

## **'THE SAGE'--FEBRUARY 2012**

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

### **THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS:**

Wisconsin Public Television Garden Expo Feb. 10-12

Our "Mad Gardener" Is Ready for Your Questions

We Need Some Room!! 50% Off Houseplants

Klein's Cosponsors the 26th Annual Frostiball at the Overture Center

[Rose Trivia](#)

[For the Love of Latin](#)

Celebrate the Three Sisters: [Corn, Beans and Squash](#)

Product Spotlight: [Birdbath De-icers from API](#)

Klein's Favorite [Seed, Bulb & Plant Sources](#)

[Our Very Favorite Artichoke Recipes](#)

[Notes from Rick's Garden Journal](#)-- from January 2012

--An Unexpected Surprise

--About Rooting Glasses

--Streptocarpus Know-How

You Asked the Mad Gardener About [Scale and Powdery Mildew](#)

[February in the Garden](#): A Planner

Gardening Events [Around Town](#)

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[Delivery Information](#)

The City of Madison Recycles Used Plastic Pots

Related [Resources and Websites](#)

[Plants Harmful to Kids and Pets](#)

### **THE MAD GARDENER**

"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"

Ask any of your gardening questions by e-mailing them to us at [madgardener@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:madgardener@kleinsfloral.com). Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. We've also posted a link to this e-mail address on our home page for your convenience. Your question might then appear in the "You Asked" feature of our monthly newsletter. If your question is the one selected for our monthly newsletter, you'll receive a small gift from us at Klein's. The **Mad Gardener** hopes to hear from you soon!

Sorry, we can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

Please note that our **Mad Gardener** is not only an expert gardener, but can answer all of your indoor plant questions as well.

### **FEBRUARY STORE HOURS:**

Monday thru Friday: 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 8:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

**February 2**--Ground Hog Day

**February 4**--26th Annual Frostiball at the Overture Center. Klein's Floral is very excited to be a special contributor for this spectacular event. We are the sole florist selected to enhance the party-goer's experience. For details and tickets, visit

<http://downtownmadison.org/events/frostiball>.

**February 7**--Full Moon

**February 10-12--Wisconsin Public Television's Garden Expo** at the Alliant Energy Center. The Klein's booths will entice all senses with fresh herbs, colorful windowsill bloomers, spring annuals and garden decor. We'll also be giving out coupons for free annuals and in-store savings come spring. Tickets for **Wisconsin Public Television's Garden Expo** are available at Klein's for a lesser price than at the door. More details are available at [www.wigardenexpo.com](http://www.wigardenexpo.com). There, you'll find a complete list of exhibitors and a calendar of scheduled events.

**February 14--Valentine's Day.** Order early for guaranteed delivery. We deliver throughout Madison and most of Dane County.

**February 21--Presidents' Day**

**February 22--Ash Wednesday** (Easter is April 8)

**Throughout February--**Ever thought about working at a greenhouse? Now is the time to stop in and ask for an application. We always need temporary, part-time counter help in the spring and greenhouse production swings into gear by mid-February. If you're interested, ask for Sue or Jen for the retail area or Jamie or Rick for the greenhouses. Benefits include a generous discount on all those plants you buy at Klein's anyway. Join our team and experience how it's all done.

**Throughout February--**The summer bulbs continue to arrive for retail sale. Shop early for the best selection.

[To Top](#)

### **'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':**

**Red roses symbolize passionate love and are traditional for Valentine's Day.**

#### **Rose Trivia**

For centuries, roses have inspired love and brought beauty to those who have received them. In fact, the rose's rich heritage dates back thousands of years. The Society of American Florists (@ [www.aboutflowers.com](http://www.aboutflowers.com)) compiled this list of interesting rose facts from a variety of sources:

--People have been passionate about roses since the beginning of time. In fact, it is said that the floors of Cleopatra's palace were carpeted with delicate rose petals, and that the wise and knowing Confucius had a 600 book library specifically on how to care for roses.

--Wherefore art thou rose? In the readings of Shakespeare, of course. He refers to roses more than 50 times throughout his writings.

--1,000 years old!! That's the age the world's oldest living rose is thought to be. Today it continues to flourish on the wall of the Hildesheim Cathedral of Germany.

--Why white roses are so special is no mystery - it's a myth. Perhaps it started with the Romans who believed white roses grew where the tears of Venus fell as she mourned the loss of her beloved Adonis. Myth also has it that Venus' son Cupid accidentally shot arrows into the rose garden when a bee stung him, and it was the "sting" of the arrows that caused the roses to grow thorns. And when Venus walked through the garden and pricked her foot on a thorn, it was the droplets of her blood which turned the roses red.

--It's official - the rose is New York's state flower.

--The rose is a legend in it's own. The story goes that during the Roman empire, there was an incredibly beautiful maiden named Rhodanthe. Her beauty drew many zealous suitors who pursued her relentlessly. Exhausted by their pursuit, Rhodanthe was forced to take refuge from her suitors in the temple of her friend Diana. Unfortunately, Diana became jealous. And when the suitors broke down her temple gates to get near their beloved Rhodanthe she also became angry, turning Rhodanthe into a rose and her suitors into thorns.

--Dolly Parton may be known for her music and theme park. But rose lovers know her for the orange red variety bearing her name.

--A rose by any other name... according to Greek Mythology, it was Aphrodite who gave the rose its name.

--While the rose may bear no fruit, the rose hips (the part left on the plant after a rose is done blooming) contain more Vitamin C than almost any other fruit or vegetable.

--The rose is a symbol of times. In fact, it's the official National Floral Emblem of the United States.

--Leave it to the romantic French to be the ones to first deliver roses. It was in the seventeenth century that French explorer Samuel deChamplain brought the first cultivated roses to North America.

--Roses are truly ageless. Recently, archaeologists discovered the fossilized remains of wild roses over 40 million years old.

--The people of ancient Greece used roses to accessorize. On festive occasions they would adorn themselves with garlands of roses, and splash themselves with rose-scented oil.

--Napoleon's wife Josephine so adored roses, she grew more than 250 varieties.

--For the past 30 years and counting, June has been the National Rose Month in the United States.

[To Top](#)

### **YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER . . .**

**I had a beautiful blue plumbago in a large container outside last summer. I brought it inside to try to overwinter it, but it got powdery mildew so bad the leaves dried up and fell off. Is there a fungicide I could use to help or do you have any other ideas? It's sitting in my dark cellar now.**

**Also, is there a systemic insecticide that would work on scale on a 7 foot weeping fig tree? Thanks for your help. Nancy**

Hi Nancy,

As for the plumbago, they are notoriously prone to powdery mildew. At this point in time (mid-January) we're about halfway through the overwintering process. Given that fact (and if I were in your shoes), here's my suggestion:

Before going any further make sure your plant is alive and healthy. Somewhere down a thicker part of a branch, scrape back a little of the bark with your fingernail. If the underlying layer is a rich green, your plant is in good shape.

