



LOUISIANA
Nursery & Landscape
NEWS

LNLA Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 68 | October / November / December 2019

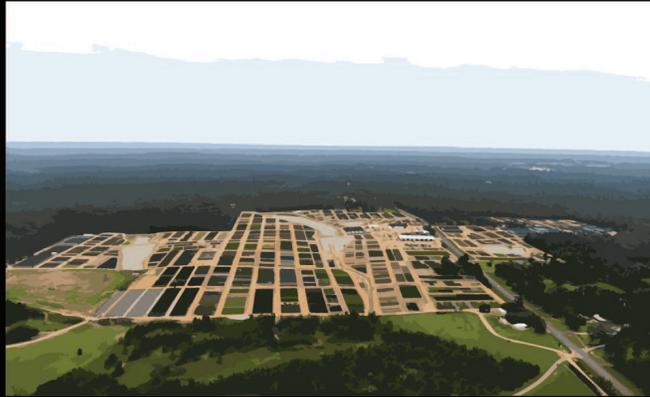
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Download the LDAF App today



With our mobile horticulture application, it's simple to verify individuals claiming to be horticulture professionals.

Did you know? Work such as plant bed preparation, bedding plant installation, landscape design, lawn irrigation system installation, tree trimming and fertilizer application all must be conducted by someone licensed through the LDAF. Be sure an individual is licensed before you hire them.

The app allows users to verify a horticulture license or permit of a business and file a complaint. The mobile app is available for both Apple and Android users. Download it at the iTunes and Google Play stores.

A WORD *FROM OUR* PRESIDENT

I have truly enjoyed my term of being on the LNLA board. I have enjoyed the friendship and relationships I have started in getting to know not only the LNLA board, but also the general membership in our association. These are the people that help in the day to day operations for all of our green industry. I consider you all a part of my extended family. Again, speaking about our membership, we are steadily increasing. I am sure our newest members, and future members are beginning to realize the importance LNLA has. As I have said before, without a united front we can not accomplish our goals. I am looking forward to having a larger association as for in times of need we

will need to have that large voice in order to show everyone just how many people are counting on our industry. It is up to our membership to not only get the word out to non-members, but as leaders be able to help people around us and be kind to one another. As issues arise, I can say myself and the LNLA board promise to be there for you all and promise to help for the betterment of our industry. If anyone ever needs to reach out please feel free to contact me. I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holidays, and may God Bless you all!

Ricky Becnel



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In Memory

WAYNE MARSH WOMACK



Wayne Marsh Womack passed away November 21, 2019 at the age of 87. He was a Resident of Baton Rouge and a native of Fort Smith, AR. Received a Master of Landscape Architecture from Harvard, a Bachelor of Art Landscape Architecture from LSU. He was a Professor for the School of Landscape Architecture at LSU from 1965 to

1999, an Associate Consultant for Jon Emerson and Associates, Baton Rouge, Project Designer; Saski Dawson, Demay Landscape Architects, Watertown, MA., Landscape Architect/ Urban Planning and Design ; City Planning Commission, Baton Rouge. Honorable Active Service, US Army, Specialist Third Class; received Outstanding Professor Award, ASLA, LSU Student Chapter, 1998-1999. Professor Womack's experience as a design critic and his broad interest in the arts added significant breadth to his skill and talents. Students, friends and clients are the beneficiaries of his

firsthand knowledge of gardens and public landscape works which acquired during extensive travels throughout Europe, Egypt, Central America and the United States. He is survived by his spouse, Jon Emerson of Baton Rouge, a cousin, Martha Jane of Dallas and a Border Terrier, "Tess". He was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Reba Womack of Fort Smith, AR. There will be a memorial service at a later date. Donations may be made Louisiana War Veterans Home, Attention: Activities Department, 4739 Hwy 10, Jackson, LA 70748.

MATTIE FORTENBERRY SEAL

Mattie was born on March 3, 1947 and passed away on Wednesday, September 11, 2019. Mattie was a 1965 graduate of Tylertown High School and

later obtained her bachelor's degree in teaching from Southeastern Louisiana University. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Canaan Baptist

Church Youth Fund, 18486 Sanders Rd, Franklinton, LA 70438.

FROM THE COVER

Monk Farms is a family owned and operated wholesale nursery headquartered in Oakdale, LA. Customer service and quality products are our number one priority. In 1987, we were established with cattle and horses, a passion I developed at the early age of



12. At 18 I left the country life behind traveling North America with an environmental services company, for 20 years. I traveled the country, all the while having something brewing inside me. The country life was calling me. Home was calling me.. The farm was calling me.. I purchased additional 52 acres in 1995, then in 2000 I returned home for good. At this time, I began managing a nursery full time. This is also the time that Monk Farms growing operations began. Our growing operations consists of Ground Cover, Ornamental Grasses,

multiple varieties of Carex. As a member of LNLA, and TNLA, Monk Farms strives to provide the strongest, healthiest, best variety of everything we sell, for the last 19 years and many more to come.

Gerritt Monk and Family



UPCOMING EVENTS

January 8, 2020 - Louisiana State Horticulture Society Annual Conference, LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station. Contact Kathryn Fontenot for more information kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu

January 9, 2020 - Louisiana Turf Grass Association Annual Conference, Tiger Stadium. Contact Ron Strahan for more information rstrahan@agcenter.lsu.edu or visit www.laturf.net

January 15-17, 2020 - Gulf States Horticulture Expo, Mobile, AL. Visit gshe.org for more information.

January 16, 2020 - LNLA's Annual Membership Breakfast and Awards Meeting at GSHE. 7AM Room 202A&B, Arthur Outlaw Convention Center, Mobile, AL

January 16, 2020 - LNLA's Annual Hospitality Hour and Foundation Silent Auction. 5PM Room 202 A&B, Arthur Outlaw Convention Center, Mobile, AL

February 18-19, 2020 - LNLA's Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional (CNLP) Manual Review and Exam, Hammond Research Station, visit lnla.org for more info and to register.

March 25, 2020 - Ornamental & Turf Grass Commercial Pesticide Applicator Re-certification, Location TBA, Bossier City, LA. Visit www.lpca.org for more information.

The LSU AgCenter and affiliated groups offer numerous educational opportunities for nursery and landscape professionals. Some educational programs having multi-state impact and attendance are also listed. Be sure to check with the contact person listed for more specific information on each event and confirm date, location, time prior to attending.



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Grow Your Business

Successful owners and key decision makers know they must invest in their business and staff if they want to grow and stay ahead of the competition. Attending GSHE 2020 is an investment that will grow your knowledge, your network, and ultimately your bottom line! Join your Green Industry peers in Mobile, AL next January for one day of learning and two days of trade show.

If you buy, sell, install, maintain, design, or supply products and services relative to the ornamental plant and landscape trade, then GSHE 2020 is for you! Industry Professionals only please.

Education Sessions are currently under development and will be posted at www.gshe.org when online registration opens in October. For now, just save the date and check the website for updates this Fall.

- LEARN:** Education Sessions Wednesday, January 15, 2020
- NETWORK:** Welcome Reception Wednesday, January 15, 2020
- EXPLORE:** Trade Show Thursday & Friday, Jan. 16 –17, 2020

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EXHIBITORS, LIMITED BOOTH SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE.

Notes from the secretary...

Hello Everyone,

I can't believe another year is coming to an end! The fourth quarter is always very busy for the LNLA office. We have had two very informative and productive board meetings and hosted the Louisiana Plant Materials Conference. We are busy at work preparing for another great annual membership meeting at the Gulf States Horticulture Expo in Mobile, AL in the coming weeks. And of course 2020 membership dues renewals!

We had a visit from FBI agent Steven Zeringue at our last board meeting to inform us about toxic plants, there dangers and customers to be leery of and what to do. You can find this information on the next page. Report any suspicious activity!

The LNLA board works hard for all of the members and our industry in the state! I am amazed at the progress we have made over the past year, growing our membership to over 550. The board has made great strides in promoting LNLA to over 3000 potential members across the state. We are continuously searching for member benefit partnerships that are useful to our members. LNLA is first and foremost a network and we do our best to get the most beneficial information for you and your business to you as it comes to us. Be sure to visit the Member Benefits page on our website LNLA.ORG where you can find a complete list.

We have funded some really great events over the past

year for the LSU AgCenter, FFA, SELNA, the Louisiana Native Plant Society and others. IPPS-SR in Baton Rouge this October was a huge success and brought our Louisiana Green Industry into the spotlight!

Our Plant Materials conference did not disappoint with several of our states well knowns speaking about what they love; "PLANTS"! Thank you Ms. Margie Jenkins, Buddy Lee, Robert LaCroix and Candria Powers for serving our industry and sharing your knowledge. I am also forever grateful to Jeb Fields, Jason Stagg and Yan Chen at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Station for all the support they give us!

The LNLA Annual Membership Breakfast Meeting and Awards Banquet is just weeks away. Make plans now to attend!

Please send your 2020 LNLA membership dues in to be included in the printed directory! As always, please contact me if there is anything I can help you with and we welcome your comments and suggestions to make our association and industry better. LNLA has a strong voice and I am proud to be a part!

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Cari Jane Murray
LNLA Executive Secretary

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Plant Toxins: Identifying Suspicious Activity

What is Ricin?

Ricin is a plant toxin that naturally occurs in castor seeds (often referred to as “beans”) produced by the castor plant (*Ricinus communis*).

Castor seeds can be purchased from nurseries and through the internet. The plants are considered as having worldwide distribution, and can be found growing wild in the United States.

Some uses of castor seeds include the repelling of moles/pests and the growth of decorative castor plants.



What is Abrin?

Abrin is a plant toxin that naturally occurs in the seeds of the rosary pea plant (*Abrus precatorius*). The seeds are known as rosary peas, jequirity seeds, crab’s eyes, or precatory seeds.

Rosary peas can be purchased from nurseries and through the internet. The plants are indigenous in warm temperate and tropical areas, and are invasive in many places, including Florida.

Rosary peas are generally used in the crafting of jewelry products.



RICINUS COMMUNIS

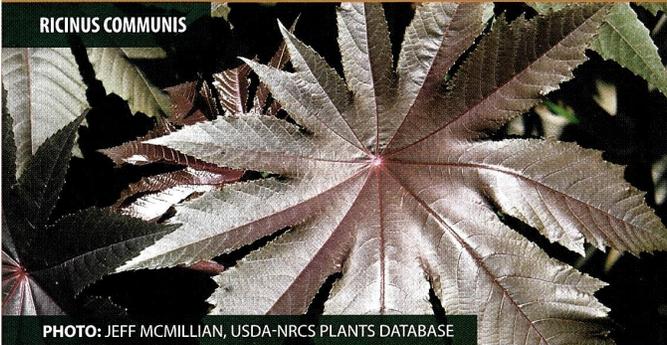


PHOTO: JEFF MCMILLIAN, USDA-NRCS PLANTS DATABASE

ABRUS PRECATORIUS



PHOTO: MARK W. SKINNER, USDA-NRCS PLANTS DATABASE

Both castor seeds and rosary peas can be purchased legally throughout the year, with the growing season ranging from January through June in North America. Those sold in nurseries are typically in individual packets of 8-10 seeds. Larger quantities may be available in stores and through the internet.

