

# Nursery & Landscape

NEWS

LNLA Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 75 | July/ August / September 2021

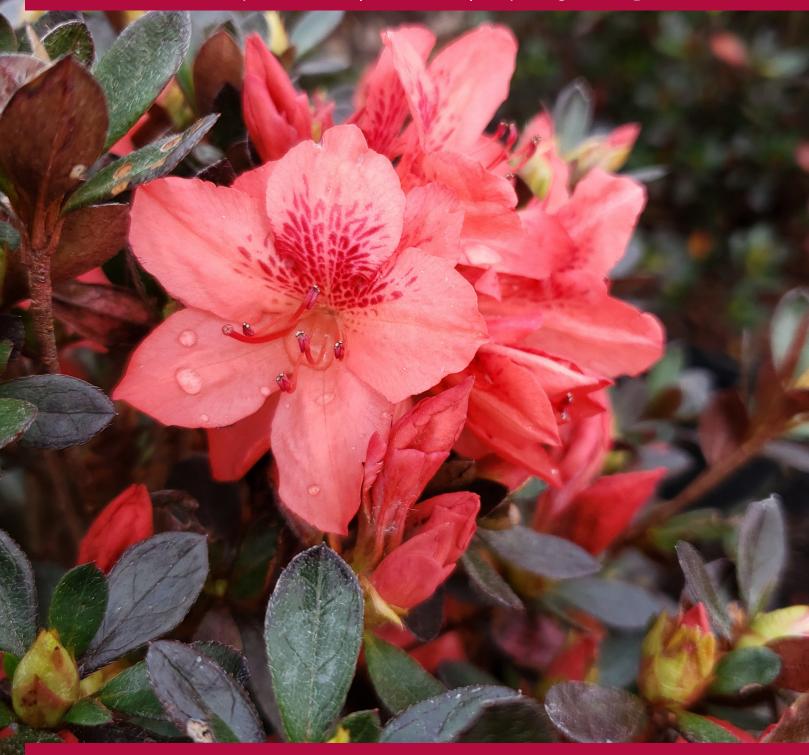


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## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Here we go again! What a crazy ride we had with hurricane Ida...being the 3rd major hurricane to take a swipe at us. I don't know how many we need to prove just how resilient we are as homeowners, business owners, and industry professionals, but it seems Mother Nature is determined to show us. Some of us had minor losses and setbacks from Ida, and many in the hardest hit areas were devastated. Their losses will be felt for years to come. I know I speak for all of LNLA when I say that our thoughts and prayers go out to those most affected. If there is anything that LNLA can do as an organization to help with recovery please let us know. I know that with all of us doing our part to purchase plant material and supplies from those areas and businesses it will benefit them immensely. Plus, keeping it local raises the quality of plant material, supplies, and affiliated industry products in our state, and benefits us all!

For some good news, in July LNLA held its' first in-state general meeting coinciding with Dr. Jeb's Hammond Research Station's field day. We had a great turnout!

Commissioner Mike Strain was there for a very informative Q & A. His show of support for LNLA and involvement in our meeting is very beneficial to our organiza tion and industry. The LNLA board meeting was in the morning, with members being able to participate in the conversations throughout the meeting. Member input and involvement is extremely valuable and the key to our success.

Even better news is that our membership total has now hit 596 members. That goes to show that the mission of LNLA to put forward what matters to our members, such as, H2B worker programs, research for both the wholesale and retail sectors, scholar ships for the up and coming professionals, etc., is succeeding. Our number

priority should always be to be the voice of our members. Wishing all of you a happy and prosperous fall season! Kurt Ducote

Sincerely, Kurt Ducote



### YOUR INPUT NEEDED!

#### **SURVEY STUDY OF URBAN FORESTRY** INDUSTRIES

North Carolina State University and partners are seeking participants for a study assessing the economic impacts of urban and community forestry in the southern United States. We are conducting a survey of public and private sector enterprises involved in growing and managing urban trees.

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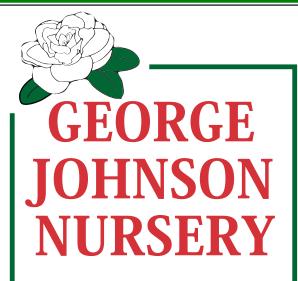




Poole Brothers Nursery was founded in 1923 by, you guessed it, brothers Johns and Murphy Poole. Through four generations, the nursery remained family owned and operated, until 1998, when Stephen and Debbie Head purchased it. The decision to keep the name was an easy one, and from there the Poole family legacy expanded across five additional locations.

In 2012, George Johnson Nursery became a part of the Poole Bros family. Reconstruction of this location quickly began, and restoration of the nursery back to it's full 40 acres brought the total acreage to 250, across all Poole Brothers properties. Additionally, we are fortunate enough to operate our own trucking division. This affords us the ability to deliver our live goods to customers in a time efficient manner. We are passionate about our mission to grow and provide our re-wholesale, landscape, and garden center customers with beautiful, quality plants they will be proud to offer their customers. Our specialties include perennials, Abelia, Holly, Hydrangeas, and Azaleas. With azaleas being our signature plant, we put an emphasis on growing tried and true varieties such as G.G. Gerbing, George Tabor, Red Ruffle and many other varieties.

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## Notes From The Secretary....

Hello Everyone,



September 17, 1954 - September 17, 2021. LNLA is 67 years old (formerly the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen). BIG 70th bash in 2024! Happy Birthday to us! LAN became LNLA (Louisiana Nursery AND Landscape Association) 20 plus years ago and we just keep getting better.

Joining forces is what LNLA is really all about ... one part of the industry can't exist without another, making LNLA a strong force that cannot be broken. Wholesale nurseries, retail garden centers, landscapers, landscape architects, arborists, chemical applicators and irrigation specialists find community with LNLA, together we are all more capable.

LNLA would like to send a big THANK YOU to our fellow associations FNGLA, ALNLA and others for reaching out after Hurricane Ida to see if they could be of assistance to our membership. Mark Clikas from Lakeland, FL, our sales rep for Harrell's, went above and beyond bringing fuel, food and water to our hard hit nurseries in the SE LA area of the state just days after. On our not so great days, we could all use a little support. Thank you!

LNLA sponsored the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station Field Day in July and hosted an industry panel discussion with our board members and Commissioner Strain at the event. If you would like to see some of the topics discussed, please visit our Facebook page for the live video, it was super interesting and informative. We hope to host a similar meeting to this in North Louisiana soon!

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or need anything at all from LNLA!







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## Named Scholarship or Research Grant Funding are great ways to honor your loved ones.



While the express purpose of the Foundation is to provide funding for scholarships and research, there are also naming opportunities that exist for businesses or individuals that may desire to name a Scholarship/Research in honor of someone or some other entity.

LNLFSR requires a minimum investment of \$10,000.00 to have a named Scholarship/Research. The investment may be accomplished in four different time frames:

\$10,000.00 in a lump sum payment \$5,000.00 over a two year period \$2,500.00 over a four year period

Once the named Scholarship/Research is fully funded, the donor has some discretion working with the Foundation, to decide the dollar amount of the Scholarship/Research and thus the length of the time their naming funds would last.

Options for dispersal of funds towards scholarships or research grants could be:

\$1,000.00 each over ten years \$2.000.00 each over five years \$2,500.00 each over four years

Donors would have the opportunity to add to their original investment if they decided to continue their named Scholarship/Research longer. Contact Cari Jane Murray, LNLFSR Executive Secretary for more information.



LNLFSR is proud to be funding the following research for October 2021-Sept 2022 funding cycle:

- Dr. Jeb Fields and grad student Kristopher Criscione's research at LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station "Reducing Fertilizer in Container Production Through Targeted Placement" (\$2,950)
- Dr. Heather Kirk-Ballard, Dr. Kathryn Fontenot and Dr. Jeff Kuehny's research at LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden "Accessing Preference for Plant Selection, Maintenance and Aesthetic Appeal of Louisiana Sustainable Landscape" (\$10,000)
- Dr. Yan Chen and Hort Instructor Jennifer Blanchard's research at the Hill Farm teaching facility on LSU Campus "Evaluation of Indigenous and Adaptive Medicinal Plants for Consumer Market in Louisiana" (\$3,500)
- LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station Trial Gardens (\$5,000)





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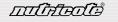




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# LNLA Scholarship Winners From the Past WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

#### **JASON STAGG**

In 2011, Jason Stagg entered graduate school at LSU to pursue a Master of Science degree in horticulture. He was a non-traditional student seeking to change his life's career path. Having a passion for plants even as a child, Jason's graduate research focused on the establishment and growth of native perennial grasses in urban landscapes. Having maintained a 4.0 grade point average in his coursework, he was awarded a LNLA scholarship in 2012. He says the scholarship provided immense help financially.

As an older student, it was often challenging to balance life's "overhead" costs with earning a second degree. Upon graduation, Jason was hired at the LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station to fill the commercial landscape horticulture and nursery crops instructor position. Almost seven years on, Jason is still at the station and has enjoyed how his job duties have evolved over time. He now primarily focuses his work on discovering and introducing new plant material,



running the day-to-day operations of the trial gardens, managing the plant collections in the station's other garden areas, and directing the greenhouse propagation efforts.



