

'THE SAGE'-Klein's Online Newsletter—AUGUST 2014

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses

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KLEIN'S 6TH ANNUAL MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDEN CONTEST

Think you have the **Most Beautiful Garden**? Perhaps all of that hard work and creativity can literally pay off by entering our **Most Beautiful Garden Contest**. We invite you to submit photographs along with our entry form to Klein's via e-mail or snail mail by September 1. Winners are selected by our staff and will be announced on our website in early September. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places include gift cards for a Klein's shopping spree. We have a separate category for container gardens.

They say pictures say a thousand words and sometimes the most simple of designs says more than the most elaborate. Please visit our home page in the following weeks at www.kleinsfloral.com for details and entry information.

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. 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.

FOR NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS OR GARDEN TOURS that you would like posted on our web site or in our monthly newsletters, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661 or rick@kleinsfloral.com or Sue at sue@kleinsfloral.com. Please include all details, i.e. dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Our readership is ever-growing so this is a great opportunity for free advertising. Events must be garden related and must take place in the immediate Madison vicinity.

AUGUST STORE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

Open Labor Day, Monday, September 1: 10:00-4:00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Throughout August, visit Klein’s and check out our specials on perennials, shrubs and remaining annuals. Specials and selection change weekly so give us a call for the most up-to-date information at (608) 244-5661 or toll free at 888-244-5661 or on our home page @

www.kleinsfloral.com. We pride ourselves in having the best cared for plants in even the hottest weather.

And later in August, watch for the appearance our fall mums, ornamental kales and cabbages, mixed fall containers and cool weather vegetables, including; chard, kale, lettuces and cole crops. **We still have a nice selection of seeds for the fall vegetable garden**, including; radishes, spinach, lettuce and SO much more!

August 10--Full Moon

Week of August 17--Watch for the arrival of our semi-load of indoor houseplants. Select from all shapes and sizes; from tropicals to succulents. The showrooms become a veritable jungle overnight.

September 1--Labor Day. Special Store Hours: 10:00-4:00

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'THE FLOWER SHOPPE': **LIVE LIKE A FLOWER (Part 2): Grow Roots**

Vanessa Diffenbaugh, author of the best-seller *The Language of Flowers*, offers advice on how to live like a flower by growing roots in your community.

1. Ask people to tell their stories.

Everyone has a story, full of both heartbreak and triumph, but we can't see their story just by looking at them. Asking people to share allows you to find common ground even when all you see — externally — are differences.

2. Be real.

We have been trained to broadcast our successes and hide our failures. But the truth is this: our failures humanize us, and they connect us to one another. Being truthful about both sides of your story will help you form more honest connections with those you love and admire.

3. Embrace your elders.

Show love and respect to your grandparents and aging neighbors. Talk to them often. Send a letter or card. Help them with chores or errands. Or really make them smile with flowers, which have been shown by a Rutgers University study to ease depression, inspire socialization and refresh memory as we grow older.

4. Make yourself useful.

Everyone has something to give, no matter how much (or little) time you have. Find an organization that inspires you and make a difference while also meeting people that care about the world in the same way you do.

5. Do what you love to do.

Figure out what you love to do, and then go do it! Take a flower arranging class at your local florist or join a local sports league. You'll meet people that share your interests, whether they are reading, running, flowers, music and more.

6. Ask for help.

Don't be afraid to ask humbly, genuinely, for help when you need it. People want to help one another; sometimes we just forget to ask. Becoming vulnerable and admitting we can't do everything on our own is another way to deepen relationships. Say thank you with flowers, a plant, or another heartfelt expression of gratitude.

Because there are many life lessons we can gather from beautiful, resilient flowers as they grow from seedling to stem, the Society of American Florists and Aboutflowers.com created Live Like a Flower, a series of pieces of advice from well-known experts in life and happiness. Through the easy-to-follow advice of authors, speakers, designers and more, we can learn to bloom like a flower and live life to its fullest and most rewarding.

Source: Society of American Florists @ www.aboutflowers.com

YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER . . .

My grandson & I have a lemon tree grown from a seed from a grocery store lemon. It is about 5 years old, 4-5 feet tall, lots of branches. We have it outside now and have every summer. The question is, what do we do with it now? Winter in the house has been hard on it but it has bounced back and continues to grow. We have pruned it a few times. It is becoming too big for my home though. Any ideas or suggestions? Could I propagate it? Thank you for your help. Judy & Tyler

Hi Judy and Tyler

For many, many years I also had a lemon tree I grew from a seed of a store-bought lemon. And just as in your case, it became too large for me to keep so I eventually gave it to someone who wanted it. You could continue to prune it hard each fall and bring it indoors. The eventual size of the tree and its trunk size will be determined by the size of the pot you keep it in. If you no longer step it up into a larger pot, it will remain 'stunted' and rather manageable for many, many years to come. Make sure to fertilize it regularly--especially as the plant continues to grow in that confined pot and as the soil continues to lose its fertility over the years. Citrus like to have an acidic fertilizer so that the foliage doesn't become chlorotic/yellow over time. At Klein's we sell a fertilizer specific to citrus trees.

Trees are very difficult to propagate from cuttings for most people. My suggestion would be to go the above route (keeping it until you no longer can) or starting fresh with some new seeds if you'd like to continue growing citrus. Woody plants are propagated from 'soft wood' cuttings, but are very particular about light, humidity, moisture, etc., based on the plant type.

Please Note: Klein's currently has lemon, lime and olive trees on hand in 6" pots at 50% Off! Supply is limited so shop early.

Thanks for your question,
Klein's Mad Gardener
madgardener@kleinsfloral.com

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DID YOU KNOW...

... that, as with tulips (see last month's newsletter @ kleinsfloral.com/cms-assets/documents/171498-244518.7-14-newsletter.pdf), there are many daffodil classifications when choosing spring bulbs ...

... and some perform better than others; whether planted in the garden or forced indoors. Some prefer rich soil, while others prefer lean, rather infertile conditions. Some naturalize and spread in the garden better than others. Now is the time to order spring bulbs from online sources and catalogs for fall planting. For best results, consider classification and desired affect when making daffodil choices.

1. Trumpet Daffodils

The most well-known group of Narcissi, Trumpet Daffodils naturalize extremely well and have a long blooming season with large, bold flowers. To classify as a Trumpet Daffodil, their flowers must have trumpets as long as, or longer than, the petals. They are also much loved for the fact that deer and rodents do not like to eat them! All narcissi tolerate a wide range of sunlight from full sun to semi-shade. They do, however, prefer well-draining soil, hate "wet feet" and love to be fed with a 4-10-6 flower bulb Fertilizer three times a year. Height: 18" to 20", depending upon variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-7.

2. Miniature Trumpet Daffodils

One should not overlook the special beauty of these precious miniatures. They naturalize well for sweet rock garden displays and are marvelous for little forced pots throughout the winter months. Height: 5" to 6". Bloom time: April. Plant 5" deep and 5" apart. Horticultural zones 4-8.

3. Large Cupped Narcissi

These bold, weather-tolerant narcissi are known by their large cups which are ruffled, colorfully-edged, trumpet-like bowl shaped or flat. They offer a tremendous color diversity and promise repeat years of vital blooming. Height: 14" to 20" depending upon variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-7.