Symptoms and Treatment

Symptoms of ricin or abrin poisoning may appear within hours, depending on the route of exposure and dose, and can include difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea with possible death within 36 to 72 hours. Treatment is limited to supportive care. There is no antidote or approved vaccine for either toxin.

Illicit Use

Ricin and abrin can be extracted from their respective plant seeds and used as poisons by injection, inhalation, or ingestion. It takes a deliberate act to extract ricin and abrin from its natural source. Ricin and abrin are highly toxic and require minimal scientific knowledge, skill, materials and money to produce.

Extracting ricin or abrin without a peaceful purpose could potentially be a federal crime, resulting in fines and/or imprisonment for up to 10 years.¹ The use of ricin as a weapon, which occurred in recent incidents, can result in fines and/or imprisonment for life.

¹ U.S. Federal Criminal Code, Title 18 Section 175

Suspicious Indicators

There are legitimate reasons for purchasing castor seeds and rosary peas. However, historically, individuals have also purchased these seeds specifically to obtain the ricin or abrin toxin to harm another individual.

Below are possible indicators that a purchase might be suspicious, particularly if a customer exhibits multiple indicators. ² If something does not seem right, notify your supervisor or the FBI immediately.

- ▶ Purchase of large quantities
- ▶ Purchase of seeds off-season
- ▶ Purchase of other poisonous plants or seeds
- ▶ Purchase of ricin/abrin production materials, including coffee grinder, mortar and pestle, mask, gloves, funnel, coffee filter, solvent (i.e. acetone)
- ▶ Customer address is not consistent with legitimate use
- ▶ Use of fraudulent or suspicious name
- ▶ Request for expedited shipping
- ▶ Inquiry regarding the uses of poisonous seeds/plants
- ▶ Inquiry for "quantity needed to be lethal"
- ▶ Insists on unusual form of payment (i.e. cash, money order)
- ▶ Hesitant to provide personal identification upon request
- ▶ Provides fraudulent information as to the intended use of the seeds
- ▶ Attempts to mask end user (i.e. shipping to a P.O. Box or business)
- ▶ Repeat sale



How You Can Help

- ▶ Know your customers and their purchasing habits
- ▶ Ask follow-up questions regarding use of seeds
- ▶ Maintain records of your sales of these items
- ▶ Restrict the sale if warranted and follow-up with law enforcement
- ▶ Provide relevant information to law enforcement regarding a suspicious incident, including the person's:
 - Name
 - Other identifying information (E-mail, phone, physical description, vehicle license plate)
 - Payment information
 - Shipping information
- ▶ Establish a process to notify the FBI about suspicious orders



NOTE:

If you suspect a biological threat or attempt to acquire information, skill or materials that could be used in an attack, please contact the FBI WMD Coordinator at your local FBI field office or call 1-855-TELL-FBI.

To find your local FBI office, visit:
<http://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field>



² Each indicator by itself may be lawful conduct or behavior and may also constitute the exercise of rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. In addition, there may be a wholly innocent explanation for conduct or behavior that appears suspicious in nature. For this reason, no single indicator should be the sole basis for law enforcement action. The totality of behavioral indicators and other relevant circumstances should be evaluated when considering any law enforcement response or action.

GATOR HUNTING

LNLA members Matthew Bracy and Roger Steele take this great photo op during a gator hunt. Thank you Roger Steele and Louisiana Tree Farm for your generous donation to the Foundation Gala X Live Auction this past Summer at City Park in New Orleans.



RECIPES

Lazy Lasagna



- 1 lb. ground sirloin (or ground beef)
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning (it's a prepackaged spice that has a mixture of oregano, basil, etc. in it)
- olive oil
- 32 oz. jar spaghetti sauce (Trader Joe's)
- 8 oz. bag curly-edged noodles
- 8 oz. ricotta cheese
- 8 oz. cottage cheese
- 8 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons parsley
- 4 oz. shredded parmesan cheese
- pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS:

Brown onion, garlic, meat & Italian seasoning in pan w/ olive oil. After cooked, drain fat off of meat. To same pan add spaghetti sauce, stir, turn to low and set aside. In a large pot, boil pasta, drain, cool and set aside. In a separate bowl, combine ricotta, cottage & mozzarella cheeses w/ eggs and parsley and stir well. In a greased baking dish line bottom with 1/3 the meat sauce mixture then add half of the noodles (placed closely together), then spread half the cheese layer carefully over all the noodles. Repeat layers, ending w/ meat sauce on top. Sprinkle shredded parmesan cheese over entire top of dish. Pepper to taste. Bake uncovered @ 350 degrees for 45-55 min. Let cool slightly and serve w/ salad & bread! Enjoy!

Ted Smith
Beau Chene Country Club
Mandeville, LA



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Visit <https://www.lnla.org/raffle> to purchase tickets. \$20 each or 6/\$100



Drawing will be held January 17, 2020 2PM at GSHE in Mobile, AL

LNLA sends a big
THANK YOU
to our 2019 Raffle Sponsors!





Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation

FOR SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH

Please join us at the **LNLFSR Silent Auction** at the LNLA Hospitality at GSHE (Gulf States Horticultural Expo) in Mobile, Alabama, on **January 16, 2020**. Come bid and buy auction items you will enjoy!

We welcome and ask for donations of auction item(s) from LNLA members to help in this effort. Since the auction is in Mobile, small size items that can be transported easily or gift certificates are especially welcome and appreciated. Please contact any LNLFSR Board member if you have an item you'd like to contribute.

Another way to support your Foundation is by a donation sent with your 2020 LNLA dues. You should receive your dues invoice soon, if not already. Simply indicate on your form the amount you wish to give, and add that amount to your dues amount in your check payment. LNLA will forward to LNLFSR all donations that come with dues. Your name and business will be listed in this newsletter to show our thanks.

We also welcome cash donations at any time. LNLFSR donors receive an acknowledgement letter of their donation, whether it's monetary or an auction item, to keep for tax purposes.

All profits go towards funding college student scholarships and ornamental horticulture research. The Foundation was created as an extension of LNLA to raise funds for these purposes and provide a tax deductible entity for donors. **Please support your Foundation.**

SAVE THESE DATES

January 16, 2020 (Thurs)
LNLFSR Silent Auction at LNLA Hospitality
GSHE – Mobile, AL

June 26, 2020 (Friday)
Gala XI
Pavilion of the Two Sister, City Park
New Orleans, LA

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(Jan. 2019 - Jan. 2021)

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Director	Jim Foret, The Tree Guy
Director	Pete Newton, Newton Landscape Group
Director, Univ. Rep.	Yan Chen, LSU AgCenter

Questions? Contact Cari Jane Murray at 985-237-2939 or carijanelnla@gmail.com

International Plant Propagators Society - Southern Region

Louisiana was pleased to be the host state for a significant horticulture event this fall – the 44th annual conference of the International Plant Propagator’s Society – Southern Region. This event was held October 13-16th at the Crown Plaza Executive Center in Baton Rouge.

The International Plant Propagators’ Society (IPPS) is an international association of plant production professionals. The Society provides a forum for sharing plant production knowledge with the aim to improve the professionalism, knowledge and skills of its members.

IPPS has since its inception in 1951 developed into the leading global plant production knowledge network. It has a worldwide membership of over 1600 members who have the opportunity to meet regularly on a regional and international level by attending educational conferences, tours, field days and

workshops. The Society offers various scholarships, research grants and exchange programs.

Louisiana last hosted IPPS-SR in Lafayette in the fall of 1997.

We welcomed 236 attendees to the meeting. Group tours on Sunday October 13th included Gerald Foret Wholesale Nursery, Live Oak Gardens, Rip Van Winkle Gardens, Jungle Gardens and McIlhenny (the home of Tabasco). On Tuesday October 15th, we visited the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, Windmill Nursery, Jenkins Farm and Nursery, Bracy’s Nursery and LaCroix Nursery.

Educational seminars were held all day on Monday October 14th and the AM of Wednesday October 16th at the hotel. Louisiana speakers were Rick Webb, Yan Chen, Jeb Fields and Marc Pastorek.

Thanks to everyone on the local site committee: Allen Owings, Jeb Fields, Ed Bush, Jason Stagg, Yan Chen, Buddy Lee, Rick Webb, Larry Herring, Michael Roe and Anna Ribbeck. Thanks to Jason Stagg for the great effort with leadership for the plant auction.



Robert LaCroix supervised the touring at LaCroix Nursery in Kentwood



Larry Herring shows attendees propagation at Bracy's Nursery in Amite



Current IPPS-SR President Brie Arthur and annual meeting chair Allen Owings at Rip Van Winkle Gardens



Todd Ellefson welcomes IPPS-SR tour participants to Windmill Nursery



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For more information, visit us at: officediscounts.org/lnla

Thanks to the IPPS Auction Supporters

Each year the IPPS-SR meeting has a plant auction (live and silent) to benefit the group's endowment fund. This year's auction was insane with 436 plants (100 more than the prior record). Total funds raised was \$12,395. Thanks to all the Louisiana plant and live auction donors:

- Adams Nursery
- Albert Durio
- Allen Owings
- Bill Guoin
- Bracy's Nursery
- Cindy Moran
- Clegg's Nursery
- Daughters and Ryan Tobacco
- Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
- Jenkins Farm and Nursery
- Kat Kaw Nursery
- Larry Brown
- Louisiana Growers
- LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station
- New Orleans Society for Louisiana Irises

- Riverside Camellias
- Transcend Nursery
- Westfarms Nursery
- Windmill Nursery

Thanks to Annual Meeting Sponsors from Louisiana

The annual IPPS-SR meeting would not have been possible without the tremendous support of sponsors from Louisiana.

Thanks to all these contributors:

- Allen Owings
- Louisiana Chapter – Azalea Society of America
- Baton Rouge Landscape Association
- Southeast Louisiana Nursery Association
- Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association
- Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research
- LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station
- Bracy's Nursery

- Rip Van Winkle Gardens
- Live Oak Gardens
- Gerald Foret Wholesale Nursery
- Windmill Nursery
- LaCroix Nursery
- Transcend Nursery

Special thanks to Mike Richard Sr. at Live Oak Gardens for the wonderful lunch at the Bayless Conference Center at Rip Van Winkle Gardens during the Tuesday tour. Gardens. Special thanks to Randy Bracy at Bracy's Nursery for the wonderful lunch at Bracy's Nursery during the Tuesday tour. Breakfast on Sunday and Tuesday was supplied by Gerald Foret, Gerald Foret Wholesale Nursery and the LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station, respectfully. In addition, great snacks were provided by Windmill Nursery (can you say Abita beer and pralines) and LaCroix Nursery (bluebell ice cream).