#### RION MOONEYHAM

Rion received a LNLFSR scholarship in 2013. Growing up, Rion lived in a metropolitan area in Louisiana that didn't expose me to agriculture very much. During the summers, he frequently visited his extended family's home in the countryside of Niigata, Japan where they farmed rice and lots of vegetables. He always loved lending a hand in the field during my visits, and this turned into a passion for working with plants and learning how to grow food. Going into my undergraduate at LSU, he knew that he desired a deeper knowledge of plant science and agriculture. After my first year working at LSU's Sweet Potato Breeding Program as a student worker, it 'sealed the

deal' for me and I decided to continue studying horticulture and plant breeding.

Horticulture has so many different paths to choose from which is another reason why I loved it so much. After completing his B.S. degree at LSU, Rion attended graduate school at the University of Georgia where he completed his M.S. degree in December 2020. Rion is now at Oregon State University pursuing his Ph.D. in plant breeding.



Maureen Thiessen, Jason Stagg and Katie Guitreau received LNLFSR scholarships in 2012. See Jason's accomplishments in his bio. Currently, Maureen is a research associate in horticulture at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station in Hammond and Katie serves as events and rental coordinator at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Garden at Burden in Baton Rouge.



# Field Day



# Ag Center Research · Extension · Teaching





Horticulture professor Yan Chen discussed the commercial potential of growing tea (Camellia sinensis) in Louisiana to attendees at the LSU AgCenter nursery and landscape industry field day held at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station.







LSU AgCenter plant pathologist Raj Singh gave a great presentation on the issues facing boxwoods today at the nursery and landscape industry field day at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station.







Jason Stagg from the LSU AgCenter in Hammond visits with Dr. Bill Welch at the nursery and landscape industry field day held this summer. Dr. Welch has three degrees from LSU (horticulture, landscape architecture and extension education) and only recently retired from a career of almost 50 years in horticulture at Texas A&M University. Dr. Welch has been a mentor to many and is admired by green industry professionals across the South.













Beacon® Impatiens (Spring)



Suncredible® Yellow (Summer)



Muhly Grass (Fall)



Supertunia® Mini Vista 'Indigo (Winter)

## 2021 Selections

Impatiens Beacon® Series – (Bedding Plant)
Sunflower Suncredible® Yellow – (Bedding Plant)
Muhly Grass, Muhlenbergia capillaris (Native Grass)
Supertunia Mini Vista 'Indigo' (Bedding Plant)

## **Previous Selections**

#### **Warm Season Bedding Plants**

Alternanthera 'Little Ruby' Angelonia – Serena Series Angelonia 'Serenita Raspberry'

Begonia – BabyWing series
Buddleia 'Flutterby Tutti Frutti'
Celosia 'Intenz Classic'
Cleome 'Senorita Rosalita'
Coleus 'Henna'

Coleus – Flamethrower series Gaillardia – Mesa series

Hibiscus – Luna series

Lantana – Bandana series

Lemon Sedum

Pennisetum 'Fireworks'

Pentas – Butterfly series Pentas – Lucky Star series

Salvia farinacea 'Evolution Violet'

Salvia farinacea 'Evolution White'

SunPatiens (compact varieties)

Torenia – Kauai series

Verbena 'Homestead Purple'

#### **Cool Season Bedding Plants**

Columbine – Swan series
Delphinium 'Diamonds Blue'
Dianthus – Amazon series
Dianthus – Jolt series
Foxglove – Camelot series
Kale 'Redbor'
Petunia 'Supertunia Vista
Bubblegum'
Viola – Sorbet series

#### **Shrubs**

Althea (Rose of Sharon)
'Aphrodite'

American Beautyberry,
Callicarpa americana

Azalea 'Conversation Piece'
Blueberries – Rabbiteye
Varieties

Camellia 'Shishi Gashira'
Camellia 'Leslie Ann'
Firebush 'Lime Sizzler'
Gardenia 'Frostproof'
Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight'
Hydrangea 'Penny Mac'
Rose 'Belinda's Dream'
Rose – Drift series
Viburnum 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight'
Virginia Willow 'Henry's Garnet'

#### **Trees**

Baldcypress (Taxodium distichum)
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Evergreen Sweetbay Magnolia (Magnolia virginiana)
Southern Magnolia 'Little Gem' (Magnolia grandiflora)
Southern Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum)
Willow Oak (Quercus phellos)

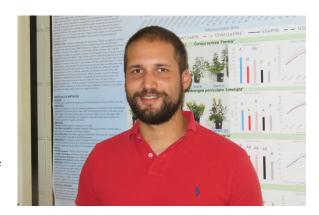
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## WELCOME

Dr Abdi

Greetings LNLA members, landscape enthusiasts, and the greater horticultural community. My name is Damon Abdi and I have recently began my new venture as the Assistant Professor of Landscape Horticulture with the LSU AgCenter. I look forward to devising an extension and research program that can effectively meet the needs of our industry professionals, and move the needle forward on innovative methods and technologies to address current and future issues.

My background in the horticultural world commenced as a teenager growing up in central Maryland, maintaining and enhancing yards in my neighborhood and installing drainage lines. After a



few summers of carrying out these tasks on my own, I joined a local residential landscape contractor. While there, I had the opportunity to learn how to build patios, retaining walls, decks, French drains, landscape lighting systems, and perform softscape installation, care, and maintenance among other responsibilities on the business management end. With an intention to start my own contracting firm, I pursued a degree in Landscape Contracting at Penn State University.

During my time at Penn State, I took courses on plant identification, plant propagation, landscape design and construction, and expanded my knowledge on the roles and responsibilities of an industry professional. During this time, I spent my summers as an intern with a commercial landscape company back in Maryland, allowing me to gain a perspective on another



landscape sector. While working in the commercial sector, I took on the responsibilities of performing tree, shrub, annual plant, and turf installation and maintenance across a variety of locations ranging from expansive cemeteries and parks, to pedestrian heavy shopping centers and parking lots. As my graduation from Penn State was approaching, my desire to continue my horticultural education guided me to pursuing my PhD in Horticulture at Michigan State University.

My work at Michigan State was funded by a USDA grant focusing on water management in nursery crop production. I was tasked with identifying ways to irrigate more efficiently – not only to reduce water use, but to limit the amount of runoff generated as well as the movement of fertilizers and pesticides. The research I conducted demonstrated reductions in irrigation applied while also limiting fertilizer and pesticide movement off-site, all while maintaining (or exceeding) the quality of the ornamental plants

produced. Addressing water and contaminant issues was also conducted at the back-end of the issue, devising simple water treatment systems that were capable of reducing fertilizer and pesticide pollutants from runoff water and protecting water resources. I had the privilege to present my results across a number of trade shows, extension events, and scientific conferences in the Midwest, throughout the nation, and across the world. Now my goal is to serve the Louisiana green industry specifically focusing on the challenges that are faced in the gulf coast.

My research program here will focus on water management concerns, site management challenges, fertilizer and pesticide use, and ensuring plant quality across the state. I am excited to evolve my program based on my interactions with all of you in order to more effectively address the challenges that you face and to better meet your needs. I look forward to engaging with industry professionals at trade shows, extension events, and workshops at the Hammond Research Station, across the state, and region. Excited to join the AgCenter and the LNLA and to work alongside all of you!

Best, Damon

Damon E. Abdi, PhD Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station Email: DAbdi@agcenter.lsu.edu Office phone: 985-543-4125

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## Louisiana Cat Launches New Rental Facility in Covington



COVINGTON, LA-Louisiana Cat launched a new Louisiana Rents location in Covington, on July 1, 2021. Louisiana Rents is an authorized rental facility for Cat® construction equipment and offers customized and temporary solutions based on customers' project needs.

Michael Hammant will manage the new location and looks forward to expanding Cat equipment and other rental products into the Northshore market. Louisiana Rents currently has seven locations statewide in Baton Rouge, Bossier City, Covington, Harvey, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and St. Rose.

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## Nursery Research Note

#### Cyanobacteria (Nostoc; Various other species)

(editors note: this is a very common slime issue in Louisiana)



Submitted by Dr. Allen Owings

Have you noticed a greenish-brown slime covering the gravel or soil in and around a container production area or shade house? This gelatinous mat is commonly mistaken as algae, but is most likely a cyanobacteria (a photosynthetic bacteria) referred to as Nostoc that can produce its own food by utilizing sunlight, carbon dioxide, and available nutrients. Cyanobacteria can be beneficial to the environment (they produce oxygen and fix nitrogen), but Nostoc mats are very slippery and pose a safety and health hazard for nursery workers. Nostoc thrives in hot, high moisture environments (container pads, greenhouses, etc.), absorb excess nutrients (runoff from nursery containers), and can grow on numerous surfaces throughout the nursery (soil, gravel, fabric barrier, concrete, etc.). Although Nostoc may become dry and flaky and seem to die under low moisture conditions, these organisms can survive for long

periods of drought and be revived when moisture becomes available. Poor drainage and excessive nutrient runoff from containers enhances Nostoc growth and spread. Best management practices for controlling Nostoc include reducing the number of irrigations per day to allow the surface areas to dry between irrigation events and irrigating for shorter periods to minimize nutrient leaching from containers. Dried Nostoc residue can be physically removed by raking/grading, but leftover material will regrow and care must be taken to not infest new areas. Unfortunately, chemical control of Nostoc has proven difficult and with varied success due to the multiple species found in nurseries. The pesticides TerraCyte PRO (sodium carbonate peroxyhydrate) and Zerotol 2.0 (hydrogen peroxide + peroxyacetic acid) have been reported to kill Nostoc in nursery settings, but multiple applications will be required.