4. Pink Large Cupped Narcissi

These beauties have white to ivory or lemon-yellow perianths and soft apricot-pink cups that mature to a "horticultural pink": varying shades of light salmon- or apricot-pink to deeper coral and soft old rose-pink. Each of these sweet varieties should be grown in cool areas with filtered sunlight so that they may gradually develop their full color potential. (The pink color is

"bleached" out of the cups in strong sunlight.) Height: 14" to 22" depending upon variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-7.

5. Small Cupped Narcissi

Characteristically offering one flower per stem, these varieties each have a small cup which is not more than one-third the length of its petals. Height: 5" to 20", depending upon variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-8.

6. Double Narcissi

Resembling Camellias and small Peonies, these flamboyant Narcissi have multiple layers of petal or crowns. With many of these showy varieties boasting a sweet fragrance, Double Narcissi are great for both the garden and cut flower arrangements. You may want to offer these flamboyant gems a bit of protection from the wind. Height: 12" to 18", depending upon variety. Bloom time: April/May. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-8.

7. Triandrus Narcissi

These graceful, fragrant narcissi have slender foliage and several nodding flowers per stem. Mid-season bloomers, they naturalize splendidly in semi-shady areas. Height: 8" to 18" depending on the variety. Bloom time: April/May. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 4-9.

8. Cyclamineus Narcissi

Cyclamineus Narcissi are best known for their reflexing flower petals which resemble those of Cyclamen. They are among the earliest to flower and are quite durable. These smaller narcissi should be planted closer together for a fuller, more lush display. Great for rock gardens, they also force beautifully! Height: 6" to 16" depending on the variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-8.

9. Jonquilla Narcissi

All sweetly fragrant, Jonquilla Narcissi have slender foliage bearing from two to six flowers with small cups. They are ideal for both cutting and naturalizing! Prolong the flowering season with these late-flowering beauties. Pink-cupped varieties prefer semi-shade or filtered sunlight. Height: 6" to 24" depending on the variety. Bloom time: May. Plant 6" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 5-9.

10. Tazetta Narcissi

A vigorous, multi-flowering strain with several stems per bulb, Tazetta Narcissi are very fragrant and are ideal for southern climates. Tazetta Narcissi are a bit tender and require winter protection farther north. They are great forcers! Height: 7" to 18" depending on the variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 5-9.

11. Poeticus Narcissi

Traditionally known as the "Poet's Narcissi", these fragrant favorites have very large, white perianths with small, dainty cups in contrasting colors. Great naturalizers from yesteryear! Height: 12" to 16" depending on the variety. Bloom time: April/May. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural zones 3-7.

12. Species Miniature Narcissi

Dainty Species Miniatures represent classic Narcissi as they were originally found in the wild, hundreds of years ago. Most types are good for forcing. Height: 6" to 12" depending on the variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 4" to 5" deep and 4" to 5" apart. Horticultural zones 4-9.

13. Split-Cup Narcissi

Split-Cup, or Split-Corona Narcissi generally fall in to three groups defined by form: Collar, Papillon (Butterfly) or combination types often with frilly, ruffled or whorled petal segments. Each of them have cups or coronas that are split into multiple sections that are at least one third the length of its perianth. Height: 14" to 18", depending on the variety. Bloom time: April. Plant 6" to 8" deep and 6" apart. Horticultural Zone: 4-8.

Arriving just after Labor Day, Klein's carries a nice selection of all of the above daffodil types. For best selection (and the source of the above info) check out John Scheepers 'Beauty from Bulbs' @ www.johnscheepers.com

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

ENTRY: JULY 5, 2014 (Ryobi's Battery Powered Lawnmower)

In the 30 years we've owned our home we've owned just 2 lawnmowers; both a Sears Craftsman that have served us well over the years. The deck of our current lawnmower had completely rusted through, posing a potential safety hazard were we to continue using it (In addition, it hasn't been starting well lately). With our small yard, I've toyed over the years with the possibility of buying and electric lawnmower. But back in the day, the thought of using a corded mower sounded dangerous and unappealing.

Times are different and the technology has changed drastically. Instead of the corded electric of the past, I opted to purchase a battery powered Ryobi mower from Home Depot and I couldn't be happier with the results...so far (however, only time will tell). The extremely lightweight mower I chose came with two chargeable batteries that can be used in any of Ryobi's garden tools (leaf blowers, hedge trimmers, chainsaws, weed whackers, etc.). Each 40-volt lithium ion battery runs 20 minutes if fully charged and in continuous use. Our small yard doesn't even take 20 minutes to mow!! The best feature (other than the fact that it doesn't spew pollutants into the air) is it's noise level. The sound is essentially a loud hum; a noise far quieter than most hand held hairdryers.

Other than sharpening the blade occasionally and remembering to recharge the batteries, the mower requires no maintenance. Seeing as it's completely collapsible and so lightweight, I'm planning on storing it in the basement during the winter. With no gas tank, doing so is obviously completely safe. The grass clippings are either expelled the traditional way, bagged or mulched by putting the mulching plug in place at the rear of the deck.

I highly recommend, that anyone with a small urban yard who is considering a new lawnmower, make the leap to battery powered electric. The Home Depot here on Madison's east side not only carried the Ryobi I purchased, but a few other choices. In addition, our salesperson was

both helpful and extremely knowledgeable; making for an all around great shopping experience. (In checking their website, I see that the mower is regularly \$329, but currently on sale.)

ENTRY: JUNE 14, 2014 (Growing Perfect Potted Dahlias)

Over the years, I've often heard at work how disappointed customers are with the dahlias they've planted. It seems to me that Wisconsin is not the perfect place to grow the perfect dahlia—that is for most people. Dahlias oftentimes stop blooming in our summer heat, foliage often yellows and becomes pocked with holes from slugs and other pests, and earwigs find their blossoms irresistible—not to mention woodchucks, deer, rabbits, etc. Having said all that, as I was growing up in northeastern Wisconsin, my grandmother had the most beautiful dahlia collection imaginable. She prided herself with the biggest blossoms towering over stately, pest-free plants. She overwintered the tubers to perfection in the basement root cellar. Her collection covered the full array of colors available and in all flower types. Her favorites were the huge dinnerplate and decorative types. Dahlia connoisseurs abound in the Madison area; growing perfect plants with perfect blossoms (Check out the farmers' market!!). For most area gardeners, however, growing the perfect dahlia is nothing but a pipe dream left for the connoisseurs.

I, too, have had a lot of failures with dahlias over the years. Sure, they look great in catalogs and on the store shelves, but in reality, mine often succumbed to the same problems that less experienced gardeners witnessed—namely yellow leaves, poor flowering in hot weather, slugs, earwigs and worst of all—woodchucks. That is until I began growing dahlias in pots a few years back. Now, I too am growing perfect dahlias. Granted they're not the 4 foot beauties my grandmother grew. Instead, they're mostly the 2' mid-sized varieties (i.e. the Dahlinova Hypnotica Series) available in the springtime at most garden centers, including Klein's. These dahlias are not the bedding dahlias sold in 4-packs nor the 8-12" varieties sold in 4" pots. Rather, these are the more vigorous, bushy varieties usually sold in 6 or 8" pots. Flower colors run the full dahlia spectrum and blooms can be either single or double. I prefer the showier double blooms that remind me of smaller versions of the giant dahlias of my childhood memories.

