASTER GARDENER FUNCTIONS!



2014 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference October 21 – 24, 2014 Crowne Plaza Hotel Baton Rouge, LA

Sponsored by:

East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Association

LSU AgCenter,

Louisiana Master Gardener Program

For information and registration, go to....
www.southernregionmgconf2014.com

Early registration ends July 15 !!!

Please be sure to look at the video
 on YouTube (<http://youtu.be/Wj5bymY>)
 It is fun!

2014 LPMGA Meetings:
 (First Wednesday
 Except in January & July)
 Daytime—noon/Evening—6 pm

**2014 LPMGA Board
 Meetings, 1 pm:**
 (Third Monday except for
 January, July & December)

JUNE 4—Clifton Chenier
 Auditorium Bldg C * noon

JUNE 16 @ Ira Nelson
 Horticulture Center * 1 PM

NO MEETING IN JULY

AUGUST 6

AUGUST 18

SEPTEMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 15

OCTOBER 1

OCTOBER 20

NOVEMBER 5

NOVEMBER 17

DECEMBER 3

DECEMBER 15

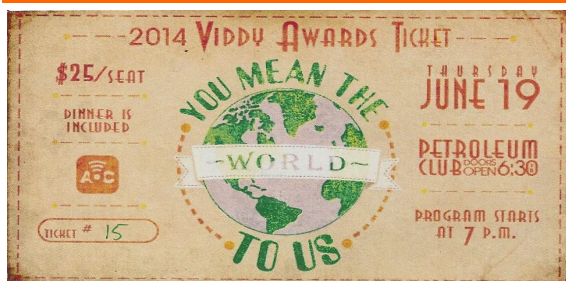
"2nd Saturday Garden Talk"
June 14, 10 a.m.

**@ Green T Lindon School
 Cafeteria and Memorial Garden
 603 Avenue B, Youngsville**

"Garden Talk"

Saturday, June 21, 10 a.m.

**@ Ira Nelson Demo Beds
 Programs to be announced**



IF YOU ARE REALLY FAST, YOU CAN VOTE
 for IN THE GARDEN to win the VIEWERS
 CHOICE AWARD!

**Voting closes at MIDNIGHT—
 Sunday June 1
 Go to AOCinc.org
 To Cast Your VOTE !!!**

In The Garden

PROGRAM TO BE ANNOUNCED

Watch first run on July 5 at noon!

Master Gardeners who help produce the show include Nancy Rowe, Cheryl Crow, Geneé Foley, Marie Jones, Vivian Katz, Lois Manuel, Gary Trahan and Peggy Voorhies.

This monthly TV Show broadcasted by AOC Community Media, is targeted to run LIVE, every first Thursday at noon, with reruns each week throughout the month on LUS Channel 3/Cox Channel 15. The show is streamed by computer through AOC One.

MAY SOCIAL



Some very happy Master Gardeners enjoy very much how Colette's Garden grows!




Our hostess and grand gardener
Colette Anzalone



Yvette Nevitte wins a silent auction item!



Campanula—
Canterbury Bell flowers
Turns out the Cup and Saucer plant is a VINE with foliage quite different.



The English bulldog was NOT an auction item!

What Plant Am I?

I'm the only palm tree native to continental Europe, and am happiest in a Mediterranean-type climate: cool, moist winters and summer drought. I'm hardy along the Gulf Coasts down to 20 degrees. Because I'm slow growing, I can be kept in containers on patios and sheltered courtyards, or as a house plant. Suckers coming up from my base create a mounding mass of foliage about 6 feet wide, or the suckers may be removed to form a single stem.

My fronds are stiff and fan-shaped and about 2 feet across. My petioles are about 3 feet long and slender and have rows of teeth, making me a little difficult to work around. My yellow flowers form deep in my fronds, and are unremarkable. When fully opened, my male and female flowers attract pollinators, the Derelomus weevil, with floral-like chemical compounds which are curiously released by my leaves and not by my flowers. My ripe pulp smells strongly of rancid butter, and attracts badgers and foxes.

