

# Nursery & Landscape

LNLA Quarterly

July/August/September 2005

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### Comments on Hurricane Katrina

Louisiana and our neighboring states were brought to our knees with Hurricane Katrina beginning on the morning of August 29th. thoughts prayers go out everyone. Louisiana's green industry has been impacted to a significant degree. We have over 300 wholesale nurseries in the parishes affected by Hurricane Katrina. Also, over 30% Louisiana licensed landscape contractors are in the affected parishes. Retail garden centers are also impacted. We have over 56,000 individuals employed in Louisiana's green industry and as many as 15,000 have been affected. This is a

devastating blow to our \$2.2 billion industry. For those wholesale nurseries that did not sustain damage, market loss due to the devastation in south Mississippi and the metro New Orleans area is a major problem. Growers statewide are hurting.

Our industry friends in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida were affected by Hurricane Katrina also. Together, we have been working with the Southern Nursery Association American Nursery and Landscape Association a disaster relief package. Hopefully something will come from this effort. Thanks

also to Brian Breaux, ag commodity director with the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, for his help.

A report on the affects of Hurricane Katrina on Louisiana' green industry is included in this edition LNLA the newsletter. This will still be changed and updated get a s more information. We will keep you updated on hurricane recovery efforts.

Continue with your thoughts and prayers for all concerned.

Allen - Owings, LNLA Executive Secretary

### Upcoming: Mississippi Medallion Plant Promotions

LSU AgCenter Research/Extension

Update

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Redbor Kale (October 2005) Knock Out Rose (late Feb 2006) Profusion Fire and Profusion Apricot zinnias (late March 2006) Kong Coleus (early April 2006)

More information on this program is available at www.msnla.org

# Hurricane Rita Hits in Late September

Only twenty six days after the arrival of Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, Hurricane Rita arrived on shore just east of the Texas/ Louisiana state line. As we go to press with this edition of the LNLA newsletter, damage is not known. We have initial reports of major damage in the Lake Charles area that will affect our retail garden center and wholesale growers in southwest Louisiana. We also are not sure of the damage and power situation in Forest Hill and other nursery production areas in the portions of the state that received 50-70 miles per hour winds from Rita. Keep everyone in Louisiana's green industry adversely affected by these storms in your thoughts and prayers.



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## Welcome! New LNLA Members

June-September 2005

Clegg's Nursery, Inc.

Delores Williams

**Inland Nursery** 

Wendell Miller

Lassiter Tree Farm & Nursery

**Brad Lassiter** 

LSU AgCenter, Burden Research

Greg Bivin

LSU, Health Services

Walter Adams Darryl Boudreaux

Gerald Davis

Melvin Horne, Sr.

Alphonse McKey

Bernard Robertson

Juan Sears

Tessie Singleton

LSU, Students

Lou Ann McKnight

Andrew Newman

John Bartlett

Clint Bliss

Travis Foreman

Lance Schaefer

Blayne Sparks

Nature's Best Organics

Lynn Henslee

Oakwold Farm's, Inc.

Jonathan Tassin

Scott Boudreaux Landscaping, LLC

Scott Boudreaux

Rome's Lawn & Light Service

Todd Rome



### LOUISIANA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

### Board of Directors Meeting May 25, 2005 Baton Rouge, LA

The meeting was called to order at 10 am by President Nathan Dondis. The meeting was held at Ralph and Kacoo's in Baton Rouge. Attendees were Pat Newman, Anthony Witcher, Chancey Nichols, Allen Owings, Regina Bracy, Dan Gill, Brian Breaux, Beth Perkins, Frances Thorne, Dan Gill, Tom Fennell, Laney Strange, Debbie Head, Laura Crnko and Rusty Ruckstuhl. Board member absent was Anthony Witcher (administrative assistant). Guests present were Mark LeBlanc (LDAF), Craig Roussel (LDAF), Howard Thorne, Ed Bush (LSU) and David Himelrick (LSU).

Nathan Dondis welcomed everyone.

Motion was moved by Tom Fennell and seconded by Regina Bracy to accept the minutes of the February 2005 board of directors meeting as submitted. Motion passed.

The financial report from January 1 – May 25, 2005 showed income of \$69,464.33 with expenses of \$53,338.56 for an income over expenses of \$16,125.77. Motion was made by Regina Bracy and seconded by Danny LaFleur to approve. Motion passed.

Following the financial report, discussion started on the 2005 buyer's guide. Response has been positive but, limited nurseries utilized. Board moved to initiate 2006 edition in time for GSHE and budget \$12,000 – primarily from commercial savings account – for this effort. Motion passed.

Laura Crnko gave a membership report year to date. 316 paid members with dues income of \$26,725. This is about 10% new members (32). One last dues notice effort will be made for 2005 dues payment.

The Gulf States Horticulture Expo was discussed. Nathan Dondis and Pat Newman reported on the 2005 show and the possible problems with securing Mobile in 2008 and/or 2009. The last meeting of the GSHE board was held in Biloxi and included a tour of the Gulf Coast Coliseum and Convention Center. The LNLA board also directed our representatives to consider inclusion of someone besides LNLA elected officers to serve on the GSHE board to spread around work load and effort.

Brain Breaux from the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation discussed the national ag labor reform effort. Some problems that LNLA members have with ANLA supported legislation include prevailing wage rate, possible lawsuits against employers, and granting citizenship. LNLA passed via motion (Regina Bracy, second Pat Newman) to support Senator Chambliss alternative ag labor legislation.

Bobby Scott and Benny Russo made a presentation from ICT insurance and requested an endorsement of their company. This was tabled for the time being and will be brought forward at a later date. Currently, we have agreements with Meadowbrook and Blumberg.

Mark LeBlanc and Craig Roussel gave a LDAF update. This included sudden oak death information (west coast sampling, Louisiana spring sampling, and SE USA tour for west coast nursery folks). Photinia has been added to the host plant list. Irrigation license testing started on May 23, 2005 and will be implemented beginning in May 2006.

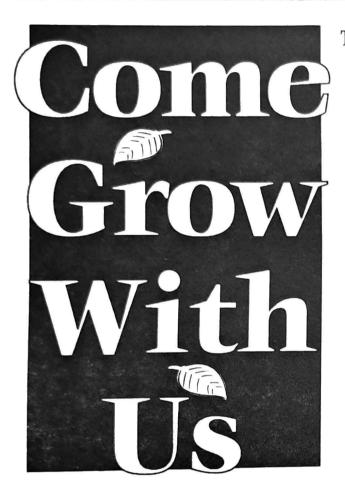
Old business included a report from the marketing committee by Dan Gill (trade show booth done, website is next); Allen Owings announced Murphy Johnson is completing Margie Jenkins' term as ANLA senator from Louisiana; Dan Gill reported that the southern magnolia will be the 2006 LSU AgCenter GIG garden calendar plant feature – calendars should be ready in late summer.