As the years have passed, I've learned to perfect growing these dahlias in containers. I currently have a collection of 8 favorites. I grow them in full morning sun—avoiding the hot afternoon sun. I keep them well-watered; never letting them dry out too much or too often (doing so tends to send them into dormancy). Regular fertilizing is of utmost importance while they're actively growing and performing. I fertilize them every 7-10 days—two times with a balanced fertilizer and the third time with a bloom booster. I continue this regimen into September. About October 1, I move the containers to the garage to begin the drying and curing process. In late October, I yank the foliage from the dried up pots. The foliage detaches easily from the tubers left in the soil. Next I move the dahlias (still planted in their pots) to the cool root cellar in the basement where they remain for the duration of the winter. Unlike some of my stored bulbs, which need to be checked in on once in a while for watering during the winter, I keep the dahlia containers bone dry. Then about March 1 I move them to a warmer part of the basement and begin watering them again. In a few weeks, new foliage appears. I keep them near lights in the basement, but any bright spot will do until they are moved back outdoors again in mid-May. By the time I move them outdoors, plants are usually 8-10" tall and sometimes already loaded with flower buds. Dahlias can remain in the same containers for many, many years without splitting them or stepping them into larger containers.

For a selection of the dahlia choices Klein's offered this past season, please visit kleinsfloral.com/spring_plant_PDFs/Annuals%202014.pdf and for more information on dahlia culture and for advice, please visit the Dahlia Show at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, August 16 & 17. Scroll to the 'Around Town' section below for show details.

ENTRY: JULY 20, 2014 (Beginnings of a Crazy Worm Invasion?)

This morning while reading the Sunday Wisconsin State Journal I came across yet another article about an invasive species about to hit our gardens!

Hungry, Invasive 'Crazy Worm' Makes First Appearance in Wisconsin

By Chris Barncard for the University of Wisconsin-Madison News

Wisconsin's newest invasive species has done its best to stay underground, but the voracious, numerous and mysterious Asian crazy worm has emerged for the first time in the state on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The UW Arboretum, long a refuge for Wisconsin's native plants and animals, is the first confirmed site for *Amyntas agrestis*, an invasive worm believed to have arrived in the United States from its native range in Japan and the Korean Peninsula with plants imported for landscaping.

"*Amyntas* was listed as a prohibited species under Invasive Species Rule NR 40 since its adoption in 2009, because we knew their introduction into our state poses a huge threat to the future of our forests," says Bernie Williams, invasive species specialist in forest health at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Williams and members of the arboretum staff confirmed the earthworms' presence in the fall of 2013, checking regularly in the spring to see if the worm's egg cocoons survived a particularly harsh Wisconsin winter. That appears to be the case, according to Brad Herrick, arboretum ecologist and research program manager.

"They are here, but we are still trying to get a handle on the extent of their distribution at the arboretum," Herrick says. "While we do that, we're instituting some best management practices — cleaning boots and tools, washing vehicles — and doing our best to stay clear of the areas where we have found the worms."

In most of Wisconsin, *Amyntas* is not alone among invasive earthworms. The last glacier, which covered all but the southwestern corner of the state as recently as 20,000 years ago, wiped out all native earthworms.

The earthworms familiar to most Wisconsinites are European species introduced by the first settlers. While they, too, can damage natural landscapes, European species rarely reach numbers like their Asian counterparts.

"Amynthes' lifecycle is completely different from European species of earthworms," Williams says. "It breeds en masse, and is constantly dropping cocoons. Where the cocoons hatch, at the soil surface you'll see what looks like small filament hairs moving on the soil surface in large numbers."

The grayish Amynthes is darker in color than pale, pinker European earthworms, grows to eight inches long, and has earned common names like crazy worm, snake worm and "Alabama jumper" by flopping and wriggling vigorously when handled.

Unlike the raised, ridged band (called a clitellum) that is found near the middle of European earthworms, the Amynthes clitellum is smooth, flat to the worm's body and a milky white to gray in contrast to the rest of the worm.

The crazy worms mature in just 60 days or so, allowing populations to double during Wisconsin's warm months, and can reproduce without mating.

When numbers spike to the point of infestation, Amynthes can eat all the organic matter at the soil surface — exposing the forest floor to erosion, and making it more vulnerable to invasives.

"That's our concern in the arboretum, and anywhere they turn up," Herrick says. "Our native plant communities developed without the presence of all these hungry worms. The Amynthes eat so much that they take away the spongy, surface organic layer that those plants need for nutrients."

That bottomless appetite leaves a characteristic wake in the woods.

"They change the soil structure, leaving behind a balled-up, granular soil," according to Herrick. "We think that may be the biggest problem for plants, especially when it comes time for seeds to germinate."

Though they have been in the United States — particularly the Southeast and Eastern seaboard — for decades, there is little research quantifying the damage the new wave of worms cause or effective means to control their numbers. Monica Turner, a UW-Madison zoology professor, and a graduate student in her lab have begun studies on the crazy worms' assault on soil. Meanwhile, Williams and colleagues from the DNR and Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection are inspecting commercial nurseries around the state. According to Herrick, the arboretum, DNR and other researchers will be testing potential control techniques. But careful cleaning of equipment and quarantine is their first line of defense.

"Fighting invasive species — like buckthorn and gypsy moths and garlic mustard — is a big part of our work here," Herrick says, "and we're hopeful we can find a way to protect the arboretum from these worms, and educate others about their impact."

Source (with photo) @ www.news.wisc.edu/22996

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

From all reports around the Madison area, 2014 is stacking up to be a good year for melons in the garden. Here at Klein's we carry a nice assortment of melon starter plants in the springtime, with usually 2-3 plants per biodegradable 3" pot. Selection includes the traditional cantaloupes, honeydew and watermelon; along with Asian (bitter melon & Armenian melons) and sometimes African varieties.

Melons require a light soil in full sun locations, free from any shade. Keep the soil moist, especially in the early stages of growth and during pollination when the fruits are setting. After this do not water until the soil is very dry and the plants are looking somewhat stressed. Do not plant into the garden until the soil has thoroughly warmed--usually late May. Give plenty of room, planting in hills up to 6' apart. Melons are ripe when thumb pressure at the base of the stem causes the melon to separate from the vine.

The following are some of Klein's favorite melon recipes. Enjoy!

MELON SALSA—A refreshing summer and easy summer salsa from the Wisconsin Herb Cookbook (Prairie Oak Press, 1996) that is delicious with chips, fish and pork.

1 cantaloupe, diced
2-3 jalapeños, minced (seeded if desired to control heat)
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 1/2 cups chopped red pepper
1 1/2 cups chopped green pepper
1 1/2 cups chopped jicama
1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
3 TBS. lime juice
3 TBS. oil
3 TBS. white vinegar
1/4 tsp salt
honey to taste
salt & pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients in a bowl and adjust seasonings.

CHILLED MELON SOUP—This cooling soup derives its flavor from juicy, ripe melons. A delightful ending to a summer dinner! From The Big Book of Soups and Stews by Maryana Vollstedt.

4 cups seedless watermelon chunks in 1" pieces
the juice of one lime
2 fresh mint leaves, torn, plus 4 for garnish
2 TBS. honey
1/4 cup dry red wine or cranberry juice
1/2 cup diced cantaloupe
1/2 cup diced honeydew

In a food processor, place 3 cups of the watermelon, the lime juice, the two mint leaves and the honey and process until smooth. Transfer to a large bowl. Add the wine, cantaloupe and honeydew. Cut the remaining watermelon into 1/2" pieces, add to the bowl and mix well. Cover and refrigerate for several hours. Serve in bowls or goblets, garnished with mint leaves. Serves 4.