Buddy Lee and Allen Owings enjoyed viewing Encore azaleas at Windmill Nursery



Jeb Fields, Marc Pastorek and Rick Webb were some of the featured speakers



Mike Richard Sr sharing plant knowledge at Live Oak Gardens



Will Afton, Jason Stagg and Ed Bush at the IPPS-SR plant auction

IPPS SR Fellows Award



The Fellow Award is meant to honor and recognize outstanding individuals for their contributions to the nursery industry and to plant propagation in the southern region. The 2019 IPPS Southern Region Fellows were announced in Baton Rouge. Congratulations to Dr. Donna Fare and Dr. Allen Owings. Dr. Donna Fare, after serving her term as a Southern Region

Board Member, served as the 2009-10 IPPS SR President. She also served as our International Delegate and continued to work on special projects for International after her term there. Dr. Fare's career was with the USDA Agricultural Research Service, where she conducted numerous research projects to aid the ornamental horticulture industry. She has won the IPPS SR Sydney B. Meadows award, the SNA Slater Wight Memorial Award, and many others. She is always willing to share both her time and knowledge to better our industry.

Dr. Allen Owings, while working for the LSU AgCenter, served the ornamental horticulture industry with research, outreach, and teaching. But Dr. Owings' generosity of spirit and selflessness lead him to work with numerous horticulture related groups and give hours of support to the industry above and beyond the call of duty. His outgoing personality and willingness to work has made him friends too numerous to ever count.



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The Hammond Research Station Ornamental Trials: *The 2019 Industry Choice Awards*

Jeb S. Fields, Jason Stagg, and Ashley Edwards

Each year we ask members of the nursery and landscape industry to pick their favorite plants growing in the Hammond Research Station Trials. This year we had two separate events where industry members voted, The Horticulture Field Day in August and the SELNA Tradeshaw in September. Keep in mind this was later in the summer and these results can skew towards what performs best in late summer, but it is still very important data for our industry to see what people want. We've counted over 400 individual votes, and a great number of different plants received many votes, but we're only going to talk about the top 10 here. This year, just for fun, we went a step beyond in the name of science and asked both men and women to vote separately. However, it was very close between genders. The men only had two plants (Bottle Rocket Caladium and Fern Arborvitae) in their top 10 that did not make the total top 10 list, and the women only had one, Swamp Sunflower).



Fifth place – Red Castor Bean. Always a crowd pleaser, this large leaved tropical can reach heights of 8' during the growing season. Both stems and leaves are a rich dark burgundy color, but the flowers are insignificant. Thrives in full sun and hot temperatures.



Sixth place - Dragons Breath Celosia. Intense reddish pink plume like flowers that rise above the deep purple foliage. Plants cycle out of flowering during the heat of the summer giving way to the wonderful form and color of the foliage.



Seventh place - Asian Garden Celosia. A large upright celosia that has continuous hot pink blooms throughout the warm season. Bicolored leaves (red and green) look fantastic in the landscape. A serious pollinator plant for your garden.

Eighth Ornamental Pepper Sedona Sun. This ornamental pepper is a fantastic upright pepper with densely packed orange, yellow, and white peppers. The peppers are extremely hot and not necessarily recommended for eating.



Ninth place White Turnera. Turnera subulata is an upright and white flowered species of the small tropical shrub, Turnera. Large white flowers with golden centers bloom mid-spring through fall atop dark green leaves. Plants usually grow up to 24" tall with similar width. An excellent addition to any pollinator garden, so much so that bumble bees cut into flowers even before they



open, which open after sunrise and close before sunset. Should be more common in the horticultural trade.

Tied 10th Lucky Star Pentas Lavender – One of the top performers in the 2019 warm-season bedding plant trials by the numbers. Lucky Star pentas have performed amazingly for years now in our trials and this was the star of the show this season. Constant color throughout the season. This did great in the landscape and in containers. We also named this the Butterflies choice for the year as we did not notice a sunny day without butterflies on this plant.

Tied 10th Black Hawk Hybrid pepper. This ornamental pepper has green foliage that will turn a smoky burgundy color when fruiting. Small inconspicuous purple flowers give way to almost black fruited which ripen red, with an upright habit. The blooms and fruiting lasts from late summer through the fall adding constant color and appeal.

Tied 10th Purple Bolo Bolo. Clappertonia facifolia is a rare tropical shrub that originates in Africa. Growing approx. 4 to 8' tall each year. We have purple, white, and lavender flowering varieties, but the purple just pops. The flowers are short-lived and grow about 2" in diameter with a mass of yellow stamen. Produces a pubescent pale green fruit.



First place - Intenz Classic Celosia. A fantastic landscape plant and a Louisiana Super Plant. Intenz Classic Celosia was the top vote receiving plant by both men and women, and by a wide margin. The amazing colors and contrast coupled with the bunching form and the fact that this celosia is covered with

pollinators makes it easy to see why this was the 2019 industry choice blue ribbon winner!



Second place - Bush Morning Glory. This is a large root hardy tropical shrub that can reach heights of 8-10' if left unpruned in the landscape. A wonderful open growth habit, but pruning earlier in the season can create a more dense form. The tips of the branches are adorned with large flowers resembling a traditional morning glory vine flower. The plant is actually in the Ipomea genus, and flower colors are either white or lavender.



Third place - Hamelia Firebush. Native to the Caribbean and south Florida, Hamelia patens firebush is a wonderful root hardy tropical shrub that dies back to the ground each year. It will grow 6-8' each year before it freezes back. We have varieties with

tubular red and orange flowers that are wonderful hummingbird attractants.



Fourth place - Lime Sizzler Firebush. Another Louisiana Super Plant showing up on this list. A cultivar of the Hamelia patens Firebush, this plant sports amazing golden yellow-lime green foliage with amazing orange/red tubular flowers that are similarly irresistible to hummingbirds. Interesting to note that men preferred Lime Sizzler over the species Firebush, but women felt differently.

Jolt Dianthus is the Fall 2019 Louisiana Super Plant



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- Needs full sun and prefers well-drained soil



LIME SIZZLER™ FIREBUSH

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- Angelonia – 'Seronita Raspberry'
- Begonia – BabyWing series
- Cleome 'Senorita Rosalita'
- Pentas – Butterfly series
- Alternanthera (Joseph Coat) 'Little Ruby'
- Lantana – Bandana series
- Buddleia 'Flutterby Tutti Frutti'
- Hibiscus – Luna series
- Torenia – Kauai series
- Gaillardia – Mesa series
- Coleus 'Henna'
- Pennisetum 'Fireworks'
- Salvia farinacea 'Evolution Violet'
- Salvia farinacea 'Evolution White'
- Verbena 'Homestead Purple'
- SunPatiens (compact varieties)
- Celosia 'Intenz Classic'



COOL-SEASON BEDDING PLANTS

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

SHRUBS

- Camellia 'Shishi Gashira'
- Camellia 'Leslie Ann'
- Azalea 'Conversation Piece'
- Gardenia 'Frostproof'
- Hydrangea 'Penny Mac'
- Rose 'Belinda's Dream'
- Althea (Rose of Sharon) 'Aphrodite'
- Rose – Drift series
- Viburnum 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight'
- Blueberries – Rabbiteye Varieties
- Virginia Willow 'Henry's Garnet'
- Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight'

TREES

- Evergreen Sweetbay Magnolia
- Southern Sugar Maple
- Willow Oak
- Vitex (Chaste Tree) 'Shoal Creek'
- Southern Magnolia 'Little Gem'

Industrial Hemp Update

Jason Stagg, LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station

It's been a while since a completely "new" large-scale crop has entered the nursery industry in Louisiana, but industrial hemp is now here! Hemp is unique because certain varieties may be grown as a traditional row crop while others may need to be grown more like vegetables on top of plastic mulch. Still other varieties may be grown in greenhouses, especially plants that will be used as stock to produce clones.



With the buzz around industrial hemp growing each day, the LSU AgCenter organized its first industrial hemp informational meeting in Alexandria on November 13, 2019. Interest in the meeting was impressive, with over 500 people attending. The meeting also had 13 exhibitors from Louisiana and other states, and their business lines ranged from greenhouse growers to crop processors to value-added product manufacturers. The meeting was designed to provide the public with everything we know about hemp right now: production, processing, market value and regulations. If you weren't able to make the meeting, most of the PowerPoint presentations from that day have been loaded onto the AgCenter's industrial hemp web page: <https://www.lsuagcenter.com/topics/crops/industrial-hemp>. Check the website regularly for updates, since we are adding links to relevant information as often as possible.

Hemp is a largely unfamiliar crop in Louisiana with no past university research. The AgCenter will provide research and extension support and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) will provide the regulatory framework (including crop testing). One of the largest unknown factors is which varieties/cultivars/strains of the hemp plant (*Cannabis sativa*) are going to grow best in Louisiana's harsh climate. The AgCenter is planning some in-ground variety trials for spring 2020 and is already growing some plants in greenhouses. If you have suggestions of industrial hemp varieties and/or seed sources that you feel should be evaluated by the AgCenter, please contact me as I have been asked to be a member of the AgCenter's Hemp Working Group. Once better-performing varieties of hemp can be determined, the next challenge

facing growers will be proper harvesting and drying techniques suitable for our humid climate.

Industrial hemp plants can be grown to provide fiber, seeds for food consumption and other compounds such as cannabidiol (CBD). Across the country it appears that the majority of hemp plants are currently being grown for CBD (and other compound) production. It is very important to note that Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration must test at a level of 0.3% or less near the time of harvest to qualify as a legal industrial hemp crop.

A hemp crop grown for CBD production contains only female plants, and it is the unpollinated flower that contains the harvestable CBD compound. However, because of the need to grow only female plants, a single "rogue" male plant near a production field can release pollen (spread by wind) and cause unwanted fertilization of the female flowers. An event such as this results in a salvage harvest for edible seed only.

Dr. Angela Guidry was recently hired by LDAF as their Industrial Hemp Program Coordinator, and the LDAF industrial hemp website has a wealth of information and will be updated frequently as the rules and state program are finalized: <http://www.ldaf.state.la.us/industrial-hemp/>. LDAF's proposed rules were posted for public comment, and I submitted a number of suggested changes and questions from the perspective of the wholesale nursery and greenhouse industry. I sincerely hope some other Green Industry members provided comments as well! Since that original rule posting, LDAF has had to revise some parts of their rules to align with the proposed rules from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). A second public comment period has now been established but closes on December 20, 2019, which will probably be after the publication date of this newsletter. However, I encourage any interested Green Industry members to review the revised rules and submit comments and suggestions if the deadline has not passed! (Please see LDAF website under "Industrial Hemp Potpourri.") Additionally, the proposed USDA rules are posted for public comment,



and the deadline to submit these comments will be December 30, 2019. Please see their website for more information: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/hemp>.