Next, cut the entire plant back to about a foot. You may need to use a pruners or even a lopper if the stems are thick. It seems drastic, but you won't damage a healthy plant. In addition, you'll have a fuller, better branched plant during the upcoming summer. I hack back my own plumbago to 12" BEFORE I bring it back indoors for the winter. Doing so usually rids the plant of most pest and foliar problems.

Next, move the plant to the sunniest or brightest, warm spot in the house that you have. Keep it well-watered; watering thoroughly once dry to the touch. Because the days are getting longer, you can begin fertilizing any time now. Start out slow and increase to regular rate as the days lengthen.

You should notice new growth in about 2-3 weeks. With the lengthening days, the plant should grow quickly. The new foliage should come in healthy and green with no powdery mildew. If powdery mildew does pop up, it probably won't happen until just before you can take the plant outdoors (where environmental conditions will be able to control the mildew for you).

Powdery mildew is a common problem on many outdoor plants. It usually won't kill healthy plants--especially woody shrubs such as plumbago. It looks unsightly and causes the leafdrop you indicated--the plants way of coping. Next fall, prune the plant and remove all foliage before the plant is brought indoors. The same rule applies to nearly all overwintered tropical shrubs, i.e. hibiscus, lantana, etc. And yes, any ready-to-use houseplant fungicide will work. Make sure to read the instructions and apply only as directed. Some plants tolerate pesticides better than others.

Moving on to the ficus. Once established, it's very, very difficult and nearly impossible for most people to rid a plant of scale. From personal experience, scale is not much affected by many of the common pesticides available for houseplants. The pesticides control the scale to a degree and with diligence on your part, but they never fully

eradicate the scale (even if you see 'for scale' on the label). One of the problems with scale is that you need to use a different type of pesticide for the various stages in their life cycle.

If you have the time, wiping them off with soapy water or a cotton ball dipped in rubbing alcohol is the most effective. You'll never fully rid the plant of scale; but once controlled, future control becomes easier.

Far and away the simplest means to control scale is to move your plant outdoors to a shady spot in the garden for the summer--and not in an enclosed space or patio room. Natural predators are attracted to the sticky honeydew the scale produces. By summer's end you probably won't notice a single scale on your plant. The scale won't be eradicated, but their lifecycle will have been radically disrupted. The scale usually won't reappear on the plant until into January or even later. With so little scale on the plant, it's then easier for you to control until you can put the ficus back outdoors again the following spring.

In addition, pruning your ficus to shape in the fall will help with bringing fewer scale back indoors and will also reduce the amount of leafdrop. Leafdrop is normal for ficus that spend the summer outdoors. People usually panic by the leafdrop, but this is a normal response to the shorter days and lower light conditions.

We recommend using a granular systemic pesticide on all plants that spend the summer outdoors. The first application should occur about Labor Day and then at 5 or 6 week intervals through the winter months. The amount used is based on pot size.

I hope I was of some help and thanks for your great questions.

The Mad Gardener

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

**... that the second word in a plant's Latin name gives us a bounty of information regarding a plant's appearance or growth habit?**

Latin names add quite a bit of meaning about a plant's description. Learning just a few Latin words will open a floodgate of knowledge and insight when visiting garden centers or public gardens, looking at plant labels or reading gardening magazines or books. You'll notice a few Latin words, prefixes or suffixes appear over and over again. Some of the most common examples include:

Alba=white  
Alpinus=from the Alps  
Angustifolia=narrow leaves  
Australis=southern  
Aurea=golden  
Borealis=northern  
Caerulea=blue  
Canadensis=from Canada  
Capensis=from South Africa  
Coccinea=red  
Glabra=silvery or shiny  
Grandiflora=large flowers  
Grandifolia=large leaves  
Humilis=short  
Incana=gray  
Lutea=yellow  
Macro=large  
Maculata=spotted  
Micrantha=small flowered  
Micro=little or small  
Montana=from the mountains  
Multiflora=many flowered  
Muralis=growing on walls  
Nemerosa=from woodlands  
Nigra=black  
Occidentalis=western  
Officinalis=medicinal

Orientalis=eastern  
Pallida=pale  
Pendula=weeping  
Pumila=small  
Repens/reptans=creeping, crawling  
Rosea=pink  
Rotundifolia=round-leaved  
Rubra/rubrum=red  
Rupestris=from the hills  
Sanguineus=blood-red  
Scandens=climbing  
Sibirica=from Siberia  
Sinensis=from China  
Spicata=spiked  
Spinosa=spiny  
Stellata=starry  
Undulata=wavy  
Variegatus=variegated  
Villosa=hairy  
Viridis=green  
Viscosa=sticky  
Vulgaris=common  
Zebrina=striped

[To Top](#)

## **NOTES FROM MY GARDEN JOURNAL--Tips and Observations from My Own Garden by Rick Halbach.**

### **ENTRY: JANUARY 8, 2012 (An Unexpected Surprise)**

I took advantage of this beautiful winter day and took down all of the outdoor holiday lights. Unlike most Januarys, we continue our mild weather with no snow on the ground. As I was removing the lights from the south side of the garage, I noticed a few odd looking fuzzy white globs nestled into some of the cut off perennials. At first I thought they might be some sort of rodent nest or part of a dead animal. Upon further inspection, I realized they were cotton balls--cotton from a plant I had growing in that spot last summer!

Last September I made the following entry in my garden journal:

--Probably the most interesting and fun plant I'm growing in my garden this year is cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*). I've never seen a cotton plant before, so I'm finding this whole experience fascinating. I can't believe how beautiful the plants are and how well they fit into the landscape. I'm growing two very large containers that are placed in two very different sunny spots in the yard so I can learn where they might grow best. The 3-4' plants are very dense with glossy and beautiful, maple-like foliage. Pale yellow flowers have appeared almost daily for the entire summer. The hibiscus-like blooms turn a pale pink as they mature. Like most members of the mallow family, blooms last just one day.

The plants are now loaded with large, hard seedpods called bolls and seem about to burst. I'm hoping they do so before the weather turns. Seed source: Pinetree Garden Seeds at [www.superseeds.com](http://www.superseeds.com)--

Well, September and October came and went and still no cotton. The pods remained firm and swollen as I needed to put the garden to bed for the winter. After waiting as long as I could, I finally dumped the two containers into the back of the pick up truck for disposal in Klein's compost heap. Little did I know I must have knocked some of the pods onto the ground; where they continued to dry and mature. Now in early January, the pods had burst open revealing their fluffy, seed-filled innards. With a lot of work I was able to get at some of the seeds. Having never seen raw cotton before, I can now imagine how the world changed once the cotton gin was invented.

I'm looking forward to growing cotton again in 2012! This next fall I'm planning on holding on to my cotton plants to see what happens naturally as the fall and winter progress in hopes the bolls will mature and pop open on the stalks.