PARTY FRUIT BOWL—This hit of a fruit salad comes from Great Good Food by Julie Rosso. A favorite of kids and adults alike!

2 cups green grapes
1 cup red grapes
1 fresh pineapple, peeled, cored and cut into bite-size pieces
1 medium cantaloupe, cut into bite-size pieces
1 quart blueberries, fresh or frozen
1 TBS. cinnamon
3/4 cup frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
sugar or honey to taste

In a large bowl, combine and toss the fruit gently. Place the cinnamon in a small bowl. Add the juice, slowly at first, to make a paste, then slowly stir in the rest. Add sugar or honey for preferred sweetness. Pour the dressing over the fruit and toss well. Chill at least 3 hours. Before serving, remove from the refrigerator and allow to sit out at room temperature for 30 minutes. Serves 12.

FRUIT SALAD WITH FRESH HERBS—A classic from Bon Appetit magazine from April 2008.

4 cups diced fresh pineapple
2 cups diced honeydew
2 cups diced mango
4 TBS. sliced fresh basil
4 TBS. fresh lime juice
4 TBS. honey
2 TBS. fresh cilantro or mint
2 TBS. minced crystalized ginger
2 TBS. minced red bell pepper (green OK if n.a.)
2 TBS. sesame seeds

Mix everything together in a large bowl except the sesame seeds. Allow to stand 15-20 minutes for the flavors to blend. Serve topped with the sesame seeds. Serves 8.

FRESH FRUIT WITH YOGURT MINT DRESSING—This family favorite from the mid-1990's appeared in The Isthmus.

8 oz. vanilla yogurt

2 TBS. honey

1 tsp. fresh orange zest

1/2 tsp. fresh grated ginger

a dash of amaretto or Grand Marnier

2-3 TBS. fresh, minced mint plus sprigs for garnish

6-8 cups assorted fruit: melons, strawberries, pineapple, grapes, cherries, blueberries, etc.

Combine the yogurt, honey, zest, ginger, liqueur and mint. Mix well and chill several hours. Except for the strawberries, the fruit can be cut the day before if your planning on serving for a get together. When ready to serve, cut the strawberries and mix all of the cut-to-bite-size fruits. Serve the fruit in individual serving bowls topped with 1 1/2-2 TBS. dressing and garnished with mint.

WATERMELON SALAD WITH FRESH BASIL AND FETA—Wow!! A great and unique combination of flavors from Everyday Food magazine, June 2006.

7 lbs. seedless watermelon (12 cups), cut into 1" cubes

4 TBS. fresh lime juice

1 cup basil cut into thin strips

coarse salt and pepper to taste

8 oz. block feta in large chunks

In a large bowl, mix the melon, juice and half of the basil. Season with salt and pepper. Toss and serve topped with the rest of the basil and cheese. Needs to be served immediately so halve the recipe if needed. Serves 8.

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NATURAL NEWS--

Using Organic Fungicides

By Janna Beckerman

Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University

When confronted with a disease, many homeowners and landscape professionals say they prefer to use organic products because they are more environmentally friendly. Others say they just want to use a product that works, regardless of the ecological impact. Many organic fungicide products can satisfy the needs of both groups in one container, providing effective control with minimal ecological impact. However, improperly using any chemical (organic or otherwise) will result in poor control and may harm non-target organisms.

Plant Health Management

Effectively using organic fungicides (or any fungicide for that matter) requires a solid

plant health management strategy. A traditional integrated pest management (IPM) program focuses solely on the pest or pathogen. However, good plant health management focuses more on the actual plant, including:

- Identifying the right plant for the site.
- Using resistant varieties (when available).
- Practicing strategies that help keep that plant healthy and avoid insect and disease problems in the first place.

The key to effective plant health management is prevention. This includes doing your homework before planting by carefully matching plants that are appropriate to the type of soil, sunlight levels, and watering conditions of the site. Once the plants are in the ground, successful plant health management relies on proper sanitation, appropriate fertilization, and necessary pruning practices. Using pesticides may be one part of a plant health program, but it is never the sole strategy for plant health management.

Remember to always check the product label to be sure the plant you wish to treat is labeled and that no contraindications exist. The label is not only the law (which means you must follow the recommended doses and rates) it also provides important warnings to help protect your plants and your health. Sometimes, a plant is “allergic” to a given chemical (termed phytotoxicity). In such cases, the “allergic” plant is listed as a contraindicated plant on the product label (Figure 1). Pesticide labels also provide temperature and weather limitations, and requirements for protective measures you should take before application.

Carefully follow the labeled rates for any pesticide. Too often, users apply pesticides at higher rates than specified on the label, hoping for better control or a more lasting effect. But over applying a pesticide like this is dangerous for the plant, the applicator, and the environment. The application rates on a pesticide label are based on the amounts needed for control. If these rates don't achieve reasonable control, it is often the result of choosing the wrong pesticide for the problem, making an incorrect diagnosis, or applying the chemical at the improper time — not applying an inadequate amount.

However, it is frequently necessary to repeat applications at intervals of 7, 10, or 14 days over the growing season to protect the new growth that has developed since the last spray, or to replace spray residues that are no longer effective because of weathering and chemical breakdown. Due to their nature, organic pesticides often require more frequent applications than their synthetic counterparts.

Ultimately, following practices that prevent diseases is essential to successful organic gardening (or any type of plant health management) because established populations of plant pathogens don't respond well to any chemical — organic or synthetic.

There are a number of organic fungicides growers can use to prevent plant diseases:

- Sulfur
- Copper
- Oils
- Bicarbonates

Each of these products and their uses are described in more detail below.

About Sulfur

Sulfur is the oldest recorded fungicide and has been used for more than 2,000 years. Early in agricultural history, the Greeks recognized its efficacy against rust diseases on wheat.

Although few homeowners grow their own wheat, sulfur can be a preventive fungicide against powdery mildew, rose black spot, rusts, and other diseases. Sulfur prevents fungal spores from germinating, so it must be applied before the disease develops for effective results. Sulfur can be purchased as a dust, wettable powder, or liquid.

Do not use sulfur if you have applied an oil spray within the last month — the combination is phytotoxic (plant-killing). Likewise, do not use sulfur when temperatures are expected to exceed 80°F to reduce the risk of plant damage. Finally, there are certain “sulfur-shy” plants (including varieties of gooseberries, currants, apricots, raspberries, and cucurbits) that should never be treated with sulfur.

Lime-sulfur is a form of sulfur mixed with lime (calcium hydroxide), and is mostly used as a dormant spray, meaning it should not be applied to plant foliage. Lime-sulfur is more effective than elemental sulfur at lower concentrations; however, its strong, rotten-egg odor usually discourages its use over extensive plantings.

About Copper

Several copper fungicide formulations are available to organic growers (including ready-to-use and concentrate Bonide products available at Klein’s). Regardless of the formulation, copper fungicides effectively kill fungi and bacteria. Unfortunately, care must be taken to prevent copper from damaging the host plant.

Copper sulfate (also called bluestone) was one of the original forms of copper used as a fungicide.

Bordeaux mixture combines copper sulfate with lime (calcium hydroxide), which acts as a “safener” to neutralize the acidic copper sulfate — this reduces plant damage.