LDAF still expects state and national rules to be finalized in time to issue grower licenses for the spring 2020 season. At this time, there are no licensing restrictions other than a mandatory background check and application fee (see LDAF website for details). LDAF has started collecting hemp seed and plant source contacts, but they do not endorse any of these vendors. That list can be found at: <http://www.ldaf.state.la.us/faqs/seed-sources-seeds-clones-transplants/>.

Public information meetings are being held in December by LDAF to help explain the regulatory framework for industrial hemp in Louisiana. Demand for information is strong, so registration for some of these meetings is full. Check the LDAF website for updates under the heading "Louisiana Industrial Hemp Regulatory Orientation" to see if additional meetings are added.

It is important to note that you CANNOT legally import seeds/plants/plant parts until you are licensed by LDAF. There are many news stories being published right now concerning the apparent over-supply of hemp at the wholesale level which is causing a steady decline in harvested hemp prices. Time will tell if this is truly market saturation or if there just aren't enough processors in existence yet to handle the supply. This is an emerging market and it will take a few years to find its equilibrium, so early investment can be risky.

And as a final note, please remember there are still many unknown factors in all aspects of this emerging crop, so please exercise caution and always perform due diligence when discussing possible future harvest contracts and "guaranteed" prices from perspective buyers!





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♪ A Tale Of Tannenbaum

I am only eight years old but I have experienced so much. Where I live is a beautiful place where skies are sunny and rarely ever grey. Each morning I awake with the sun and play with my friends. Our ridge in Tiger Branch, Louisiana is a wonderful place to grow up. How faithful I am to live where I do on these windy hills.

My friends are smaller than me but that does not matter, we play, frolic and tell stories. My best friends are Leyland, Virginia, Juniper and Cipres. He is French you know, so we call him, Cooper. But my closest friend is the one named Acer, we call him Ace. He is tall and strong and will always wear a coat of many colors. I and my friends truly admire how he changes his coat from season to season. His crimson coat in the fall always makes us happy. His light grey coat with red spots warms our hearts in winter.

But to me, his many coats makes me sad, since my coat is always the same. It never changes. It is rather dull, not particularly beautiful. In fact, all my friends dress better than me. Oh my! Life can be unfair on these greene acres.

Night time stories cheer us up. Especially when the full beaver moon rises in November on those cold nights before December. When the moon is full we dance,

and sing and listen to the tune of the wind blowing through the pines. Oh what pleasure it is to live in this forest grove down the long country lane overlooking Shady Pond.

But what this? Ouch, ouch, ouch! It is a chopping sound, oh my feet hurt. I am leaving my forest home. Where am I going? Kevin the farmer is taking me away, we are going to the city. I don't want to go, I don't want to go. I want my mama! Cry, cry, cry!

Here I am, all alone in a dark shadowy place. I cannot see the moon, I cannot hear the tunes of the wind, where are my friends? I want my mama! Things are hanging on me. Oh why am I covered with candles, baubles and bells? Who is that strange man dressed in red? Why is he piling things on my sore feet? Who is he?

I am so afraid. All alone, where are my friends? Woe is me.

But what is this. Children! Happy, smiling, children. They are dancing with glee, eyes so bright, so happy to see me. I am symbol of goodwill and love. Oh what fun, cheer and joy they spread. They sing and shout merrily.....

*“O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree
How richly God has decked thee!”*

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM LNLA ♪

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PLANTS, PLANTS, and MORE PLANTS

By: Allen Owings, Horticulture Professor Emeritus (LSU AgCenter), Senior Horticulturist (Bracy's Nursery), Horticulturist (Clegg's Nursery)
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Fall is fading and winter is near. The early low to mid 20s across the state was earlier this year than it should have been. Some plant damage is out there. Keep an eye out for bark split and more. The IPPS-SR annual conference in Baton Rouge in October was fabulous – 436 plants in the silent auction....236 attendees....great tours....see more details and photos elsewhere in this issue. A good time was had by all.

Here are some quarterly plant notes to ponder.

Notes from Margie Jenkins

Our “one and only” Margie Jenkins gave a great presentation at the annual LSU AgCenter / LNLA Plant Conference in November. What a great day. Margie mainly discussed azaleas. She started with the introduction of evergreen azaleas from Asia to South Carolina in the 1840s. Margie highlighted the huge popularity of Southern Indica and Kurume varieties in the 1970s and 1980s.

History seems to be more important to many of us as we get older. Margie recounted the story of Salmon Solomon azalea (aka Salmon Formosa) found at Straughn's Nursery in Loranger. She also mentioned the potential of Duchesse of Cypress – a dwarfing Southern Indica that was found as a sport at Cypress Gardens in Florida. In addition, she is growing Calvary's Love, a seedling from G. G. Gerbing, that blooms reliably in the fall – a Southern Indica for fall – wow. She also mentioned the fall blooming tendency of Jennifer, a seedling from Pride of Mobile.

Margie mentioned the Glendale hybrids – so many were released that only a few varieties ever gained traction in the industry – named Fashion, which we all know. She also still grows Abbott – a pink upright grower in the Glendale group – that blooms in the fall.

Margie knew that more azaleas could be grown and marketed in the South and she took advantage of that opportunity when cold weather damaged many of our popular varieties in the 1980s and varieties like the Robin Hill group, that she had brought into the nursery for trials, survived wonderfully without issues. The popularity of Robin Hill azaleas in the Gulf States is due to Margie's efforts. She sold her first crop of Robin Hills to the Dallas Arboretum. She loves Sir Robert, Robert Dale, White Moon, and Watchet. She also mentioned Conversation Piece.

In conclusion, Margie showed Koromo Shikibu and Sekidera....if you do not know these azaleas, you should. Thanks to Margie for always sharing her plants and her plant knowledge.

Garden Design Trends in 2020

9 noteworthy trends shaping the gardening world in

2020: Vertical Gardening, House Plants, Composting, Do-It-Yourself / Repurposing, Water for Yourself and Birds, Low Maintenance, Double Duty Plants, Foodie Experience and Immerse Yourself in Beauty. See more - <https://www.gardendesign.com/trends/2020.html>

Industry Events in January

Those of you in the turfgrass and lawn maintenance industry should be members of the Louisiana Turfgrass Association. Their annual conference is scheduled for Thursday January 9th at Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge. You can register for this meeting and see information about LTA by going to www.laturf.net.

January is an active time for nursery, landscape and garden center industry trade shows and education. Hope to see everyone at the Gulf States Horticultural Expo in Mobile, AL in mid-January. GSHE is the must attend event for Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama professionals in the ornamental horticulture industry. I will also be attending the Arkansas Green Industry Association's PLANTS event in Hot Springs, AR and the Georgia Wintergreen show in Duluth. A busy month. See you somewhere!

National Garden Bureau “Year of” Programs

Who knows about the PLANT OF THE YEAR programs from the National Garden Bureau. Great program. Each year the National Garden Bureau selects one annual, one perennial, one bulb crop and one edible as our “Year of the” crops. New for 2020 is another category – flowering shrubs. Plants are chosen because they are popular, easy-to-grow, widely adaptable, genetically diverse, and versatile. For the bulb crop, 2020 will be the Year of the Iris. For annuals, 2020 will be the Year of the Lantana. For edibles, 2020 will be the Year of the Corn. For perennials, 2020 will be the Year of the Lavender. For flowering shrubs, 2020 will be the Year of the Hydrangea.

The “Year of the” program chooses crops specifically for the North American market that are easy to grow, genetically diverse, and with a lot of new breeding to showcase. Breeders, brokers, seed companies, growers, and garden centers throughout the U.S. and Canada can highlight these flowers and plants when planning their marketing for the 2020 season.

You can promote the 2020 plants! Download information at www.ngb.org

Keep greaux-ing and horticulture-ing.....do not be “caught with your plants down”.....friend me on Facebook for daily horticulture (along with eating and LSU sports).

THE PLANT DOCTOR



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

Boxwood Diseases in Louisiana Landscapes and Gardens

Boxwood (*Buxus* sp.) is an important landscape shrub in Louisiana, the south and the nation. It is a top consideration for commercial landscape professionals in selecting ornamentals for new developments. Boxwoods are relatively considered sturdy, problem free plants but are susceptible to several plant diseases including boxwood blight, boxwood dieback, *Macrophoma* blight, *Phytophthora* root rot and *Volutella* blight. Although boxwood blight has been found in several neighboring states, it has yet to be detected from Louisiana. *Macrophoma* and *Volutella* blights are foliar fungal diseases and produces tan colored foliage followed by defoliation leading to random dieback. If left unchecked, these two diseases may considerably decline affected boxwoods under favorable environmental condition. Both these diseases can be successfully managed by integrating best cultural practices with fungicides. Boxwood dieback and *Phytophthora* root rot have become major problems in cultivating boxwoods for last several years. These diseases have been reported from home and public gardens, landscapes and nurseries.

Boxwood dieback is a foliar fungal disease caused by *Colletotrichum theobromicola*. Currently, it is known to cause disease in English, Japanese, Korean and Baby Gem boxwoods. Symptoms appear as random dieback of twigs with light tan colored foliage that tends to remain attached to affected branches. Symptomatic plants have a healthy crown and root system. A bright black discoloration of

the stem is visible immediately under the bark. This bright black discoloration extends all along the infected twigs and differs from dull brown discoloration of the crown region caused by *Phytophthora* root rot.

Boxwood dieback has been detected from boxwood liners, and thought to be introduced to new locations via infected liners. Disease spread from plant to plant is accomplished by poor pruning practices, and by the dispersal of conidia via rain or irrigation water. Although environmental conditions suitable for boxwood dieback are not currently known, but Louisiana's hot and humid weather is extremely conducive for its development. Since boxwood dieback is a recently discovered disease, effective diagnostic tools and control measures such as fungicides are currently limited. Therefore, landscapers and nurserymen should follow good cultural practices and create an environment that is most likely to decrease the spread and development of boxwood dieback. Since removing dead and dying twigs from plants infected by the pathogen is not known to control this disease, all symptomatic plants in the landscape should be removed and destroyed. Use sharp pruning or hedging tools and surface disinfect pruning and cutting tools to reduce its spread. Avoiding unnecessary plant injury during transportation, at planting, and during pruning may also help avoid any potential infection by the pathogen.

Nursery owners should closely monitor liners and potted boxwoods for symptoms of boxwood dieback.



Diseased boxwood exhibiting light tan foliage and healthy crown and root system caused by boxwood dieback.



*Bright black discoloration of upper stem caused by *Colletotrichum theobromicola*.*

THE PLANT DOCTOR

(continued from previous page)

Suspected plants must be immediately isolated from healthy plants. Propagate new boxwood lines from disease free mother plants. Growers must follow good agricultural practices including clean propagation area free of plant and soil debris, and use of clean tools to avoid introduction of pathogen during propagation. Remember, symptoms of boxwood dieback may take up to three months to appear after an infection occurs.

