

MEETING

Wednesday

Sept 3, 6 PM

South Regional Library
6101 Johnston St.,
Lafayette

LPMGA BOARD

MEETING

1 PM MONDAY,

SEPTEMBER 15

IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE
CENTER

WHAT'S INSIDE

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- **MG Events, Reports, & Announcements**
- **Plant Sale/PlantFest facts**
- **Don't miss the State Conference - Register now**
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- **Between the Rows**
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- **September Calendar**
- **Order pine straw bales at the general meeting!**

2014 BOARD: President

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Heather Warner-Finley

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Newsletter Editor

Theresa Rohloff

Do you feel the excitement in the air? Do you want to get onboard?

The LPMGA Board has approved a Junior Master Gardener program! The committee has been as busy as bees learning the program and getting ready to introduce its activities to school children, grades 3-8, enrolled in the Master Garden School Garden Initiative program and to children, ages 9-12, at Plantfest, September 20. You are invited to help or observe children making: Pass-Along Plant Terrariums with Gail Wakefield & Alice Blakewood from 9-10am, Mother Nature's Children Masks with Candy Bienvenu & Connie Langlains from 11 - noon followed by a parade, and Sombero Hats with Gerry Johnstone & Marie Jones from 1-2pm also followed by a parade. We have completed our brochure which is posted on our web site and Facebook to introduce the Junior Master Gardener program and advise that we will be hosting day camps next spring and summer.

In 2006, we hosted the LA Master Gardener State Conference and our theme was "Seeds of Knowledge, Let's get back to our roots!" Remember when you were so excited to get the call that you were accepted into the Master Gardener program? WE CHALLENGE ALL MASTER GARDENERS TO NOW SPREAD THE SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE AND PASS IT ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION! All you need to do is choose one activity from the Junior Master Gardener program (the books are located in the MG office, at the cottage available for check out, Marie Jones, Candy Bienvenu and Sherlyn Larrison. We have 8 more books on the way and a set of books for grades 6-8). Learn the activity, experiment with it: try it out on nieces, nephews, grandkids and make it your own. We need many volunteers (an army) to make this program successful, exciting and fun for the kids and master gardeners. We will hold a workshop this fall to share the Junior Master Gardener activities which include: story telling, singing, art, gardening, writing, garden design to name a few. Let us know the activity you want to do {solo or with a partner} and we will call you to volunteer maybe twice a year for a camp program. Each activity lasts 30 minutes to an hour. THAT IS ALL THAT IS REQUIRED UNLESS YOU LOVE IT SO MUCH AND WANT TO DO MORE!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Babette Werner



PlantFest 2014

LPMGA Plant Sale

Saturday, September 13, 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.
Demo Beds across from Blackham Coliseum
Plant Swap 10 a.m.

Nature and Garden Exposition

Saturday, September 20, 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.
At Sugar Mill Pond, Youngsville, LA

We need your help to make these events a success.

Contact Sharon Bakay to volunteer:

bakaysharon@hotmail.com 281-3430

Visit www.plantfest.org

Follow PlantFest on FaceBook

GERALD'S CORNER

Hello Gardeners,

This has been a tough year for lawn grass in Lafayette Parish and South Louisiana. I received numerous calls from homeowners concerned about the poor performance of their lawns, especially St. Augustine and Centipede grass. Upon evaluation of these lawns, I found many that had areas with two to three inches of thatch. Thatch is an accumulation of organic matter, primarily dead leaves and stems that cause serious problems in lawns. If a lawn feels spongy when walked upon, that often suggests a thatch problem. Thatch accumulates when organic matter accumulates faster than it can decompose. The roots of the lawn grass will grow into the thatch which can lead to an increase of insect and disease problems. The reason why many of the St. Augustine and Centipede lawns struggled this growing season relates to the unusually cold winter and cold injury because roots growing in the thatch were more susceptible to cold injury than the roots that would have been growing in soil. A thatch problem in a lawn has to be addressed by dethatching with either a motorized thatching machine or a dethatching rake. Removing thatch should be done in early to mid-April to allow an application of fertilizer. Removing thatch shocks the grass, so a fertilizer application is recommended in order to help the lawn grass to recover. The final issue with thatch is that it remains wet when rain comes frequently, but when the thatch dries it gets extremely dry. Neither situation is good for lawn grass.