Source: Dr. Anthony Witcher (awitcher@tnstate.edu), Tennessee State University Nursery Research Center. Published in TSU Nursery News to Use. 26th edition. July 2021.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!!**

Congratulations to Dr. Jackie Robbins (Irrigation Mart, Ruston, LA), Irrigation Association's Industry Achievement Award for 2021.



Jackie Robbins, PhD, PE, CID, TSP, is a recipient of the 2021 Industry Achievement Award. Before retiring in 2020, he was the president and CEO of Robbins Association/Irrigation-Mart Inc. His career has included extensive teaching, research and consulting nationally and internationally, as well as starting a successful full-service microirrigation design and distribution company. He has dedicated significant time and energy to the IA, serving on the Certification Board, the Board of Directors and, most recently, the Standards and Codes Committee. He was heavily involved in the development of the certification program, helping create its initial structure and the supporting education programs.



## PLANTS, PLANTS, and MORE PLANTS

By: Allen Owings, Horticulture Professor Emeritus (LSU AgCenter), Senior Horticulturist (Bracy's Nursery), Horticulturist (Clegg's Nursery)
(p) 225-603-8096 or (e) AOwings64@gmail.com

#### **Trade Shows**

The Nursery and Landscape Expo in San Antonio was the best attended Texas trade show in 5 years. With limited plant availabilities and high demand due to pandemic gardening, but more so the slobber knocker Arctic frozen tundra winter blast in February, many retailers and landscapers were kicking tires trying to find plants. The FLNGA Landscape Show also saw significantly increased attendance at their event in late August and the Cultivate Show in Ohio in July was excellent – attendance was down but that was due to the limitations on travel for the large contingency of international visitors that come to that show. Far West in Portland was also well-attended and folks booked orders. This should be good news for the Gulf States Horticultural Expo in Mobile in January. I anticipate a great attendance and lots of horticulture energy and excitement.

#### **Hummingbird Notes**

There is heavy migration of hummingbirds across the South in September and October. Some hummingbird facts:

- \*Flocks are called "charms"
- \*Male hummers return first to the breeding grounds to establish a territory
- \*Female hummers follow and prepare a nest or "fix up" a previously used nest
- \*Sometimes females prepare multiple nests to serve as decoys for predators
- \*Hummingbirds can hear high pitched sounds that humans can hear but they can detect tiny differences in sound that humans cannot detect
- \*Hummers have vision into the ultraviolet light range
- \*Hummers are very attracted to red
- \*Hummingbirds migrate in response to a changing length in daylength
- \*Place nectar feeders out early in the spring and hummingbirds will find them
- \*Hummingbirds are very intelligent and can remember places and individual people from one year to the next.

#### New Limelight Prime Hydrangea Paniculata

Limelight Prime Hydrangea paniculata (new 2021 from Spring Meadow Nursery, Proven Winners) shares all the same qualities that made the original a success, while also offering:

- \*A denser, more compact habit that creates a lush, full look in the landscape
- \*An earlier bloom time, which is especially beneficial in cooler climates
- \*Better flower color, from its early summer green phase all the way through autumn's red and pink tones
- \*Strong, sturdy stems that won't flop over, even under the weight of enormous blooms.

\*A smaller size that works perfectly for home landscapes and gardens.

Descriptions on Some of the Newer Gardenia Varieties First Editions® Double Mint PP#23507

Fill the landscape with the heavenly fragrance of gardenia. This gardenia will "double your pleasure". The double 2" diameter flowers bloom in spring and re-bloom again summer to fall on this compact, full, dense shrub with evergreen foliage. Double Mint only grows 3' in height and spread, making it perfect for small space gardens and foundation plantings. Upright, rounded shape. Hardy to zone 7a.

Diamond Spire® ('Leefive') PP#32516

A relatively new variety in the Southern Living® Plant Collection, Diamond Spire® was developed by Buddy Lee of Encore® Azalea fame. You have been waiting for this one and wanting this one. The unique columnar habit lends this selection to "attending getting" landscape use. Great container option for residential patios and entrances. Amazing bloom performance with single daisy flowers in the spring with some rebloom in late summer into mid fall. Hardy to zone 7b.

Height of 3-4' with a 2' width.

Buttons PP#24229

A Star® Roses and Plants variety, this low growing gardenia lives up to its' name Buttons because it is "cute as a button" with abundant, 2" semi-double flowers with a button center. Extremely fragrant and heat tolerant – great in the landscape but well adapted to containers also. Hardy to zone 7a. Height of 3' with a similar width.

Jubilation<sup>TM</sup> ('Leeone') PP#21983

Another Southern Living® Plant Collection variety that has actually been on the market for ten years. A charming improvement on a Southern favorite, Jubilation™ grows compactly with fragrant, white blooms in spring; reblooming sporadically through summer into fall. Has been one of the best of the gardenia varieties planted in the sun garden trials at the LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station (zone

8b). Hardy to zone 7a. Height of 3-4' (unpruned after ten years about 6') with a 3' width (unpruned after ten years 4.5').

Looking forward to seeing everyone as trade shows, field days, educational programs and more are returning. I recently attended plant trial open houses at Young Plant Farm in Auburn, AL and at the University of Georgia in Athens. Check out my personal Facebook page www. facebook.com/allen.owings for pictures and plant notes.





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## LANDSCAPE DESIGN SKETCHBOOK

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### Trees That Try Men's Sole

#### Hurricanes

These are times that try trees soles, the summer tree and the sunshine flower will in a crisis, shrink from the service of their country. When Thomas Paine uttered words like these within his speech 'Common Sense' in the winter of 1776 he had no idea that Louisiana trees would suffer an assault of a hurricane called IDA. And this on the same day of the month that Hurricane KATRINA gave the forests of Louisiana a severe blow on August 29, 2005.

Both storms brought havoc to trees in many and interesting ways. Most average people would say the trees were damaged. Arborist and foresters use other terms based on the study of treee biommechanics since they understand that trees can be damaged in six different ways.

Tree defects can be caused by biological, structural, mechanical conditions. According to Professors Koelling and Kidd at Michigan State University trees can be damaged by climate and location. Let's examine how tree damage occurs. We know trees can be damaged by chemical conditions as well.

First leaves can be damage or stripped from a tree with moderate wind or completely removed by hurricane wind. Wind will often remove leaves and be torn from the tree with tiny twigs attached. Leaf removal also occurs during forest fire.

Secondly branches and limbs come next. These can be broken or completely removed by higher wind. Large limbs known as leaders or main crown limbs can tumble in very strong winds. If too much of the crown is removed, the tree may not be able to produce enough leaf canopy to support photosynthesis and further growth of the tree is impossible.

Limited damage to this part of a tree's structure can be corrected by a well trained arborist. They can sculpt the tree into a new exciting form that attracts attention to the canopy in the garden. Across Louisiana we see storm damaged trees that have new storm tossed profiles.

Next, more sever damage can occur to the stem (trunk) of a tree caused by very high wind as seen in tornados or hurricanes. Skilled arborist will tell you that most trees that suffer this type of damage will not be worth saving. The tree becomes firewood or parts of the trunk gets milled to become fireplace mantles, picture frames or interior molding.

The fourth way trees can be damaged is by bark removal. This might be caused by excessive wind, fire, weather, insect or disease attack. Disease can often work its way into the interior of the trunk causing structrual weakness. Lighting can be a major cause of bark removal too. If anough bark is removed the tree is severly weakend and insects attack. Particularly with pines.

The fifth way trees are damaged is root failure. This is often a result of very high wind such as contained in West Indian Category 4 or 5 winds coming in from the Gulf. One hundred and fifty mile an hour gusts or 500 mile an hour atmospheric circulation can up-root the entire tree.

And finally, the sixth form of damage is caused by mankind either before or after a storm. The most common damage to roots come from cutting or filling soil to change the gradient of a building site. This and foot traffic can cause compaction to the root zone, where feeder roots extend to capture moisture and nutrients. Ditching for plumbing and electrical installation or foundations often cut through main structural roots causing severe tree damage. Erecting building foundations within the tree's critical root zone is a common mistake. Even careless chemical poisoning caused by spillage can be fatal to both young and old trees. And in coastal zones, such as Louisiana, there are some people who will call for a tree's destruction before a hurricane even strikes to prevent damage to a home or property.









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(Landscape Design Sketchbook Continued)

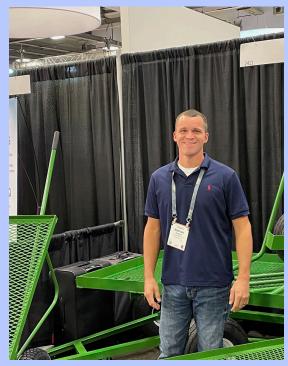
#### Tree Damage Vocabulary

Tree professionals that include arborists, foresters, landscape architects and even home gardeners recognize tree assaults in one or more of its six-forms of damage. Surprisingly there is some professional definitions that describe tree damage published by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).