### **ENTRY: JANUARY 9, 2012 (About Rooting Glasses)**

Living in a small house and with limited space makes it difficult for me to find the right space for hanging plants. Over time, most hanging plants simply get too large and just make too much of a mess. A simple and very attractive alternative is the rooting glass or rooting vase. Any container that can hold water and a few plant cuttings could, I suppose, be called a 'rooting glass'. What sets a true rooting glass apart from a Dixie cup sitting on a windowsill is the combination of art and functionality.

'Store-bought' rooting glasses are usually colorful glass containers or vases that are either hung or set near a window. They not only root out healthy plant cuttings, but are very eye-catching as the sunlight comes through the colored glass. Rooting glasses are very old-fashioned and take up a minimal amount of space. They are a great aid to teach kids about plant growth and propagation. And because they are usually inexpensive and unique, they make great gifts for plant lovers.

To use a rooting glass, one simply takes a plant cutting (or a few for a fuller display) and places it in the water filled glass and then positions the glass in the home for optimum light and beauty. Not all plants are good candidates for making cuttings. Best choices include: ivy, pothos, begonias, coleus, viny philodendrons, African violets and some herbs, including mint. Within weeks, the glass will be filled with the cutting's new roots. The only maintenance required is to keep the glass filled with water. After a while the rooted plants can either be potted up into a container or discarded to start over. We recommend using only pure water and no fertilizer in a rooting glass. Fertilizing would promote algae growth.

Klein's currently has a selection of rooting glasses in stock. For a nice on-line source, visit Gardener's Supply Company @ [www.gardeners.com](http://www.gardeners.com), where you'll find both tabletop and hanging versions.

#### **ENTRY: JANUARY 25, 2012 (Streptocarpus Know-How)**

Though its name sounds like some exotic medical condition, streptocarpus (aka Cape Primrose) is actually one of my very favorite indoor blooming plants. In fact, the eight streptocarpus that I'm currently overwintering down in the basement under some shop lights are in full bloom and bloom for me nearly year round.

My obsession with streptocarpus began years ago and at a time when I was collecting African violets. This African violet relative is easier to grow than violets and is a delight in a shady spot in the garden in summer. The relatively large, showy flowers come in all the typical 'African violet' shades--blue, purple, pink, rose, red, white and countless bicolors. Care is simple:

"Streps need bright light but not direct sun. They can easily be grown in east and west facing windows as well as under fluorescent lights. Some early morning or late evening sun shouldn't harm them but direct sun during the mid day can cause burning to the leaves and the flowers. It is important they get adequate light as to little light leads to plants producing very large leaves and little or no blooms. You can also successfully grow your plants under a two tube 'shop light' fixture with a cool and warm bulb or full spectrum fluorescent lights with about 12-14 hours of light per day and get nice results.

Streptocarpus prefer to be grown in cool conditions. Growing temperatures should remain between 55 and 75 if possible. It is very important to keep the roots as cool as possible to keep the plants happy.

Streptocarpus have fairly shallow root systems and seem to prefer and grow much better in the "pan" or "azalea" style pots. This is because they have a shallow root system. They prefer plastic to clay pots as the roots will fix themselves into the pores of the clay and are then very difficult (if not impossible) to remove. It is also encouraged to keep the plants on the root bound or pot bound side. They become more floriferous this way. If properly cared for and fed they will flourish. Remember they can live in very little soil on the surfaces of rocks. It's important to re-pot with fresh soil at least once a year."

Source: [www.streptocarpus-info.com](http://www.streptocarpus-info.com)

Over the years, I've purchased nearly all of my streptocarpus from **Logee's Greenhouses** @ [www.logees.com](http://www.logees.com). They offer an excellent selection year round and with have high quality plants at good prices. For a huge selection check out **Gary's Out of Africa** @ [www.garys-out-of-africa.com](http://www.garys-out-of-africa.com). I've never ordered from this company personally, but have talked with customers who have and with rave reviews. Klein's usually offers a streptocarpus variety or two very early in the springtime. We usually run out quite quickly once the plants go into bloom so shop early!!

[To Top](#)

**KLEIN'S RECIPES OF THE MONTH**--These are a selection of relatively simple recipes chosen by our staff. New recipes appear monthly. Enjoy!!

2011 was the first year that Klein's sold artichoke plants for Madison area gardeners. The variety we carry is 'Imperial Star' and the following bit of information comes to us from **Mother Earth News** @ [www.motheearthnews.com](http://www.motheearthnews.com).

Artichokes are an adventure for the palate, eyes and soul. Exotic additions to flower borders and vegetable gardens, their sheer size demands attention. The prettiest of pollinators flock to them. And steamed artichoke buds create convivial dinner parties, forcing all to slow down, taste, savor and converse. Until a few years ago, only gardeners along the Pacific Coast and in mild Mediterranean climates could grow artichokes. This gourmet, perennial vegetable did not tolerate temperatures below 20 degrees, grew best in foggy areas with cool days and nights, and demanded a long growing season.

But these rigid requirements changed when a new variety, 'Imperial Star,' became available in the late 1990s. An annual artichoke that is started from seed in early spring, it produces edible buds about 90 days after transplants are set out, much like tomatoes and peppers. Now anyone, anywhere, can have an artichoke patch for fresh eating or even canning.

Buttery, with a nutty flavor, artichoke hearts have long been regarded as elegant additions to salads, as topping for sauteed fish and as toothsome appetizers when dressed with vinegar, olive oil and herbs. The whole artichoke bud is best steamed and served with a dipping sauce of garlic-flavored, melted butter or mayonnaise. To eat it, grasp the pointed end of each petal of the bud and pull it off. Then dip the petal bottom in the sauce and rake it over your teeth to dislodge the meaty pulp at the base.

When most of the large petals have been consumed, cut away all remaining ones, and scoop out the hairy materials in the bud base to reveal the meaty artichoke heart. It can be cut into pieces and dipped into the remaining sauce. Eating an artichoke is almost a social event: time-consuming, but well worth the effort.

Here are some of Klein's favorite artichoke recipes:

**ARTICHOKE, SPINACH, WHITE BEAN DIP**--This warm and oh-so-nummy dip made an appearance at the Klein's holiday party this past January. It originally appeared in the April 2011 issue of Cooking Light magazine.

1/4 cup grated parmesan  
1/4 cup mayonnaise  
1 tsp. lemon juice  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. pepper  
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper  
2 cloves minced garlic  
1 x 15 oz. can white beans (i.e. cannellini), drained and rinsed  
1 x 14 oz. can chopped artichoke hearts (not marinated!)  
1 x 10 oz. pkg. frozen spinach, thawed and squeezed dry  
1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Preheat the oven to 350°. In a food processor, blend until smooth the parmesan, mayo, lemon juice, salt, pepper, red pepper, garlic and beans. Spoon into a bowl and stir in the artichokes and the spinach. Spoon the mixture into a 1 quart glass greased baking dish. Sprinkle with the mozzarella and bake 20 minutes or until bubbly and browning. Serve warm with crackers or pita chips. Serves 12.