New business included - \$100 donation to 4-H Foundation Golf Tournament, \$500 donation to LSU AgCenter nursery and landscape golf shootout, and a \$2,500 donation to the Bradberry undergraduate assistantship program in horticulture at LSU. Copies of the spring 2005 issue of Louisiana Agriculture were distributed.

Other new business included discussion of the following funding request: (1) annual meeting sponsorship – La County Agents Assoc, and (2) sponsorship money for 2005 Louisiana Master Gardener state conference. Both of these were referred to the funding request committee chaired by Regina Bracy.

Allen Owings requested research funding for "herbaceous plant evaluation project" efforts at the LSU AgCenter. Beth Perkins moved, Danny LaFleur seconded, that \$4,000 be appropriated. Motion passed.

The board decided to develop a new policy where organizations seeking donations must supply the request 30 days prior to the board meeting. Donations under \$500 will be considered by the funding request committee. Donations of \$500 or more will be considered by



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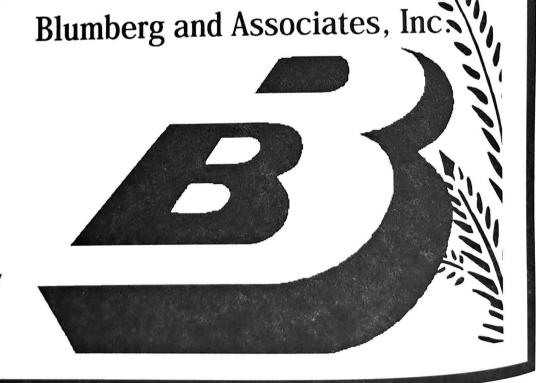
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# FINDING "SHAZAM" IN DENVER

By Mark Mayberry

Lisa and I recently took a trip to Denver for a few days of relaxation, and one incredible night of music – Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) at Red Rocks. Our friend, Elly Valas, was our "hostess" for the trip, and it was a trip that we will remember always.

During the trip, I had my first "Crocs" encounter. "Crocs" is a company that I had never heard of before the Denver trip. If you live in the "Dark Ages" like me, I'll fill you in. They are a "footwear company." Notice that I did not describe them as a "shoe" company. "Crocs" are not really shoes. They're more like a sandal, but in all kinds of colors. Their slogan is terrific, "Get a Grip." Their other tag line is great too — "You Gotta Try 'Em On!"

Elly and Lisa did some serious shopping in Boulder and Vail. Lisa was very determined to buy a pair of "Crocs," but store after store was sold out of the color and size that she was looking for. Finally, on our last morning in Denver, Elly took us to a mall that had a "Crocs" kiosk. Lo and behold, they had Lisa's color – in the right size.

What's so amazing about "Crocs?" We visited at least a half dozen shoe stores to find the right size and color for Lisa, and

everyone was sold out until we visited the mall kiosk. Needless to say – "Crocs" are hot! Here's the "amazing" part – They only have a couple of "styles!" Most shoe stores have a kazillion styles to choose from, hoping that they will have one that you like. "Crocs" only makes a couple of styles (And they look very similar) – and the stores can't keep them in stock!

I told this story to Jon Schallert, a consultant who interviewed me for his series of retail audio tapes. Jon told me that he recently presented a seminar in the Northwest, and a couple of people in his audience wore "Crocs" to his program. By the time his workshop was over, several other people had tried on the "Crocs," and had purchased their own pair. Now that's "Nudgin" plus!

Unfortunately, my "Crocs" story has a sad ending. Lisa was able to find the size and color that she wanted at the "Crocs" kiosk, but the service was a "Nega-zam." One of the sales clerks (Yes — they had 2 clerks at a small kiosk!) simply handed Lisa the "Crocs" in the size and color that she asked for, and then ignored her. In fact, I counted 7 people around this one small kiosk, and the two sales clerks spent their entire time looking at some kind of report. They

paid no attention to any of the Customers until Lisa interrupted their conversation to pay for the "shoes." "Crocs" has created an in-demand product, and has spent a lot of dollars on marketing. I hope they spend a few dollars to train their Team Members what "Service With Shazam!" is all about!

### SHAZAM

# Challenge Of The Month!

Does your nursery/ landscape company have a product or service that is as "hot" as Crocs?

Do you make sure your Team doesn't chase Customers away by delivering "Nega-zams?"

Mark Mayberry is an international speaker, author, and consultant. Mark wants your input about his newsletter! Please write him at:

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# LABI & SBA Disaster Assistance Programs for Small Business

### LABI BUSINESS DISASTER RELIEF FUND ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Responding to the tremendous desire of the business community across the United States to help with the hurricane disaster relief effort, the **Louisiana Association of Business and Industry** (**LABI**), with the assistance of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, has established the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund.

In a span of only 24 hours, Louisiana lost almost a third of its economy. The vast majority of businesses that have been shut down or greatly impaired are small businesses, the backbone of the area's economy. These businesses provide the bulk of the jobs in any area. Until these small business owners get back on their feet, the Gulf Coast's economy cannot substantially recover.

The Small Business Disaster Relief Fund will provide grants to help small businesses damaged by Hurricane Katrina get back into business as soon as possible. The grants will serve as "gap funding" to cover expenses not covered by insurance in order to bring as many enterprises as possible back on line quickly.

Contributions to the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund are tax deductible and can be made by check and mailed to:

Small Business Disaster Relief Fund/ BRAF 402 N. 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Contributions can also be made through LABI"s Web site (www.labi.org). The contributions, dollar for dollar, will go directly to small businesses that need these funds to recover. All applications will be handled anonymously to ensure total fairness in the grant selection process. Volunteers from the CPA Society, local Bar Association, and Independent Insurance Agents association will be

recruited to screen the applications.

In commenting upon the fund, LABI President Dan Juneau stated: "I have literally received hundreds of emails from businesses and business associations from throughout the United States asking how they can help the businesses hit hard by Hurricane Katrina. The formation of the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund is one of the most effective ways they can join the effort to rebuild the shattered economy of the Gulf Coast. Many businesses from the Gulf Coast area sent financial assistance to Oklahoma City and New York City when disaster struck those areas. Now Gulf Coast businesses are hurting. I know businesses and trade associations from all across the nation will respond to give a helping hand to these companies as they struggle to pull themselves up by the bootstraps and get back into busi-

"One hundred percent of the dollars contributed will go directly into the rebuilding of small businesses caught up in the biggest disaster in the modern history of our nation. I can assure you the small business owners who are assisted by this fund will be forever grateful," concluded Juneau.

<u>LABI</u> will begin accepting grant applications for the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund September 15. Applications can be downloaded from our Web site beginning on that date.

To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must be an owner or principal in a forprofit, private sector business that had fewer than 100 employees on August 29, 2005. Any affected business in a parish or county designated as a primary disaster relief area by the federal government will be eligible. The business must have suffered substantial losses or the potential of long-term business interruption as a direct result of Hurricane Katrina.