Phytophthora root rot effects roots and crown of boxwoods. After infection occurs, roots start to rot and lose their ability to absorb water and nutrient. Reddish brown lesions appear on the infected roots. Rotted roots turn light to dark brown and easily slough off. Aboveground symptoms become obvious after considerable root rot has occurred. In the beginning, random sections in the canopy wilt and turn tan colored. A dull brown discolorations of affected crowns occur at soil line. As the disease progresses, the entire plant turns light tan color and defoliation occurs.

Phytophthora is a soil-borne pathogen and produces motile zoospores (infection propagules) which can swim in irrigation water. Soil compaction and poor drainage highly favors disease development. In landscapes, the disease is favored by poor landscape practices that create conditions conducive for disease development such as deep planting, over-crowding of plants, excessive mulching, over-fertilization, over-irrigation, planting in clay rich soils, soil compaction and poor drainage.

Disease management in landscape starts with avoiding diseased plants because once Phytophthora is introduced, it can persist in soil for a long time. Well drained soils with good organic matter content are recommended for new plantings. Good cultural practices including proper planting depth, spacing, fertilization and irrigation may help reduce infection. Roots injured during planting become highly susceptible to Phytophthora infection. In landscapes where disease is prevalent, prophylactic treatment with fungicides containing active ingredient such as aluminum tris, fosetyl-Al, mefenoxam or phosphite may help avoid infection. These fungicides do not completely eliminate the disease and repeated applications may be required to suppress the disease (Follow fungicide labels for rates and frequency of applications)

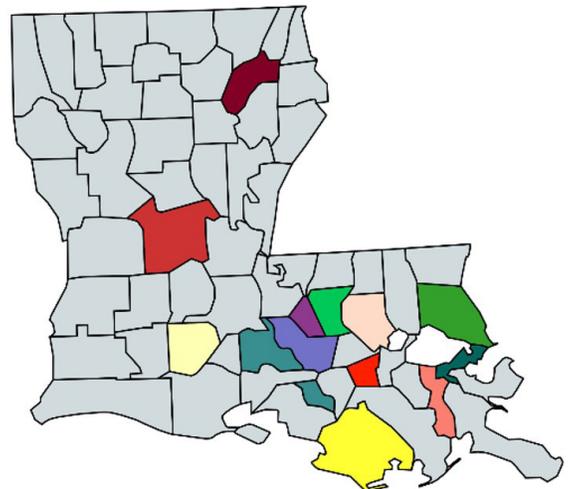
Laboratory testing is required to confirm boxwood dieback because it can easily be misdiagnosed as Phytophthora root rot. Disease management strategies practiced for managing Phytophthora root rot will not provide management of boxwood dieback. If you suspect boxwoods exhibiting similar symptoms described in this article, please contact Dr. Raj Singh at 225-578-4562 or email rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu.



Phytophthora affected boxwoods exhibiting symptoms similar to those caused by boxwood dieback.



Dull brown discoloration of boxwood crown and root roots caused by Phytophthora species.



Current known distribution of boxwood dieback caused by Colletotrichum theobromicola in Louisiana.

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WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER



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

Florida Betony Season in Flower Beds

Florida betony (*Stachys floridana*) is a square-stemmed cool season perennial that is a serious problem in flower beds during the fall through spring. I get several calls and e-mails every year on this weed. Betony populations seem to be on the increase. In fact, we rank this plant in the top 5 most invasive weeds of landscapes in the state. What makes this weed one of the worst problems is its ability to overtake flower beds in a short time and the lack of good control options. There may be more common weed problems in flower beds, but Florida betony is incredibly invasive and can be a nearly impossible to remove once established.

Although the plant does produce seed and rhizomes, the weed mainly reproduces by tubers. The tubers resemble the rattle on a rattlesnake's tail, hence the nickname "rattlesnake weed". Betony is easily spread from flowerbed to flowerbed when landscape plants are shared or purchased from commercial growers that grow their plants in areas where the weed infests. We see this weed most often in the winter. It goes dormant during hot weather and is not noticed as much in the landscape during the summer. I am flooded with calls from landscape maintenance companies and homeowners concerning controlling Florida betony in March and April.

There are no preemergence herbicide options for Florida betony and weed barrier fabrics have not been effective. Glyphosate (Roundup) provides good foliar control of the weed but it is difficult to spray this product in landscape situations without some risk of injury to desirable plants.

Most of us have goofed up and sprayed glyphosate in landscape beds. I tried it once or twice too and I ended up replacing my azaleas. Wiping or painting a glyphosate solution can be an effective alternative to spraying for weeds like woodsorrel and torpedograss. It is faster and a lot more effective than hand weeding.

Florida Betony Control

A few years ago, we conducted research trials to determine the best way to control betony in flower beds. The area that we tested had an extremely high natural population that had been allowed to establish for several years.

In the study, we evaluated a granular herbicide, dichlobenil (Casoron) and herbicide sprays of glufosinate (Finale) and glyphosate. We also evaluated wiping a glyphosate solution onto the betony as an alternative to spraying. There are commercial type hand wipers on the market, but I simply used a chemical resistant rubber glove inside of a cotton glove and gently wiped the betony foliage and stems in the experiment. You could also use a paint brush, sponge mop, or some other makeshift applicator.

Which Herbicide Worked Best on Florida Betony?

Whether sprayed or wiped, glyphosate was the best herbicide on the Florida betony. Glyphosate translocates into underground portions of the plant and significantly reduced tuber production in the trial. But, wiping glyphosate was better than spraying it.

Glyphosate spray treated plots averaged 11 tubers per 4 ft². Betony wiped with glyphosate only averaged 4 tubers per 4 ft². Finale was better than the Casoron but still allowed an averaged 21 tubers produced/plot. Casoron did not significantly reduce tuber production compared to untreated plots.

Effects of non-selective herbicides on Florida betony tuber production.

Herbicide	No. of tubers produced per 4 ft ²
Glyphosate applied as wipe	4
Glyphosate Spray	11
Finale Spray	21
Casoron Granules	45
Untreated	66

Even though the wipe method was very successful, it is not a "once and done" cure for Florida betony. However, feedback from several landscape maintenance professionals has been very encouraging. Over time, they have gotten a handle on severe infestations of Florida betony without completely renovating landscape beds. Be persistent with your applications and expect Florida betony populations to be reduced over time to the delight of your clientele.





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THE BUG DOCTOR

By: Dr. Dennis Rings, Professor of Entomology, LSU AgCenter,
Baton Rouge, (p) 225-978-3881 or (e) dring@agcenter.lsu.edu

Spotted wing drosophila

Scientific name: *Drosophila suzukii*

The spotted wing drosophila, *Drosophila suzukii* (Matsumura), feeds on small fruit including strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, cherries, and other wild fruit. The adult is a fruit fly about 1/10 inch in length and light brown in color. Males have a dark spot on the front of the tip of the wing. Females have an ovipositor that is different from ovipositors of other fruit flies in that it is serrated. Eggs are laid inside fruit and larvae feed and develop in the fruit. Numbers of flies may be monitored using traps. Management includes sanitation, frequent harvesting, selection of cultivars, canopy management, covering plants with fine mesh, and insecticides. Insecticides include acetamiprid and spinosad. Insecticidal soaps and pyrethrins have not been found to be effective management tools because of their short residual.



Serrated ovipositor of female. Kira Metz, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org



Male spotted wing drosophila. Hannah Burrack, North Carolina State University, Bugwood.org



Larvae in fruit. Hannah Burrack, North Carolina State University, Bugwood.org



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The Three-Legged Stool

In a sort of positive flip of the old hands’ contest, “Scissors, Paper, Rock”, instead of how each participant overpowers each other, I see how each component helps the other to do our common job in our environmental construction business: support the client’s needs/wants.

Each “Leg” has its individual work:

Designers must understand the client’s needs and desires, site and budget, use that information to create an image and make a plan to fulfill those intents, and see this image through to realization.

Contractors must assemble the tools, labor, and materials to fulfill the client’s plan, deal with site conditions, weather and budget to complete the work, and, in many cases, insure the project through a warranty period to success.

Material suppliers must anticipate the demands of the construction with advance production, many times months or years ahead, must provide for timely availability of those materials, and must have those materials on-site when needed.

The cross members in the stool are the websites, the communication tools, the financing, the brokers, the freighters and others that facilitate the progress.

The grease for the wheels is this: if we each take time to see the squeaky points each partner faces from his point of view, we can each do our job to help one another and support the client, who, after all, is PAYING for all of this.

If designers would work to assist in and understand the client’s

wants, communicate with the partners their intents in design early on, work to assist the others in planning, and be involved throughout the installation; and

if the contractors would understand and intend to accomplish the plans of the design, communicate as early as possible their needs in supply to material suppliers, and make their best effort to transform the plan to placement; and if material suppliers would listen to design desires and include them in production planning, communicate their production results to the others, and make sure materials arrive on-site with just-in-time delivery in condition, quality and quantity to meet specifications, then all of this filters down to: Communication, Understanding, Cooperation, and, most importantly, Recognition that it’s the Client who sits on top of the stool.



Thanks,
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And as I will always close:
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Saturday January 25, 2020 New Orleans Botanical Garden

Join us for a day-long session focused on rebuilding biodiversity in New Orleans urban landscapes and gardens. Claudia West and Thomas Rainer are the co-authors of the critically acclaimed *Planting in a Post-Wild World* and principals of the firm Phyto Studio in Washington, D.C. Learn how to create beautiful, lush, ecologically functional plantings for green infrastructure, public plantings, and residential gardens based on native plant communities. Credits will be offered for landscape architects, master naturalists, and master gardeners.



THOMAS RAINER LECTURE

The morning session will begin with a lecture from landscape architect Thomas Rainer, addressing the topic of Rebuilding Abundance in Urban Landscapes. The talk will discuss real world strategies for designing multi-layered, colorful, and resilient urban plantings. Learn tips about how to select plants for urban conditions, how to prepare soil, and how to reduce weed pressure. Both practical and inspiring, the talk will focus on an expanded vision of nature in the city.



CLAUDIA WEST DESIGN WORKSHOP

After the talk, join leading plantswoman Claudia West for a design workshop to learn how to translate ecological principles of wild plant communities into planting design tools that will help you create better planting. This interactive workshop will introduce you to the science behind stable and lasting plant combinations. You will learn the skill of creating plant communities in hands-on design exercises. (Note: The workshop fee includes the cost of the keynote address which will serve as the introduction to the workshop.)

