

**LPMGA GENERAL
MEETING
CANCELLED**

**LPMGA Board
Meeting**
JANUARY 6 1 PM
IRA NELSON
2206 JOHNSTON ST.

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LIFTING THE VEIL ON BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

Part 1 – How are plants named?

By Becky Taylor

Beginning Master Gardeners often find our use of plant nomenclature confusing and a bit intimidating. The truth is that “botanical latin” is not a new language that one must learn, but rather a learning of botanical terms that have been *latinized*.

Plants are named with two-part names (those two parts being genus and specific epithet) based on any number of different characteristics and usually further compounded by descriptions of habit, color, place of origin, discoverer, etc. The specific epithet, when added to the genus becomes the species, and this is what sets one plant apart from another within the genus.

What does that mean? Okay, let's take this down piece by piece in a very much oversimplified way: My given name is Rebecca Deville. My sisters are Patricia and Barbara. We all have the same maiden name (family) but differ from there. So if we were plants I would be of the genus Rebecca and my sisters would be of the genus Patricia and genus Barbara. But maybe there are many in the *Rebecca* genus. In that case I would need a more specific name to distinguish me from the others (species). How about calling me *Rebecca taylorii* (probably only one Rebecca Deville married to a Taylor, right?) Or how about describing me. I come from a long line of short, uh, “fluffy” Devilles. Maybe I should be called *Rebecca taylorii rotunda*, or *Rebecca compactus*. Suppose I wanted to name my daughter, botanically that is. If she is of average height, with a 5'1” mom and a 6'1” dad, could she be called *Rebecca compactus x longituda*? Work the name down from the general to the specific.

So let's relate it to our beloved plants using my favorite genus, *Salvia*. Wikipedia.org lists between 700 and 900 species of salvia, with more being discovered all the time. Try going to a nursery or ordering online and asking for “a salvia”...duh, do you mean a salvia for wet, a salvia for dry, a salvia for the south or north or arid west, one with red flowers or blue or white, a tall salvia or a short salvia, a spring bloomer or a fall bloomer, and so on. Get the picture? It just doesn't work without having a more specific name.

The genus name (the first in the two-part plant name) is a Latin-based noun that designates a group of plants that have enough in common to be distinguished from other such groups. Some genus names are derived from people's names, like *Jeffersonia* (for Thomas Jefferson) or from geographic names, like *Groenlandia* (for Greenland). Still other genus names come from a certain trait of the plant. The word *Salvia* comes from the Latin word meaning “I heal” or “safe”, referring to the medicinal qualities of so many of the species.

The specific epithet (the second name in the two-part plant name) is usually an adjective.

Names like *foetidus* (stinky), *alba* (white), *odoratus* (fragrant), or *sempervirens* (evergreen) give us important descriptive information about a plant; while specific epithets like *mexicana* (from Mexico) and *canadensis* (from Canada) indicate geographic origin. A specific epithet can also be a participle, like *repens* (creeping), or it can be a noun, as when it is based on a person's name (*vanbouteii* or *drummondii*).

Knowing the reasons behind a plant name will help you shop for the right plant, will help you advise others on the proper plant, will help when you do plant research, and will give you a better understanding of the plants in your garden.

Future columns will address specific epithets for specific traits such as: the many ways colors are described how specific epithets give clues to growth habit using specific epithets to determine the best location of your plant AND we'll talk more about that scary monster – *Pronunciation of botanical names!*

MEETINGS AND WHAT PLANT AM I

**2021 LPMGA
General Meetings
First Wednesday
Monthly
except for July
Daytime: 12:30pm**

**2021 LPMGA
Board
Meetings
1pm on Third
Tuesday**

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

JANUARY 6	JANUARY 19
FEBRUARY 3	FEBRUARY 16
MARCH 3	MARCH 16
APRIL 7	APRIL 20
MAY 5	MAY 18
JUNE 2	JUNE 15
JULY	JULY
AUGUST 4	AUGUST 17
SEPTEMBER 1	SEPTEMBER 21
OCTOBER 6	OCTOBER 19
NOVEMBER 10	NOVEMBER 16
DECEMBER SOCIAL	DECEMBER 21

WHAT PLANT AM I?