Although not the oldest fungicide, Bordeaux mixture has been used successfully for more than 150 years on fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals. Sulfur is only fungicidal, but Bordeaux mixture also is bactericidal, which means that it can be effective against disease caused both by fungi (such as powdery mildew, downy mildew, and various anthracnose pathogens) and by bacteria (such as bacterial leaf spots and fire blight).

Bordeaux mixture owes part of its success to its ability to persist through spring rains and adhere to plants. Bordeaux mixture comes in several formulations. One of the most popular, effective, and least phytotoxic formulations for general home garden and orchard use is the 4-4-50 formulation. The numbers translate into the number of pounds of copper sulfate (4) and pounds of lime (4) that should be in 50 gallons of water. This formulation was developed because copper, like sulfur, can be phytotoxic.

Young foliage is especially sensitive to copper, so if you apply Bordeaux mixture in the spring after the plant breaks dormancy, use a weaker, more dilute formulation to reduce the risk of plant injury.

Applying Bordeaux mixture when it's hot (above 85°F) may cause leaves to turn yellow and drop. Additionally, leaves can be burned if it rains soon after a Bordeaux application. The burn risk can be reduced by adding a spray oil (see below).

Bordeaux mixture can be applied as a dust or liquid formulation. Some sensitive plants require diluting the product to half strength, so again, always read the product label.

About Oils

Oils are most frequently used to manage insects. However, certain oils (horticultural oils and neem oil) can minimize the spread of viruses by controlling the insects that transmit them, namely aphids, whiteflies, and mites. Aphids transmit the viruses that cause many common landscape and garden diseases, including Cucumber mosaic virus, Potato virus Y (potyvirus), and Watermelon mosaic virus. Also, oils have also been found to control thrips — an important vector of Impatiens necrotic spot virus (INSV) — and to reduce the spread of Tobacco mosaic virus by human and tool contact. Oils effectively manage powdery mildew on many plants, but are significantly less effective against other leaf spot diseases.

Neem Oil as a Fungicide

Neem oil is pressed from the fruit and seeds of the neem tree (*Azadirachta indica*). At a 70 percent concentration, neem oil kills powdery mildew spores, virus vectors (such as aphids and white fly), and the eggs of numerous insect pests. It is less effective against rose black spot (caused by *Diplocarpon roseae*) and other fungal diseases.

Bicarbonates

Baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) has been used as a fungicide since 1933. Recent research has demonstrated that although baking soda can be effective against plant diseases when used with oil, its sodium component can build up and become toxic to plants.

Better control, and plant health, was obtained with potassium bicarbonate and ammonium bicarbonate, although different bicarbonate salts have produced different results in different plants, which make specific recommendations difficult. Furthermore, baking soda without oil is ineffective against most diseases. For this reason, using ammonium bicarbonate or potassium bicarbonate is recommended. These bicarbonates have the added advantage in that they provide nitrogen and potassium (nutrients plants need), unlike baking soda, which leaves behind toxic sodium.

Conclusion

Managing plant disease problems in the Midwest is a challenge. Successfully managing your plant health problems organically requires carefully choosing the right plants, properly planting and maintaining them, and quickly diagnosing any problems correctly before you apply any chemical.

Source: Purdue University Extension @ www.extension.purdue.edu

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AUGUST'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

Celosia

Celosias are one of the most eye-catching annuals to grow in the garden. Technically speaking, however, they are tender annuals, as they are perennial in Zones 10 to 12.

The three types of celosia are easily distinguishable from each other. They are plumes, crests, or spikes; simply described as plumes of jewel-colored feathers, wrinkly-looking knobs, or elongated cones. No matter which celosia you choose to grow, the flower colors are not for the faint of heart; their vivid hues practically glow, lighting up the garden even on the rainiest summer days. Most commonly seen are dazzling red, yellow, cream, orange, rose, deep magenta, and pink. Less commonly seen are bicolors. In addition to their eye-catching magnificence in the garden, taller varieties are excellent as cut flowers - both fresh and dried. Celosia can range in size from dwarf varieties that only grow four to six inches high to vigorous types over three feet tall.

Celosias are easy to grow from seed, and young plants are readily available at nurseries, garden centers, and stores in spring. Versatile, celosias grow in most any type of soil - even heavy clay - as long as they are in full sun. With summer weather as unpredictable as it has been in recent years, you can count on celosia to come through heat and drought unscathed.

Keep an eye out for celosias as you drive or walk around the community. Public gardens, parks, the highway department, malls, and local merchants take advantage of the low-maintenance, high-impact aspects of celosias. If they can grow so successfully with so little attention, imagine what a show they can make in the hands of someone who loves plants and has an artistic eye and doesn't grow them in the typical soldierly rows.

HISTORY

The exact geographic origins of celosia in the wild are unknown, although speculations include the dry slopes of Africa and India as well as dry stony regions of both North and South America. Wherever they first came from, we have been growing and enjoying them in North America since the 18th century. Although reportedly used by Chinese herbalists to stop bleeding, treat diseases of the blood, and infections of the urinary tract, there are no references to its use in any western herbals - modern or centuries old, European or Native American.

The name is derived from the Greek and translates to "burning," aptly describing the look of celosias - especially the yellow, red, and orange plumed varieties - which bear a resemblance to licks of flames erupting from the stems. Before breeding resulted in larger blooms, the crested

celosia, with its small, wavy, fanlike flowers, looked very much like roosters' red combs - hence the popular common name of cockscomb.

In the Victorian language of flowers, celosias signified humor, warmth, and silliness. Goes to show how little humor they must have had in their lives. Yet, in their way, Victorians were on the right track. Even today, if you watch as folks, especially children, walk by a planting of celosia, you will likely see a grin. Their quirky flowers do beg for attention. Touch the flowers; they are amazingly soft. The cockscomb or cristata types feel like velvet on the sides of the spike. Celosia plumosa are actually tens of smaller feathery-like spikes produced in a Christmas tree-like arrangement. These feather-like plumes are almost indestructible. They remain the same shape and texture even during severe storms. Stand in the rain and Celosia plumosa look exactly the same as they do shining in the sunlight.

NOMENCLATURE

Celosias belong to the amaranth family, Amaranthaceae. Look at the plumed varieties and the resemblance to Joseph's coat amaranth is apparent. There are about 60 species of annual or perennial celosia. The three common forms of celosia belong to only two different species, Celosia argentea (aka cristata L.) and Celosia spicata.

CLASSIFICATION

Celosia argentea is comprised of two groups. Plumed celosia belongs to the Plumosa group, which bears fluffy, feathery heads composed of hundreds of tiny flowers. This group includes many All-America Selections Winners: 'Fresh Look Red' and its sister 'Fresh Look Yellow' (2004; both bear brilliant ten-inch-high feathers on 12- to 16-inch plants, producing new blooms around the old ones all summer - without deadheading), 'Apricot Brandy' (1981; apricot-orange plumes; 20-inch plant). 'New Look' won an AAS Award in 1988 due to the unique dark bronze foliage.

To many, the Cristata group, best known today as crested celosia or cockscomb, is suggestive of a highly colored brain - no gray matter there, just brilliant hues. Some varieties are wider than others; the narrow ones definitely are reminiscent of a rooster's comb. The "crenellations" of Bombay mix (3 to 4 feet tall with 18-inch flower heads in 5 colors: purple, deep red, wine red, gold, and yellow gold) are very narrow and look like folds of elegant French ribbon - darker on the outside, lighter colored inside.