**ARTICHOKE CHEESE BREAD**--From the pages of Everyday Food magazine, October, 2004.

1 x 10 oz. sourdough baguette  
1 TBS. butter  
1 clove minced garlic  
1/2 cup sour cream  
1/2 cup shredded cheddar  
1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack  
2 x 6.5 oz. marinated artichoke hearts, drained and chopped  
1 TBS. lemon juice  
coarse salt and pepper  
1/4 cup parmesan

Preheat the oven to 350°. Halve the baguette lengthwise and scoop out the centers with your fingers. Tear the bread into small pieces and set the shells aside. Melt the butter in a medium skillet over medium-low heat. Add the bread and garlic and cook until the bread is golden, stirring occasionally--about 5 minutes. Cool slightly. In a large bowl, mix together the bread, sour cream, cheddar, Monterey Jack, artichokes and lemon juice. Season with salt and pepper and stir together. Spoon the mixture into the reserved shells and sprinkle with parmesan. Bake on a cookie sheet until the top is browned, about 20-25 minutes. Allow to cool 5 minutes and slice into serving size pieces. Serves 8.

**ARTICHOKE SALAD**--A delectable salad from Willy St. Co-op that appeared in their November 2009 newsletter.

1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil  
4 TBS. fresh lemon juice  
2 TBS. chopped fresh parsley  
1 TBS. balsamic vinegar  
2 cloves minced garlic  
1 tsp. Dijon mustard  
salt and pepper to taste  
2 x 14 oz. cans artichoke hearts, rinsed and quartered (not marinated)  
1/2 cup sliced black olives  
8 oz. quartered mushrooms  
2 cups chopped sweet peppers (mix and match colors for a more colorful salad)

Combine the oil, juice, parsley, vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper in a covered container and shake vigorously. Combine the rest of the ingredients in a large bowl. Pour on the dressing and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate 24 or more hours for best flavor. Place in a serving bowl about 30 minutes before serving bringing it to room temperature.

**ARTICHOKE DIP WITH SPINACH AND PINE NUTS**--A Klein's favorite that has made an appearance at many family get-togethers. An oldie that appeared in the December 1997 issue of the Isthmus.

2 x 8 oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened  
8 oz. crumbled feta cheese  
1 x 6.5 oz. jar marinated artichokes  
1 tsp. chopped garlic  
1 tsp. red pepper flakes  
1 TBS. olive oil  
1/3 cup frozen, chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry  
1/2 cup chopped black olives  
pine nuts

In a processor, combine the cream cheese, feta, artichokes, garlic, pepper flakes and oil. Pulse until blended. Stir together in a bowl with the spinach and the olives. Spread the mixture into a broiler-safe serving dish and sprinkle with pine nuts. Broil, 3 or 4" away from the heat, until golden and bubbly. Serve with crackers or pita chips.

**PASTA SALAD WITH ARTICHOKE AND SUN-DRIED TOMATOES**--Another no-fail favorite from Bon Appetit, August 2002.

1 x 20 oz. pkg. three cheese tortellini  
1/2 cup mayo  
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil  
1/4 cup red wine vinegar  
1 1/2 tsp. Dijon mustard  
1 tsp. sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
1/4 tsp. dried oregano  
1/4 tsp. dried thyme  
1/4 tsp. dried basil  
1 clove pressed garlic  
2 cups chopped celery  
1 x 14 oz. can artichoke hearts, drained and chopped (not marinated)  
3/4 cup green onions, chopped  
1/2 cup drained, oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes, coarsely chopped  
1/2 cup pitted kalamata olives, coarsely chopped



1/2 cup parmesan

Cook the pasta according to package instructions and rinse in cold water. Drain. Whisk together the mayo, oil, vinegar, mustard, sugar, salt, pepper, oregano, thyme, basil and garlic until well blended. Transfer 3/4 cup dressing to a large bowl. Mix in the celery, artichokes, onions, tomatoes and olives. Next, stir in the pasta and the parmesan. Toss to blend. Add more dressing by the 1/4 cupfuls and season to taste. Makes 6-8 servings.

[To Top](#)

## **NATURAL NEWS--**

### **Celebrate the Three Sisters: Corn, Beans and Squash**

by Alice Formiga @ [www.reneesgarden.com/articles/3sisters](http://www.reneesgarden.com/articles/3sisters)

According to Iroquois legend, corn, beans, and squash are three inseparable sisters who only grow and thrive together. This tradition of interplanting corn, beans and squash in the same mounds, widespread among Native American farming societies, is a sophisticated, sustainable system that provided long-term soil fertility and a healthy diet to generations. Growing a Three Sisters garden is a wonderful way to feel more connected to the history of this land, regardless of our ancestry.

Corn, beans and squash were among the first important crops domesticated by ancient Mesoamerican societies. Corn was the primary crop, providing more calories or energy per acre than any other. According to Three Sisters legends corn must grow in community with other crops rather than on its own - it needs the beneficial company and aide of its companions.

The Iroquois believe corn, beans and squash are precious gifts from the Great Spirit, each watched over by one of three sisters spirits, called the De-o-ha-ko, or Our Sustainers". The planting season is marked by ceremonies to honor them, and a festival commemorates the first harvest of green corn on the cob. By retelling the stories and performing annual rituals, Native Americans passed down the knowledge of growing, using and preserving the Three Sisters through generations.

Corn provides a natural pole for bean vines to climb. Beans fix nitrogen on their roots, improving the overall fertility of the plot by providing nitrogen to the following years corn. Bean vines also help stabilize the corn plants, making them less vulnerable to blowing over in the wind. Shallow-rooted squash vines become a living mulch, shading emerging weeds and preventing soil moisture from evaporating, thereby improving the overall crops chances of survival in dry years. Spiny squash plants also help discourage predators from approaching the corn and beans. The large amount of crop residue from this planting combination can be incorporated back into the soil at the end of the season, to build up the organic matter and improve its structure.

Corn, beans and squash also complement each other nutritionally. Corn provides carbohydrates, the dried beans are rich in protein, balancing the lack of necessary amino acids found in corn. Finally, squash yields both vitamins from the fruit and healthful, delicious oil from the seeds.

Native Americans kept this system in practice for centuries without the modern conceptual vocabulary we use today, i.e. soil nitrogen, vitamins, etc. They often look for signs in their environment that indicate the right soil temperature and weather for planting corn, i.e. when the Canada geese return or the dogwood leaves reach the size of a squirrels ear. You may wish to record such signs as you observe in your garden and neighborhood so that, depending on how well you judged the timing, you can watch for them again next season!

Early European settlers would certainly never have survived without the gift of the Three Sisters from the Native Americans, the story behind our Thanksgiving celebration. Celebrating the importance of these gifts, not only to the Pilgrims but also to civilizations around the globe that readily adopted these New World crops, adds meaning to modern garden practices

Success with a Three Sisters garden involves careful attention to timing, seed spacing, and varieties. In many areas, if you simply plant all three in the same hole at the same time, the result will be a snarl of vines in which the corn gets overwhelmed!