I am a native herbaceous vine, with heart-shaped leaves, native to Central and South America. I was present there more than 5,000 years ago. The first Europeans to taste me were members of Christopher Columbus's expedition in 1492. My stems grow 10 to 14 feet long and grow along the ground, forming roots at the nodes. Some, but not all, of my varieties produce funnel-shaped flowers, which can be pale lavender, with darker lavender throats. They open before sunrise, stay open for 2 to 3 hours, then wither.

My edible tubers are long and tapered with smooth skin. Their coloring is highly variable and can be yellow, red, orange, brown, purple, and beige. My flesh can be beige, red, pink, violet, yellow, orange, or purple. It can also be white, but those are less sweet and moist.

In late April, transplant strong 12 to 14 inch stems with 5 to 6 leaves but with no roots attached, to prevent transferring diseases. Stems should be planted about 4 inches deep, with the terminal buds above ground. I should be planted 12 to 14 inches apart in rows 3 to 4 feet apart. If I am planted in warm moist soil, my roots will develop quickly. I can usually begin to be harvested 90 to 120 days after transplanting. Store my tubers in a warm, humid place for about a week, then at about 58 degrees. It will take about 2 months for the best flavor to develop.

Problems that affect me are weevils, white grubs, wireworms, overfertilization, poor soil drainage, and too much shade.

Do you know what plant I am?

Answer on page 8

THE DEVENPORT REPORT: WINTER LAWN CARE



For many homeowners, their lawn is everything. For others, maintaining a lawn is just a weekly chore that must be done! I think I fall somewhere in the middle. In this

article I would like to address lawn issues that probably fits the first group and as Master Gardeners, you can take some of this advice and share with your friends whose lawns are everything to them. Growing a healthy lawn not only looks great but also helps to reduce weed problems that pop up at this time of year. A healthier lawn can be achieved by first getting a soil test and following the recommendations that are given to the homeowner in their report. One important point is that the

homeowner should only apply fertilizer between April and August during the growing season. Different lawn grasses require different amounts and number of applications and you should become familiar with that information. Please go to the LSU AgCenter website and search “Louisiana Lawns BMPs” to really become familiar with this information.

Looking at lawns in January, you will be seeing winter broadleaf weeds and a few winter grasses like annual bluegrass. Dr. Ron Strahan has suggested a weed control in lawns that looks like this:

Weed Control in Lawns

INGREDIENTS:

1 OUNCE OF FERTILOME WEED FREE ZONE OR

2.5 OUNCES ORTHO WEED B GON

PLUS

8.6 OUNCES OF LIQUID ATRAZINE

PLUS

2 TEASPOONS OF SPREADER STICKER

DIRECTIONS:

MIX ABOVE INGREDIENTS IN 1 GALLON OF WATER IN YOUR SPRAYER. SPRAY UNIFORMLY OVER 1,000 sq.ft. OF LAWN AREA. USE IN EARLY SPRING (FEBRUARY) BEFORE DAYTIME TEMPERATURES ARE ABOVE 85 F. BE SURE TO FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS.

A combination of a pre-emergent and post emergent herbicide is the best way to help control weeds in the lawn. Big box stores often push “Weed and Feed” products before April and that is a problem. By applying a fertilizer high in Nitrogen that is impregnated with an Herbicide prior to April, especially on St. Augustine grass, you may be encouraging vigorous lawn growth and greening-up, which can lead to frost injury and increased disease susceptibility- “Large Patch/Brown Patch”. In the Southwest Region Spring Horticulture Hints 2020, Dr. Strahan goes into more detail about the different herbicides in retail stores that address more specific weeds and their control. Mowing your lawns at recommended rates will also help reduce weed issues in your lawns. By properly mowing your lawns, you can reduce using chemicals in your lawns and keeping them out of the environment!

Just one more plug for the videos that I’ve made on different horticultural topics. Of most importance now are the ones addressing different citrus issues. If you are on Facebook, search Lafayette Parish 4H and go to the videos on that page to view!!



Let's say goodbye to 2020 with some photos May Vidacovich sent to us. The Camelias are labeled and in my opinion "OUTSTANDING". The year 2020 was also outstanding, but not in a good way. With these lovely blooms lets buzz into 2021 with our hopes high for a much better year.



TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO LPMGA

We are delighted to congratulate and thank the following Master Gardeners who took the class in 2000. They have given countless time and phenomenal talents to have reached Platinum Status in our organization by being a Master Gardener for 20 years! Thank you for your service and dedication to the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners!

Glenda Balliviero
Norman Balliviero
Rosemary Funk
Vivian Katz
Jeanell Menard
Patricia Soileau

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR MESSAGE

Let's start this new year off with a huge thank you to all our volunteers!

Your volunteer time and CE hours are greatly appreciated. This past year has been challenging to say the least, but we found that we can still “get ‘er done” while maintaining a safe distance.

We learned a lot in 2020. We learned that it's important to be flexible and that challenges can bring opportunity for growth. We learned that technology is our friend and we have opened up new venues for our Plant Sales and opportunities for other volunteer activities that can be done online or at home.

The support that members have shown for fellow MGs has been amazing and has shown how caring our members are. We are rockin', resilient and ready to see what 2021 brings.

Keep watching the newsletter and your MG emails for announcements regarding activities opening, future socials and meetings being scheduled, and any changes in hours required for Active status in 2021.

Lets hope that we are able to return to a regular schedule as soon as is safely possible.

Please remember that Active status also requires 2021 Dues need to be sent to our Treasurer Debbie Dupuy and a signed Code Of Conduct needs to be returned to our Corresponding Secretary Ellen Garacci.

Here are some ideas for activities that might interest you:

Please consider serving on the 2021 Board. Contact Don Weintritt for more information on joining the Board. For descriptions of Board positions refer to your Handbook.

Contact Meagan Stogsdill if you are interested in creating videos for our Instagram, YouTube channel and/or FaceBook. You do not have to appear in the video unless you would like to.

Help is needed with creating scripts and ideas for content. Consider sharing a unique plant or interesting gardening technique.

2020 LPMGA VOLUNTEER/CONTINUING EDUCATION HOUR REPORT

2020 LPMGA VOLUNTEER/CONTINUING EDUCATION HOUR REPORT JAN-DECEMBER 22 2020														
Year To Date Service Hour Totals & Vol Hours Summary Reports	Activity Hours Totals By Details Report													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	
Total Hrs 6770.56	4H & Other Youth Activities	93.7	98.5	12.5	9	8	42	12.5	10	0	0	0	3	407
Total Vol Hrs 5192.15	Attending Bus/Admin Meetings	23.5	16.5	17.75	0	0	25.2	0	15.5	15.95	0	4	89.75	266.10
Total CE Hrs 1582.41	Civic & Community	293	181.25	192.5	6.5	5.5	24.5	164.25	106	192.75	166.0	49	391.50	3262.25
Individual Contacts 7420	Continuing Education	0	2	4.5	0	0	0	0	0	3.25	0	0	0	30.75
Total Contacts 98709	Extension Activities	50.5	45.5	48	13	20	14.5	75.5	124	125	29	34.6	196.50	1037.60
Mileage 21260.75	LMG Teaching Activities	18.5	33	23.7	0	0	30	8	3	6	1	0	2	217.45
Expenses 1612.50	Volunteer Activities Totals Vol Hours Summary Report	479.2	376.75	298.95	28.5	33.5	136.2	140.92	262.50	342.95	196.0	87.6	678.75	5188.15
	Continuing Education Totals Vol Hours Summary Report	90.45	98.2	45.78	17.5	4	120.6	260.25	125.05	65.75	72.5	65.25	243.70	1582.41

Updated 12/22/2020. The 2020 monthly totals may change throughout the year since hours may be recorded in previous months during the current year.
Chart totals for previous months are not updated monthly.

REDUCED REQUIREMENT 2020: 20 hours total of any combination of Volunteer and/or Continuing Education hours are required.