C. spicata, spiked cockscomb, is also known as wheat celosia for its narrow, spiky flower heads, reminiscent of heads of wheat. Unlike C. argentea, spiked cockscombs produce numerous flowers, with an almost shrubby look, in more muted colors. 'Flamingo Feather' is 3 to 4 feet tall with graceful spikes of rosy pink flowers and 'Glowing Spears Mix' makes a colorful deep wine, pink, and white 24- to 30-inch high hedge. Twelve-inch tall 'Kosmo Purple Red' bears numerous narrow wine-red heads (that start out feathery and mature to fanlike cockscombs) beautifully set off by the handsome foliage - bright green, washed with purple.

HOW TO GROW FROM SEED

Celosias are warm weather plants and take about 90 days to flower after planting. Like beans, they are not happy unless the soil temperature is at least 60 degrees Fahrenheit. In cold winter areas, get a jump-start on the season by starting the seeds indoors four to six weeks before the last frost date. Celosias do not like to have their roots disturbed, so sow three or four seeds 1/4-

inch deep in lightly moistened, sterile seed-starting mix in earth-friendly peat pots. Cover the pots with plastic wrap and put in a warm (70 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit) place until the seeds germinate - 10 to 15 days. Remove the plastic daily to let the plants breathe. Spritz with room temperature (not ice-cold out of the faucet) water to keep the potting mix uniformly lightly moist.

Once the seeds have germinated, move the plants into the light. A sunny south facing window will do, but fluorescent lights are best. As the plants grow, move the lights so they remain about six inches above the tops of the plants. When the plants have two sets of true leaves (not the initial seed or cotyledon leaves), pinch out all but the strongest looking plant.

When the nighttime temperatures are above 55 degrees Fahrenheit, start hardening off the plants. Gradually introduce them to the outdoors, leaving them outside - in a protected area - for part of each day. Start out with four hours and increase the time outdoors by two hours each day. By the eighth day, they should be able to remain out overnight.

Unless you plan to grow celosias in a cutting garden, avoid planting them in soldierly rows. Tear or cut off any part of the peat pot that is above the level of the potting mix. Plant the pot so the peat pot is completely covered with garden soil. Follow the directions on the seed packet for spacing the plants, ten inches apart for small varieties - 16 inches for taller ones - is ample space for air circulation around the plants. Planted too closely, the plants may be stunted, with poor growth and smaller flowers. Water well.

In areas with longer summers, sow the seeds directly in the garden after all danger of frost has passed. Follow the directions on the seed packet for spacing. For best germination, wait until the soil temperature is at least 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Sow the seeds 1/2-inch deep and cover loosely with soil. Keep the soil lightly moist until the seeds germinate. Covering loosely with Reemay® or other spun polyfiber fabric can help maintain soil moisture. Remove fabric immediately after germination. Once the plants have two sets of true leaves, thin the seedlings to the recommended spacing on the seed packet, leaving the largest and strongest plants.

HOW TO GROW FROM PURCHASED PLANTS

Many celosias are available at nurseries, garden centers, and home stores in 4- to 6- plant cell packs. Purchase larger cell packs because they hold more soil. When purchasing the plants, look underneath the cell pack for any signs of roots emerging from the drainage holes. Avoid such packs, as the plants are likely root-bound and stressed. Check the roots, if possible, to see how tight they are in the cell. Look for healthy, well-colored leaves; examine them - top and bottom - for any signs of insects. Choose packs with vigorous plants growing in all cells, in soil that is not dried out.

Gently push up from the bottom of the cell pack to remove the plant; do not pull it out by the stem. If the roots are all matted together, make a vertical cut, one-quarter inch deep, through the root ball to encourage new root growth. Otherwise, gently loosen the soil around the roots. Set the plant in the ground at the same level it was growing in the cell pack. Water well. Set the plants 10 to 12 inches apart, or as directed on the plant tag.

Even though celosias will grow in poor, rocky or sandy soil, they will thrive in rich, well-drained garden soil.

GROWING ON IN THE GARDEN & GROWING IN CONTAINERS

Although the wheat celosias are almost bushy in appearance with numerous flowers, most plumed and crested celosias produce one large central flower and possibly several smaller flowers on side shoots. The tiny flower forms when the plant is small; as the plants grow, so does the flower. In the case of some of the large cockscombs, such as 'Red Velvet' that grows to 30 inches high with velvety crimson heads up to 10 inches across, the flowers grow so large that they make the plant top heavy, requiring staking. Otherwise, a heavy rain or wind can break the flower stem.

Celosias make beautiful container plantings - alone, or combined with other plants that like the same sunny growing conditions. Unless you grow a single plant in a container, plumes will be somewhat narrower than if they were planted in the ground. The key to a well-designed container is to include three plant forms: rounded, spiky, and frilly (or a plant that will spill over the rim of the pot and soften the edges). Plumed celosias fit the bill as spiky, and crested celosias as rounded. For containers, choose varieties that grow less than two feet tall, such as 'Castle Pink' (AAS 1990; plume; 12 to 16 inches tall; deep pink), 'Prestige Scarlet' (AAS 1997, crested; 12 inches; scarlet heads), 'Coral Garden' (crests look like coral reefs; 10 to 12 inches; mix of gold, burnt orange; deep cheery pink) or the newly introduced, 'Ice Cream' series.

Source: Texas Cooperative Extension, Texas A&M University @ aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu [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 or rick@kleinsfloral.com or Sue at 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.

Guided Garden Strolls

Sundays, June thru September, 1:30-3:00

Get an insider's view of Olbrich's outdoor gardens during a free guided garden stroll. All ages are welcome for this casual overview of the Gardens. Guided garden strolls will vary somewhat according to the season to reflect the garden areas that are at peak interest.

Strolls start and end in the lobby near the Garden entrance and are about 45 to 60 minutes in length. No registration is required; strolls are drop-in only. Strolls are held rain or shine and will be cancelled only in the event of dangerous lightning.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details.

Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies

July 16-August 10
Daily from 10:00-4:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

Experience the wonder of strolling through a tropical forest on a search for fleeting butterflies. Live butterflies emerge from chrysalises daily in the Bolz Conservatory. Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies is a great adventure for people of all ages. Children can visit stamping stations in the outdoor gardens with their Butterfly Passport while learning fun facts. Tour the outdoor gardens and visit the Growing Gifts shop. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children ages 12 and under, and free for children under 2. Olbrich Botanical Society members are admitted free. Parking is free. Bus tours are welcome; groups of 15 or more must register by calling 608/246-4550. The Bolz Conservatory will be closed Monday, July 14 and Tuesday, July 15 in preparation for Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details.

Forest Garden Design

Tuesday, August 5, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Learn the basics of how to plant a forest garden, including mushrooms! In this class we will cover site considerations, plant guilds, plant selection, and forest garden designs. We will also discuss how to grow mushrooms for home-scale food production. Plant lists will be provided. Instructors: Marian Farrow and Amy Jo Dusick. Fee: \$21 (\$18 FEA). Registration required @ uwarboretum.org/events/register_1.php?id=2227

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888 or uwarboretum.org/events

Urban Horticulture Field Day

Saturday, August 9, 10:00-2:00
West Madison Agricultural Research Station
8502 Mineral Point Road
Verona, WI 53593
608/262-2257

Join the staff and students at UW's 8-acre trial and demonstration garden as we celebrate another great season! Take a stroll through beds of annual, perennial, fruit, and vegetable crops (with produce to sample). In addition, UW specialists will be available to answer insect and disease questions and to provide advice for your future gardens. We hope to see you there!