The leaves of my adult plants have been used in basket weaving to make mats, carrier baskets, and brooms. My seeds are inedible for humans, but have been used in medicine as an astringent because of their bitterness and high tannin content.

Due to my re sprouting ability after fire, I have a high ecological value for preventing erosion and desertization. But my natural habitat is rapidly declining due to urbanization, and protective regulations have been instituted to prevent eradication. I'm also threatened by an introduced South American moth, Paysandisia archon.

Do you know what plant I am?
See page 7 for the answer.



Meet Cindé Risinger

Master Gardener
Class of 2012
and
Lafayette Garden Club
President

THANK YOU!

We extend a HUGE thank you to JimStone and All Seasons for their contribution to our raffle at Festival des Fleurs. The drawing accounted for a third of the profits that we realized at the event!

A huge kudo to Cynthia "Cindé" Risinger who chaired the raffle effort. She personally procured the grand prize (flagstone and installation—an in-kind donation worth \$4,000) in addition to a sponsorship from JimStone of \$1,000. Essentially a third of our Festival des Fleur profits tie back to the raffle.

Cindé worked the two full days of the festival at the drawing table. "I worked really hard to have a good drawing this year," Cynthia said. Indeed, she did!

Thank you Cindé for all your hard work and a for doing this job so well.

"Clean Streams" Series Begins June 10th

The Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association announces "Clean Streams", a three part Monthly Lecture Series for the summer. The three important topics to be covered are **Vermilion Water Quality and how we test it** (June 10th), **Plants that Soak Up and Slow the Flow** (July 8th) **Right fertilizer, Right rate, Right time, Right place** (August 12th).

Vermilion Water Quality and how we test it

With Whitney Broussard, Ph.D.

Tuesday, June 10th

10:30 a.m.

Vermilionville

ULL Research Scientist at the Institute for Coastal Ecology and Engineering, Dr. Whitney Broussard will explore the subject of water testing and what he has discovered as he has worked with area high school students in his program **Drains to Coast Study**, funded by a \$100,000 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Bay-Watershed Education and Training Program. The project involves collaboration with the Bayou Vermilion District, Lafayette Parish School System, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium and the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program.

Plants that Soak It Up and Slow the Flow

With Dana Nunez Brown

Tuesday, July 8th

10:30 a.m.

Southside Library

Louisiana Landscape Architect, Dana Brown will introduce her new book, **Using Plants for Stormwater Management** to the Lafayette market. Well known in garden circles for her entertaining and educational talks, Dana will cover the important role of plants in Clean Streams.

Right fertilizer, Right rate, Right time, Right place

With Ernest Girouard, Ph.D.

Tuesday, August 12th

10:30 a.m.

Vermilionville

Coordinator for the LSU AgCenter Master Farmer Program, Dr. Girouard will share his expertise, as he educates us on the proper use of fertilizers and garden chemicals to control undesirable run-off into our streams.

These talks are free, but reservations are required.

Reservations may be made on the website:

www.BayouVermilionPreservation.org or by calling 337-591-1582



*Summer Gardening
@ the Ira Nelson Center*

BETWEEN THE ROWS

VEGETABLE GARDENING WITH
MARY ANN ARMBRUSTER



June 2014

Happy Spring. It was nice having spring for a change, but when it got hot, it got hot. Now it looks like it will stay hot for a while. When the nighttime temperatures get above 75°, tomato flowers no longer pollinate properly, and the plants fail to set fruit until those nighttime temperatures drop again. Just keep your tomatoes watered, and when the temperatures drop, give them a dose of fish emulsion or compost tea and they'll be off to the races again. If you feel that your plants are too big and unruly, you can wait until all the tomatoes on the plant have ripened and trim them down to 18 to 24 inches. Then when the temperature drops again, those plants, with their big, well-established root systems will take off and supply you with tomatoes until frost. This saves having to buy, re-plant and baby new transplants, which is especially difficult in summer heat. Of course, you can also plant heat-set, or heat tolerant tomatoes for the summer months. These plants are different. In heat tolerant tomatoes the increased nighttime temperatures does not cause changes that prevent fertilization. No fertilization, no fruit, of course. Some varieties recommended by the Ag Center are Florida 91, Heatwave II, Phoenix, Solar Set, Sun Leaper, Sun Master, Solar Fire, and Talladega. Do not be in a rush to plant these tomatoes. They are not happy in the cool of early spring. Late April or early May is plenty of time to plant these varieties that are designed to tolerate summer heat.

Well, if you remember my discomfort with all the space around my squash plants and my plan to do the Three Sisters backwards, I found out that there is a reason they are planted in the order corn, then beans, and finally squash. I planted my corn among the developing squash plants when the leaves were about eight inches across, but by the time the corn came up, the squash had filled out, taking over the bed space with twice as many 14-inch leaves. Only a few corn plants made it, and there is no way now that the beans will ever be able to germinate with all the shade from the huge squash leaves. These are some of the most enthusiastic squash I have ever seen. I planted Emerald Zucchini and Patty Pan, and I tell you, five plants absolutely FILL 22 feet of four-foot wide bed. The other three feet contain bush beans that are setting beautiful little one-inch beans. I'll be eating them by next week. The zucchini are producing like mad. I checked them on Sunday and they were not quite large enough to pick, they would have been edible 'baby' zucchini, but I like them six to eight inches, so I left them on the plant. I could not get to them on Monday and on Tuesday, they were giants – a foot long and three inches in diameter. I was afraid that they would be pithy and full of seeds, but they were great. I didn't even have to peel them. This is a great variety for the home garden. The photo shows the squash that I picked on Tuesday, with the largest squash cut open. You can clearly see that the seeds are undeveloped. I blanched these and froze them for the time being, but will probably dehydrate them for long-term storage. Actually, freezing makes the dehydration process go more quickly because it disrupts the cells, allowing the water to evaporate more easily. In fact, to dry whole dewberries it's best to freeze them first. Otherwise, they would take twice as long to dry. I picked beets last week. They didn't get to the freezer or the dehydrator, we just ate them and they were delicious.

The first planting of peas is about finished, and the second planting is peaking. Something unusual did happen though. I planted all sugar snap peas, based on the names and descriptions: the first planting was Oregon Sugar Pod, that one was a good sugar snap pea. At the same time, I also planted Cascadia, but only a few plants came up, so a week later I over-planted the area with Mammoth Melting Sugar, but the peas that grew were not snap peas, but standard shell peas. The pods are inedible, but the peas are good – just more work than I really wanted. It must have been a mislabeled batch, but I don't remember which company I bought the seed from, so there's no recourse. I guess in the future I should make note of where I get my seed as well as the name of the seed and the date planted. Maybe I need larger markers. I finally decided to take out my two young citrus trees. The blood orange died. There is no trace of growth. The Improved Meyer did send up growth, but it was all from below the graft, so I pulled it up. The new citrus are all doing well. I put in an Owari Satsuma, a Ruby Rio grapefruit, a Hamlin Sweet orange, and a Lisbon lemon. I hope that they will become well established before we have another winter like the last one. My apple tree is loaded with fruit and the nectarines are bearing well for young trees. The fruits are not huge, but they are tasty. The two trees bear at different times giving me a longer harvest period and not so much of a load to deal with at one time. The dewberries are about finished and the blackberries are filling out nicely. By next week, they should be ripening up and ready to eat. I dehydrated most of the dewberries, the ones I didn't eat fresh, and I plan to do the same to the blackberries. Dehydration is a nice storage method that requires less space and no energy to maintain.