Here are some tree damage terms in 'arborist slang' you may learn. Look carefully at trees damaged by Hurricane IDA and you can identify tree damage as a professional arborist are able to do. They are listed in magnitude of wind and structural damage.



Leaf Loser- leaves blown away Shake About- twigs, leaves and branches drop Branch Breaker- small branches broken up Limb Dropper- major limbs broken away Hangers- large limbs hung up in a tree Leader Lost- main growth limb destroyed Fall Over-rootball rotates to the ground **Embracer**-a fallen tree supported by another Leaner- a tree pushed off center Overturned- rootball turned up 90 degrees Blockers- trees that fall across roads Splitter- stem split vertically by heavy wind **Crown Loser-** crown is +50% blown away Snap Off- stem snapped off at root collar Crusher- a tree that falls on a building or car Hollow Core- stem rotted within and fails Debarked-bark extremely damaged Floater-tree eroded from a river bank.



LNLA MEMBER NATHAN BRIDGES, OWNER OPERATOR OF NB METALWORX, DISPLAYS AT CULTIVATE IN CHICAGO THIS SUMMER

## CONGRATULATIONS TO Dr. Paul Jackson!

Congratulations to Dr. Paul Jackson, associate professor (agriculture) at Louisiana Tech University – 2021 recipient of the University Senate Chair award for outstanding contributions to higher education through teaching, research and service. Pictured with Dr. Jackson is Dr. Christopher Keyes, the recently named new Director of the School of Agricultural Sciences and Foresty at Louisiana Tech.



Dr. Paul Jackson, (right) being presented the award by LSHS secretary Allen Owings (left).



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## THE PLANT DOCTOR

By: Dr. Raj Singh, Associate Professor and Director, Plant Diagnostic Center, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-4562 or (e) rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu

#### Laurel Wilt

Laurel wilt is a devastating disease of woody trees in the Lauraceae family. Trees currently susceptible to laurel wilt include avocado, California laurel, camphor tree, pondberry, pondspice, redbay, sassafras, swampbay and spicebush. Laurel wilt was first confirmed in the state in 2014 on mature sassafras trees in Union Parish. Since then, the disease has spread to Beauregard, Bienville, Claiborne, Grant, La Salle, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Rapides, Sabine, Vernon and Winn parishes. The disease is caused by a fungus called Raffaelea lauricola that clogs the vascular (xylem channels) system of the tree and interrupts the water supply. As a result, the affected tree wilts and eventually dies. Initial symptoms of laurel wilt are rapid wilting and drooping (flagging) of leaves. As the disease progresses, infected trees exhibit reddish to purplish brown discoloration of foliage and the entire canopy turns brown. Brown leaves do not defoliate immediately and tend to remain attached to the branches for a period of one year or more in the case of redbay trees, but brown leaves drop readily in other host trees. Removal of bark from infected trees reveals discoloration of sapwood.

The fungus is carried by the invasive redbay ambrosia beetle (Xyleborus glabratus) from infected to healthy trees. The pathogen also may spread from infected trees to neighboring healthy trees through grafting roots. Both beetle and fungus also may spread to new locations indirectly when people move infested firewood from areas where laurel wilt and redbay ambrosia beetles are prevalent.

Redbay ambrosia beetles are brown to black in color and very small (2mm) in size. Initially, the redbay ambrosia beetles may attack the branches, and the infested trees may not look wilted.

Later, the trees start to wilt, and toothpick-like tubes of fine sawdust produced by ambrosia beetles can be seen on the



Figure 1. A group of dead sassafras trees with brown leaves infected with laurel wilt caused by Raffaelea lauricola. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 2. A young sassafras exhibiting flagging of shoots near the apex of a diseased tree. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 3. A sassafras leaf exhibiting symptoms of lack of water (marginal necrosis) due to clogging of xylem tissue. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 4. Discoloration of sapwood of a sassafras tree infected with laurel will. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 5. A cross-section exhibiting discoloration of sapwood of a sassafras branch infected with laurel wilt. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 6. Toothpick-like tubes of fine sawdust caused by redbay ambrosia beetle on the tree trunk. (Photo Credit: Albert Mayfiled, USDA Forest Services).

## THE PLANT DOCTOR

By: Dr. Raj Singh, Associate Professor and Director, Plant Diagnostic Center, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-4562 or (e) rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu



Figure 7. Redbay ambrosia beetle entrance hole on a young sassafras tree. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).

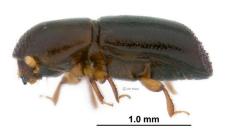


Figure 8. Redbay ambrosia beetle adult. (Photo Credit: Jason A. Smith, University of Florida).



Figure 9. Flagging of a young branch resulting from a black twig borer injury. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 10. Black twig borer entrance hole on a flagged branch. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 11. An adult black twig borer (Xylosandrus compactus). (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 12. Current distribution (as of August 15, 2021) of laurel wilt disease in Louisiana. (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).

diseased tree trunks. The sawdust toothpick-like tubes may easily wash away with rainwater and may not be present on infected trees after a downpour.

Rapid and early disease detection and removal of infective trees is the most effective management strategy to combat laurel wilt. After removal, burn the diseased trees or dispose of them properly to prevent the further disease and beetle spread. Avoid moving firewood from areas where laurel wilt and redbay ambrosia beetles are prevalent or known to occur. When it comes to firewood, remember to buy local and burn local!

Early symptoms of laurel wilt can be easily misdiagnosed with the damage caused by the black twig borer (Xylosandrus compactus). The black twig borer attacks small diameter branches and causes death (flagging) of infested branches.

If you notice symptoms of laurel wilt on susceptible host trees listed above, please contact Dr. Raj Singh at 225-578-4562 or email rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu.



## WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER

By: Dr. Ron Strahan, Assistant Professor in Wed Science, LSU AgCenter Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-2392 or (e) rstrahan@agcenter.lsu.edu

#### Winter Weeds are Here to Produce and Disperse Seeds



It's the cool season in the green industry. Every year, it's the same recurring winter weeds dominating green spaces. I get the most calls concerning the following weeds during the chilly months.

**Lawn burweed** - Lawn burweed (stickerweed) is a low growing, mat forming winter annual that is a member of the Asteraceae family. The leaves are opposite and divided into narrow segments or lobes. The flowers are small and inconspicuous. The seed forms in the leaf axils. The weed gets its name because the seeds have spines that are painful when stepped on. The spines are a method of transport for the seed. I see lawn burweed most

often in weak turf areas.

I get the most calls on lawn burweed in early spring when athletes, golfers, and homeowners get stuck by the spines on the seeds. It is too late to control the weed by then.

Control – Simazine and isoxaben are two very good preemergence options on burweed. Control burweed postemergence in the winter with simazine + a trimec type herbicide or MSM. For football fields including practice fields, make the application after the last home game. Homeowners will like atrazine + Weed Free Zone tank-mixes, an effective combination discovered years ago in our test plots. MSM Turf is very effective postemergence on lawn burweed before the burs are formed in late winter. Control lawn burweed in overseeded areas such as baseball fields with trimec type herbicides applied alone.

**Bedstraw/stickywilly/cleavers** – You are probably familiar with this spreading annual winter broadleaf weed that really sticks to you like Velcro. As a method of dispersal for seed, bedstraw clings to passersby by appendages on the leaves, stems and seed capsules.

Bedstraw seemed to be more prevalent in landscape beds last year as my calls were higher than normal for this weed. Expect even more for this winter since the plant produces about 3,000 seeds per plant. Bedstraw is one of the first weeds that you will see germinating in fall landscapes so preemergence herbicides will need to be applied in late summer. The weed is highly intolerant of heat and plants mature rapidly as temperatures warm in the spring.

**Control** – Bedstraw can be managed with preemergence herbicides such as flumioxazin, isoxaben, oxadiazon, oxyfluorfen in landscape beds and nurseries. Emerged populations can be killed back with glufosinate or glyphosate. In turfgrass areas, products containing 2,4-D are highly effective.



Hairy bittercress – Bittercress (Cardamine hirsuta and others) are members of the Brassicaceae (mustard) family. Bittercress is one of the most troublesome weeds in container nursery production in Louisiana. In the wild, bittercress behaves as winter annual but germinates year-round in optimal growing conditions found at nurseries. Conditions will be perfect for populations to reach their peak from October to February.

Ultimately, the goal for bittercress is seed production. The plant can produce as many as 5,000 seeds and has an effective method of dispersal that forcefully expels mature seeds two to three feet. Seeds are extremely viable and can germinate immediately when growing conditions are favorable. Bittercress matures quickly with plants capable of producing a new crop of seeds in as little as 4 weeks after germination.

**Control**: Good sanitation is essential for management of bittercress in nursery crops. Repeated applications of preemergence herbicides containing pendimethalin, prodiamine, isoxaben, oryzalin, isoxaben and oxadiazon are relied upon to provide good control in nurseries and landscape beds. Hand removal can be effective for emerged plants.

#### WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER continued...

**Woodsorrel** – Woodsorrel (Oxalis spp.) is confused with clover. However, woodsorrel are members of the Oxalidaceae family, a completely different family from legumes. Woodsorrel are perennial weeds that produce numerous creeping above and below ground stems and deep taproots that make hand removal difficult. They have three heart shaped leaf components that vary in color from dark green to reddish purple.



In flower beds and lawns, pink woodsorrel (Oxalis debilis) is the most common species. This species produces showy bright pink flowers. There are two species of woodsorrel that are common in container nurseries in Louisiana, creeping and yellow woodsorrel. Creeping woodsorrel (Oxalis corniculata) has a prostrate growth habit and produces numerous above ground stems. Yellow woodsorrel (Oxalis stricta) grows more upright and produces below ground stems. Both species produce thousands of seed and have a very effective method of seed dispersal. At maturity "okra" shaped seedpods burst open and expel seed 10 to 12 feet in all directions.

**Control:** Heavy seed production of course makes woodsorrel difficult to manage. The good news is that there are several preemergence options. Preemergence herbicides containing pendimethalin, prodiamine, isoxaben, oryzalin, isoxaben and oxadiazon provide good control. However, many growers often think their preemergence herbicides fail. The problem could be that the existing plants were allowed to produce stolons and rhizomes before they were hand removed. Once woodsorrel is established, hand pulling often fails to remove the weed.

When practical, I would consider wiping the weeds with a 5 to 10% glyphosate solution. Glyphosate will translocate through the woodsorrel leaves into the stolons and rhizomes and successfully destroy the plant. That's by far the best way to remove pink woodsorrel that's infesting a flowerbed. Metsulfuron is highly effective on all woodsorrel species infesting lawn areas.

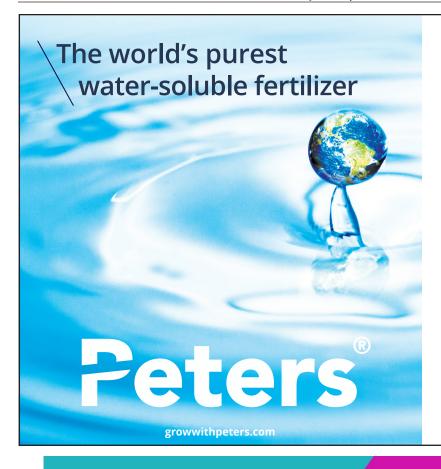
Annual bluegrass infesting turfgrass - Poa or annual bluegrass (Poa annua) is a huge problem in turfgrass. It starts germinating in Louisiana in September and early October as nighttime temps fall below 70°F consistently. The weed becomes most noticeable from mid to late winter through spring because of the unsightly seed heads that seem to pop up everywhere. Seed heads can form on plants as early as six weeks after germination. However, most seed heads are formed in late winter. In areas where turf is frequently irrigated, Poa can persist deep into May.

**Control** – Preemergence herbicides such as prodiamine, indaziflam and dithiopyr are examples of effective preemergence herbicides for Poa control in turfgrass when applied in September prior to germination. We rely heavily on pre herbicides for Poa control in southern turfgrass because there are few postemergence options.

Resistance problems with postemergence herbicides – I can't stress enough the importance of using timely applications of preemergence herbicides to prevent Poa because resistance to post herbicides has almost made the weed uncontrollable once its emerged.

Postemergence control for years was limited to simazine, atrazine (triazine herbicides) or possibly sulfosulfuron (ALS inhibitor) in St. Augustinegrass and centipedegrass. Unfortunately, these herbicides have been failing often over the past few years. In bermudagrass including golf greens and zoysiagrass, ALS inhibitors such as trifloxysulfuron and foramsulfuron were highly effective at one time but Poa resistance is most severe with these group 2 herbicides. Pronamide also has been failing to provide acceptable postemergence control of Poa. We are running out of options.

Resistance to preemergence herbicides becoming more common – Apply preemergence herbicides in a timely fashion and your control may be very good, but don't get complacent. We are seeing more and more issues with Poa resistance to once reliable pre herbicides. Exclusive use of the same preemergence herbicides over and over has led to resistant biotypes on many golf courses, lawns and sports fields. These resistant Poa biotypes continue to reproduce and spread seed. Preemergence herbicides are still your best bet for controlling annual bluegrass, but it is important to change modes of action often to prevent a population shift to resistant types.



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## LNLFSR LIVE AUCTION - GATOR HUNT With the Steele Brothers



We had a fantastic time this past Saturday on the alligator hunt! Roger Steele really took care of us and was a wonderful guide. Kurt Ducote was incredibly helpful as well and we really appreciated him giving up one of his Saturdays to help out on this hunt. Two really cool guys that we enjoyed spending time with. In the end, all 4 of us on the hunt bagged a big ole reptile. Looking forward to the skull mounts that Roger is coordinating for us. Here are a few pictures of the memorable day.







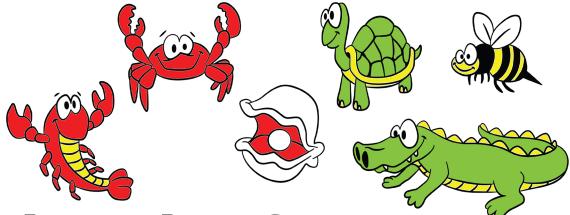
-Day Johnson

# Congratulations to our newest Certified Nursery and Landscape Professionals!

These individuals scored a 70 or above on all five sections of the LNLA certification exam.

- Rebecca Anderson, City Park NOLA
- Sydney Lacoste, Gene's Greenhouses
- Jessica Dayhoff, Gene's Greenhouses
- Max McKeown, LSU AgCenter/ LNLA Intern
- Daniel Preziosi, City Park NOLA

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please keep KK in your prayers!

## LDAF Update







The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry would like to remind nursery and landscape professionals of quarantine regulations that are in place to protect the green industry in Louisiana. Below is a short summary of quarantine requirements and restrictions regarding nursery stock shipped into Louisiana.

Brown Garden Snail (BGS) is a pest our district inspectors survey for on a routine basis. Therefore, nursery stock shipments originating from Arizona and California must be certified free of BGS by a Certificate of Quarantine Compliance or the nursery must have a master snail permit. In addition, nurseries from Arizona and California are required to send a notification to LDAF's Horticulture & Quarantine division before the shipment of nursery stock.

For citrus nursery stock, shipments are prohibited from all states unless the plants are being shipped from a citrus producing state with a certified budwood program. The only states with certified budwood programs are California, Florida, and Texas. Before shipment, the plant material must be inspected, tested, and found to be free of citrus canker, citrus greening, citrus tristeza virus, psorosis, exocortis and the cachexia virulent strain of xyloporosis.

Palm trees have grown in popularity in the southern region of our state. Palms originating from Florida and Texas can be shipped into Louisiana if they are grown in an area free from Date Palm Lethal Decline (DPLD), also known as Lethal Bronzing and /or Lethal Yellowing (LY). The shipment must be accompanied by a state phytosanitary certificate certifying the inspection of the shipment and the statement that the palms meet the DPLD and LY requirements for Louisiana. Palms affected by DPLD include all Phoenix spp., Queen Palm Syagrus romanzoffiana and Cabbage Palm Sabal palmetto. The host palm list for Lethal Yellowing is extensive, but a few of the ones that are common in Louisiana include: Canary Island date palm Phoenix canariensis, Sylvester date palm Phoenix sylvestris, Chinese windmill palm Trachycarpus fortunei and Coconut Palm Cocos nucifera.

Guava root knot nematode (GRKN) is another major pest of concern of our nursery and agricultural crops. In 2021, GRKN was detected in a shipment of foxtail ferns shipped from a Florida nursery. Through mitigation and quarantine measures, GRKN has not been able to establish in our state. Currently, Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina are quarantined for GRKN. Nursery crops may not be moved from the quarantined states into Louisiana unless each shipment is accompanied by a certificate issued by the authorized agricultural official of the state, certifying the material has been sampled and found free of GRKN.

For any additional quarantine information visit our website at ldaf.state.la.us or call 225.952.8100.



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founded in 1983. LNPS's mission is to:

- To preserve and study native plants and their habitats,
- To educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species,
- To promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape, and
- To educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.

## SELNA UPDATE

The 2021 Folsom Fall Garden Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 30, 2021. SELNA, along with Midway Church, have once again joined forces to plan and organize the 9th anniversary for the local garden festival event. Midway Church will be selling plate lunches and refreshments during the event while vendors sell plants and other landscape related material. The Folsom Fall Garden Festival is a great community event that facilitates conversation between nursery crop producers and retail customers.

Visit SELNA.org for association updates, membership information, and horticulture related news. You can also download a copy of the SELNA Plant Locator while you're there. To request a Nursery Locator Map, Folsom Fall Festival Application, or more information contact SELNA at 985.875.2635 or wafton@agcenter.lsu.edu.

# THE NEW ORLEANS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The New Orleans Horticultural Society is back to having regularly scheduled meetings after having to take a year off due to restrictions. The NOHS is a non-profit organization that began in 1885, the second oldest of its kind in the United States. It's a place where like-minded professionals in the green industry can meet and talk about the trade and attend lectures and activities that promote all aspects of the landscape profession. The group is comprised of licensed horticulturists, florists, nurserymen, garden center operators, pesticide applicators, landscape contractors and architects, arborists, and those in allied trades. Our meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of every month, unless

an event or holiday changes the day. We meet at the City Park Garden Study Building which is set among the beautiful New Orleans Botanical Gardens which is now decorated up as the much anticipated Celebration in the Oaks.