The West Madison Agricultural Research Station is located at 8502 Mineral Point Road, about a mile west of the beltline on the north side of the road. Admission and parking are free.

Visit their web site @ www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit-Integrated Pest Management

August 12 thru October 26, 2014
Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

Beneficial insects have been used in the Conservatory since it opened in 1991. These bugs provide control of plant-damaging insects, minimizing the need of more dangerous traditional insecticides. These controls, along with several others, are part of the Conservatory's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. This widely accepted program strives to use the least toxic method of insect and disease control to be more environmentally sensitive. Learn about Olbrich's environmentally friendly pest control methods and get ideas you can use to reduce or eliminate pesticide use at home.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details.

Daylily Sale

Saturday, August 16, 10:00-4:00
Sunday, August 17, 11:00-3:00
Sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society
For info call 608/221-1933 or visit www.wisdaylilysoc.org

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison

608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details.

Dahlia Show

Saturday, August 16, 10:00-4:00

Sunday, August 17, 10:00-4:00

Dahlias are late summer bloomers known for their diverse forms and bright colors. Sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608/577-1924.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details.

Native Plant Garden Tour: Native Grasses

Wednesday, August 20, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

In late summer, we will take a closer look at color, size and features of native grasses, from tiny mustache grass to big bluestem.

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888 or uwarboretum.org/events

Introduction to Rain Gardening

Saturday, August 23, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

This class will cover design, placement, plants, and planting of rain gardens. Instructor: Molly Fifield-Murray. Fee: \$18 (\$16 FOA). Registration required @ uwarboretum.org/events/register_1.php?id=2236

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888 or uwarboretum.org/events

Dane County Farmer's Market

Saturdays, April 19 thru November 8, 6:00-2:00

On the Capitol Square

Wednesdays, April 23 thru November 5, 8:30-2:00
In the 200 block of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

For details visit www.dcfm.org

Northside Farmers Market

Sundays, May 4 through October 19, 8:30-12:30

In the Northside TownCenter at the intersection of N. Sherman Ave. and Northport Dr. across from Warner Park.

The Northside Farmers Market is a nonprofit community enterprise. It is one of the newest and fastest growing farmers' markets in Dane County. In keeping with the innovative spirit of Madison's Northside, we are surpassing what defines the traditional farmers' market. Our fundamental principles include:

--Providing an abundant selection of high quality, locally grown foods.
The market accepts Quest, WIC and Senior FMNP vouchers.

--Supporting our local agricultural entrepreneurs who are increasingly important today in ensuring that we have the best and safest food possible.

--Educating the community about traditional foods and the history of local agriculture in an attempt to preserve (and expand upon) our rich heritage.

--Promoting nutrition and the market by hosting dinners for neighborhood groups and seniors.

Parking is always FREE!

For details visit www.northsidefarmersmarket.org

AUGUST IN THE GARDEN--A checklist of things to do this month.

- Give the garden at least 1" of moisture per week.
- Mow as little as possible and with mower raised to at least 2".
- Mulch beds to conserve moisture and keep down weeds.
- Deadheading spent blooms as needed.
- Collect seeds for next year's garden.
- Make notes in your garden journal for changes, improvements, etc.
- Take pictures of your garden for record keeping.
- Stake and support tall plants as needed.
- Divide daylilies as they finish blooming.

- ___ Transplant and divide iris and peonies.
- ___ Plant late crops of lettuce, spinach, radishes, etc.
- ___ Order spring bulbs for fall planting: daffodils, tulips, hyacinth, etc.
- ___ Plant fall blooming crocus bulbs.
- ___ Fertilize potted plants at least every 2 weeks. Follow directions.
- ___ Stop fertilizing all trees and shrubs.
- ___ Keep and eye on the weather. Water as needed.
- ___ Watch for pests and control as needed or desired.
- ___ Shop for early mum selection and fall pansies.
- ___ Begin checking out the garden centers for spring bulb selection.
- ___ Stop watering held over amaryllis for 8 weeks for holiday blooms.
- ___ Begin taking cuttings of geraniums, coleus and other plants to winter over.
- ___ Visit Klein's---Watch for end of season savings on perennials, shrubs and select annuals.

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Some of our very favorite seed and plant sources include:

For seeds:

- Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds @ www.rareseeds.com or 417/924-8887
- Burpee @ www.burpee.com or 800/888-1447
- Harris Seeds @ www.harriseseeds.com or 800/514-4441
- Johnny's Select Seeds @ www.johnnyseeds.com or 207/861-3901
- Jung's Seeds @ www.jungseed.com or 800/247-5864
- Park's Seeds @ www.parkseed.com or 800/845-3369
- Pinetree @ www.superseeds.com or 207/926-3400
- Seeds of Change @ www.seedsofchange.com or 888/762-7333
- Seed Savers @ www.seed savers.org or 563/382-5990
- Select Seeds @ www.selectseeds.com or 800/684-0395
- Territorial Seeds @ www.territorialseed.com or 888/657-3131
- Thompson & Morgan @ www.thompson-morgan.com or 800/274-7333

For bulbs:

- Brent & Becky's Bulbs @ www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com or 877/661-2852
- Colorblends @ www.colorblends.com or 888/847-8637
- John Scheeper's @ www.johnscheepers.com or 860/567-0838
- McClure & Zimmerman @ www.mzbulb.com or 800/883-6998

For plants:

- High Country Gardens @ www.highcountrygardens.com or 800/925-9387
- Logee's Greenhouses @ www.logees.com or 888/330-8038
- Plant Delights Nursery @ www.plantdelights.com or 912/772-4794
- Roots and Rhizomes @ www.rootsrhizomes.com or 800/374-5035
- Wayside Gardens @ www.waysidegardens.com or 800/213-0379
- White Flower Farm @ www.whiteflowerfarm.com or 800/503-9624

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

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 AUGUST:

---The poinsettias continue grow and thrive in our back greenhouses. They're so big already, we've had to give them adequate spacing.

--The first of the mums, pansies and fall cole crops go out onto the sales floor.

---Summer maintenance projects are under way. This year's plans include replacing old benches, replacing and repairing some roofs and some general touchups.

---We continue to space and pamper the fall mums that are now just beginning to bloom.

---We're prepping our main showrooms for the semi-load of houseplants arriving from Florida about mid-month. We time this shipment with the arrival of the college students. Select from all shapes and sizes; from tropicals to succulents. The showrooms become a veritable jungle.

---We begin ordering plants for the 2015 season.

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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.

Sun Protector Hats and Visors from Sunday Afternoons

Klein's carries a wide assortment of sun protective hats and sun visors from **Sunday Afternoons** in a wide array of styles and colors. All hats have a UPF of 50+ a level that prevents more than 98% of all UV rays. Styles are very fashionable and extremely functional; whether working in the garden, enjoying the beach or partaking in your favorite sport.

Shop now before summer slips away! These hats make for a great and unique holiday gift idea. **Styles we currently have on hand include:**

The Adventure Hat

The Adventure Hat is Sunday Afternoons signature hat style. Worn by adventurers around the world - it's the most recognizable sun hat on the planet.

