

GRIMES COUNTY MASTER GARDENER'S NEWSLETTER VOLUME 8, ISSUE IX

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Texas AgriLife Extension

MG Coordinator: Jayla Fry
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Newsletter

Editor: Nicky Maddams

Article submissions, photos and information due by the 20th of each month

Send to: biplanechik@yahoo.ca

Website: txmg.org/grimes

Email: grimesmastergardeners@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

September 10/11 Landscape Design Study Course Part I for those registered <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southernngarden/LDSep12/>

September 11 Field Trip to Chappell Hill Lavender Farm (meet at farm or carpool). Tour is at 10:00am; meet 15 mins prior <http://chappellhilllavender.com/>

October 9 6:30pm Fall Social at the home of Ann DeWitt; Potluck and BYOB. Ann will be providing map and directions. Seed, plant and bulb swap will occur at the Social

November 10 Harvest Bake Sale fundraiser at Navasota Wal-Mart

November 13 9:00am Monthly Meeting Grace Smarsh will present "Bats"

December 7 Christmas Party Potluck and Awards Ceremony at Martha's Bloomers



Texas Superstars!

See which Superstar is featured this month



Get to Know Your Fellow Master Gardeners!

Visit with Sharon Murry and Marguerite Corbello



September Vegetable Planting Guide

Bush & Pole Beans	Now thru 9/15
Beet	9/01 -10/20
Broccoli *	9/10 -11/15
Brussels Sprouts*	9/10 -11/05
Cabbage*	9/15 -12/31
Chinese Cabbage	9/01 -10/15
Carrot	9/15 -12/31
Cauliflower*	9/20 -10/31
Kohlrabi	9/20 -11/30
Lettuce, leaf	9/15 -11/30
Mustard	9/01 -11/15
Spinach	9/05 -10/25
Turnip	9/01 -11/20
Pea, Edible Pod & English	9/15 -09/30
Pepper*	9/01 -09/30
Radish	9/01 -11/30
Tomato*	9/01 -09/15

*Use plants, not seeds; be sure to provide shade and adequate water



SHARON MURRY

Where were you born and how long have you lived in Texas?

I was born in Minnesota and moved to Texas 39 years ago.

Where is the farthest you have traveled from Texas?

Hawaii, 4 or 5 times. I'm planning on going to Germany/Europe next spring to visit my son who is moving to Germany for FedEx.

Where would you go on your dream vacation?

Never really thought about it, but if time and money were not a problem, I'd get on a plane, boat or car and just go where ever.

What is your favorite flower and tree? Do you grow them?

Too many favorite flowers to narrow it down to one. Anything tropical: Hibiscus, Amaryllis, Plumeria, Mom's Gas plant and peonies. My absolute favorite "tree" is the crape myrtle. Coming in 2nd and 3rd are the Desert Willow and Texas Red Bud. I have all these but would love a majestic 100 year old or older live oak with moss hanging on it.

Where is the prettiest garden you have ever been to and what made it so?

Hoomaluhia Botanical Gardens in Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii; I would love to grow some of the Proteas here.



Stunning protea in Hawaii

What restaurant do you go to more than any other?

We eat out a lot, so we trade off on what's available. Favorites are Fish Daddy's and Texas Roadhouse.

What is your favorite season?

Spring in Texas except it's usually too short. Summer in Minnesota, but it's usually too short also.

Why are you a Master Gardener or Intern?

I'm a Master Gardener because I love being outside and I love flowers. Gardening in Texas is completely different than up North. Although I've learned many things since I first came to Texas, when the opportunity came to start up a MG group in Grimes County, it seemed like it would be fun and a great challenge to continue learning. *(Editor's Note: Sharon is one of our three charter members).*

What is the closest you have been to a natural disaster?

When I was in grade school in MN, our family went to the basement of our house when we

saw a tornado coming our way. After all the noise died down and we went upstairs, our barn was gone, but the house was okay. Then Hurricane Alicia in Houston.

When in your life have you needed an alibi?

When I was dating :-))

When was the last "back to nature" experience you have had?

Camping with the kids in a tent without water or electricity. (This was long before the motorhome!)

Where would you like to go that is "off the beaten bath"?

Not sure if it's considered off the beaten bath?? But I've never been to the Grand Canyon.

What vegetable do you hate?

Boiled Okra

What do you love the smell of?

Fragrant flowers, fresh air in the mountains, clothes on the line, fresh cut hay, cinnamon, My Mom.