The Small Business Disaster Relief Fund

is not in place to give money to business owners who are permanently going out of business. Its role is to provide gap funding for losses insurance will not cover to assist small businesses reentry into the economy. An important part of the application will deal with how the applicant will use the grant to go back into business or bring their business back up to prior levels of activity more quickly. Another important factor will focus on how many jobs the grant will help restore. Again, interested parties should access this Web site www.labi.org on September 15 to initiate an application.

### (SBA) SMALL BUISINESS ADMINISTRATION DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has developed disaster assistance programs to help people recover from disasters and rebuild their lives by providing affordable, timely and accessible financial assistance to homeowners, renters and businesses. Homeowners may borrow up to \$200,000 to repair or replace the primary residence. Loans of up to \$40,000 are available to renters and homeowners to cover losses to personal property like clothing, appliances and furniture. The interest rate is 2.68 percent with 30 year terms and the loans are aimed at covering losses not fully covered by insurance.

To qualify for any kind of federal assistance, residents and business owners in the disaster areas must contact FEMA first at 1-800-621-FEMA. General information on SBA's disaster loan program can be found by calling 1-800-659-2955 or visiting www.sba.gov/disaster. A fact sheet explaining the Small Business Administration types of assistance for Hurricane Katrina, credit requirements, interest rates and eligibility requirements is available at: ... cont'd on pg 20



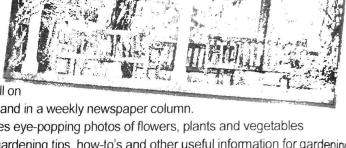


The LSU AgCenter's Get It Growing calendar is designed to help gardeners with their home gardens and grounds Get It Growing is a lawn and garden educational campaign, which features

LSU AgCenter horticulturist Dan Gill on

television and radio and in a weekly newspaper column.

The calendar features eye-popping photos of flowers, plants and vegetables and is chock-full of gardening tips, how-to's and other useful information for gardening enthusiasts. Great gift.







from the Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association















2006 Get It Growing Calendar from the LSU AgCenter features

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# In The News

### SNA Presents Slater Wight Award

Margie Jenkins, owner of Jenkins Farm and Nursery in Amite, LA, was named the 2005 winner of the Slater Wight Memorial Award at the recent Southern Nursery Association meeting in Atlanta. Margie is the 50th recipient of the award and the first female winner. The Slater Wight Award is given annually to a person that has contributed significantly to the nursery industry in the southeast and the Southern Nursery Association. Congratulations Margie!

### James and Faye Foret Scholarship Award

Twelve students from nine southeastern universities were awarded a total of \$30,000 in scholarships through the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund which is administered by the Southern Nursery Association (SNA). The \$2,500 awards were presented during the SNA Research Conference luncheon which was held in conjunction with the association's annual convention and trade show, August 11-13 in Atlanta, GA. Congratulations to **Ryan M. Donadieu**, Louisiana State University, winner of the Dr. James and Faye Foret Scholarship Fund.

### In Memorium

Earl Emmett Vallot Sr., owner of Grandview Nursery in Youngsville, died at age 79 on Sept. 27, 2005. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Nell Morvant Vallot; and son, Earl "Chip" Vallot Jr. Earl was past president of the Louisiana Society for Horticulture Research from 1962 until 1966. He received a Horticulture Achievement Award in horticulture research, and an ARP award for meritorious service from the Texas Association of Nurserymen . Earl received the James A. Foret Award in 1980 from LNLA.

### Sympathy Extended

LNLA extends sympathies to the family of Lowell Chauff. Lowell passed away in late September and was the husband of Ruth Chauff (Banting's Nursery) and brother in law of Beth Perkins and Vaughn Banting. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers. Cards can be sent to Ruth at 165 Madeira Drive, Avondale, LA 70094.

### **Irrigation Licensing Starting in 2006**

Louisiana installers of landscape irrigation systems will need a license from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry starting in May 2006. Call the LDAF—Horticulture and Quarantine office in Baton Rouge at 225.952.8100 for more specific information and testing guidelines/scheduling.

### Job Announcement

AR Landscapes, Inc., Marietta, GA, has available positions for an install foreman and an install crew supervisor for qualified individuals. Anyone who has experience for either position and has been displaced by Hurricane Katrina and wants to relocate to the Atlanta area can contact us by phone, fax or email. We will make every effort to accommodate their present situation. Contact: Tara Sternagle, AR Landscapes, Inc., 1749 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta, Georgia 30068 Telephone: (770) 509-7497, Fax: (770) 509-9664 E-mail: tmessenger@arlandscapes.com. Website: www.arlandscapes.com

### Louisiana Exhibitors at SNA:

Gordon Barney and Associates
Forest Hill Nursery
Bracy's Nursery
Windmill Nursery of Louisiana
Poole Brothers Nursery
Louisiana Tree Farm
Taylor Nursery
Miller's Ground Covers
Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association
Lakeview Nursery
Doug Young Nursery
For more information on this great industry event, go to
www.sna.org

### SNA's Hurricane Katrina Green Industry Disaster Fund

The Southern Nursery Association in cooperation with their participating member states initiated a Hurricane Katrina Disaster Assistance Fund to help green industry professionals in need immediately after the event. The SNA office was in constant contact with impacted areas in Louisiana, along with Mississippi and Alabama. SNA organized a tractor trailer load of supplies for impact nursery families and delivered these to Bracy's Nursery in Amite - thanks to McCorkle Nurseries for the trucking. Thanks to SNA and all of green industry individuals and businesses nation-wide that have provided support. We thank all of you!! More information is on SNA's Disaster Assistance Fund (which is an on-going effort) is available at <a href="https://www.sna.org">www.sna.org</a>

### **SNA Building Fund**

SNA member companies and industry professionals were solicited to donate money to fund the SNA headquarters in Atlanta, GA. Louisiana contributors are: "Platinum" - Imahara's Landscape Co., Inc., "Gold "Jenkins Farm & Nursery, LLC., "Individual" - Warren Meadows. Much thanks goes out to these for their generous contributions. If you would like information about SNA's building fund contact the office at 770.953.3311

### **LNLA** Newsletter

Contact LNLA's staff if you have "green industry" news: Laura Crnko—lcrnko@bellsouth.net 225-667-4744 Allen Owings—aowings@agctr.lsu.edu 225-578-2417 Anthony Witcher—awitcher@agctr.lsu.edu 225-578-2415



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# Principles of Irrigation

November 15-16, 2005

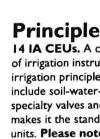
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### Presents:



### Louisiana Irrigation Association



### **Principles of Irrigation**

14 IA CEUs. A comprehensive 2-day course taught by an experienced team of irrigation instructors, it covers the theory and application of fundamental irrigation principles for both agriculture and turf/landscape. Topics covered include soil-water-plant relationships, advanced hydraulics, electricity, pumps, specialty valves and irrigation equipment. The completeness of the course makes it the standard for the irrigation industry. The course is taught in English units. Please note this is not a design class. It can assist the student in their preparation for Step 2 of the Certified Irrigation Designer program. Prerequisites recommended: A basic understanding of irrigation principles and soil-water-plant relationships is helpful. Landscape Irrigation Auditor, Landscape Irrigation Design and Understanding Pumps, Controls and Wells are excellent courses to take in preparation for this class. Math skills required: Intermediate. Course includes: Two days of instruction, manual, handouts.