One of the most common diseases of warm season turf grasses in Louisiana is Large Patch (also called Brown Patch). Every growing season, I get numerous calls from concerned gardeners regarding dead areas in their lawns. Brown Patch disease primarily occurs when night time temperatures begin to consistently drop below 70 degrees — in the fall, late winter and early spring. Since moisture also promotes Brown Patch activity, periods of rain make the disease spread rapidly. While brown patch can affect all warm season lawn grasses, it is usually more prevalent in St. Augustine lawns. The symptoms usually begin as a small irregular patches of brown areas in the lawn. With mild temperatures and rainfall these areas can enlarge rapidly. Once these areas of the grass are weakened and thinned by brown patch, weeds begin to invade. If a lawn has a history of brown patch disease, a couple of fall applications of fungicide can limit the impact of Brown Patch. Once conditions favor disease development, it is recommended that fungicide applications begin. For this area, that first application should be made between mid and late September, followed by a second application mid to late October. If conditions remain favorable for disease development into November and December, additional fungicide applications may be necessary. Since many fungicides labeled for lawns will have activity on brown patch, homeowners should be able to find these fungicides at retail nurseries and garden centers as well as feed and seed stores. According to Dr. Ron Strahan, Lawn & Turf Specialist with the LSU AgCenter, the two most effective fungicides for addressing brown patch problems in lawns are fungicides containing azoxystrobin or thiophanate methyl. If brown patch is not visible and the homeowner wants to be proactive, then granular fungicides are recommended. If however brown patch has already been identified in the lawn, the liquid fungicides applied as a spray are most effective. If we have a mild winter where the lawn does not go fully dormant, it is possible that brown patch will be present throughout the winter months and into the spring. If that happens, then homeowners may want to consider applying several applications of fungicides through winter and into the spring.

Finally, I am also getting calls from homeowners who are asking for fertilizer recommendations for their St. Augustine lawns. According to Dr. Strahan, St. Augustine responds to three applications of fertilizer annually: in mid-April, mid-June and Mid-August. In my opinion, it is now too late to fertilize St. Augustine lawns. Fertilizing now, especially with a fertilizer containing nitrogen, can aggravate brown patch disease. It can delay dormancy which could make St. Augustine lawns more susceptible to cold injury. There are fertilizers available called winterizing fertilizers that can be applied in fall, but here in South Louisiana if a homeowner decides to apply a winterizing fertilizer, it should not contain any nitrogen (N), it should contain primarily potassium (K).

Happy Gardening!!! Happy Gardening!!! **Gerald P. Roberts**

Horticulturist/Master Gardener Program Coordinator

LSU AgCenter

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Lafayette, LA 70501

GRoberts@agcenter.lsu.edu

Office (337) 291-7090

Fax (337) 291-7099



A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM BABETTE : Two of our biggest events, the Fall Plant Sale and PlantFest take place this month. I encourage all members and members in training to participate in one or both of these events. Many hands are needed to make each a success. New this year is the sale of a signature print created for PlantFest 2014 by Dusty Reed, the Cajun Picasso. Numbered prints will be sold for \$25 and Master Gardener Special edition prints will be sold for \$75.

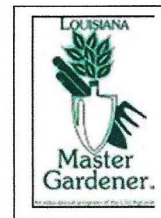
We will have advance sales at the September Meeting. Becky and the fantastic propagation team will have unique plants for sale on September 13th at the Demo Beds. A Plant Swap will take place at 10am. On September 20th at Sugar Mill Pond, vendors will offer garden accessories and plants. In addition there will be numerous children's activities, yoga, pilates and Zumba classes, speakers, music and food. I thank you in advance for the assistance that I know you will provide.