You can continue to plant pole limas and eggplant from seed until the end of May, peanuts until mid-June, and eggplant plants and sweet potatoes until early July. All types of melons can be planted until the beginning of August. Summer squash and Southern peas can be planted until mid-August, and cucumbers and pumpkins can be planted all summer long. After the summer break, you can plant late tomatoes from seed in June and set out transplants in July. Begin planting shallots in July and bell peppers

from seed mid-June to mid-July. Start setting out pepper transplants mid-July, and even though it seems very hot, you can plant seeds of broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage July 1 and Chinese cabbage July 15.

Insect Report: Today I saw a batch of leaf-footed bug and squash bug juveniles on the squash. I used the Louisiana Stomp method on some of them and dumped the rest into soapy water. I saw black aphids on the stems of the pole beans, but none on the bush beans. I mashed some of them, but did not want to eliminate them all because the predators need food. It's been four years now since any chemical pesticides or herbicides have been used on the property and the ecosystem is coming into balance nicely. There are ladybugs everywhere, I even saw ladybug larvae, and I saw a number of assassin bugs, all good signs of a well-balanced ecosystem.

Until next time,
Good Gardening



WHAT PLANT AM I?

ANSWER:

Chamaerops humilis:

Mediterranean

or

European Fan Palm



HELP NEEDED!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CREATE 2014 REGIONAL MG CONFERENCE DISPLAY

LPMGA has been given the honor of creating the tabletop display for the Seven-State Regional Master Gardener Conference in Baton Rouge, October 21-24, 2014. The display will represent the contributions of nearly 2,000 Louisiana Master Gardeners and promote the LSU AgCenter.

We are starting early as information and input from LMG organizations in 26 Parishes and promotional materials needs to be assembled. This will be an on-going project with a tentative completion date of October 1. If you are interested in helping and earning some indoor hours during the coming summer heat, please contact:

Louann McClelland Long at
louannmastergardener@gmail.com

Visit Our Website!

www.LafayetteMasterGardener.org

Attention: All LPMGA Committee Chairmen

We would like to include any information that you can provide regarding the accomplishments, recognitions, and awards of your committee, as a whole, and/or of individual committee members.

Only information that you provide to me will be included on our website. Please take time to send me any pertinent information/pictures, including years in the past. Also, feel free to e-mail anything of this nature that you would like added to the website.

Jay Ruffin— lpmgacalendar@gmail.com

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



LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325
Lafayette, LA 70501-6884

LPMGA Calendar June/July 2014

June 1st: VOTING deadline for IN THE GARDEN @ www.AOCINC.org, MIDNIGHT !!!

June 4th: Master Gardener Meeting, Clifton Chenier Auditorium, 220 W. Willow, noon

June 10th: First of BYD "Clean Streams" Lecture Series (July 8 & Aug 12) 10:30 a.m.

Call Jan Wyatt , 337 591-1582. for more information - (Page 5)

June 14th: Second Saturday @ Green T. Lindon, 10 a.m.

June 15th: Happy Father's Day! Get your dad a boutonniere ...

June 16th: MG Board meeting, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, 1 p.m.

June 21st: Garden Talk @ the Ira Nelson Demo Beds, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

NO JULY MEETING—NO JULY NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

July 4th: Independence Day—be safe!

July 15th: EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE — Southern Region MG Conference

Don't forget Father's Day

JUNE 15



**Support
Master Gardeners!**



**Friends
among us!**



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 24th of each month for publication in the next month's issue

unless otherwise noted.

Please send newsletter items to:

Theresa Rohloff thescottherald@aol.com Please include:

"MG NEWSLETTER" in your subject bar.

The Master Gardener program is a division of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Agency and can be contacted at:

1010 Lafayette Street/Suite 325,

Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

Telephone (337) 291-7090

fax (337) 291-7099

The Web site is www.lsuagcenter.com

The Louisiana cooperative extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State University and A&M College, Louisiana Governing Bodies, Southern University, and the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating

A State Partner in the Cooperative Extension System

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
337-291-7090

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