The Cruiser Hat

Sunday Afternoons has taken design cues from outback and boonie hat styles and added our signature lightweight comfort and sun protection to create the best selling Cruiser Hat.

The Lotus Hat

Styled for leisure but withstanding any adventure, the Lotus Hat is cute and practical.

The Palm Springs Hat

The Palm Springs Hat offers flexibility in comfort, style and fashion. This beautifully woven straw styled sun hat guarantees effective full-face sun protective coverage with its wide sun-blocking brim.

The Milan Hat

A sophisticated addition to our boutique line, the Milan Hat's elegant look and ultra wide brim is the definition of stylish sun protection.

The Caribbean Hat

Ocean meets land, with the stylishly large brimmed, Caribbean Hat. Featuring a crushable poly-braid straw and adjustable leatherette chin strap, the Caribbean Hat is perfect for tropical vacations and long days on the beach.

The Beach Hat

Accent ribbon tie adjusts size for a dependable fit. Easily packed for travel, great for walks in the neighborhood, or afternoons at the beach!

The Escape Cap

Innovative features and a fashionable look make the Escape Cap a great choice for women on the go. The folding clamshell brim allows for ultra compact packing making the cap easy to slip in a purse or back pocket. Take this cap on the road, hiking in the hills, or shopping downtown all while looking and feeling lovely.

The Aero Visor

Discover excellent eye and face sun protection that's featherweight and open-crowned for optimum heat dispersal.

The Sonoma Visor

The Sonoma Visor makes a stylish addition to any outfit. It offers ultra wide brim UV coverage, easy size adjustability and can roll up for travel.

The Kids' Fun Bucket Hat

The Kids' Fun Bucket Hat will put a smile on your child or grandchild's face and bring peace-of-mind for you. The need for children's sun protection is unprecedented; early education and use of natural sun care, including sun protective wear is critical for their future health.

The Sunday Afternoons Story

In 1990 Robbin and Angeline made their very first Adventure Blanket. This outdoor blanket was born from the desire to have a better outdoor surface for their young family's frequent outings. The blanket featured a waterproof bottom, water-resistant top, pockets, a carry sling, and of course, bright early nineties colors. Soon, friends of the couple who also had young families started noticing the blankets, and commissioned them to make Adventure blankets for their families as well. With Sunday Afternoons being the time of the week that most families spent valuable moments together, the business was founded... and the name was chosen.

After many evenings cutting fabric on the living room floor (fabric was still cut on a piece by piece basis at this point), and sewing in a makeshift room from home, Robbin and Angeline became concerned about the pile of scrap fabric that was accumulating with no use. Being ecologically minded, and having little extra money at the time, they brainstormed the best way to use these fabric pieces. Together, they came up with the Sundrizzle, a color coordinated sun hat to sell along with the blankets. Little did they know, this would change the face of their company forever.

Sales of the hats took off at outdoor craft fairs where the couple were selling most of their Adventure Blankets at the time. Soon there was not nearly enough scrap fabric to keep up with the demand for more hats. In addition to selling, Robbin and Angeline often found themselves taking notes about suggestions and desires for new styles, colors, and functional designs from folks who lived and worked outside in the sun.

A big company shift occurred in 1995 when Angeline invented the Adventure Hat. It was sun protective, lightweight, technical, and proved to be the most innovative sun blocking headwear on the market and Sunday Afternoons' best seller. The Adventure Hat was subsequently patented and is still Sunday Afternoons' most recognizable product. Following the success, sun protection became the main theme of the company.

Sunday Afternoons is now a thriving company, designing and manufacturing high quality sun protective hats and clothing for our customers worldwide. Sunday Afternoons' growing line includes new, dermatologist approved sun protective hats and clothing, and other active lifestyle gear. We hope our customers follow our lead by enjoying the sunshine wisely, and playing it safe with full coverage hats, protective clothing and sunscreens. We have discovered that those customers that have made a life long habit of sun protection have healthy skin and a wrinkle-free youthfulness that belies their age. As Sunday Afternoons continues to evolve, its family of workers stay connected to their small-town roots, and commitment to friendly, one-on-one customer service. Give us a call, or visit our website. We are happy to assist you!

... and just in case you are wondering. "Sunday Afternoons still makes the Adventure Blanket", says Robbin and Angeline, "It's one of our best products!"

Source: www.sundayafternoons.com

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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. 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](#) where we post updates and photos on a regular basis.

TWITTER

Join Klein's on [Twitter](#) 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

Plastic flower pots and garden edging can now be recycled as part of the City of Madison's [rigid plastic program](#). Flowerpots and edging must be free of dirt and can be placed in your green recycling bin. For more information call 267-2626 or visit www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/plastic.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 all gift deliveries 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** or **888/244-5661** or by stopping in. We request that payment be made in full before the first delivery and prices do not include sales tax.

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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. We do not deliver to Cambridge, Columbus, Deerfield or Stoughton.

Current delivery rate on 1-4 items is \$7.95 for Madison, Maple Bluff, Monona and Shorewood Hills; \$8.95 for Cottage Grove, DeForest, Fitchburg, McFarland, Sun Prairie, Waunakee and Windsor; and \$9.95 for Marshall, Middleton, Oregon and Verona. An additional \$3.00 will be added for deliveries of 4-10 items and \$5.00 added for deliveries of more than 10 items. For deliveries requiring more than one trip, a separate delivery charge will be added for each trip.

A minimum order of \$25.00 is required for delivery.

We not only deliver our fabulous fresh flowers, but also houseplants, bedding plants and hardgoods. There may be an extra charge for very large or bulky items.

Delivery to the Madison hospitals is \$5.95. Deliveries to the four Madison hospitals are made during the early afternoon. Items are delivered to the hospital's volunteer rooms and not directly to the patients' rooms per hospital rules.

There is no delivery charge for funerals in the city of Madison or Monona, although normal rates apply for morning funeral deliveries to Madison's west side (west of Park St.). Our normal rates also apply for funeral deliveries in the surrounding communities at all times. Although we don't deliver on Sundays, we will deliver funeral items on Sundays at the regular delivery rate.

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 3:00 p.m. We do not usually deliver after 4:00 unless specific exceptions are made with our drivers.

Except for holidays, the following west-side zip codes and communities are 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.

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Please refer all questions, concerns or feedback in the following departments to their appropriate supervisor.
Phone: 608/244-5661 or 888/244-5661

Grower, General Manager --Jamie VandenWymelenberg jamie@kleinsfloral.com
Floral Department Head--Kathy Lehman kathy@kleinsfloral.com
Accounts, Billing and Retail Buyer—Kathryn Derauf kathryn@kleinsfloral.com
Perennial Specialist—Dena Fritz dena@kleinsfloral.com
Delivery Supervisor--Rick Halbach rick@kleinsfloral.com
Owner & Manager--Sue Klein sue@kleinsfloral.com

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RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES

University of Wisconsin Extension
1 Fen Oak Ct. #138

Madison, WI 53718
608/224-3700
<http://hort.uwex.edu>

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
<http://uwlabs.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
<http://www.troygardens.org/>

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

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
<http://wimastergardener.org>

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

Allen Centennial Gardens
620 Babcock Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
608/262-8406
<http://www.allencentennialgardens.org/>

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4550
<http://www.olbrich.org/>

Rotary Gardens
1455 Palmer Dr.
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-3885
<http://www.rotarygardens.org/>

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888
<http://uwarboretum.org/>

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

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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

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

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