PlantFest 2014

September 20, 8am-3pm

Sugar Mill Pond



CHILDRENS ACTIVITIES:

Junior Master Gardener class, limited to 25 per class at the following times: 9-10 am Make a terrarium

11-12 am Make a mask and parade it as one of Mother Nature's Children

1- 2 pm Make a sombrero from recycled items

Marcus Descant, the Urban Naturalist - learn how to create a worm farm to make compost for the garden

Dusty Reed, the Cajun Picasso: Create art from recycled materials, \$5 fee

Steven Barry - The Beetle Experience: Display of live, local insects and arachnids including hands-on and not-often-seen natives.

Carrie Salyers, La Wildlife and Fisheries: Whooping Crane Reintroduction and Black Bear Projects: See crane costumes and transmitters used to track the cranes, and bear pelts, collars and other items.

Fred Denstorff, the interpretive ranger from Palmetto Island: Native Leaf Rubbing activity: Kids of all ages will have the opportunity to make their own print of a native plant species. There will also be information on native plants and animals of the area.

Natalie McElyea, LSU AgCenter: will create Grow Cards and have the children plant their own Cypress.

1) Wetland Grow Cards:

Children will learn about the parts of a plant. Display will have a basic picture of a plant with parts identified. A Hand-out will be provided of the basic parts of a plant. Using recycled paper, children will make wetland grow cards that they can take home and plant in their yard and see a wetland plant grow. Recycled paper is blended prior to event to make slurry of water and paper. Children grab handful of the slurry and use plastic cookie cutters to form it into a shape. The children sprinkle wetland seeds into the card and the cards will dry. Kids can pick them up before they leave.

2) Make a Mini-Green House

Wetland models will be displayed to demonstrate how different plants grow in different soils. Children will make a mini-greenhouse out of plastic containers and lids using bald cypress seeds. Students can decorate greenhouses and take them home. General Information on bald cypress trees will be discussed and an information sheet will be provided to each student. The sheet will discuss growing tips, how to record changes in your plant, and information on how to transplant the seedling.

Celeste Hay, Nutritionist: Nutrition related activities including the "blender bike". Participants pedal to create a healthy smoothie.

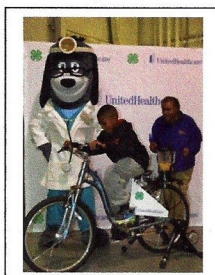
SPEAKERS IN THE GAZEBO:

9-9:30 Marcus Descant - Edible Landscapes

10-10:30 Kathy Troyanowski - Fall Vegetables

11-11:30 Dusty Reed - Create a Painting

12-12:30 All Seasons - Demonstrate Container Planting



MUSIC ON THE BOARDWALK:

10-11 Johanna Divine and Ted Broussard

11-12 Plucky Gals Esther Tyree and Andrea

12-1 Michot Courville Band

1-2 Unconfirmed

FITNESS CLASSES BY THE STUDIO: 20 minute sessions

Kid's Zumba Class with Allison Womble: 9:30 am AND 11:00 am

Yoga with Cindy Bourgeois: 8:30 am AND 10:00 am.

Pilates with Georgia: 9:00 am AND 10:30 am



EVENTS, REPORTS, AND BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE

BRING YOUR REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE TO MASTER GARDENER FUNCTIONS!



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)
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SEPT 3—S. Regional Library 6101 Johnston Street * 6 PM	SEPT 16 @ Ira Nelson Horticulture Center * 1 PM
OCTOBER 1	OCTOBER 20
NOVEMBER 5	NOVEMBER 17
DECEMBER 3	DECEMBER 15

**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

Please be sure to see Dan Gill's video
on YouTube

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PT1Rffj-1A>)

**No garden talk at the cottage
on September 20.**

Instead,

**PlantFest will be Saturday,
September 20,
Sugar Mill Pond in Youngsville.**

Speakers for PlantFest

**9-9:30 AM—Marcus Descant:
edible landscaping**

**10-10:30 AM—Kathy Troyanowski:
fall vegetables**

**11-11:30 AM—Artist Dusty Reed
will create a painting.**

**12-12:30 AM—All Seasons:
container planting demonstration**

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**All talks will take place at the
Gazebo at Sugar Mill Pond
instead of in the cottage.**

In The Garden

PROGRAM TO BE ANNOUNCED

Watch first run on September 4 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.



WHAT'S THE BUZZ???