### **Instructions for Planting Your Own Three Sisters Garden in a 10 x 10 square**

**When to plant:**

Sow seeds any time after spring night temperatures are in the 50 degree range, up through June.

**What to plant:**

Corn must be planted in several rows rather than one long row to ensure adequate pollination. Choose pole beans or runner beans and a squash or pumpkin variety with trailing vines, rather than a compact bush.

Note: A 10 x 10 foot square of space for your Three Sisters garden is the minimum area needed to ensure good corn pollination. If you have a small garden, you can plant fewer mounds, but be aware that you may not get good full corn ears as a result.

**How to plant:**

1. Choose a site in full sun (minimum 6-8 hours/day of direct sunlight throughout the growing season). Amend the soil with plenty of compost or aged manure, since corn is a heavy feeder and the nitrogen from your beans will not be available to the corn during the first year. With string, mark off three ten-foot rows, five feet apart.

2. In each row, make your corn/bean mounds. The center of each mound should be 5 feet apart from the center of the next. Each mound should be 18 across with flattened tops. The mounds should be staggered in adjacent rows.

Note: The Iroquois and others planted the three sisters in raised mounds about 4 inches high, in order to improve drainage and soil warmth; to help conserve water, you can make a small crater at the top of your mounds so the water doesn't drain off the plants quickly. Raised mounds were not built in dry, sandy areas where soil moisture conservation was a priority, for example in parts of the southwest. There, the three sisters were planted in beds with soil raised around the edges, so that water would collect in the beds. In other words, adjust the design of your bed according to your climate and soil type.

3. Plant 4 corn seeds in each mound in a 6in. square.

4. When the corn is 4 inches tall, its time to plant the beans and squash. First, weed the entire patch. Then plant 4 bean seeds in each corn mound. They should be 3 in apart from the corn plants, completing the square.

5. Build your squash mounds in each row between each corn/bean mound. Make them the same size as the corn/bean mounds. Plant 3 squash seeds, 4 in. apart in a triangle in the middle of each mound.

6. When the squash seedlings emerge, thin them to 2 plants per mound. You may have to weed the area several times until the squash take over and shade new weeds.

**FEBRUARY'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:****Klein's annual houseplant bonanza and sale**

Because we're currently busy planting up those thousands of annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs and shrubs for spring . . . We need more room in our greenhouses!

While supplies last, Klein's is conducting our annual houseplant blow out--

**50% OFF HOUSEPLANTS 6" AND LARGER!**

(This sale excludes selected plants, peace lilies, blooming plants and cannot be used with other discounts. A minimum \$25 purchase is required for delivery. Delivery charges are extra. Please call Klein's at [608/244-5661](tel:6082445661) for details.)

You may already know that Klein's is your one-stop, full service florist for any occasion and serving most of Dane County. But being a greenhouse, we also offer an amazing year round selection of blooming plants and houseplants. Whether a housewarming gift, a "thank-you" blooming plant, a condolence peace lily or a potted plant for dorm, home or office, we can fill your needs.

Each August we receive a semi-load of plants in all shapes and sizes fresh from Florida growers. Selection ranges from the smallest plants for terrariums and dishgardens, to tropical trees, to succulents and cactus. Overnight, our greenhouses become a lush, tropical jungle. Our knowledgeable staff will help select the perfect plant for any location and occasion, offering care tips and sound advice. We also have an excellent selection of pottery and baskets to complement any decor. And if your houseplants have outgrown their current pots, take advantage of Klein's repotting

services. We may be able to help you on the spot, but ask for a 3 days between drop off and pick up. Our repotting fees are based on pot size and include soil and labor.

In addition, Klein's receives weekly shipments of our most popular indoor plants from local suppliers. If we don't have what you want in stock or are looking for something truly unique, Klein's ever helpful staff can suggest similar or seasonal alternatives or would be happy to check with our local suppliers. Special orders are, therefore, always welcome.

[To Top](#)

### **AROUND TOWN:**

For neighborhood events or garden tours that you would like posted in our monthly newsletter, please contact Rick at [\(608\) 244-5661](tel:6082445661) or [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com) or Sue at [sue@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:sue@kleinsfloral.com). Please include all details, i.e. dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Events must be garden related and must take place in the Madison vicinity and we must receive your information by the first of the month in which the event takes place for it to appear in that month's newsletter. This is a great opportunity for free advertising.

### **Dane County Winter Farmer's Market**

Saturdays, January 7 thru April 14, 8:00-noon  
Madison Senior Center  
330 W. Mifflin

For details visit [www.madfarmmkt.org](http://www.madfarmmkt.org)

### **Olbrich's Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit- - Treasures of the Rainforest**

November 12 through March 18, 2012  
Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00  
In the Bolz Conservatory

The rainforests of the world are a tremendous natural resource for people around the world, including Americans. Many of the things consumed every day like fruits, vegetables, ingredients for medicines, and construction materials come from the rainforest. Scientists believe that's just the tip of the iceberg; there are countless species of plants and animals in the rainforests that haven't even been discovered yet! Discover various everyday products that originate in the rainforests and see the plants they come from up close!

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **25th Annual Orchid Quest 2012**

Saturday, February 4, 10:00-5:00  
Sunday, February 5, 10:00-4:00

Escape the winter blues and join orchid enthusiasts at Orchid Quest 2012. Exhibits of exotic and deliciously fragrant orchid flowers will awaken your senses and bring cheers on a winter day. In addition to many orchid exhibits, OQ will also feature florist displays, painted porcelain, art work, quilted banners and a raffle. OQ is one of the largest orchid shows and sales in the Midwest.

Aspiring home growers can expand their knowledge by attending orchid related educational seminars, conducted by renowned orchid experts.

20 orchid vendors from the Midwest and East Coast will be selling their exotic blooming orchids. You will be able to find everything you need to take care of your new orchid plants including literature, growing media, fertilizer, orchid pots, and more. Come see this multidimensional show. Visit [www.orchidguild.org](http://www.orchidguild.org). Sponsored by Orchids Garden Centre & Nursery of Waunakee.

Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall  
1919 Alliant Energy Center Way  
Madison, WI 53713  
[608/267-3976](tel:6082673976) or [www.alliantenergycenter.com](http://www.alliantenergycenter.com)

### **19th Annual Wisconsin Public Television Garden Expo**

Friday, February 10, 4:00-9:00  
Saturday, February 11, 9:00-6:00  
Sunday, February 12, 10:00-4:00

Walk through the custom garden display, attend demonstrations and seminars, register for workshops and view over 400 different exhibitors. Visit [www.wigardenexpo.com](http://www.wigardenexpo.com) for more information. Meet Shelley Ryan, master gardener and producer/host of The Wisconsin Gardener series, UW-Extension experts, and Master Gardeners. All show proceeds, including admission fee, support Wisconsin Public Television programming. Garden Expo also meets WPT's educational and community outreach mission.