We currently have over seventy members in our organization and we are always ready to welcome more. Meetings typically last two hours and refreshments are provided before the guest speaker takes over. For up-to-date information, please contact us at NOHS1885@gmail.com to request to be added to our email mailing list and newsletter or you can find us on Facebook for updates.



# Support Louisiana's green industry by joining your regional association. Contact the following:

BRLA: Elena Fennell, Secretary, (e) ecfennell@cox.net, (p) 225-921-4095

CLNA: Myra Poole Maloney, President, 75 Nick Strange Road, LeCompte, LA 71346, (p) 318-321-6046,

(e) myramaloney41@gmail.com

LIA: Chuck Davis, Executive Secretary/Treasuer, (e) geauxlia@gmail.com

NOHS: Shaun Hebert (e) nohs1885@gmail.com

SELNA: William Afton, LSU AgCenter County Agent, St. Tammany Parish, Secretary, SE LA Nursery Association, 1301 N. Florida St., Covington, LA 70433 (p) 985.875.2635, (f)985.875.2639, www.selna.org

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### "Nectar Profusion"

TOPIC: Twelve native nectar plants, twelve native plant gardeners, twelve favorite picks and why

by Linda Barber Auld, NOLA BugLady

There are so many native plants that can be planted to attract a variety of pollinators! I asked twelve of my friends and colleagues who are knowledgeable about growing native plants for their selection suggestions.

# Alford, Mac H., Ph.D., - Professor and Curator of the Herbarium, School of Biological, Environmental, and Earth Sciences @ University of Southern Mississippi:

I have two favorites on this list (Rudbeckia laciniata and Helianthus angustifolius). I'm going to vote for....Helianthus angustifolius (narrowleaf sunflower)--I like it because it's messy and surprising! If you plant it tightly among other tall wildflowers (blazing stars, Joe Pye weeds, ironweed, hibiscus), it too will grow tall and pile all over the other plants, but in such a subtle way, since its leaves are so narrow and widely spaced out. Then, when it comes into flower, which is usually later than many other species, it really bursts onto the scene with its many sunflower heads. So, it can go from almost invisible to being the primary show in a short time. Best yet, it's quite tough once established and can even be pruned.

<u>Allen, Charles</u> - Allen Acres Bed & Breakfast - speaker, author of 'Louisiana Wildflower Guide': Helianthus mollis; easy to grow, rhizomatous and thus spreads, leaves are blue green and thus attractive.

Barnes, Anne - LA Master Gardener, first Louisiana Certified Habitat Program garden in New Orleans area: I admit it is hard to decide but I think I'll have to go with Dracopis amplexicaulis. It's a plant I've known and admired all my life. It filled the field next to my home when I was a child. As an adult I acquired it from a neighbor who acquired his from his mother. It's a most cheerful bloom, makes a great cut flowers over its long bloom period, attracts lots of pollinators, and then feeds the birds. And it repeats itself the next year with no work from me. It's even easy to pull the extras. A perfect plant in my opinion.

<u>Fontenot, Bill</u> -Ecological consultant, speaker, landscape planner, author 'Native Gardening in the South': Echinacea purpurea...longevity of bloom season, soil/light adaptability, diversity of pollinators, modest re-seeder.

#### Mayronne, John - landscape architect:

Rudbeckia fulgida Goldstrum, (it can bloom twice some years) or Helianthus mollis as I think they bloom longer.

# <u>Miley, Betty - Maypop Hill Nursery- speaker, author of 'Putting Nature First on Your Southern Land':</u> Unfair! Like picking your favorite kid. Like, who doesn't love Echinacea? Rudbeckia hirta is indispensable. etc. I guess Helianthus angustifolius. It's too tall, can be floppy, but. It's so doggoned cheerful and tough and dependable.

#### Seidenberg, Charlotte - Naturalist, author of 'The New Orleans Garden: Gardening in the Gulf South'

Helianthus angustifolius is my favorite. Perennial profusion! It's starting to bloom now. Long bloom season and attracts tons of insects. It's a little invasive, but so what. Masses of the flowers make such a dramatic statement. Very easy to grow. I have the gold and mellow yellow. The contrast between the intense golden and the light yellow is beautiful. John Mayronne found one last year that was almost white. All 3 shades in one bed would be really gorgeous. I love Dracopis amplexicaulis, too, but it's an annual. I bought a plant at LNPS, put it in a wet spot in my prairie. We'll see if it comes up and blooms. Early spring profusion would be nice.

#### <u>Tallamy, Doug - Professor University of Delaware, speaker, author of 'Bringing Nature Home':</u>

I pick any of the helianthus species because that genus hosts so many specialist bees. They can only rear their young on the pollen of Helianthus.

#### Taylor, Emily - Dixielandscape Co. 1120 Erato St NOLA:

It's tough to pick a favorite native nectar plant when I'm not in the garden. They are all my favorite when I'm in the landscape and a butterfly lands on a bloom right in front of me. Echinacea is one of my favorite flowers to photograph. Bees will settle on the purple coneflower and take their sweet time extracting nectar from each individual floret. It's fascinating to watch.



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#### Nectar Profusion continued...

Ashy or Downy Sunflower Helianthus mollis

# <u>Timmerman, Anna Elizabeth -</u> Assistant Extension Agent- Horticulture LSU AgCenter- Greater NO Area Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Charles, & Plaquemines Parishes, LA Landscape Horticulturalist, Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP):

Helianthus angustifolius is one of the most cheerful wildflowers in my pollinator garden during the fall season. It blooms until frost, and in those years we do not get a freeze, it provides color and pollen all winter long in New Orleans. I'm sure it is a welcome source of pollen and nectar for insects during the cooler weather. The height of H. angustifolius makes it easy to work into existing flowerbeds, it makes a colorful, airy backdrop to any of the cool season annual flowers most gardeners would be familiar with. It returns reliably each fall and seeds are very easy to collect and share. I love sharing natives with others and encouraging them to be celebrated in our gardens. I have not observed any major pest or disease issues on this flower also, making it a good choice for beginners and native connoisseurs alike!

#### <u>Vidrine, Malcolm - Speaker, author, 'The Cajun Prairie ' (www.cajunprairiegarden.wordpress.com):</u>

I like them all--great for pollinators. My favorite is Rudbeckia subtomentosa. It is:

lightly scented blooms for 3 months--fantastic companion plants for Liatris spicata & L. pycnostachyia builds a fantastic root system and soil (biosequester of carbon) (anti-climate-changer) can be cut to a desired height and still bloomsroots with ease from cuttings seeds are superviable a long-lived perennial that blooms the first year from seed fantastic food for pollinators native to my area and thrives her and common in my yard.

#### Webb, Rick - Louisiana Growers- Speaker:

**Swamp Sunflower** 

Helianthus angustifolius

Sorry don't do a favorite. Have grown and like 8 of those. Mixes are what we suggest.

Last but not least, **BugLady's personal pick** is Cutleaf coneflower, Rudbeckia laciniata. The large leaves are very attractive all year long then these tall stalks burst into bright buttery yellow flowers that bloom after most of the other coneflower species have finished. My plants grew as tall as I am! The flowers command your attention when you are strolling through your garden. They make me smile!



Maximillian Sunflower Helianthus

maximiliani

### LNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 7-23-2021 MINUTES

The LNLA Board of Directors met Friday, July 23, 2021 at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station. Those board members in attendance were: Kurt Ducote, Lisa Loup, Brian Bridges, Tony Carter, Ricky Becnel, Juan Garcia, Matt Fennell, Brandon Adams, Craig Roussel, Ed Bush, Reuben Mitchell, Jeff Reid, Candria Ray and Cari Jane Murray. Board members absent were Michael Roe and Angelo Quaglino.

Guests attending were: Dr. Mike Salassi, Dr. Damon Abdi, Michele Andre, Buck Abbey, John Kavanaugh, Ardis Tooke, Jessica dayhoff, Marlon Mitchell, Kyle Huffstickler, Jerod and Mia Robin.

LNLA President, Kurt Ducote opened the meeting at 9am with a welcome to all. Board members and guests gave introductions to the room. All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Dr. Salassi, with the LSU AgCenter, gave a welcome to the group and thanked us for all our partnership.

Dr. Jeb Fields introduced Max McKeown, the LNLA intern at the Hammond Research Station for the summer,

and Chris Krisione, LSU grad student. They both gave a brief introduction, Chris let us know what his research is all about. New hire to the LSU AgCenter Dr. Damon Abdi was also introduced and addressed the room with his excitement to be working with us.

Kurt asked everyone to review the minutes of the last LNLA board meeting in April. Lisa Loup motioned to accept the minutes, Brandon Adams second and all were in favor.