**Read about it on
the front page!**



The LPMGA handbook committee recently completed its revision and compiled to pass out to membership. Members shown are: Gail Wakefield, Candy Bienvenu, Lois Manuel and Linda Alesi. Not pictured are: Babette Werner, Peggy Taylor and Mazie Movassaghi.

VOLUNTEER HANDBOOK

(Revised August 2014)

Copies of the newly revised 2014 Volunteer Handbook will be distributed to active members at the September general meeting. Anyone unable to attend the September meeting may contact Mazie Movassaghi at maziemov@lusfiber.net or 984-4797 to arrange to get a copy.

What Plant Am I?

In the fall, when spring and summer flowers are fading, I come into my own. Planted in the spring, I send up large, broad leaves which last all summer. Snails and slugs are the bane of my existence. By September, my leaves turn brown and unsightly, only to be followed by chalice-shaped blossoms with 6 stamens. My colors range from pale pink to white, with some cultivars in shades of lilac to purple. Plant me four inches deep, six inches apart, in consistently moist soil, with a pH of 6.1 to 7.5. I am hardy to Zone 5. I'm propagated by division of my corms, which are highly toxic, as are my leaves and flowers.

Deer and rodents will not eat me. In fact, in 1862, Catherine Wilson of England was hanged for the murder of a woman she had nursed, and had persuaded to change her will in Catherine's favor. Seven other people, and one or two husbands, died in similar circumstances. The poison used was made from me; however, I do have a legitimate use in patients with gout and Familial Mediterranean fever when properly prepared.

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

Advancing Beyond Master Gardener Status

From: Stuart Gauthier:

An **Advanced Master Gardener program** will be offered in 2015. As a prerequisite to getting admitted into the program applicants will need to have a private pesticide applicator license. Kim Pope has offered to do a private pesticide applicator review and testing session for interested master gardeners in each region. She is planning to present our **Southwest region** session on **Monday, September 22, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Rice Station in Crowley.** The cost to attend the training will be \$30 and will include a meal. Participants should order the core study manuals off of the LSU AgCenter website to prepare for the test. The web address to purchase the book is as follows.

<http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/communications/publications/publications+catalog/pesticide+training+and+safety/pesticide+applicator+training+manuals/national+pesticide+applicator+certification+core+manual.htm>

Kim recently held this training for the Master Gardeners in Calcasieu and participants had a high test passing percentage. The attendees preordered the books and formed study groups to prepare for the test.

I talked to both Miles Brashier and Stuart Gauthier and both told me that the reason for private pesticide certification as a prerequisite to acceptance in the Advance MG Program is because they feel the need for Master Gardeners to have a better awareness of pesticides in terms of selection, storing, application and SAFETY. Also, by certifying, they will be able to legally purchase "Restricted Use Pesticides." Kim Pope teaches classes throughout the State of Louisiana and she does a great job. Kim will go over material in the pesticide manual and give a review. Then, participants will take the test. Once they take the test it will be mailed to the Pesticide Division of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry where all tests will be graded. Each person that takes the test will be sent a letter informing them whether or not they passed the test. If they passed the test, they will mail a \$25 check to the Louisiana Department of Agriculture, and they will receive their Private Pesticide Applicator's card which is good for three years. Every three years, they will attend a recertification meeting to renew their cards. Retesting will be necessary only if they allow their cards to expire before recertifying. If someone fails they can retake the test.

From: Babette Werner

If you are interested in attending the private pesticide applicator review and testing session on September 22, please email me, babsvwerner@aol.com, by September 16th. I will forward the list to Gerald, Stuart and Kim.

Miles Brashier, the new State of Louisiana Master Gardener Coordinator, is scheduled to make a presentation on the Advanced Master Gardener Program at our Wednesday, September 3rd LPMGA General Meeting which will be held at the Southside Regional Library beginning at 6 p.m.

Master Gardeners Take Honors



Congratulations to the AOC Master Gardener Volunteers for winning the following Viddy Awards:

AOC Community Media honored its top producers, members and volunteers on Thursday, June 19, at its annual awards banquet at the Petroleum Club. Winning the top award of Viewers' Choice was "In the Garden," produced by Nancy Rowe and Vivian Katz with a crew from Master Gardeners.