Tickets cost \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Two and three-day passes are available for added savings. **Advance tickets are available at Klein's.**

Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall  
1919 Alliant Energy Center Way  
Madison, WI 53713  
[608/267-3976](tel:6082673976) or [www.alliantenergycenter.com](http://www.alliantenergycenter.com)

### **Bumble Bee Ecology and Conservation**

Thursday, February 23, 9:00-11:30 a.m.  
In the auditorium of the Arboretum Visitor Center

Jennifer Hopwood, Midwest Pollinator Conservation Specialist, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Bumble bees are generally the first pollinators out in the morning and the last to leave a field in the evening. Their diligent work is important for many agricultural crops and is essential for certain crops such as cranberries and blueberries. Bumble bees also play an extremely valuable role in wildflower pollination. Unfortunately, factors such as habitat loss and introduced pathogens threaten bumble bees and the services they provide. In recent years, several species in Wisconsin have undergone severe declines. Losses of bumble bees can have far ranging economic and ecological impacts. Whether you are a land manager, an urban gardener, a suburban park manager, a working farmer, or a teacher, there are steps we can all take to help conserve these charismatic and important animals.

University of WI Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Hwy.  
Madison, WI 53711  
[608/263-7888](tel:6082637888) or [uwarboretum.org/events](http://uwarboretum.org/events)

### **Rotary Botanical Gardens' Leap Year Family Fun**

Wednesday, February 29, 3:00-6:00

With an extra day to spend with family and friends every four years, there is no better place to celebrate it than at Rotary Botanical Gardens. Enjoy special activities for the young and young at heart! From bunnies to frogs to kangaroos, it will be a hoppin' and leapin' good time!

Admission:  
\$5 adults (16 and up)  
\$3 youth (6 to 15)

For more details call Kris Koch, Education Coordinator at [608-752-3885, extension 17](tel:6087523885) or email [kris.koch@rotarygardens.org](mailto:kris.koch@rotarygardens.org).

Rotary Botanical Gardens

1455 Palmer Dr., Janesville, WI  
[608/752-3885](tel:6087523885) or [www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org](http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org)

[To Top](#)

### **FEBRUARY IN THE GARDEN**--A checklist of things to do this month.

- \_\_\_ Check perennials for heaving during warm spells. Remulch as needed.
- \_\_\_ Continue bringing out your cooled forced bulbs for indoor enjoyment.
- \_\_\_ Inspect stored summer bulbs like dahlias, cannas and glads for rotting.
- \_\_\_ Check for and treat for pests on plants brought in from the garden.
- \_\_\_ Keep birdfeeders full. Clean periodically with soap and water.
- \_\_\_ Repair and clean out birdhouses. Early arrivals will be here soon!
- \_\_\_ Inventory last year's leftover seeds before ordering or buying new ones.
- \_\_\_ Order seeds and plants. Some of our very favorite seed and plant sources include:

#### **For seeds:**

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds @ [www.RareSeeds.com](http://www.RareSeeds.com) or [417/924-8887](tel:4179248887)  
Burpee @ [www.burpee.com](http://www.burpee.com) or [800/888-1447](tel:8008881447)  
Harris Seeds @ [www.harriseseeds.com](http://www.harriseseeds.com) or [800/514-4441](tel:8005144441)  
Johnny's Select Seeds @ [www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com) or [207/861-3901](tel:2078613901)  
Jung's Seeds @ [www.jungseed.com](http://www.jungseed.com) or [800/247-5864](tel:8002475864)  
Park's Seeds @ [www.parkseed.com](http://www.parkseed.com) or [800/845-3369](tel:8008453369)  
Seeds of Change @ [www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com) or [888/762-7333](tel:8887627333)  
Seed Savers @ [www.seedsavers.org](http://www.seedsavers.org) or [563/382-5990](tel:5633825990)  
Select Seeds @ [www.selectseeds.com](http://www.selectseeds.com) or [800/684-0395](tel:8006840395)  
Territorial Seeds @ [www.territorialseed.com](http://www.territorialseed.com) or [888/657-3131](tel:8886573131)  
Thompson & Morgan @ [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com) or [800/274-7333](tel:8002747333)

#### **For bulbs:**

Brent & Becky's Bulbs @ [www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com](http://www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com) or [877/661-2852](tel:8776612852)  
Colorblends @ [www.colorblends.com](http://www.colorblends.com) or [888/847-8637](tel:8888478637)  
John Scheeper's @ [www.johnscheepers.com](http://www.johnscheepers.com) or [860/567-0838](tel:8605670838)  
McClure & Zimmerman @ [www.mzbulb.com](http://www.mzbulb.com) or [800/883-6998](tel:8008836998)

#### **For plants:**

Heronswood Nursery @ [www.heronswood.com](http://www.heronswood.com) or [360/297-4172](tel:3602974172)  
High Country Gardens @ [www.highcountrygardens.com](http://www.highcountrygardens.com) or [800/925-9387](tel:8009259387)  
Logee's Greenhouses @ [www.logees.com](http://www.logees.com) or [888/330-8038](tel:8883308038)  
Plant Delights Nursery @ [www.plantdelights.com](http://www.plantdelights.com) or [912/772-4794](tel:9127724794)  
Roots and Rhizomes @ [www.rootsrhizomes.com](http://www.rootsrhizomes.com) or [800/374-5035](tel:8003745035)  
Wayside Gardens @ [www.waysidegardens.com](http://www.waysidegardens.com) or [800/213-0379](tel:8002130379)  
White Flower Farm @ [www.whiteflowerfarm.com](http://www.whiteflowerfarm.com) or [800/503-9624](tel:8005039624)

Note: To receive every possible seed, plant or garden supply catalog imaginable, check out **Cyndi's Catalog of Garden Catalogs** @ [www.gardenlist.com](http://www.gardenlist.com). Most catalogs are free and make for great winter reading!

[To Top](#)

**BEHIND THE SCENES AT KLEIN'S**--This is a sneak peek of what is going on each month behind the scenes in our greenhouses. Many people are unaware that our facility operates year round or that we have 10 more greenhouses on the property in addition to the 6 open for retail. At any given moment we already have a jump on the upcoming season--be it poinsettias in July, geraniums in December or fall mums in May.

#### **IN FEBRUARY:**

---We're readying ourselves for two of our year's biggest events--Garden Expo and Valentine's Day. For Garden Expo, we've readied our displays and the plants we're selling are bursting with color. For Valentine's Day, we're awaiting the onslaught by prepping the thousands of additional cut flowers, unpacking all the beautiful vases and containers, ordering hundreds of blooming plants and securing additional delivery vehicles and staff.

---Spring plants begin arriving en masse! After Valentine's Day the first spring bedding annuals arrive. Pansies, violas and dianthus plugs are popped into cell packs so they're ready for early April sales.

---We're planting up our thousands of mixed annuals hanging baskets. The geranium hanging baskets planted in January are filling out and almost ready for their first pinching and shaping.