**Class Location: Louisiana Tech University Lomax Hall** Ruston, LA 71272

**Class Pre-Registration Deadline is November 1st -Register Now!** 

# Class Registration Principles of Irrigation November 15-16, 2005 Ruston, LA

### To Register:

### I. Mail or Fax to:

Louisiana Irrigation Association P.O. Box 1003 Many, LA 71449 (318) 256-1222 phone (318) 256-1220 fax

Call anytime Monday - Saturday 8:00am - 5:00pm to Register.

### Please complete a separate form for each registrant:

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# Louisiana Tech Main Campus (Hwy. 80)

### **Class Pricing & Times**

(Please circle appropriate member type.)

### **Principles of Irrigation**

November 15-16, 8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. after 11/1 IA Member \$195

\$245 IA Affiliate Member \$270 \$220 Non-member \$300 \$250

\*Cancellation Policy\*

toward any future class. We reserve the right to cancel or postpone at any time, in which are subject to a \$40 processing fee or a credit to be used. toward any future class. We reserve the right to cancel or postpone at any time, in which case the registrant will receive a full refund.

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# MEMBER AND INDUSTRY UPDATE

Louisiana Irrigation Association, P. O. Box 1003, Many, LA 71449 • Phone 225-755-3447 • Fax 225-755-1240 • Website www.l-l-a.org

### Covington Class A Success

Congratulations to all who attended the Irrigation Association (national group) class in Covington, LA on August 17-18! *The Principles of Irrigation - Landscape* was the first Irrigation Association training class to be offered in Louisiana for several years and over 50 people were in attendance. Thanks to Mr. Wayne Orton and Mr. Matt Miller of the Keeling Company for doing the groundwork necessary to make this happen.

### Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Due to the overwhelming interest, your **Louisiana Irrigation Association** has scheduled two additional opportunities for contractors to at-

tend this premier educational offering. The *Irrigation Association* is offering two short courses for contractors wishing to review/ prepare for the Licensure Exam. These are both 2-day courses taught by an experienced team of irrigation instructors ...

"Principles of Irrigation". You may attend either of the sessions regardless of where your business is located in the state:

November 15-16 at Lomax Hall, LA Tech University, Ruston, LA December 15-16 at the LSU Ag-Center parish office, Breaux Bridge, LA

Registration information for both of these programs is included in this edition of the LNLA newsletter.

### Irrigation Licensing Starting in 2006

Louisiana installers of landscape irrigation systems will need a license from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry starting in 2006. Call the LDAF-Horticulture and Quarantine office in Baton Rouge at 225.952.8100 for more specific information and testing guidelines/scheduling.

### Visit our Website

The LIA website ... www.l-i-a.org ... lists the current officers along with contact numbers and email addresses. We will also post information about the IA courses on the website.





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### HURRICANE KATRINA - Louisiana Green Industry Impact

Allen D. Owings, Professor (Horticulture), LSU AgCenter

and Executive Secretary, Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association

Phone 225.578.2417; Fax 225.578.0773; email aowings@agctr.lsu.edu

Louisiana's nursery and landscape industry has incurred major damage due to the effects of Hurricane Katrina that made landfall just west of Venice, LA on Monday August 29th. Parishes with major damage include Washington/St Tammany/Tangipahoa/lower Livingston (western and central Florida parishes) and St Bernard, Plaquemines, Orleans, Jefferson and St Charles (collectively generally considered the metropolitan New Orleans area). Parishes where minor damages have occurred or may have occurred include St Helena, East and West Feliciana, East Baton Rouge, Ascension, Iberville, Livingston, St James, St John, Assumption, Lafourche, Terrebonne and St Mary. Several additional parishes were also included in the presidential disaster areas.

The most recently completed LSU AgCenter study of the annual contributions of Louisiana's green industry to the economy shows \$2.215 billion (\$1.583 billion direct; \$0.632 billion indirect) in gross sales and employment of 56,686 (49,484 direct; 7,202 indirect).

### Nursery, Floriculture and Greenhouse Crop Production

Initial estimated wholesale nursery crop loss is in the \$10-12 million range. This does not include plant losses due to current or upcoming irrigation system failures; nor does it include structural damage, facility damage, container yard damage, irrigation system repairs, clean up cost, etc that could add another \$20 million. Over 300 wholesale nurseries are in the presidential disaster area parishes. Major loss of market has also occurred due to landscape industry and retail trade market devastation in metropolitan New Orleans and south Mississippi. Typical annual wholesale production of nursery crops (woody ornamentals) in Louisiana is \$90-100 million. Floriculture and greenhouse crop production adds another \$25 million. Major losses have occurred to the container citrus tree industry in Plaquemines parish. Christmas tree farms also are significantly damaged in the Florida parishes area.

### Landscape Contracting and Maintenance

35.8% of Louisiana licensed landscape contractors and horticulture service providers reside or do business in the areas most heavily impacted by Hurricane Katrina. There are 1964 licensed landscape contractors and horticulture service providers in Louisiana. Some landscape professionals on the north shore will be actively involved in cleanup and landscape renovation efforts.

Number of licensed landscape contractors and horticulture service providers in impacted parishes:

| St Charles  | 26  |
|-------------|-----|
| Orleans     | 136 |
| Jefferson   | 213 |
| Plaquemines | 17  |
| St Bernard  | 16  |
| Tangipahoa  | 65  |
| Washington  | 16  |
| St Tammany  | 214 |
|             |     |

Gross sales on landscape and horticultural services in Louisiana in 2001 (the most recent year for which data is available) was \$266.1 million based on a LSU AgCenter study. "Related" horticulture activities had gross sales of over \$600 million in 2001. This segment of the green industry employed 9,361 individuals in 2001.

21.6% of licensed landscape architects in Louisiana are located in the most affected parishes. There are 371 licensed landscape architects in Louisiana. The parish break-down:

| St Charles  | 1  |
|-------------|----|
| Orleans     | 35 |
| Jefferson   | 19 |
| Plaquemines | 1  |
| St Bernard  | 1  |
| Tangipahoa  | 5  |
| Washington  | 0  |
| St Tammany  | 18 |

### Hurricane Katrina ...cont'd from page 17

### Retail Garden Centers

PAGE 18

The devastation to retail garden centers (including independents and mass merchandisers) in major in the affected areas. Nursery stock dealers in Louisiana number 1345. 27.3% of nursery stock dealers are located in the most affected parishes. A listing of dealer permits by affected parishes:

| St Charles  | 5   |
|-------------|-----|
| Orleans     | 10: |
| Jefferson   | 109 |
| Plaquemines | 3   |
| St Bernard  | 21  |
| Tangipahoa  | 31  |
| Washington  | 17  |
| St Tammany  | 79  |

In 2001, retail garden center trade statewide was \$511 million with employment of 14,905. There are 1,678,000 house-holds in Louisiana.

### DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (DUA) 866-487-2365

This assistance provides weekly benefit payments to those out of work due to the disaster, including self-employed persons, farm and ranch owners, and others not covered under regular unemployment insurance programs.

U.S. Small Business Administration <a href="https://www.sba.gov/disaster">www.sba.gov/disaster</a> or call 1-800-359-2227

SBA offers loans up to \$200,000 to repair disaster damaged primary residences. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to replace personal property such as furniture and clothing. Loans to businesses of all sizes and non-profit organizations are available up to \$1.5 million to repair damage to real estate, machinery, equipment and inventory. Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) are also available to small businesses to pay bills or meet expenses.

Interest rates can be as low as 2.68 percent for homeowners and renters and 4 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition.

### **NRCS COST-SHARE PROGRAMS FOR NURSERIES**

At a recent Southeast Louisiana Nursery Association meeting, Donnie Latiolais, District Conservationist with NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service) in Amite, and Hank Schumacher, beef producer in Husser and NRCS Board member, told nursery growers that grants are available for cost-share programs for nursery growers, and more could be possible if they get representation on their local NRCS Board.

Cost-share programs under EQUIP currently exist for soil erosion prevention projects, including micro or drip irrigation (as opposed to overhead sprinkler irrigation), terraces, grass waterways for drainage, and possibly other soil erosion prevention practices. One nurseryman in attendance at the meeting stated he got financial assistance at 50% cost share to help put in pumps and pipe for an irrigation system in a new can yard at his nursery in this area. The rate of cost-share is dictated by the number of years the nursery (or other agricultural business) has been in business.

Applications are taken for cost-share projects from October through April and there is some money available for appropriate projects. Growers in St. Tammany and Washington parishes need to contact the NRCS office in Franklinton at 985-839-5686. Growers in Tangipahoa and St. Helena parishes should contact the NRCS office in Amite at 985-748-8751. The NRCS offices are located with the FSA (Farm Service Agency) in each of those locations.

Programs for pine timber planting and/or maintenance may also be available for qualified land owners. Participation by nursery growers to represent their industry on their local NRCS Board is encouraged. By having representation on the local Boards, the nursery industry and therefore its growers, can request changes or additional cost-share programs from the state. There are grants available for viable projects. One that might be of interest among nursery growers could be varmint control fencing. But representation is needed on the Boards to request what is needed most for nursery growers.

Beef and dairy industries have been represented for years on these Boards. It's time for the nursery industry to consider the same and reap some benefits for nursery growers in this area. These are your tax dollars at work. New Board members have just been elected for the Amite office, but new ones will be needed in two years.

If you want more information on these NRCS programs, contact the appropriate office, depending in which parish your nursery is located. (thanks to LSU AgCenter horticulture agent Annie Coco for this report)



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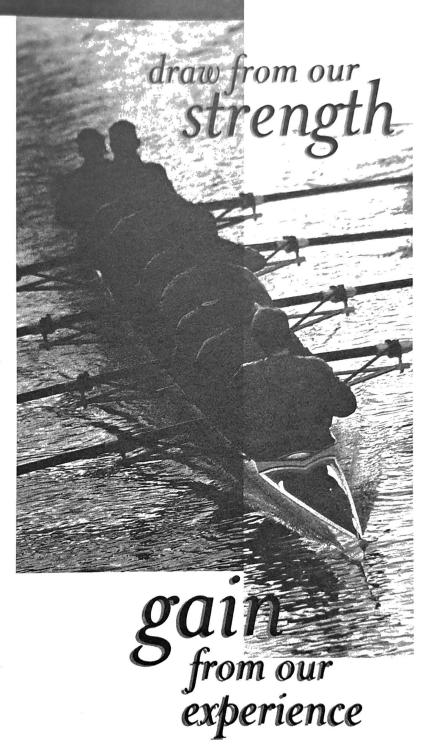
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Links containing helpful and important information for members who have incurred losses due to recent hurricanes <a href="http://www.meadowbrook.com/MIG">http://www.meadowbrook.com/MIG</a> hurricane/RSCresponse Katrina.htm , <a href="http://www.meadowbrook.com">www.meadowbrook.com</a> and <a href="http://www.meadowbrook.com">www.wcpolicy.com</a>



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poolebrosnsy@earthlink.net

### LABI & SBA Disaster Programs ...cont'd from pg 9

http://www.sba.gov/disasterarea2/LA10176factsheet.pdf.

Louisiana Disaster Recovery Centers have been setup statewide to help affected citizens in applying for assistance. They are located at:

### **CADDO PARISH**

Summergrove Baptist Church 2820 Summer Grove Drive Shreveport, LA 71118-3228

### **OUACHITA PARISH**

Monroe Civic Center Conference Call 401 Lea Joyner Expressway Monroe, LA 71201

### **IBERVILLE PARISH**

Iberville Parish Library 24605 J. Gerald Berret Boulevard Plaquemine, LA 70764

### LAFAYETTE PARISH

Restoration Life Church 111 Liberty Avenue Lafayette, LA 70508-6821

### RAPIDES PARISH

Office Max 2255 MacArthur Drive Alexandria, LA 71301-3343

### PLAQUEMINES PARISH

Belle Chasse Primary School 539 F. Edward Hebert Blvd. Belle Chasse, LA 70037

### WEBSTER PARISH

Old Wal-Mart Store 1100 Homer Road Minden, LA 70508-6821

### EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH

La. Dept. of Economic Dev. 101 France Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802-6263

The Disaster Recovery Centers are also listed at:

http://www.sba.gov/disasterarea3/10176-Office-Locations-(LA)-web7.pdf.

For latest news on assistance and deadlines by Louisiana region, go to:

http://www.sba.gov/gopher/Disnews/disnla.html

Another valuable resource for affected citizens is a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) which is also on the posted on the website at:

http://www.sba.gov/disaster\_recov/basics/faqs.html

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Carencro, LA 70520 Location #2 337-233-3482 or 337-662-3415

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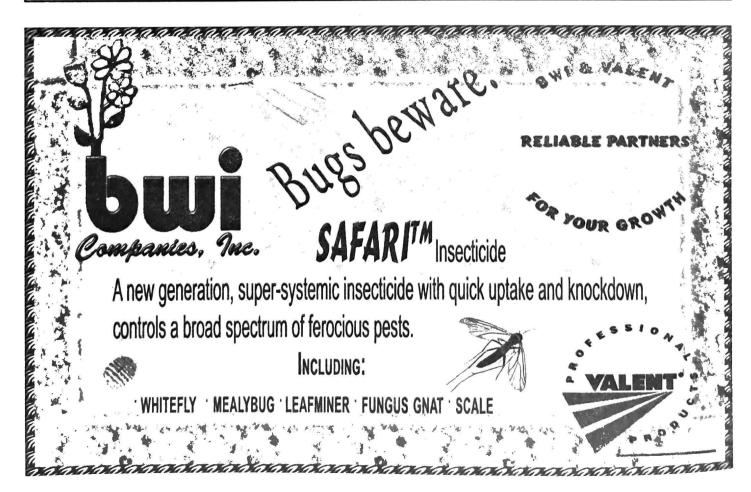
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# Hurricane Rita - Louisiana Green Industry Impact

Allen D. Owings, Professor (Horticulture), LSU AgCenter and Executive Secretary, Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association

Louisiana's nursery and landscape industry has incurred more losses due to the affect of Hurricane Rita which struck southwest Louisiana just east of the Louisiana/Texas state line on September 24. Presidential disaster parishes are Allen, Acadia, Beauregard, Cameron, Calcasieu, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Vermilion, and St Mary. Although not listed in official disaster, some minor damage to nursery crops (primarily field grown stock) occurred in Evangeline, St Landry, Iberville, Rapides, and possibly St Martin.