The public voted for the winners in a number of categories. This year's winners include: Spirit Award – Nancy Rowe and Executive Director Award –Theresa Rohloff.

CLASS OF 2014

The following is a schedule of speakers for the 2014 MG class. Changes could be made without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances.

AUGUST 28, 2014

9:00 Entomology ----- Mariah Bock

1:00 Mentors ----- Laf MG Mentors

SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

9:30 Botany, Part Deux ----- Garrie Landry

SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

9:00 Ornamental Horticulture ----- Dan Gill

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

9:00 Soils ----- J. Cheston Stevens

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

9:00 Plant Pathology ----- Dr. Rajh Singh

1:15 Volunteer Hours/Reporting ----- MaryAnn Armbruster

OCTOBER 2, 2014

9:00 Propagation ----- Becky Taylor

OCTOBER 9, 2014

9:00 Vegetable Gardening ----- Dennis Wollard

12:30 Organic Gardening/Composting ----- Marcus Descant

OCTOBER 16, 2014

Field Trip

OCTOBER 23, 2014

9:00 Trees and Pruning ----- Gerald Roberts

12:30 LCG Environmental Quality Manager ----- Mark Pope

OCTOBER 30, 2014

9:00 Native Plants ----- Bill Fontenot

NOVEMBER 6, 2014

9:00 Fruits and Nuts ----- Stuart Gauthier

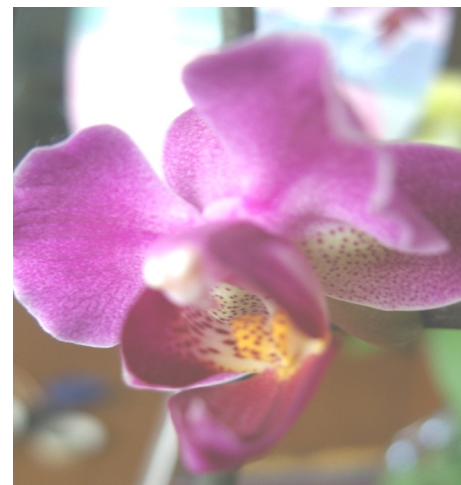
NOVEMBER 13, 2014

9:00 Termites ----- Dennis Ring

12:30 Herbs ----- June Walker

NOVEMBER 20, 2014

9:00 Pesticides and the Environment ----- Gerald Roberts



"Transplanting and Mounting Orchids" by Pat Huval

Orchids will take center stage at the Second Saturday Gardening Class on Saturday, September 13, 2014, at 10 AM at Green T Lindon Elementary School cafeteria, 603 Avenue B, Youngsville, La.

Pat Huval is the owner of Orchids Plus. She has been growing orchids for over 40 years and collecting them when and where legal. She also participates in statewide and national gardening and orchid shows. Pat is a member of the Acadian Orchid Society.

For more information contact Sherlyn Larrison at 985-513-2777 or Jackie Carlisi at 337-277-0027.

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Hibiscus rosa sinensis
"Shade of Autumn"

Photo by Theresa Gore

WHAT PLANT AM I?

ANSWER:

Colchicum autumnale:

Naked Ladies, Autumn crocus,
or Meadow saffron



The LPMGA Christmas Social and Master Gardener Class of 2014 Graduation

December 3, 2014

6pm to 9pm

Petroleum Club

111 Heymann Blvd, Lafayette

Cocktails, Graduation & Award

Ceremony, Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres

with Dessert

2014 Graduates Gratis

Active Members \$20

Guests and Inactive

members \$30

**All payments should be made
in advance.**

**Contact Linda Broussard for
additional information**

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

BETWEEN THE ROWS

VEGETABLE GARDENING WITH
MARY ANN ARMBRUSTER



Well, the weather is still hot – very hot. Even when I try to work early or late in the day, I'm absolutely soaked within 5 minutes of being out. I guess it's worth it though. Fresh, organically grown vegetables right from my garden are incomparable and well worth the effort.