---We reopen greenhouses in our back range as needed. They've been shut down to save on heat and eliminate pest problems.

---The deadline approaches for Easter orders. Dozens of area churches order lilies, tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, mums, hydrangeas and azaleas for Easter delivery.

---We take advantage of the warm and sunny rooms in our front range (the retail area) to do any touch up painting or construction to ready ourselves for the spring season.

---Spring product begins arriving for unpacking and pricing--the pots, the tools, the sundries. We need to have everything priced and ready to go by April 1.

---We continue to assess our needs for spring staffing and try to have the new people in place and trained by March 1. March and April are the busiest months behind the scenes in the greenhouse and we rely on a dedicated, hardworking team to have everything ready for the customer come May 1 and the spring onslaught.

[To Top](#)

**PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT**--Each month we spotlight some product that we already carry or one that we've taken note of and plan to carry in the near future. Likewise, if you would like to see Klein's to carry a product that we don't currently, please let us know. Our goal is to be responsive to the marketplace and to our loyal clientele. If a product fits into our profile, we will make every effort to get it into our store. In addition, we may be able to special order an item for you, whether plant or hard good, given enough time.

### **Birdbath De-icers from Allied Precision Industries, Elburn, Illinois**

Bird lovers among the Klein's staff have tried their share of birdbath de-icers over the years and none have compared with the de-icer we carry from Allied Precision Industries. One staff member says the API BDT250 is his fourth different type of birdbath de-icer he's tried over the past decade. He says the problems with other de-icers he's owned have included; excessive calcium buildup on the coil types (making efficient heating impossible and cleaning a chore), tapping of too much electrical current (thereby tripping the circuits too often), or just the opposite problem--a de-icer that's too weak. He says his last de-icer purchased at Mound's Pet Food Warehouse couldn't keep his birdbath ice-free when temperatures were just in the teens!

In January, he decided to purchase one of Klein's API BDT250's and he says he couldn't be happier with the results--an easy-to-clean de-icer that keeps his birdbath permanently ice-free.

The BDT250 has a durable, Teflon coated, compact aluminum base in a low-profile design. Fins provide large surface area to make the unit run cooler while putting out the same amount of heat as conventional de-icers. Channels within the base promote water flow as the water is heated. Cooler running, Teflon coating, and flowing water all combine to reduce mineral buildup.

Multiple thermostats allow efficient control while providing over-temperature protection. The BDT250 is safe to use in plastic bird baths and comes with a 10-foot cord.

The specs:

BDT250 Bird Bath De-Icer With Aluminum Base 250 Watts, 120 Volts

--Compact, Durable, Aluminum Heating Element

--Teflon® Coated

--Low Profile

--Large Surface Area for Cooler Operation

--Multiple Thermostats for Safe, Optimized Control

--Over-Temperature Protection

--10-foot Cord with Abrasion Protector

--cULus Listed

--Three Year Warranty

For more info, visit [www.alliedprecision.com](http://www.alliedprecision.com)

## **PERMANENT FEATURES--**

### **KLEIN'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Have our monthly newsletter e-mailed to you automatically by signing up on the right side of our home page. We'll offer monthly tips, greenhouse news and tidbits, specials and recipes. . .everything you need to know from your favorite Madison greenhouse. And tell your friends. It's easy to do.

### **THE MAD GARDENER--"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"**

Ask us your gardening questions by e-mailing us at [madgardener@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:madgardener@kleinsfloral.com). Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. The link is posted on our home page and in all newsletters.

We can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

### **FACEBOOK**

Follow Klein's on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Kleins-Floral-Greenhouses](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kleins-Floral-Greenhouses) where we post updates and photos on a regular basis.

### **TWITTER**

Join Klein's on Twitter at [twitter.com/KleinGreenhouse](https://twitter.com/KleinGreenhouse) where we post company updates and photos on a regular basis.

### **SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT**

We offer a 10% Off Senior Citizen Discount every Tuesday to those 62 and above. This discount is not in addition to other discounts or sales. Please mention that you are a senior before we ring up your purchases. Does not apply to wire out orders or services, i.e. delivery, potting, etc.

### **RECYCLING POTS & TRAYS**

The City of Madison will recycle rinsed out hard plastic pots and trays when brought to their drop-off locations at 4602 Sycamore Ave. and 1501 West Badger Rd. They do not accept light plastic or multi-celled packs. White plastic #5's are also not accepted in city recycling bins or at the drop-off sites. For more information call 267-2626 or visit [www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RigidPlasticRecyclingDropOff.cfm](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RigidPlasticRecyclingDropOff.cfm)

### **KLEIN'S "BLOOMING PLANT OR FRESH FLOWER CLUB"**

**Send or receive 3 month's, 6 month's or a whole year's worth of seasonal blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements and SAVE!!**

There's no easier way to give gorgeous blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements, month after month. Each month a seasonal blooming plant or fresh arrangement will arrive on yours or a loved one's doorstep. You choose the start date and we'll make your special delivery the very same day each month.

**For just \$75, \$150 or \$300**, respectively, we'll send 3 month's, 6 month's or a year's worth of seasonal blooming plants--perhaps a bulb garden or azalea in the spring, one of our famous large geraniums or a tropical hibiscus in the summer, a chrysanthemum or Thanksgiving cactus in the fall or one of our homegrown poinsettias or cyclamen for the holidays and winter months. Selection of the blooming plant will be based on availability.

**And for just \$90, \$175 or \$350**, respectively, receive one of Klein's lovely fresh floral arrangements. All arrangements will be seasonal and will contain only the freshest flowers. All arrangements are **Designer's Choice**, but are sure to satisfy the most discerning lover of fresh flowers.

Prices include delivery within our delivery area. Enclosure cards will accompany each delivery if desired. For delivery details visit the "**Permanent Features**" section of our newsletter below. If your chosen delivery date happens to fall on a Sunday or holiday, we will deliver it on the next available delivery day. All regular delivery conditions apply.

Join our **Blooming Plant or Fresh Flower Club** by calling Klein's at [608/244-5661](tel:6082445661) or [888/244-5661](tel:8882445661) or by stopping in. We request that payment be made in full before the first delivery and prices do not include sales tax.

[To Top](#)

## **DELIVERY INFO**

Klein's Floral and Greenhouses delivers daily, except Sundays, throughout all of Madison and much of Dane County including: Cottage Grove, DeForest, Fitchburg, Maple Bluff, Marshall, McFarland, Middleton, Monona, Oregon, Shorewood Hills, Sun Prairie, Verona, Waunakee and Windsor. Current delivery rate on 1-4 items is \$6.95 for Madison, Maple Bluff, Monona and Shorewood Hills, slightly more to the surrounding communities and for more than 4 items. We not only deliver our fabulous fresh flowers, but also houseplants, bedding plants and sundries. A minimum order of \$25.00 is required for delivery. Delivery to the Madison hospitals is \$4.95. Deliveries to the four Madison hospitals are made during the early afternoon. There is no delivery charge to funeral homes in the city of Madison, although regular rates apply for morning funeral deliveries to Madison's west side. Regular rates also apply for funeral deliveries in the surrounding communities.