LNLA Treasurer, Brian Bridges reported LNLA's total assets being \$211K in his financial report to the board. Noteworthy highlights; dues are up 27% over prior year, newsletter ads are down \$2700, no income from GSHE for 2020, hort manual sales are up 26%, CNLP up as well. A few expenses up, donation to foundation and newsletter costs. Sponsorship up 74% due to no events last year. Labor is up due to hiring Lena Landry for light duties. Lisa Loup motioned to accept the financial report, Tony Carter second and all were in favor.

Candria Ray, chair of the awards committee let the board know that an email blast will be sent to membership for award candidates in Sept/Oct. LNLA awards are given at GSHE in Mobile each year. No other news to report at this time.

Matt Fennell, chair of the IT/website committee requested that we find out how much traffic we have on the website. We are hoping to offer website advertising next year. Matt requested that dues renewals be easier! More direction on how-to. Michele Andre suggested selling digital ads on the website or member spotlights as ads.

Lisa Loup the room know more about the positions of the board for the nominating committee but no other news to report right now.

Tony Carter, chair of the marketing committee, let us know what the new raffle items for the 2022 LNLA Raffle at GSHE will be. Grand Prize is a benelli riffle, second a treager grill, and third a diamond necklace all totaling \$5000. CJ needs to put the items on the website and print tickets ASAP to send out. Sponsors need to be touched soon. BWI will be a sponsor. Brian Bridges will be taking the items back to Forest Hill to show off the items. Tony also reported TNLA will be August 5th -7th. Ed Bush will be manning the LNLA booth. The Fall and Winter LNLA Newsletter Covers were auctioned off at the Foundation Gala Live Auction in June. We will split that profit 50/50 with the foundation.

Lisa Loup, chair of the membership committee gave a membership breakdown and let everyone know how important membership is. With more members we can be better and better, the more pull and clout we will have. In 2018 we had about 400 members, 2019 - 450, 2020- 550 and 2021 we are 8 away from 600!!! We need to work on North Louisiana, we are weak in our membership in that area. Reuben Mitchell asked if we could have a meeting North of Alexandria in Monroe or Shreveport. Jeff let us know that landscapers are better for October - December. Meet and greet with lunch or raffle. Have a program with AgCenter agents. The membership committee will get together and bring their plan to the board. We will also ask Senator Cathey and Rep McFarland to attend these meetings. Irrigation association should be included. Lisa makes a motion to work with membership committee to have an educational formatted meeting in North LA in the next year with a presentation to the board in October, Brian Bridges second and all were in favor.

Brandon Adams, chair of funding reported the only request as of now is \$1000 membership dues to the SEA group (Seasonal Employment Alliance).

Jeff Reid, labor committee chair, gave the board and guests more information about the Seasonal Employment Alliance (SEA) group. LNLA is also a member of AmericanHort who also lobbies for the best interest of our industry. Lisa Loup made a motion that we fund the SEA at \$1000 this year and re-vote next year. Jeff Second and All were in favor. Jeff also informed us that Rep Troy Romero was a champion on our behalf. Jeff also reported H2B cap relief is looking positive, trying to get the language changed from may to shall release the additional visas when the need arises. Jeff will be flying to Washington DC to the

SEA annual board meeting and will be having meetings with our state delegations. We look forward to a report.

Cari Jane Murray reported to the board about the CNLP class held in June. 30+ participants with about 12 taking the certification exam. The next CNLP is scheduled for February 22-23 at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station and then again in June of 2022 in Lafayette. We may have a virtual CNLP manual review only this Fall if the need arises.

Cari Jane also let the board know about the LA Plant Materials Conference (PlantCon) scheduled for November 2, 2021 at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station and encouraged everyone to attend.

Cari Jane reported GSHE 2022 is still in preparation stage and all looks good so far for the event to take place in person.

Michele Andre, president of LNLFSR (the Foundation), reported that Gala XI held Friday, June 25, 2021 at the Pavilion of the Two Sisters in New Orleans at City Park was a huge success! Thank you to all who sponsored, donated and participated in the event. We will be returning the gala to City Park in 2022, you don't want to miss out. The foundation will be announcing grant recipients in September and sending out a request for scholarship applications to be turned in later this year.

The next LNLA board meeting will be Wednesday, October 20, 2021 in Henderson, LA. Location to be determined.

Lisa Loup motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tony Carter second and all were in favor.

# LANDSCAPE HORT LICENSING VS LNLA CERTIFICATION

#### Louisiana Department of Ag & Forestry (LDAF) Landscape Hort Licensing Facts

- Licensing is REQUIRED to conduct business as a "Landscaper" in the state of Louisiana; this is anything above grass cutting.
- Licensing is offered only through LDAF (225-299-8100) or ldaf.state.la.us.
- Licensing exam fee is \$114. This exam can be taken Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment but must be scheduled with LDAF
- Licensing exam is in-person but computer based with 50 questions that consist of a mix of True/False, Matching, and Multiple Choice.
- An exam score of 70% or greater is required to then apply for the license.
- If you fail the licensing exam you must wait 14 days to take the exam again.
- Study material for licensing exam is "The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry" \$65 offered only at Inla.org

### Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association (LNLA) Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP) Certification Facts

- Certification is NOT REQUIRED to conduct business as a "Landscaper" in the state of Louisiana.
- Certification is optional and given through LNLA (985-237-2939) or lnla.org
- Certification exam is offered 2x a year in Feb and June. The certification exam follows a 2 day in-person manual review session.
- Study material for certification exam is "The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry" \$65 offered only at Inla.org
- Cost of the 2 day manual review is \$75 and certification exam cost is \$100.
- The Certification exam is made up of 5 parts. 4 are written from manual material and the 5th is plant identification. All sections require a 70 or greater to pass. Once you pass any section of the certification exam you do not have to take that section again but certification will not be issued to the exam taker until all 5 parts are passed with a 70 or greater. All 5 sections must be passed in a 2 year period ... after 2 years all sections will be required to take over again.
- Certification is a marketing tool for yourself or a course that employers may have employees participate in to have a better understanding of the industry. Manual Reviews are great for both the Licensing and Certification exams. The review is not required but available to those who would like to participate.

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# The Wild Garden of Longue Vue

Amy Graham is Director of Gardens at Longue Vue House and Gardens. She has been gardening professionally since 1992 with special interest in wildlife habitat gardening, lepidoptera study, and the art of plant propagation.

Starting in 1937, three women – esteemed philanthropist and plant collector Edith Rosenwald Stern, distinguished landscape architect Ellen Biddle Shipman and revered Louisiana naturalist and conservationist Caroline Dormon – joined to collaborate on an ambitious native plant garden in New Orleans.

Now, more than eight decades later, the Wild Garden at Longue Vue House and Gardens continues to thrive as it attracts plant enthusiasts, museum lovers, and anyone who enjoys a quiet, shady place to think.

Occupying an acre of Edgar and Edith Stern's eight-acre estate, the Wild Garden is devoted almost entirely to plants indigenous to the Southeastern United States.

At the turn of the 20th century during Longue Vue's conception, wild gardens were favored by American landscape architects

for private estates, inspired by European designs. The term wild gardening as a practice is attributed to Irish gardener and writer William Robinson, as found in his 1870 book The Wild Garden. Robinson observed that English woodlands and meadows were placed at risk by fossil fuel pollution and deforestation, which accelerated greatly during the industrial revolution. The prevailing garden design style of the day was extreme manicuring, symmetry and love of exotics, but Robinson favored lush wildness, a natural approach of meadows of grasses with naturalized bulbs and great swaths of wildflowers and ferns. He considered short lawn mowing "ridiculous work" and a "costly mistake." While his designs mixed native plants with exotics, the overarching theme was laying out a garden by the rules of nature, not geometry. Although Robinson's philosophy was not overwhelmingly accepted in the approximately four to five

decades following publishment of *The Wild Garden*, his methods clearly were widely embraced during his lifetime and the concept is especially relevant now.

Shipman typically included Wild Gardens in her designs, to offer a dramatic counterpart to the more formal gardens contained within an estate. This is the case at Longue Vue, as visitors step from the octilinear Walled Garden of vegetables into the dappled sunlight of the more open Wild Garden.

Shipman completed the first plans of the Wild Garden in 1938, incorporating live oaks and mid-story trees to set the tone for an all-encompassing experience

of light, shade, texture, color, movement, scents and sounds. It is a garden that from month to month offers new views and

experiences. Deciduous trees reveal their unique sculptural forms during winter and migratory species of birds and butterflies finding shelter and food throughout the seasons. Colorful irises and other wildflowers brighten the heavy, humid days of spring and summer and romantic camellias bloom throughout the cool months.

A pigeonnier designed by Shipman provides a seated view of the pond and shelter for visitors caught in an afternoon thunderstorm.

Dormon's *Wild Flowers of Louisiana* (1934) was the first published work devoted entirely to describing Louisiana wildflowers. Stern underwrote the printing for the first 1,000 copies; as a thank you, Dormon gifted to her the original watercolors for the book illustrations, which remain in Longue Vue's collection today.

In 1947, Dormon joined the staff at Longue Vue on an annual retainer, growing, collecting and buying plants for the Wild Garden, then planting most of them herself. Shipman was also on retainer, in semiretirement. While no longer taking on new projects, she would continue to visit Longue Vue a few times a year to discuss plantings and alterations.