My organic ethic has been a bit challenged this year. I have been inundated by stink bugs and they have ruined almost all of my tomatoes. I did, however, get some and they were really delicious, but I had to pick them the minute I saw the first trace of color. Fortunately, tomatoes ripen well off the vine as long as they have warmth. They don't even need light, just warmth. So, tomatoes on the kitchen counter ripen quite nicely. That was the only way that I could get ripe tomatoes this year. I did not see many leaf-footed bugs this year after the first rash of juveniles that I managed to kill, but suddenly, I am seeing a bunch of large adults. In fact, yesterday I saw seven adults, six of them mating. Fortunately, when you do the Louisiana Stomp on them that stops their laying eggs. So hopefully, the next generation will be even smaller than this year's was. I am also seeing more and more assassin bugs. The first year here, with the surrounding cane fields constantly doused with insecticides, I saw only two or three assassin bugs all year. After a year of no insecticide on my property, I saw a few more. Then, the cane farmer sold the field to a developer, so no more insecticide and the number of assassin bugs exploded. It was wonderful to see.

When the stinkbugs became too much, I did resort to using insecticides, but all of them were organic and, of course, I used Integrated Pest Management (IPM). With IPM, you do not just randomly spray every plant with a broad-spectrum pesticide. Instead, you first identify the insect that is causing the problem and then use the method that is the least damaging to the environment and your health to control that insect. This can start with hand picking and dropping them into soapy water (gloved hand or tongs, of course). If that is not possible, for instance because the insects are too numerous, or too small, or because they fly away, you can move to spraying the insect(s) with soapy water or water with a little oil added. This smothers the insect and in the case of flying insects, makes it difficult for them to fly, allowing you to hand pick them. If that is not working sufficiently and there is still too much damage to your crop, you can move to using a product that is very specific to the particular type of insect causing the damage, like *Bacillus thuringiensis*, commonly called 'Bt' that is specific for certain insects, but is harmless to fish, birds, and mammals.

Bt is a naturally occurring, soil-borne bacterium commonly found throughout the world. It has been used since the 1950s for natural insect control and all subspecies are approved for organic gardens. It consists of a spore, which when consumed by certain insects, develops in the gut and poisons the insect, causing it to stop feeding. The gut of these insects is alkaline, which is what makes Bt work on them while remaining harmless to birds, fish and mammals, whose guts are acidic negating the effect of the bacteria. Adding to the safety profile, Bt biodegrades quickly in sunlight.

There are a number of subspecies of *B. thuringiensis* that are toxic to certain insects at certain stages. *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Bt-k) controls tent caterpillars, gypsy moth, cabbage looper, tomato hornworm and other leaf-eating caterpillars. It is most effective when applied during the 1st and 2nd instars. Bt-k is supplied under many trade names, like **Monteray Bt**.

Bacillus thuringiensis var. *israelensis* is highly specific for use against mosquito, black fly and fungus gnat larvae. It can be applied to water sources safely and is 95 - 100% effective on mosquito larvae within 24 hours of ingestion. This application is especially effective because it kills the larvae before they reach the adult, biting stage.

Bacillus thuringiensis var. *san diego* (Bt-sd) and *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *tenebrionis* (Bt-t) are used against the Colorado potato beetle, which has developed resistance to multiple chemical insecticides. They are also considered the most effective control for leaf-eating beetle species. They can also be used to control elm leaf beetle and are used on potatoes, eggplant, tomato and elm. Again, this biological pesticide is most effective in the early larval stages. In fact, they are completely ineffective on adult beetles.

Finally, *Bacillus popilliae* is used against Japanese beetles in lawns, causing milky spore disease. Milky spore again affects the larval form of the Japan beetle. When milky spore is applied to the lawn it infects the beetle larvae. When each infected larva dies and decomposes, billions of new spores are released into the soil. This is not a quick solution, but rather requires time for the bacteria and its spores to saturate the soil. Being a natural process though, only one

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Continued on next page

BETWEEN THE ROWS *Continued from previous page*

application is required. The bacteria will continue to multiply on their own as long as larvae are present. When there are no more grubs to be found, the bacteria sporulate and go dormant, waiting for the next infestation of Japanese beetle larvae.