Information 504-483-9473

Lecture: <https://www.npi-gno.org/events/> Workshop: <https://bit.ly/2mz7QWg>

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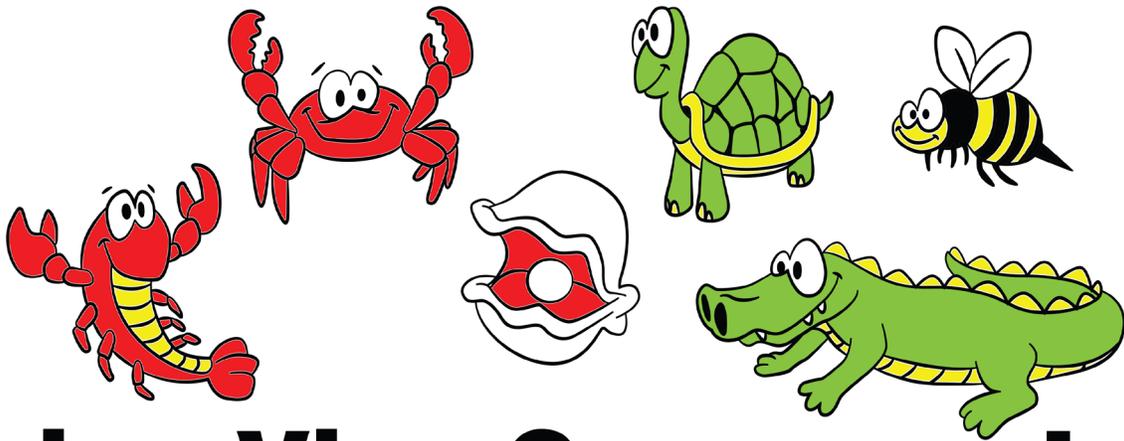
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Kathy Broussard and Jeb S. Fields

Louisiana may be known as the Pelican State, but there is a lot more than pelicans that Louisiana is known for - like the thriving Horticulture Industries found across the State. According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture (COA), the nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod market value of sales was \$131.3 million, and was ranked as the seventh largest agriculture industry in Louisiana. This is a 45% increase from the 2012 COA where the market value of sales were \$89.8 million – quite a growth spurt.

Many of you may have taken time to complete the 2017 COA and we thank you for taking the time to respond. However, it is also important to respond to the 2019 Census of Horticulture Specialties that will be mailed out in December 2019. This specialty census is a follow-up to the 2017 COA and collects additional information that is specific to the nursery, floriculture and specialty crop industries both in Louisiana and across the United States. This data is the only comprehensive source of comparable and consistent data that is used by associations, such as the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association, businesses, researchers, and policymakers who are advocates for the nursery/greenhouse industry.

Why should you take time “again”? Because your response is important and responding does help. Census data are used to: evaluate, change, promote and formulate policies and programs that help horticultural specialty producers; study historic trends, assess current conditions, and plan for the future; design new and improved methods to increase horticultural specialty production and profitability; and analyze and report on the current state of horticulture specialty production. One example of how the data is used follows.

In September 2012, the Government Accounting Office (GAO)

presented a report to Congress concerning disaster assistance. The report, GAO-12-844, titled “USDA and SBA (Small Business Administration) Could Do More to Help Aquaculture and Nursery Producers” included the following statement: The states we selected were California, Florida, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Washington. We selected these states because they have a significant nursery industry or aquaculture industry presence based on the number of nursery and aquaculture farms and annual sales, as reported by the 2007 USDA Census of Agriculture. Having the information available for the analysis used in this report may have helped disaster assistance programs become more inclusive of the smaller, less dominating agriculture production like the horticulture industry.

The industry in Louisiana is growing and it’s important to capture this information to help the growth continue. Without your response, the importance of Louisiana’s Nursery and Greenhouse industries will be understated. Please remember this information elevates the Louisiana Green Industry on a national level, and can benefit each grower and operation through increased exposure, added federal support, and potential representation.

In December, the Census of Horticulture Specialties will be mailed out and the responses are due February 5, 2020. Please be aware that your personal information is protected by law (Title & USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113), is not shared, and no data will be published that identifies an individual operation. If you have any questions or need any assistance in completing the survey, please contact Kathy Broussard, Louisiana State Statistician at 225-922-1362 or reach out to your local LSU AgCenter extension office. For more information about the Census of Horticulture Specialties, visit www.nass.usda.gov/go/hort.

2019 CENSUS OF HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES

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Alternative and Supplemental Crops – Are They New Opportunities for Louisiana Producers?

Yan Chen, Anna Timmerman, and Joe Willis

New species or new cultivars of understated species are always interesting to horticulturists who are constantly looking for that next new crop for local producers to benefit from. Over the past several years, the Hammond Research Station has begun the evaluation of some specialty crops that are a little unusual and unexpected when compared to the traditional landscape ornamental and perennial food crop species that we grow in Louisiana. This initiative is being driven by both growers and home garden consumers. Growers of specialty crops in Louisiana face many challenges within their industries, and new crops can offer a solution. Industry-wide, there is an uptick in interest in edible landscaping from home gardeners, who have become more and more aware of where their food comes from.

Specifically, figs, olives, and tea have been evaluated at the Hammond Research Station. We have learned much from these field trials, especially in regards to how they fare when faced with less than ideal weather conditions. For example, with the eventful winter of 2017 and spring of 2018, we learned that a few olive varieties are cold hardy in the Hammond area. Similar results were evident in the tea variety trial; seedlings of Indian origin survived the cold but did poorly the following summer compared with other varieties, possibly because of the stress from the chilling events. These trials are extremely important for us to provide a must needed seal of approval before making any 'official' recommendations.

When choosing interesting, new crops to trial, we often look to other research institutions and universities along the Gulf Coast and throughout the southeastern region. Even if we have a 'gut' feeling that something may be suitable for growing in Louisiana, there are many aspects and variables to consider before committing resources to a trial. Factors such as crop history, local economics and constraints, the demographics and preferences of consumers, etc., need to be considered. With that in mind, we want to highlight some of these potential crops in this article in an attempt to stir the pot and gauge interest from our members. Please contact any of us with your thoughts, questions, and ideas for other potential specialty crops. We will provide additional information, plan research and conduct variety trials for the crops that generate the most interest. So let us put our thinking caps on and get the conversation started!

Avocado – These dark-skinned, pear-shaped fruits (a berry, botanically speaking) provide healthy fats with a buttery taste that makes you want to eat them at every meal. Avocados have long been a novelty crop for home gardeners to try, with cold hardiness being the number one issue that keeps commercial orchard growers from considering it an economically viable crop in Louisiana. However, new cold hardy varieties have been developed that hold promise for marginal production areas. Avocado is still a suitable candidate for high tunnel variety trials, especially when considering varieties that fruit at a lower height. Price is also a factor, with the big question being whether or not Louisiana can compete with California. We believe so, especially when considering the potentials of avocado as a u-pick experience.

Blueberry – A well-established favorite in the South, blueberries are also popular in the produce aisle and a mainstay in the home garden. Although a wealth of knowledge is available on blueberry production, we have seen a renewed interest in blueberry production and research. Many new varieties of blueberries have come to the market over the past five years. Some have been developed for higher yields on commercial farms, and some have targeted the container edibles market. A good example of a variety for consumer production would be 'Blueberry Glaze' in the Bushel & Berry Program from Fall Creek Farm & Nursery, which is one of the first repeat-blooming and fruiting Perpetua blueberries that is cold hardy in Zones 4-8. Additional information on husbandry and production with these newer varieties in our growing areas is needed to aid in nursery stock production, fruit production, and home gardening success.

Blackberry – Blackberries have not yet really taken off in Louisiana as a farm crop as they have in other states within the southeast. Winter dieback, pest and disease issues, and proper pruning for enhanced fruiting on floricanes can be tricky here. With the release of the revolutionary 'Prime-Jim', 'Prime-Jan', 'Prime-Art 45' and the thornless 'Prime-Ark Freedom' and 'Baby Cakes' from the breeding program of Dr. John Clark at the University of Arkansas, blackberry is getting more attention from commercial fruit growers as well as home gardening consumers. These new varieties all flower and fruit on 1-year-old canes.

Fig – Figs are very popular among home gardeners, but much less so with commercial

fruit producers in Louisiana. Post-harvest handling challenges and a very short shelf life as fresh produce are just two factors to blame for this. Tissue culture techniques have provided better quality fig stock to start with, and for higher yields in many varieties. There is an increased demand for fresh figs, being largely driven by chefs who source figs as a part of local food-driven menus. Connections need to be forged between local or even regional food systems and procurement channels and commercial local fig producers. With the interest in local food sourcing and the existence of upwards of 700 fig varieties available, there are opportunities for a niche market in specialty figs.

Hardy kiwi – *Actinidia arguta*, the hardy kiwi, is a perennial vine native to Japan, Korea, Northern China, and Russian Far East. Unlike most other species of the genus, it produces a small kiwifruit without the hair-like fiber covering the outside. Trials are currently being conducted in Texas with good results for the Gulf Coast region. A Louisiana-based trial would be an interesting addition to the knowledge base surrounding this interesting, exotic fruit.

Jujube – The jujube plant, *Ziziphus jujuba*, grows mostly in Europe, southern and eastern Asia, and Australia. The jujube fruit, aka Chinese date, has a long history of usage as a fruit crop and a traditional health remedy. Jujube was first introduced into the United States in 1908 to be evaluated at the USDA Chico Station, and is currently found in the nursery trade as a novelty backyard fruit tree. Dr. Shengrui Yao from the New Mexico State University has evaluated more than 30 varieties, and ten of them will be trialed at the Hammond Research Station in 2020.

Persimmon – Consumers are familiar with persimmons as an exotic fruit, with Asian varieties being seasonally available at many specialty grocery stores. Japanese varieties such as 'Fuyu' and 'Tane-Nashi' are old standbys and grow successfully in many areas of Louisiana. There is a renewed interest in the American Persimmon, *Diospyros virginiana*, as a backyard fruit tree. This is now being driven largely by the younger generation and an increased awareness of native North American fruit species.

Pawpaw – Another North America native, pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*) trees produce greenish-blackish oblong fruit,

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

usually three to six inches long. The flesh is pale to bright yellow and contains a network of glossy, dark brown seeds. A pawpaw's flavor is often compared to banana and mango, with a distinct bright, sunny flavor. Grafted trees can bear fruits within two years of planting, where seedlings will be a little tricky to bring to bearing age and are extremely variable. Consumer and chef demand is driving a renewed interest in pawpaw as a native, yet exotic tasting fruit that brings a high price within the local foods market. Challenges such as variety selection, heat tolerance, and a short shelf life will likely be limiting factors in any future commercial scale pawpaw production system. Pawpaw beer has developed a following wherever it is brewed and products beyond fresh fruit may make pawpaw a viable crop.

Tea – Over the past two years, a collection of tea varieties from both the United States and global tea-producing regions have been evaluated at the Hammond Research Station. Our research has shown that tea, *Camellia sinensis* can be grown in Louisiana very successfully. As the majority of these varieties within the trial are getting to a more mature, harvestable size, we have started research on techniques related to fertilization, pruning, mulching, and the testing of flavor and brewing qualities. The LSU AgCenter tea research team has conducted two successful workshops for prospective growers on tea production and processing, with more events for producers in development for 2020. The concerns from interested growers are largely related to mechanization of harvesting, post-harvest handling and cup quality, and marketing challenges.