The most recently completed LSU AgCenter study of the annual contributions of Louisiana's green industry to the economy shows \$2.215 billion (\$1.583 billion direct; \$0.632 billion indirect) in gross sales and employment of 56,686 (49,484 direct; 7,202 indirect).

### Nursery, Floriculture and Greenhouse Crops (Wholesale)

The number of wholesale nurseries in disaster parishes is included below.

| Parish          | Wholesale Nurseries |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Allen           | 10                  |
| Acadia          | 5                   |
| Beauregard      | 17                  |
| Cameron         | 1                   |
| Calcasieu       | 21                  |
| Iberia          | 20                  |
| Jefferson Davis | 10                  |
| Lafayette       | 30                  |
| Lafourche       | 9                   |
| Terrebonne      | 12                  |
| Vermilion       | 13                  |
| St Mary         | 5                   |
| Totals          | 158                 |

Parish damage totals for the above areas are not yet finalized but crop losses are believed to be \$5-6 million. An additional \$100,000-200,000 of damage may have occurred in Evangeline, Rapides, St Landry, Iberville and St Martin parishes. This does not include plant losses due to current or upcoming irrigation system failures; nor does it include structural damage, facility damage, container yard damage, irrigation system repairs, clean up cost, etc.

Typical annual wholesale production of nursery crops (woody ornamentals) in Louisiana is \$90-100. The vast majority of the growers listed by parish above are woody ornamental nursery producers. About 10% of the growers listed are primarily bedding plant and similar herbaceous plant producers.

### Landscape Contracting / Maintenance / Horticultural Services

There are 167 horticulture service providers and 283 landscape contractors residing or doing business in the twelve parish area most impacted by Hurricane Rita. This represents 16.5% and 17.1%, respectively, of the state total. There are 1015 horticulture service providers and 1651 landscape contractors licensed in Louisiana. The number of licensed landscape contractors and horticulture service providers in impacted parishes:

| Horticulture Service |    | Landscape Contractors |    |
|----------------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| Allen                | 1  | •                     | 3  |
| Acadia               | 16 |                       | 26 |
| Beauregard           | 4  |                       | 6  |
| Cameron              | 0  |                       | 1  |
| Calcasieu            | 20 |                       | 38 |
| Iberia               | 18 |                       | 23 |
| Jefferson Davis      | 1  |                       | 9  |
| Lafayette            | 54 |                       | 89 |

... cont'd on page 25

### Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association Green Industry Hurricane Loss Evaluation Form Damage and Needs Assessment -CONFIDENTIAL

September 2005

| Company Name:   |
|---|
| Parish: Date:   |
| Owner Name: Phone:  |
| Physical Address:   |
| Type of Farm/Business:  |
| Greenhouse Operation Wholesale Nursery Retail Nursery Landscape   |
| Structures  |
| % Structures Damaged/Destroyed  |
| Estimated Value of Structures Damaged/Destroyed \$  |
| Equipment   |
| % Equipment Damaged/Destroyed   |
| Estimated Value of Equipment Damaged/Destroyed \$   |
| Other Collateral  |
| % Other Collateral Damaged/Destroyed (irrigation, groundcover, etc.)  |
| Estimated Value of Other Collateral Damaged/Destroyed \$  |
| Crops   |
| % Nursery/Greenhouse Crops Damaged/Destroyed  |
| Estimated Value of Crops Damaged/Destroyed \$   |
| Clean up and Debris Removal (include labor, equip usage, disposal) \$   |
| Emergency Equipment Purchased   |
| Cost of equipment purchased for emergency operations including generators for irrigation, power saws for debris removal, etc. |
| Generators \$ Power Saws \$ Other \$  |
| Total Loss/Cost Estimate  |
| (Structures, Equip, Collateral, Crops, Cleanup, Equip Purchased) \$   |

Please Attach Any Additional Comments, Personal Letters or Photos and Return or Fax To:

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association—Hurricane Katrina and Rita Damage Assessment P.O. Box 25100, Baton Rouge, LA 70894-5100

Fax Number 225.578.0773

# Board Minutes ... cont'd from page 3

the full board. A donation request form also needs to be developed. This was all passed on a motion by Beth Perkins and second by Laney Strange.

Educational opportunities and meeting updates included:

CNLP Update

Mid South Greenhouse Conference

GSHE Educational Committee Meeting

LFBF Commodity Conference

SNA in August

Nursery/Landscape Expo in August

Risk Management Workshops this summer

Landscape Workshop at Hammond in August

Landscape Workshop at Lafayette in September

11th annual Louisiana Plant Materials Conference – decision needs to be made (TBA)

The next board meeting will be held October 5th at the Hammond Research Station in Hammond.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

### Hurricane Rita ....cont'd from page 23

| Lafourche  | 21  | 28  |
|------------|-----|-----|
| Terrebonne | 11  | 24  |
| Vermilion  | 11  | 21  |
| St Mary    | 10  | 15  |
| Totals     | 167 | 283 |

Gross sales on landscape and horticultural services in Louisiana in 2001 (the most recent year for which data is available) was \$266.1 million based on a LSU AgCenter study. "Related" horticulture activities had gross sales of over \$600 million in 2001. This segment of the green industry employed 9,361 individuals in 2001.

### **Retail Garden Centers**

The devastation to retail garden centers (including independents and mass merchandisers) in major in the affected areas. Nursery stock dealers in Louisiana number 1352. 24.3% of Louisiana nursery stock dealers are located in the parishes most affected by Hurricane Rita (329 total). A listing of dealer permits by affected parishes:

| Allen           | 7  |
|-----------------|----|
| Acadia          | 17 |
| Beauregard      | 9  |
| Cameron         | 2  |
| Calcasieu       | 65 |
| Iberia          | 30 |
| Jefferson Davis | 9  |
| Lafayette       | 87 |
| Lafourche       | 28 |
| Terrebonne      | 33 |
| Vermilion       | 26 |
| St Mary         | 16 |
|                 |    |

In 2001, retail garden center trade statewide was \$511 million with employment of 14,905. There are 1,678,000 households in Louisiana.