These products come under many trade names like Dipel, Thuricide, Milky Spore, Monterey Bt, Mosquito Dunks and more. The important thing is to look for '*Bacillus thuringiensis*' in the Active Ingredients. If you absolutely need an insecticide that is broadly effective against many insects, I recommend one containing spinosad. This should not, of course, be your first choice when reaching for an insecticide, but it is an effective, organic choice. Spinosad is relatively new. It is a combination of two compounds produced by the fermentation of certain microbes found in soil. It is considered 'broad-spectrum' because it is toxic to a wide variety of insects, but it is relatively non-toxic to mammals and beneficial insects. Part of the reason it is not toxic to beneficials is that the product must be ingested to be toxic, unlike many chemical insecticides that are toxic on contact, even to the dry residue. Most beneficials eat other insects or their eggs rather than leaves or other parts of plants, so they do not take in spinosad. Nonetheless, I prefer to apply an insecticide product containing spinosad late in the day, after the pollinators, like bees, have returned to their nests. I also try to inspect the plant that I am treating to insure that there are no other beneficials, such as mantises, lacewings, ladybugs, assassin bugs, OR THEIR LARVAE, on the plant. Please excuse the shouting, but the larvae of most of these insects are truly the workhorses, eating many more harmful insects than the adults do. You should be able to identify the larval stage of each of these beneficials. Hint, they look nothing like the adult.

It's also helpful to identify the eggs of the good and the bad bugs. If you can eliminate the eggs of the bad bugs, you will never have to bother buying insecticide.

Some products containing spinosad are Fertlome Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar & Leaf Miner Spray, Captain Jack's DeadBug Brew Concentrate, Southern Ag Conserve Naturalyte Insect Control, and Bonide Colorado Potato Beetle Concentrate.

It's still time to plant here in southern Louisiana. Through early September, plant Limas, both bush and pole, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower, English peas and cucumbers, as well as bush beans, cabbage, Irish potatoes, pumpkins and tomato plants. Through September you can plant beets, carrots, celery, Swiss chard, Chinese cabbage, collards, kohlrabi, lettuces, mustard, radishes and turnips.



Stink bug eggs
BAD



Lady bug larva
GOOD

Until next month,
Happy Gardening,
MaryAnn

Itinerary: for October 16, 2014:

7:00 AM Departure from UL Horticulture Center
10:00 AM New Orleans Botanical Garden Guided Tour
Cost; \$8.00 per person
11:30 AM picnic box lunch in park across the street from Botanical Garden)
Cost; \$13.50 per person
2:45 PM Guided tour of Longue Vie House and Garden—Cost: \$8.00 per person
3:00 PM Guided tour of Holly Grove Farm and Market—Cost: \$2.00 per person
5:00 PM Depart for Home

COST PER PERSON: Bus \$1340.60/ \$27.00 PER PERSON (BASED ON 50 PEOPLE ON BUS)

Tours and lunch \$31.50

TOTAL COST PER PERSON: \$59.00

*The Field Trip includes venues that were
all recommended by Dan Gill.*

*The **deadline** was October 1, 2014.*

Field Trip



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

LPMGA Calendar SEPTEMBER 2014

Sept 1st: Happy Labor Day!

Sept 3rd: Master Gardener Meeting, South Regional Library, 6 p.m.—Miles Brashier about the Advanced Master Gardener Certification. Pine Straw orders.

Sept 13th: Plant Sale at the Ira Nelson Demo Beds, 8 a.m. — 3 p.m

Sept 13th: Second Saturday @ Green T. Lindon, 10 a.m.

Sept 15th: MG Board meeting, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, 1 p.m.

Sept 20th: PlantFest @ SugarMill Pond in Youngsville 8a.m.– 3 p.m.

Sept 15th: **EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE** — Southern Region MG Conference (Page 3)

ORDER YOUR PINE STRAW BALES FOR FALL!

Fall Pine Straw orders will be taken at the September and October, 2014, general meetings. Pick-up dates will be announced. Cost will be \$7 per bale, cash or check payable at pick-up. Maximum order cap is 20 bales. Order early! They go quickly! Thanks, Theresa Gore



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:

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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.