Louisiana has a diverse growing climate with USDA zones from 8a-10a that allows for the production of many interesting crops. Specialty crop producers statewide are interested in marketing opportunities for new crops that can help to drive their bottom line and take advantage of a renewed consumer interest in locally produced foods. A diversity of crops can be key to sustaining a local food system that allows for specialty crop producers to remain viable for many generations to come. The LSU AgCenter and the Hammond Research Station are a key part in evaluating these crops and providing producers, nursery growers, and home gardeners with

research-based information to assist them in making crop decisions. If there is an interesting or new crop that you would like to see evaluated, please reach out to Dr. Yan Chen (yachen@agcenter.lsu.edu), Dr. Joe Willis (jwillis@agcenter.lsu.edu) or Anna Timmerman (atimmerman@agcenter.lsu.edu).

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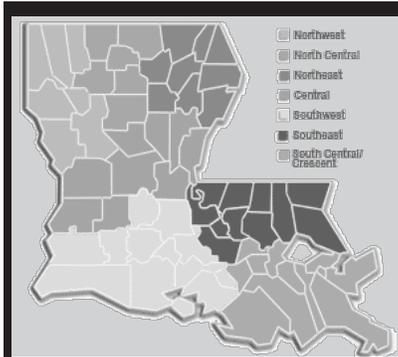
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New Orleans Horticultural Society

The New Orleans Horticultural Society 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 owners and operators, pesticide applicators, landscape contractors and architects, arborists, and those in allied trades. This year has been a successful one and we've had many wonderful speakers and an uptick in membership. Our normal monthly meetings have come to an end for the year, but we have one last meeting /Christmas party to show our appreciation to our dues paying members. Just one of the many perks of being a part of this wonderful green-collar organization.

The NOHS is looking to boost our membership and continue and grow as a professional organization for 2020 and beyond. We are always looking for new topics and guest speakers so if you have a topic you would like to contribute please email at the address below, we'd love to hear from you.

Meetings typically last two hours and refreshments are provided before the guest speaker takes over. Please contact us at NOHS1885@gmail.com if you are interested in more information on becoming a member and to find out about upcoming meetings and events. Thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you soon!

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American Horticulture Update

As we approach the Christmas season, I think back to what a busy and productive fall we've had at AmericanHort. We have been covering a lot of ground this fall to offer many great events for our industry. In September alone, we had our Plug and Cutting Conference in Charlotte, NC. This event was primarily focused on education for growers, as well as tours of some of the largest and most modern growing facilities in the country, such as Metrolina Greenhouses. We also got to see how their use of biological controls have impacted their business, as well as seeing a drone application of predatory mites, which was really cool!

From there, we had our annual legislative fly-in, Impact Washington. This year, we had an incredible line up of speakers, including Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Purdue, Director of the EPA, Andrew Wheeler, and Daniel Garza, President of The LIBRE Initiative. Over 175 Congressional offices received a visit from Impact Washington Summit attendees, hearing directly from the horticulture industry on key issues such as labor reform, transportation, and research funding. With over one hundred attendees from more than two dozen states represented at the conference, attendees not only met in Capitol Hill offices but also heard first-hand perspectives on these and other issues from lawmakers and officials across the political spectrum. We continue to have a lot happening this coming year with new legislation being introduced, such as the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, new overtime rules taking effect, and the hope of H-2B cap relief and trucking hours-of-service changes, to which AmericanHort has submitted public comment.

And finally, we wrapped up September with our Landscape Operations Tour in the Chicagoland area. We had a great crowd and saw many of the top landscape companies in the area and learned what makes their business successful. In the Fall of 2020, we will be taking the Landscape Operations Tour to North Carolina, so be on the lookout for more information about the tour coming soon.

I also was blessed to have participated in IPPS-SR annual meeting in Baton Rouge this past October. I can't say enough about how great the tours and educational sessions were. I got to hear from growers from all over the South - their stories, their problems, and their successes - and truly felt like many in our industry do - that our industry is a family. Seeing all the nurseries around the area was incredible, and I think everyone involved for making it such a great event.

Go ahead and mark your calendars for July 11-14 for Cultivate. Registration and hotel reservations will begin soon, so you will want to be ready when it opens! If you have never been to Cultivate, it is an incredible show. We will have over 150 educational sessions, as well as one of the largest trade shows in the country that features new technologies, new varieties, and great opportunities to build your network of contacts.



Of course we can't do any of this work without our members. AmericanHort is the leading national association for the green industry, and our mission is to unite, promote, and advance our industry through advocacy, collaboration, connectivity, education, market development, and research. AmericanHort is invested in the Southeast, and we want to be your representative and source of information when you need help in your business to grow and perform to its maximum potential. Our focus is solely on the entire horticultural market and the issues that affect our industry, and membership gives you opportunities to expand your network and resources, and helps us build a network of like-minded individuals that give us a larger voice on issues that can negatively affect your business.

We also work closely with many of our state associations, and we feel it's important to support both your state association as well as a national association where you can be represented in both your local and national arenas. If you are interested in joining, you can easily join online at our website, americanhort.org, or feel free to contact me and we can discuss the benefits further.

Brian Brown, Ph.D. is the Manager of Field Operations for the Southeast for AmericanHort. He can be contacted at brianb@americanhort.org.

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Hammond Research Station Update

Jeb S. Fields, PhD

The LSU AgCenter’s Hammond Research Station has been busy in the past few months. Between hosting a few events, preparing for our cool-season garden trials, and recovering from damages from Tropical Storm Olga, we have hardly had time to rest, but that is just how we like it!

The Southeast Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association (SELNA) conducted their annual trade show at the Hammond Research Station, hosting members of the green industry to a day of plants, networking, and education. About 120 attendees toured the Hammond Trial Gardens before visiting with all the nurseries to learn about the latest and greatest plants and subsequent availability. Some LSU AgCenter horticulture agents from the area also were in attendance with Will Afton and Dr. Joe Willis giving educational seminars on Louisiana Super Plants and the use of glyphosate. All in all it was a fantastic day with great people and an amazing Cajun lunch to boot.

The Southern Region International Plant Propagators Society also held their annual conference in Baton Rouge, LA in October and was hosted by a site committee consisting of local nurseries and LSU AgCenter faculty. The conference was “one of the best we have ever had” according to

some of the members in attendance. One of the goals of the conference is to show off local industry and we did not disappoint. The program was packed full of knowledge, as the IPPS members motto is “to seek and share”. Within all of the fantastic programming was a plethora of Louisiana-centric information, which highlighted our local industry and the amazing things that we are doing. Talks from Rick Webb, Mark Pasteux, Dr. Yan Chen, and myself painted a wonderful picture of the Louisiana Green Industry for all to see. On top of that, our very own Dr. Allen Owings was a recipient of the IPPS Southern Region Fellows Award, a prestigious award giving to honor the top contributors to the nursery and ornamental industry in the Southern United States. A big congratulations to Allen!

We had an amazing day of tours with the IPPS conference, visiting with some of the most iconic nurseries and operations in the state. The tours started at the Hammond Research Station where we toured the gardens. Then we visited Windmill Nursery to see large scale production nursery in action, as well as visiting their potting and propagation areas. After that we visited Jenkins Farm and Nursery and we all had the opportunity visit with Mrs. Margie Jenkins for a bit. Then it was off to Bracy’s Nursery, where we were treated to an amazing lunch

and visited with their propagation team to learn more about the nursery’s propagation methods. Finally we wrapped up the day at LaCroix Nursery, where we witnessed many of the specialized machinery needed for a balled-and-burlapped nursery to operate in action.

Finally, we co-hosted the Louisiana Plant Materials Conference with LNLA in early November. This was a fantastic lecture series that focused on woody plant material in Louisiana nurseries and landscapes. Attendees were treated to amazing talks by Buddy Lee, Robert Lacroix, and Candria Ray, as well as some great talks by LSU AgCenter scientists, Dr. Yan Chen, Jason Stagg, and myself. But the highlight of the day was Mrs. Margie Jenkins sharing stories of her journey with plant materials. It was such a great day with fantastic people.

Tropical Storm Olga did some damage to the gardens, in particular the Margie Jenkins Azalea Garden, but from the destruction brings opportunity. We are in the process of restoring the gardens and continuing to build new and exciting things. We at the Hammond Research Station are looking forward to the New Year and hope that you will be able to visit the gardens.

Until next time,
Jeb



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Ad Specifications: Ads should be saved in a jpeg or tiff format, with fonts converted to curves.
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 For Questions and Ad Submissions Contact: Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (E) carijanelnla@gmail.com (P) 985-237-2939.



985.237.2939
 carijanelnla@gmail.com
 www.lnla.org

To: Louisiana Green Industry Professionals

Re: Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Exams (CNLP) – **2020**

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association has scheduled the certified nursery and landscape professional manual review and exams for 2020. The schedule is as follows:

February 18-19	LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, Hammond
Summer TBA	Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, ULL, Lafayette

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 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. The certification is not a license. Call LDAF Horticulture Commission at 225-952-8102 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, The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticultural Industry, 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 carijanelnla@gmail.com, if you have any questions in regard to this year’s certified nursery and landscape professional programs.

Sincerely,

Cari Jane Murray
 LNLA Executive Secretary

Serving Louisiana Since 1954



Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Manual Review and Exam - 2020

☐ February 18-19
 LSU AgCenter
 Hammond Research Station
 21549 Old Covington Hwy
 Hammond, LA 70403

Begins at
 9am daily

☐ Summer 2020 TBA
 Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
 University of LA at Lafayette
 2206 Johnson St.
 Lafayette, LA 70503

Register for the Manual Review and Exam by selecting the appropriate location ☐ above:

Business Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone/Email (P) _____ (E) _____

Registration & Manual Fees:	Participant Name(s) & Section(s):	Fees
\$175 per person for review and full exam.	_____	_____
\$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	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____
\$75 per person for manual review <u>only</u> (no exam) in preparation for the LDAF license test or professional training.	_____ _____	_____ _____
\$60 per copy for <i>“Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry,</i> the suggested manual for this course (not already included in registration fees above).	\$60 x _____ @ Manual =	\$ _____
	Shipping & Handling \$5 x _____ @ Manual =	+ S/H \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to:
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 PO Box 1447
 Mandeville, LA 70470

Total \$ _____
Check # _____
Date _____

For further information contact:
 Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (C) 985-237-2939, (E) carijanelnla@gmail.com

REGISTRATION AND MANUAL PURCHASES MAY ALSO BE DONE ONLINE AT LNLA.ORG

LNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, October 23, 2019 – 10:00 am
Hammond Research Station, Hammond, LA
AGENDA

The Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association Board met on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, at LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station. Total attendance was 28 people.