Morning delivery is guaranteed to the following Madison zip codes, but only if requested: 53703, 53704, 53714, 53716, 53718 and Cottage Grove, DeForest, Maple Bluff, Marshall, McFarland, Monona, Sun Prairie, Waunakee and Windsor. We begin our delivery day at 8:00 a.m. and end at approximately 4:00 p.m. Except during holidays, the following west-side zip codes and communities can be delivered only during the afternoon: 53705, 53706, 53711, 53713, 53717, 53719, 53726, Fitchburg, Middleton, Oregon, Shorewood Hills and Verona. During holidays (Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc.) we are able to make morning deliveries to all of the above areas. We are not able to take closely timed deliveries on any holiday due to the sheer volume of such requests. It's best to give us a range of time and we'll try our absolute hardest. Orders for same day delivery must be placed by 12:30 p.m. or by 2:30 p.m. for Madison zip codes 53704 and 53714. We do not deliver to Cambridge, Columbus, Deerfield or Stoughton.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:** Please refer all questions, concerns or feedback in the following departments to their appropriate supervisor.

Phone: [608/244-5661](tel:6082445661) or [888/244-5661](tel:8882445661)

Grower, General Manager --Jamie VandenWymelenberg [jamie@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:jamie@kleinsfloral.com)  
Assistant Manager--Jennifer Simon [jsimon@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:jsimon@kleinsfloral.com)  
House Accounts & Billing--Barbara Foulk [barb@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:barb@kleinsfloral.com)  
Delivery Supervisor--Rick Halbach [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com)  
Owner & Manager--Sue Klein [sue@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:sue@kleinsfloral.com)

[To Top](#)

## **RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES**

University of Wisconsin Extension  
1 Fen Oak Ct. #138  
Madison, WI 53718  
[608/224-3700](tel:6082243700)  
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/>  
<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/>

Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic  
Dept. of Plant Pathology  
1630 Linden Dr.  
Madison, WI 53706  
<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/index.php>

Insect Diagnostic Lab  
240 Russell Labs  
1630 Linden Dr.  
Madison, WI 53706  
<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/>

U.W. Soil and Plant Analysis Lab



8452 Mineral Point Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593  
[608/262-4364](tel:6082624364)  
<http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/>

American Horticultural Society  
<http://www.ahs.org/>

Garden Catalogs (an extensive list with links)  
<http://www.gardenlist.com/>  
also <http://www.mailordergardening.com/>

Invasive Species  
<http://www.invasiveplants.net/>  
<http://www.ipaw.org/>

Friends of Troy Gardens  
Rm. 171, Bldg. 14  
3601 Memorial Dr.  
Madison, WI 53704  
[608/240-0409](tel:6082400409)  
<http://www.troygardens.org/>

Community Gardens Division (Madison area)  
Community Action Coalition  
1717 N. Stoughton Rd.  
Madison, WI 53704  
[608/246-4730](tel:6082464730)  
<http://www.cacscw.org/gardens/>

Madison Area Master Gardeners (MAMGA)  
<http://mamgawi.org/>

Wisconsin Master Gardeners Program  
Department of Horticulture  
1575 Linden Drive  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Madison, WI 53706  
[608/265-4504](tel:6082654504)  
<http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>

The Wisconsin Gardener  
<http://www.wpt.org/garden/>

Allen Centennial Gardens  
620 Babcock Dr.  
Madison, WI 53706  
[608/262-8406](tel:6082628406)  
<http://www.allencentennialgardens.org/>

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave.  
Madison, WI 53704  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550)  
<http://www.olbrich.org/>

Rotary Gardens  
1455 Palmer Dr.  
Janesville, WI 53545  
[608/752-3885](tel:6087523885)  
<http://www.rotarygardens.org/>

University of WI Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Hwy.  
Madison, WI 53711  
[608/263-7888](tel:6082637888)  
<http://uwarboretum.org/>

University of Wisconsin-West Madison  
Agricultural Research Center  
8502 Mineral Point Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593  
[608/262-2257](tel:6082622257)  
<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/>

[To Top](#)

### **PLANTS POISONOUS TO CHILDREN:**

Children may find the bright colors and different textures of plants irresistible, but some plants can be poisonous if touched or eaten. If you're in doubt about whether or not a plant is poisonous, don't keep it in your home. The risk is not worth it. The following list is not comprehensive, so be sure to seek out safety information on the plants in your home to be safe.

- Bird of paradise
- Bull nettle
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Crocus
- Daffodil
- Deadly nightshade
- Dieffenbachia (dumb cane)
- Foxglove
- Glory lily
- Hemlock
- Holly berry
- Indian tobacco
- Iris
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Lily of the valley
- Marijuana
- Mescal bean
- Mexicanes
- Mistletoe
- Morning glory
- Mountain laurel
- Night-blooming jasmine
- Nutmeg
- Oleander
- Philodendron
- Poison ivy
- Poison sumac
- Pokeweed
- Poppy
- Potato
- Privet
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Water hemlock
- Wisteria

[To Top](#)

## **PLANTS POISONOUS TO PETS:**

Below is a list of some of the common plants which may produce a toxic reaction in animals. This list is intended only as a guide to plants which are generally identified as having the capability for producing a toxic reaction. Source: The National Humane Society website @ <http://www.humanesociety.org/>

- Aconite
- Apple
- Arrowgrasses
- Autumn Crocus
- Azaleas
- Baneberry
- Bird-of-Paradise
- Black locust
- Bloodroot
- Box
- Buckeye
- Buttercup
- Caladium
- Carolina jessamine
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Chockcherries
- Christmas berry
- Christmas Rose
- Common privet
- Corn cockle
- Cowbane
- Cow cockle
- Cowsliprb
- Daffodil
- Daphne
- Day lily
- Delphinium (Larkspur)
- Dumbcane
- Dutchman's breeches
- Easter lily
- Elderberry
- Elephant's ear
- English Ivy
- European Bittersweet
- Field peppergrass
- Foxglove
- Holly
- Horsechestnut
- Horse nettle
- Hyacinth
- Iris
- Jack-in-the-pulpit
- Jerusalem Cherry
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Laurels
- Lily of the valley
- Lupines
- Mayapple
- Milk vetch
- Mistletoe
- Monkshood
- Morning glory
- Mustards
- Narcissus

- Nicotiana
- Nightshade
- Oaks
- Oleander
- Philodendrons
- Pokeweed
- Poinsettia
- Poison hemlock
- Potato
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Rosary pea
- Sago palm
- Skunk cabbage
- Smartweeds
- Snow-on-the-mountain
- Sorghum
- Star of Bethlehem
- Wild black cherry
- Wild radish
- Wisteria
- Yellow jessamine
- Yew

[To Top](#)