2019 LPMGA VOLUNTEER/CONTINUING EDUCATION HOUR REPORT FOR COMPARISON														
Service Hour Totals Report 2019	Activity Hours Totals By Details Report													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019 Totals	
Total Vol Hrs 11941.60	4H & Other Youth Activities	63.5	99.15	109.25	59.58	131.25	18.50	23.50	187.48	170.75	137.25	104	36	1060.05
Avg Ind Vol Hrs 28	Attending Bus/Admin Meetings	41	32	36	33.25	14.15	17.75	14	50.25	39	34.75	45.50	45	482.65
Total CE 1906.43	Civic & Community	417.75	560.65	568.30	1002.35	657.50	450	399.50	572.85	1330.35	678.25	858.50	312.25	7768.35
Avg Ind CE 4.48	Continuing Education	5.5	0	26.15	29.50	27	0	0	7	14.50	6.25	3	0	189.90
People Reached 222150	Extension Activities	44	79.50	114.25	131.95	90	84.75	36	126.50	258.50	634.25	123.75	60	1724.45
Mileage 57195.98	LMG Teaching Activities	30.5	49.50	63	94.75	85.25	45	53	159.75	95.25	176.15	29.10	3.95	876.20
Expenses 6664.93	Volunteer Activities Totals Volunteer Hours Summary Report	602.25	802.80	916.95	1342.30	975.15	596	486	1023.85	1968.35	1666.90	1163.85	457.20	11941.60
	Continuing Education Totals Volunteer Hours Summary Report	138.05	188.65	162.65	203.50	139	103	25.53	141.25	226.25	388.05	235.50	35	1906.43

Some members have had problems recording their hours for 2020. Several have recorded hours, but those recorded hours do not appear in the online recording system.

If you feel that you have “lost” hours please contact Volunteer Coordinator Louann Long mglouann@gmail.com or (337) 501-7998 as soon as possible.

TIME TO COMPLETE AND SIGN YOUR LPMGA “CODE OF CONDUCT FORM”
YOU SHOULD RETURN THESE TO ELLEN GARACCIE

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT



LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA'S
HISTORIC
AZALEA TRAIL
Official Azalea City
WWW.AZALEATRIL.ORG

TROLLEY RIDES
SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2021
HISTORIC AND
GARDEN DISTRICTS

BEAUTIFUL
MUSEUMS, HISTORIC HOMES,
CHURCHES, AND SCHOOLS
RESTAURANTS, SHOPPING
ARTS, AND MUSIC

AZALEA SOCIETY PARTNERS WITH PRESERVATION ALLIANCE OF LAFAYETTE

The Azalea Trail Committee would like to announce that Lafayette's Azalea Trail will be partnering with Preservation Alliance of Lafayette in promoting the trail and historic properties. Further beautification efforts will continue as they revitalize the grounds of historic homes and buildings along the historic azalea trail



WHAT PLANT AM I ANSWER

1



5

Ipomoea batatas :
Sweet potato

Note: About 90 % of the sweet potatoes produced in Australia are the Beauregard variety developed at the LSU Experimental Station.

3



6

7

KUDO'S

Kathy Troyanowski

This month's kudos go to Kathy Troyanowski. She has stepped up and taken Patricia Soilieu's place as recording secretary. Patricia has retired from the position after several years of service to LPMGA. Kathy has been a master gardener since 2003 and has served on the board before. She can be found most Wednesday mornings at the Demo Beds working in propagation or the vegetable garden.

Welcome to the LPGMA Board and thank you!

This month we would like to put a SPOTLIGHT on
the Healers Garden at Vermilionville

Strange times we live in! Currently, the committee members of the Healers' Garden are going to Vermilionville to work just one or two at a time because of COVID-19. In better times there were usually seven or eight of us working at once. We are like family and miss not being with each other, but hopefully in the spring we will get back to normal! We are looking forward to seeing our elderberry burst into bloom and then produce fruit once again for everyone to enjoy!



MARY PERRIN AND MARYANN ARMBRUSTER
CO-CHAIRS

LSU AGCENTER WEBSITE HAS TWO VIRTUAL EVENTS
SCHEDULED

Ge It Growing: How to Treat Scale on Magnolia Leaves
(January 4, 2021)

Japanese Maples Provide Accent to Landscapes
(12/28/2020)

FUROSHIKI:

THE JAPANESE ART OF GIFT WRAPPING WITH FABRIC
BY BARBARA MCCONNELL

IF YOU FEEL A CREATIVE URGE COMING ON, AND PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE MORE SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS AT THE SAME TIME, TRY WRAPPING YOUR NEXT GIFT IN REUSABLE FABRIC INSTEAD OF DISPOSABLE PAPER OR A BAG.