Board Members Attending: Chris Herrmann, Ricky Becnel, Kurt Ducote, Juan Garcia, Brian Bridges, Mike Hoogland, Lisa Loup, Rayne Gibson, Brandon Adams, Michael Roe, Tony Carter, Gerritt Monk, Craig Roussel, Jeb Fields
Absent: Mike Goree

Quorum is 7 voting members; 11 present; quorum established.

Guests/Staff: Cari Jane Murray, Tina Peltier, Ansel Rankins, Brian Breaux, Jason Stagg, Dr. Yan Chen, Dr. Briley, Dr. Hutchison, Dr. Salassi, Laurie Johnson, Cindy Ray, Candria Ray, and Angelo Quaglino.

President, Ricky Becnel started the meeting at 10:02AM welcoming everyone and standing to say the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. Ricky asked everyone to look over the minutes from the previous board meeting in July and asked for any discussion. Kurt Ducote motioned to accept the minutes, Mike Hoogland second, all were in favor.

Laurie Johnson, owner of KTeam Printing in Hammond, LA, addressed the board with new ideas for membership and printing. LNLA does lots of work with KTeam from our newsletter printing and mail out to other office supplies. Laurie recommended the board put out a calendar to membership and this was well received.

NLFSR Update - Allen Owings, as representative of NLFSR, gave an update that there were around 170 folks at the gala this summer and record income of about \$49K. We did increase the ticket price with no negative feedback. Foundation board has decided to have Gala XI at the same place summer 2020. It will be the last Friday in June, the same weekend as the Farm Bureau Federation meeting. Foundation has over \$100K started out with \$65K ten years ago, things are going well. NLFSR appreciates the LNLA's contributions. We will be giving 6 scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each at GSHE to full time college students in hort or closely related field. We surveyed LNLA membership to see what industry would want grant money put towards. The foundation board will be meeting soon to decide what the budget will be for 2020 and how they would like to see grant dollars spent. The foundation will be sending out an end of the year donation solicitation letter soon.

LDAF Update - Dr. Ansel Rankins informed everyone about lots of things going on in the department. Lethal yellowing of palms has only been detected in 2 parishes. Lethal Bronzing or date palm decline has been in LA for several years but only in 8 parishes. LDAF is conducting surveys around these areas. Seeing Boxwood die back in retail stores; at a couple of Lowes locations originating outside of Louisiana.

Tina Peltier informed us that the computer based Landscape Horticulture licensing exams started in August. 78 exams have been administered since August with 50% pass rate, which is normal. More statistics will come. Landscape Architect is only exam not available on computer, maybe in January. Next Commission meeting is Dec. 5th.

LFBF Update - Brian Breaux filled us in on the proposed rules and regulations about industrial

hemp; nothing was passed because there was not a quorum at the last meeting for this. 2018 farm bill has been adopted. Farm Bill meetings will be held around the state to coach people on what to do.

Labor Committee - Mike Hoogland said that they apply every year for H2B visas but things are so broken and have been forewarned that they will probably not get their visas. There's no answer yet. Frustrating.

Dr. Michael Salassi was a guest to our meeting. He introduced himself and let the board know he will be replacing Dr. Leonard at the LSU AgCenter after his retirement in February 2020. This position works with all agriculture products across the state. There is a hort position that we will be filled in the next few weeks. The industrial hemp meeting will be November 13th in Alexandria. Dr. Salassi looks forward to a continued partnership with the LNLA.

Financial Report - Brian Bridges let the board know that there will be a budget meeting November 13th in Baton Rouge and will bring the new budget to the next meeting. As of September, the LNLA has \$68K cash in bank, \$88K in savings, \$25K in money market for a total of \$183,508 in assets. Newsletter ads have generated \$8K more than last year. Income is up and expenses are down. Mike Hoogland motioned to accept the financial report, Kurt Ducote second and all were in favor.

Funding Committee - Michael Roe reported that LNLA purchased waters for SELNA tradeshow, we contributed to the Doug Young Memorial Golf tournament and also to the LSU AgCenter Hammond Field Day lunch. Nothing else on the horizon for now.

Marketing Committee - Tony Carter reported to the board that the raffle item is now at BWI in Forest Hill and \$980 in tickets have already been sold. Tickets can be purchased online at Inla.org. We are looking for sponsors for the raffle this year. We will be calling some large vendors to help contribute. The winner will be announced on Friday of GSHE 2020 at 2PM.

Advertisement for the GSHE show will be the pens and pads. Tony makes a motion to not spend more than \$1200 on promotional pens and pads; and the pens should last us 2 year. Kurt seconds and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Membership Committee - Kurt Ducote would like to have name tags for board members made. Dues renewals will go out November 1st. Lisa would like to have the LNLA calendar put on the agenda for 2021 ... lots to discuss there. Kurt second.

Nominating Committee - Gerritt Monk let everyone know that we have 3 board members rolling off this coming year. We are going to nominate Michael Roe as 2nd vice. There were no other nominations from the membership. We will finalize the slate in December to be ratified at GSHE.

Awards Committee - Juan Garcia let us know that he had several nominations from membership. The awards committee put the list together and the board voted on the winners. The winners will be announced at the annual LNLA membership breakfast and awards meeting at GSHE in January 2020.

IT Committee / Website - Lisa Loup reported that everything is going well. Cari Jane is

continuously updating the site. We are still working on putting Plantant search engine back on the site. Be aware of spam emails or text from scammers pretending to be Ricky Becnel, seems to be limited to board members only thank goodness. LNLA nor its board would ever ask for money in the form of gift cards or wire transfers.

CNLP Update - Cari Jane Murray and Dr. Jeb Fields let the board know CNLP is offered twice a year. Jeb and Jason facilitate the class. The next class will be offered at Hammond, February 18-19. The board would like for Cari Jane to get the list of people who pass the Landscape Horticulture licensing exam from Tina at LDAF once a month or so and give to president and board for them to call, congratulate them and invite them into LNLA.

LNLA & LSU AgCenter Plant Materials Conference (Nov. 19) - Cari Jane Murray and Dr. Jeb Fields also let the board know about the upcoming event at Hammond Research Station. This is the last fund raiser for LNLA this year. We have a great line up of speakers. Lunch will be provided with a \$50 registration fee. CEUs are available to Landscape Architects and those needing them. Please come and/or send your employees. Industry and Master Gardeners are welcome at the event.

GSHE Report - Cari Jane Murray ran through all the happenings for GSHE 2020 that will be early January. Everyone is in agreement to have the same menu and buffet breakfast as last year at the LNLA annual membership breakfast and awards meeting. Louisiana's Lt. Governor Billy Nunguesser will be our guest speaker at the breakfast!

The board would like to ask Russell Wood about putting LNLA on the GSHE name tags if member of associations. We will only have one entrance and sign to the reception Thursday night. We do want to do the live auction of the 4 front covers at the Thursday night reception.

Newsletter Update - Lisa Loup motioned to hold the current price of the LNLA quarterly newsletter back cover ad and the let the current holder have first right of refusal. Ricky second. All were in favor with one nay. Motion passes.

LSU AgCenter Hammond Station Update - Dr. Jeb Fields let us know about field day; had a little under 200 people in attendance. We appreciate LNLA's sponsorship of the event. The SELNA tradeshow was held at the station as well in September. Field day will be July 17, 2020. Margie Jenkins lecture series will be Friday, April 3, 2020. Starting to plant cool season trials at the station now. We will be developing a website for the station with all of our data and reports about trials on the station. All American selection has chosen Hammond station as a site to take on their new container trials. Jeb introduced Dr. Charlie Hutchison and Dr. Briley.

Dr. Yan Chen reminded everyone about the pest management renewal education at the station February 13.

Jason Stagg is on the industrial hemp committee and informed the group where to find those rules and gave more information about the upcoming meeting on industrial hemp in Alexandria November 13.

Next Meeting - Mr Ricky reminded everyone the next meeting will be December 4th at Mike Anderson's Restaurant in Baton Rouge. Lisa motioned to dismiss, Gerritt second and all were in favor. 2:25 adjourned.



2020 Membership Application

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone1: _____ Phone2: _____ Tollfree: _____

FAX: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

Referred By: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (select one) and Business Types (select all that apply – up to 5)

REGULAR MEMBER (Voting) - \$ Based on gross sales per year (below)

A licensed or permitted business or person (**in Louisiana only**) engaged in one or more of the business types listed in box at right -- **Please select no more than 5.**

Dues	Annual Gross Sales	→
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	\$0 - \$249,999	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	\$250,000 or more	

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (Non-Voting) - \$150.00 – includes out-of-state businesses

In Louisiana - Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS) A business/person selling any non-plant item such as chemicals, containers, equipment, fertilizer, garden décor or furniture, insurance, mulch, soil, stones, etc. Product(s) sold: _____

Out-of-State -- State: _____ -- **Please select no more than 5.** →

AFFILIATE MEMBER (Non-Voting) – \$25.00

An **employee** of any horticulture business with a paid regular membership -- **Please select no more than 5.** →

GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION MEMBER (Non-Voting) – \$25.00

An employee of a government or non-profit entity, having a job responsibility in horticulture or closely related field

- College or University Education/Extension/Research (U)
- Educational/Regulatory Government Agency (GV)
- Public Gardens or Parks (PG)

RETIREE MEMBER (Non-Voting) (R) – \$25.00 - Any person formerly actively employed in horticulture or closely related field and having been a paid member of LNLA before retirement from that employment.

STUDENT MEMBER (Non-Voting) (S) – FREE - Full time student enrolled in a Louisiana university/college in horticulture or a closely related field. University/College name & location (city): _____

The ***Business Type** designation is used in LNLA's membership directory and website. Check each that applies - up to 5.

- Arborist/Urban Forester (A)
- Horticultural Consultant (HC)
- Interior Plant Maintenance (IM)
- Irrigation Contractor (IR)
- Landscape Contractor (LC)
- Landscape Design/Architect (LA)
- Landscape/Lawn Maintenance (LM)
- Plant Broker (BR)
- Retail Nursery / Garden Center (GC)
- Small Greenhouse/Field Grower (SG) -grow/sell direct to consumers
- Sod/Turf Producer (T)
- Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS)
- Wholesale Greenhouse Grower (WG) -bedding/ tropical plants
- Wholesale Field Grower (WF) -balled/container woody plants, perennials

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS: Email only Mail only Both email and mail

OPTIONAL: Members wishing to support the Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation for Scholarship & Research (LNLFSR) fund for scholarships to deserving university/college horticulture/landscape students and grants for horticulture/landscape research/education should indicate amount and add the \$\$ to their dues check. This donation is tax deductible. Donation Amount \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association**

Mail check and **entire** form to: **LNLA, 126 Bertel Drive, Covington, LA 70433**

SEND DUES & APPLICATION BY MARCH 1 TO BE IN ANNUAL MEMBER DIRECTORY TOTAL Amount: \$ _____

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