### PHILIP INGLÉS

16410 Toney Road Folsom, LA 70437

Phone: (985) 796-8687 Fax: (985) 796-0385 Pager: (504) 880-1688

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"Leyland Cypress"

**GORDONIA LASIANTHIS** 

"Gordonia" Loblolly Bay

**ILEX HOLLY** 

"Savannah" "Dahoon"

"Oakleaf"

LAGERSTROEMIA INDICA-"Crepe Myrtle"

"Muskogee Lavender"
"Natchez White"

"Tuscarora Red"

**MAGNOLIA** 

"Southern Magnolia"
"D. D. Blanchard"
"Little Gem"

"Sweet Bay"

PINUS ELLIOTTII

"Slash Pine"

**PINUS TAEDA** 

"Loblolly Pine"

**PYRUS CALLERYANA** 

"Cleveland Select"

**OUERCUS PHELLOS** 

"Willow Oak"

**QUERCUS NUTTALII** 

"Nuttalii Red Oak"

**QUERCUS SHUMARDI** 

"Shumardi Red Oak"

**QUERCUS ALBA** 

"White Oak"
"Cow Oak"

**QUERCUS NIGRA** 

"Water Oak"

**QUERCUS VIRGINIANA** 

"Live Oak"

**TAXODIUM DISTICHUM** 

"Bald Cypress"

**ULMUS PARVIFOLIA** 

"Drake Elm"
"Allee Elm"

### **OUR TREE SPECIFICATIONS ARE:**

|   | 15 GAL  | .1 1/4" - 1 3/4"  | CAL7' – 9' | HT SPREAD $-3'-4'$  |
|---|---------|-------------------|------------|---------------------|
|   | 30 GAL  | . 2" – 2 ½"       | CAL        | HT SPREAD – 5′ – 6′ |
|   | 45 GAL  | . 2 3/4" – 3 1/4" | CAL        | HT                  |
| 1 | 100 GAL | . 4" – 5"         | CAL 13' +  | HT                  |

# FARM SERVICE AGENCY: HELP FOR PRODUCERS AFFECTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

Producers in Louisiana parishes declared presidential disaster areas may receive emergency loans from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. Please note the following regarding the Emergency Loan Program:

1. Emergency loans for production losses are available to eligible producers who have had at least a 30 percent reduction in crop production.

2. Emergency loans for physical losses are available to eligible producers who have suffered any loss to buildings, chattel or livestock.

3. Producers will have eight months to apply for an emergency loan from the Agency.

4. Currently, the Agency has \$152 million available for emergency loans.

More information about FSA emergency loans can be found at: http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/emloan.htm

In addition, USDA has a variety of other disaster programs available to assist farmers and ranchers, including the Emergency Conservation Program, Federal Crop Insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at: http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/programs.htm

Special provisions will be made for producers affected by the hurricane to ensure they do not lose loan deficiency payment benefits. FSA is also watching cash markets as it sets posted county prices, which are being impacted by the disruption of normal shipping patterns.

The following are telephone numbers for FSA state offices in the Gulf Region:

Alabama - (334) 279-3500

Arkansas - (501) 301-3000

Florida - (352) 379-4562

Louisiana - (318) 473-7721

Mississippi - (601) 965-4300

A list of FSA county offices can be found at: <a href="http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=us&agencv=fsa">http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=us&agencv=fsa</a>

FEMA is taking a lead role in relief efforts following Hurricane Katrina. Farmers, ranchers and others in need of help can apply for assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Please note the following when applying for assistance:

\* The phone number is for use ONLY by people in designated federal disaster areas.

\* Be prepared to give your Social Security number, describe your losses, provide financial information, and give directions to the damaged property.

\* If you get a busy signal, try to call in the evening after 6:00 p.m. or on the weekends when call volumes tend to be lighter.

Applications for assistance can be filed online at: http://www.fema.gov/register.shtm

For more information about relief efforts, go to: http://www.fema.gov/

# Property Insurance and Flood Insurance

As insurance adjusters are being granted access to damaged property locations affected by Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, the need for information on filing claims takes on greater importance. Hortica Insurance, insurance specialists for the horticultural industry, has assembled a document outlining the core differences in property insurance vs. flood insurance, as well as offers answers to commonly asked questions regarding the disaster. This information is available at the link below (note this is a PDF file): <a href="http://www.anla.org/applications/Documents/Docs/Katrina">http://www.anla.org/applications/Documents/Docs/Katrina</a> - <a href="Property Insurance">Property Insurance</a> and Flood Insurance.pdf

# LSU AGCENTER: RESEARCH AND EXTENSION UPDATE

Starting with the last issue of the LNLA newsletter, the LSU AgCenter began providing several pages of news and information pertaining to on-going and completed research projects and extension program efforts. We hope you will find this useful. Contact horticulture professor Allen Owings at the LSU AgCenter (Phone 225/578-2417; Fax: 225/578-0773; email annings@agctr.lsu.edu) with your questions or comments.

### Lafayette Landscape Workshop Re-Scheduled

The landscape and lawn maintenance workshop for Louisiana's green industry professionals previously scheduled for August 31st in Lafayette will now be held Tuesday October 25th. Contact LSU AgCenter horticulture agent Stuart Gauthier (sgauthier@agctr.lsu.edu) for more information and registration details. A similar workshop scheduled for September 29th at the Hammond Research Station was postponed due to Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts – that event will be held at a later date.

### Update on Nursery Container Blow-Down Project

The results of the 2004 nursery container blow-down project funded by LNLA showed that:

- 1. The grower standard consisting of one steel rod driven through each 15-gallon container into the ground was the least expensive option in terms of cost per plant per year. The commercially available baskets, above ground pot-in-pot system, and other restraints worked well, but were so expensive that the cost of the systems far offset the reset costs associated with the grower standard.
- 2. The horizontal rod system used on 4-gallon containers was not as effective as a steel rod driven vertically through each container. The hooks used to restrain the horizontal rods proved inadequate to restrain the horizontal rods.

A new study has been initiated in 2005 to build on the results from 2004:

- 1. Eight treatments building on the 2004 grower standard have been installed on two species of trees in 15-gallon containers. The treatments involve smooth steel rod and rebar in two lengths and with one or two stakes per container. All of these treatments are less expensive than the commercial systems tested in 2004.
- 2. Ten treatments using horizontal rods on 4-gallon containers have been installed. Treatments include smooth steel J-hooks and rebar J-hooks, two lengths of J-hook, and varying numbers of plants per J-hook (2, 3, or 4). These treatments have been installed on three species.

Ability to resist blow-down, costs to reset, costs to remove stakes and hooks at the end of the season, and plant quality (as affected by blow-down) are being monitored. The goal is to provide a figure for cost per plant per year, including the above factors.

(for additional information on this topic contact Dick Parish, LSU AgCenter - Hammond Research Station, dparish@agctr.lsu.edu)

# Options for Turfgrass Re-Establishment in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina

As recovery and cleanup efforts from Hurricane Katrina continue in southeastern Louisiana, landscapers and turfgrass managers may find that total renovation and establishment of lawns and other turfgrass areas is required. As floodwaters recede and are pumped out of low lying areas it is likely that some soils will now have higher than normal soluble salt values. These saline/sodic soils (Na ppm > 2500 ppm grass) commonly grown in Louisiana.