Stern relied upon Dormon's expertise to fill the Wild Garden plan

with a palette of Louisiana natives, from trees, to shrubs, to ground covers. They shared a love for wildflowers as associates in the Garden Club of America's roadside beautification efforts. On November 29, 1948, Stern wrote to Dormon: "Am sure that it will interest you to know that on March 28th there will be two or three days of meetings of the Southern Zone of the Garden Club of America, when some sixty women will be here and our Wild Garden should be at its best then."

Stern was keenly involved in the plant choices for the Wild Garden, corresponding with Dormon about acquiring various species, including *Erythrina herbacea*, *Erythrina coccinea*, *Rhododendron canescens*, *Aster amellus*, (a northeastern native which apparently did well here), *Acer saccharum*, *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, *Prunus Mexicana*, *Chionanthus viginica*, *Cliftonia* and *Cratagous* 

apifolia. In a letter to Dormon on March 31, 1947, Stern exclaimed: "You would be so excited if you could walk through the wild garden. Things are really coming up, the tiny iris, columbine, phlox, birdfoot violets, and, oh, the wonders of the mertensia and the trillium! I hope you are planning to come back in the near future to show us just how to give all these plants summer care. I assure you it's one of the most exciting things I have ever had happen to me."

In an undated letter, Dormon wrote to Stern, "That place of yours simply gulps plant material! Am getting lots more phloxes and violets---not fancy violets but native ones that will 'go'. Native ground-covers are badly needed

all through---not only for beauty, but to hold the soil. I got



The pigeonnaire at one corner of the Wild Garden



Amy and her team work review historical records of the Wild Garden which has undergone many revisions since the 1930's.

home just in time, for November has really come---cold, and the steady patter of rain. Hope it will be nice again the first week of December, as I plan to return the first part of that month. Mrs. Bond tells me you are expecting Mrs. Shipman at that time. I shall be so glad to talk wild garden with her. You, she, and I will get things lined up. It will be very lovely next spring. I enjoy winter, but those first spring flowers! Have a good time---but dream of the garden just a bit---"

Head Gardener James Ward reported to Dormon on April 4, 1949: "The Sarracenia sledgei produced some good flowers some having five to a clump, and I believe Mrs. Stern would welcome some more, I have tried the S purpurea in a mixture of sand and sphagnum moss, Verbena canadensis is still flowering so profusely I have not needed to have any flowers removed.... The *Illicium* floridanum has given a multitude of bloom, and just now the fresh leaf growth lends a charming effect to the bush, whilst Kalmia latifolia is still a mass of flower, there is also a very good form of a semi double dogwood in flower, the creamy bracts looking very striking. The Amalanchier canadensis is not looking very sprightly and seems to have difficulty in bursting into bud, also the Cratagus spathulata by the doorway of the library is as dead as it will ever be."

At times, as is still the way, plantings were controversial. In a letter dated April 22, 1947, Stern states to Dormon, "I am sorry you got so upset about the smilax vines. I really think in the long run we have worked this out in the best possible way. We just have to get that fence along the canal, both in the Wild Garden and the back of the temple, covered this summer."

On January 16, 1948, Edith writes, "I promise you at long last, the bamboo will come out of the Wild Garden." Any gardener who knows smilax and bamboo would share Dormon's apparent dismay.

The conversation between the three women was unique and continued between Stern and Dormon after Shipman's death in 1950.

Three winding pathways encourage visitors to take their time traversing Longue Vue's Wild Garden:

#### The Iris Path

The Louisiana Iris is the highlight of the spring garden! Walking Shipman's winding path conjures the experience of viewing these plants in their native habitat of a swamp, from a canoe. This walkway contains over 3,500 plants including the five native species, natural hybrids, and hybrids created by local hybridizers Patrick O'Connor, Benny Trahan, Joe Musacchia and others of the Greater New Orleans Iris Society. The Dormon-hybridized Louisiana irises which remain in Longue Vue's collection are Wheel Horse, Violet Ray and The Kahn.

#### **The Camellia Path**

Producing stunning blooms throughout the winter months, camellias, which are native to Eastern and southern Asia, were a favorite of the Stern family. One hundred twenty *Camellia japonica*, *C sasanqua*, *C reticulata*, *C sinensis* and hybrids of these are planted along this walkway, which is a part of the American Camellia Society's Camellia Trail. Many of the camellia shrubs were generously donated by the New Orleans Camellia Society and the Northshore Camellia Society.



Caroline Dormon collaborated in the design and planting of the Wild Garden and gifted these original water colors to Longue Vue's owner Edith Stern



In addition to over 130 species of native plants, there is an extensive collection of Camellias in the Wild Garden at Longue Vue

#### The Wildflower Path

Blooming in spring and summer, this path contains many wildflower and shrub species including *Helianthus angustifolius*, *Rudbeckia hirta*, *Salvia lyrata*, *Salvia coccinea*, *Hydrangea quercifolia* and an impressive display of *Spigelia marilandica*.

Edith Stern opened the gardens at Longue Vue for tours in 1968, keeping with the Stern family legacy of giving, which she and husband Edgar cultivated as a couple throughout their lives. Opening the gardens was the first phase of the Sterns' intent of leaving Longue Vue as a resource for all. This was fully realized in January 1980, when Longue Vue House and Gardens opened as a museum. Throughout those 12 years, Stern was still involved in everything from fine tuning garden plans to purchasing lightbulbs until her death in September 1980.

Longue Vue's Wild Garden has matured and evolved with an even more distinct sense of place for visitors. Since 2005, while in keeping with Shipman's design intentions, a slightly more diverse and sustainable plant palette has been adopted to offer a stronger wildlife habitat, and to better serve visitors as an example of a garden which can thrive in the special challenges of the New Orleans climate.

Today, the Longue Vue staff has embraced a new commitment to environmental stewardship, developing sustainable management practices for every aspect of the site. The gardens, even including the lawns, are maintained chemical free, and leaf blower use

ceased in 2019, resulting in a safer, more serene space for staff, visitors and wildlife.

With passion and combined expertise, the Longue Vue gardeners continue to perform the daily tasks of stewarding this enduring ecological and cultural treasure, championing its long life as an invaluable community resource.

#### References

Allan, Mea. William Robinson, 1838-1935 – Father of the English Flower Garden. London: Faber & Faber, 1982.

Rick Darke. William Robinson, The Wild Garden Expanded Edition London: Timber Press, 2009.

Caroline Dormon letters are held at the Northwestern State University Library.

Edith Stern and James Ward letters are held in the Longue Vue archives.





To: Louisiana Green Industry Professionals

Re: Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Exams (CNLP) – **2022** 

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association has scheduled the certified nursery and landscape professional manual review and exams for 2021. The schedule is as follows:

**February 22-23, 2022** LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Hwy, Hammond, LA 70403

**June 7-8, 2022** Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, 2206 Johnson St, Lafayette, LA 70503

Manual reviews will be held on the first day from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and second day from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The exam will be given *(if held in person)* at about 1:00 p.m. on the second day; 3 hours are allowed for the full exam. There are five sections to the exam:

**Section 1 -** Plant Classification, Growth and Development

**Section 2 -** Understanding Pests and Their Control

Section 3 - Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards

**Section 4 -** Landscape Contracting, Tree and Turf Management

**Section 5 -** Plant Identification

Primarily, persons in the retail garden center and landscape contracting/maintenance areas of the 'Green Industry' participate; however the course is also recommended for wholesale growers, irrigation contractors and Master Gardeners. The CNLP was established to provide a professional educational opportunity for 'Green Industry' professionals. The manual review is also excellent preparation for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's landscape horticulturist license exam. An LDAF license or permit is required to be in various landscape & nursery related businesses in Louisiana; the CNLP is not required. **This certification is not a license.** Call LDAF Horticulture Commission at 225-952-8100 or your nearest LDAF regional office to schedule the license exam.

Dr. Jeb Fields, LSU AgCenter's Commercial Horticulturist, is the primary instructor for the manual review/training session. It is recommended that participants acquire and read the manual, <u>The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticultural Industry</u>, before attending the CNLP review. Participants can then ask questions on the content of the manual during the review. A highlighter and pen, as well as the manual, are highly recommended to be brought to the review with each participant; this allows marking of items which will be included on the exam. The manual is not included in the fee for the review &/or exam.

Please contact me, by phone (985)237-2939, or email <u>carijanelnla@gmail.com</u>, if you have any questions in regard to this year's certified nursery and landscape professional programs.

Sincerely,

Cari Jane Murray LNLA Executive Secretary



# Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Manual Review and Exam - 2022

February 22-23, 2022

LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station 21549 Old Hammond Hwy. Hammond, LA 70403 Begins at 9am daily

June 7-8, 2022
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\$20 per section(s) re-taken by each person.  * Please specify re-take section(s) if known.  Sec #1- Plant Classification, Growth & Development  Sec #2- Understanding Pests and Their Control  Sec #3- Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards  Sec #4- Landscape Contracting, Tree & Turf Mgt.  Sec #5- Plant Identification				
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Make check or money order payable to: Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association  Check				\$ #
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For further information contact:

Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (C) 985-237-2939, (E) <a href="mailto:carijanelnla@gmail.com">carijanelnla@gmail.com</a>

Mandeville, LA 70470

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