A CENTURIES-OLD JAPANESE TRADITION, WHEN SOMEONE WOULD GO TO THE PUBLIC BATHS, THEIR CLOTHES WOULD BE SET ASIDE IN INDIVIDUAL FABRIC WRAPS, SOME WITH VERY DISTINCT PATTERNS AND RECOGNIZABLE TO THE CLOTHES OWNER WHEN THEY DRESSED TO LEAVE.

NOW MORE OFTEN, CLOTH IS TIED AROUND LUNCHES IN BENTO BOXES AND THEN UNTIED AND USED AS A NAPKIN OR A TABLECLOTH FOR THAT MEAL. THE CLOTH IS BROUGHT HOME AND REUSED AGAIN WITH THE REFILLED BOX THE NEXT DAY.

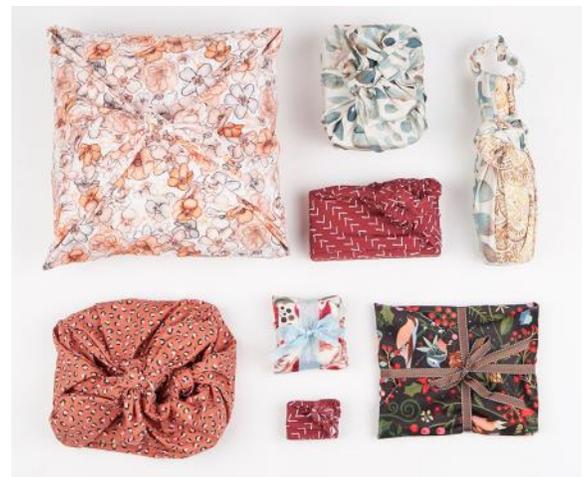
THIS IS A PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE TO GOING TO A FAST FOOD OUTLET WHERE EVERYTHING IS DISPOSED OF. OR, GETTING SOMETHING TO EAT FROM A GROCERY STORE AND CARRIED IN A THROW-AWAY PLASTIC GROCERY BAG.

OR WRAP A GIFT IN EITHER A LEFTOVER PIECE OF FABRIC OR *WRAP THE PRESENT IN ANOTHER PRESENT*. A SCARF FOR A BOTTLE OF PERFUME, NAPKIN AROUND A BOTTLE OF WINE, BANDANA FOR A MAN'S GIFT, HANDKERCHIEF, ALL THE WAY UP TO A BEDSHEET. IF THE FABRIC IS A WRONG SIZE, JUST KEEP FOLDING IT TILL IT'S THE RIGHT SIZE, OR CUT IT TO FIT!

FUROSHIKI REFERS TO BOTH THE WRAPPING OF THE GIFT AS WELL AS A VERY DISTINCTIVE JAPANESE FABRIC TYPE. BUT ANY TYPE OF FABRIC CAN BE USED—LIGHTER ONES SEEMS TO WORK BETTER THAN HEAVIER ONES. AND YOU MAY ONLY NEED FOUR ITEMS: FABRIC, RIBBON, PINS AND SCISSORS. TUCKING IN A FLOWER, OR A SPRIG OF FRAGRANT HERB IN A SELF-MADE BOW ARE OPTIONAL.

THERE ARE A PLETHORA OF DIFFERENT SITES TO DISCOVER WRAPPING TECHNIQUES OR THE FABRICS: ETSY AND UTUBE ARE TWO OF THEM AS WELL AS AMAZON AND ANTHROPOLOGIE.

SITES LIKE: "MADE WITH WENDY-FABRIC GIFT WRAP BASICS", TUTORIALS BY SHIHO MASUDA "FABRIC GIFT WRAPPING", AND "3 WAYS TO WRAP GIFTS IN FABRIC" BY FABRIC.COM ARE POPULAR ONES TO TRY.



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

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JANUARY CALENDAR

LPMGA Board Meeting January 6

**LSU AGCenter Virtual Event January 4, 2021
 "How to Treat Scale on Magnolia Leaves"**

March 6, 2021 Azalea Trail

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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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 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 the LSU AgCenter 291-7090

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