Turfgrass managers renovating these areas have several choices in re-establishing these areas and should follow a few simple guidelines. The initial and most important step is to take a soil test and submit to a qualified lab for a complete analysis. The information (pH and total or addition of gypsum to counteract high soil saline levels should be applied prior to establishment and roto-tilled into the top 4 to 6 inches. There may well be situations where soil salinity levels may be high enough (>5,000 ppm) and not be effectively treated with gypsum. In ing is a list of turfgrass species and relative salinity tolerance: Bahiagrass < Centipedegrass < St. Augustinegrass < Bermudagrass < Zoysia-readily in Louisiana.

Seashore paspalum [Paspalum vaginatum O. Swartz.] is a relatively new grass that is being utilized primarily in golf courses and athletic fields grass in appearance and texture. These grasses are well adapted to saline environments. Seashore paspalum closely resembles bermudasalt levels (34,000 ppm) once established. In these high saline environments and can withstand salinity levels up to ocean water ceed many of the bermudagrass cultivars and other warm season species.

Limitations of Seashore paspalum include poor shade tolerance (although better than berumudagrass), limited cold-tolerance, require non-saline water for establishment (unless using sod), deep sandy soils, increased maintenance and complexity of irrigation systems, proneness to

# Principles of Irrigation December 15-16, 2005

THE IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION

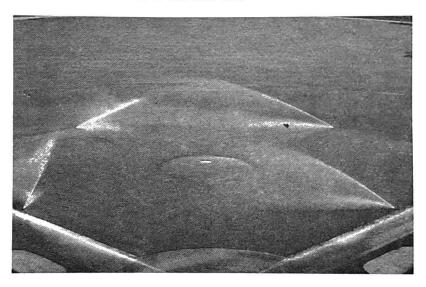


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Class Location: LSU AG Center Parish Office 114 Courthouse Street Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

Class Pre-Registration Deadline is December 1st -Register Now!

# **Class Registration** Principles of Irrigation December 15-16, 2005 Breaux Bridge, LA

### To Register:

### I. Mail or Fax to:

Louisiana Irrigation Association P.O. Box 1003 Many, LA 71449 (318) 256-1222 phone (318) 256-1220 fax

Call anytime Monday - Saturday 8:00am - 5:00pm to Register.

### Please complete a separate form for each registrant:

|                               |                          | 10  | Z             |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---------------|
| Gecko                         | 100                      | A Rolling March                                   | - FAMILIA DO  |
| Ra                            | de arri                  | 114 Courthouse St<br>114 Courthouse St            | 70517         |
| HIMA St                       | E ME A                   | Breaux Bridge, LA ;<br>LSU AG CENTER PA<br>OFFICE | RISH          |
| Helber Ave                    |                          | Balge Holler Ro                                   |               |
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| Credit Card #   |                |        |            | Exp. date        |
|                 |                |        |            |                  |
| Signature       |                |        |            |                  |

### **Class Pricing & Times**

(Please circle appropriate member type.)

### Principles of Irrigation

December 15-16, 8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. after 12/1 \$245 \$195 IA Member \$270 \$220 IA Affiliate Member \$300 \$250 Non-member

\*Checks/Money Orders payable to: Louisiana Irrigation Assoc.

All cancellations and/or replacements must be submitted in writing. Cancellations are subject to a \$40 processing fee or a credit to be used toward any future class. We reserve the right to cancel or postpone at any time, in which case the registrant will receive a full refund.

# Research and Extension Update ... cont'd from page 28

thatch accumulation, limited amount of chemical options for pest control, and the relatively unknown long terms effect of different agrothatch accumulation, manded is mostly propagated vegetatively and has primarily been used on golf courses and athletic fields. Some nomic practices. Seasure purpose seasons of the new releases and their uses are Sea-Green (putting greens), Sea Isle I (tees), SeaDwarf (greens), SeaWay (fairways) and Neptune Salam Seashore paspalum is a 'niche' grass that has potential to provide a biological biological seasons of the new releases and their uses are Sea-Green (putting greens), Sea Isle I (tees), SeaDwarf (greens), SeaWay (fairways) and Neptune Salam of the new releases and specific of the new releases and the new release (fairways). Seasing proper environmental, management and soil conditions in areas south of the I-10 corridor across Louisiana. Additional information on suppliers, benefits, establishment procedured to provide a high quality turf under proper environmental, management and soil conditions in areas south of the I-10 corridor across Louisiana. Additional information on suppliers, benefits, establishment procedured to provide a high quality turf under proper environmental, management and soil conditions in areas south of the I-10 corridor across Louisiana. Additional information on suppliers, benefits, establishment procedured to provide a high quality turf under proper environmental, management and soil conditions in areas south of the I-10 corridor across Louisiana. and soil conditions in a suppliers, benefits, establishmen dures, and management practices of Seashore paspalum can be found at the following websites <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP059">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP059</a> and dures, and management practices of Seashore paspalum can be found at the following websites <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP059">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP059</a> and www.environmentalturf.com.

(compiled by David Lee, LSU AgCenter - Department of Horticulture, dilee@agctr.lsu.edu)

# NEW LSU AGCENTER WEBSITE HAS USEFUL GREEN INDUSTRY INFORMATION

Commercial Nursery Crop Information www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops livestock/crops/nursery crops/

Commercial Floriculture Crop Information http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn\_garden/commercial\_horticulture/floriculture/

Commercial Horticulture Equipment Information http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn\_garden/commercial\_horticulture/equipment/

Commercial Greenhouse Production Information http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn\_garden/commercial\_horticulture/greenhouse\_production/

Commercial Landscape Horticulture Information http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn\_garden/commercial\_horticulture/ornamentals/

### LICENSE REQUIREMENT FOR TREE WORK LIFTED FOLLOWING HURRICANE KATRINA

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry is temporarily lifting the arborist licensing requirement for emergency tree work involving downed or broken trees.

"We are talking about trees on houses, cars, driveways and other emergency type situations," Commissioner Bob Odom said. "It's simply the cutting and removal of downed or damaged trees, nothing more."

The decision to temporarily lift the licensing requirement is carefully thought out following each storm.

"This is always a close call," Odom said. "We don't want to open our citizens up to shoddy work, but we're also realistic and we know there aren't enough licensed arborists in the state to complete all the work that must be done in a timely manner.

"We suspended the requirement for Andrew and Lili and now we're going to allow unlicensed tree cutters to take care of emergency situations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina."

However, Odom advised homeowners to carefully supervise any tree work being done and not to pay for the work until the job is finished to the homeowner's satisfaction. The department will provide regulatory oversight.

"This is not for tree work necessary to repair, maintain or preserve a tree. This exemption is designed to apply only to emergencies." Odom also strongly cautioned that no one but licensed arborists or utility company personnel are to work on downed trees on utility lines.



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