Sharon's Amaryllis

What is your favorite ice cream?

Blue Bell Homemade Vanilla (sometimes with fresh strawberries)

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

Cleaning the bathroom. Pruning plants, it's like cutting off my finger.

What electronic gadget could you not live without?

It's a toss-up between my computer, camera and phone. Probably my computer as it's an easy way to keep in touch with family across the USA.

Are you a social butterfly or do you prefer solitary endeavors?

I used to be more of a social butterfly than I am now. I like small-medium gatherings with people I love but I like peace & quiet also. (But, I sure do like to dance.)

Name one wonderful childhood memory involving gardening.

My Grandpa showing me his rose garden and how he preserved the bushes over the winter. I can't leave out walking around with my Grandma in all her flower beds and their 50th wedding anniversary party in their garden.

What would you say is your garden style? (Country, cottage, formal, sculptural, etc.)

I really don't have a style. I plant what I like and try to make pretty flower beds and settings. I like to take sick plants and make them flourish and propagate from cuttings. I'd like to have one of everything.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
PLAN AHEAD FOR PLANT SALES**

Two of our neighboring counties are holding their fall plant sales.

Montgomery County Master Gardener Association – October 13th; an informative Pre-Sale Program will be presented from 8:00am to 9:00am, with the sale following from 9:00am – 1:00pm.

Walker County Master Gardener Association – October 20th; 8:00am to 2:00pm.

In March of this year, my sister (Nicky's) visited from Canada and we ventured to the Wildseed Farm near Fredericksburg. After our sojourn there, I commissioned her to write a piece on wildflowers and seed mixes. September is a perfect time to plant wildflower seeds, so this was a great time to include the article she wrote and researched.



WILDFLOWERS!!!

**Wonderful (but Worrisome?) Wildflowers
Guidelines for Choosing Wildflowers**

Submitted by Grace Brouwer

The word "wildflowers" conjures up idyllic images of multiple colors of delightful blossoms dancing in the breeze, seemingly as innocent as childhood in a simpler time. However, wildflower mixes available at the hardware store, by mail order catalog, in souvenir and gifts shops, as well as in the form of greeting cards with embedded seeds may contain species that may quickly run "wild" and take over a garden.

First, a few definitions:

Wildflowers are flowering plants that are not intentionally seeded or planted.

Native species are plants that occur naturally in an area; that is, they are taxa that evolved and were present in the ecosystem in a locale prior to the onset of European settlement.

Non-native species are plants that have been brought into an area by humans.

Invasive species are species that out-compete other plants, and displace other plants by competition, lack of predators and pathogens, or direct chemical antagonism (i.e. secreting substances into the soil that inhibit the growth of other plants).

The following guidelines will help you grow a wildflower garden that is wild *and* wonderful.

1. Avoid wildflower mixes. Most buyers of mixes will blindly assume that the wildflowers are native to the local area, but this is rarely the

case. Mixes usually contain species that are wild in Europe, Asia, South America, or other parts of North America, but not in Texas. The problem is further exacerbated when seeds are packaged for a specific region but contain non-native species. Some of these non-native species may be classified as invasive by the Federal Noxious Weed List, the Texas Department of Agriculture Noxious Plant List, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Prohibited Exotic Species, or the Invasive Plant Atlas of the United States.

2. Know exactly what is contained in the seed package—common names are not enough. For example, there are dozens of species that go by the name "daisy", including species of the following genera: *Aphanostephus*, *Arctotis*, *Bellis*, *Berlandiera*, *Calyptocarpus*, *Dendranthema*, *Engelmannia*, *Erigeron*, *Felicia*, *Gaillardia*, *Gerbera*, *Melampodium*, *Tetraneuris*, *Townsendia*, and *Verbesina*.
3. Even if a seed package contains only one species, be sure it is identified by its Latin name so that you can reliably learn the origin and characteristics of the plant.
4. The seed packaging should include clear instructions regarding growing requirements such as scarification, hot and cold cycles, or moist cool conditions for germination. Growing conditions (for example, dry, open hillsides vs. moist, shady nooks) and the recommended hardiness zone should also be noted.
5. Ideally, seed packaging will indicate where the seed material was collected. Be wary of a seed that was mass-collected without sorting of seeds—there is a real possibility that weed seeds will be present.
6. If you insist on growing wildflowers from a mix, contain the plants until you know what you've got so that you can more easily eradicate any undesirable plants that appear. Be aware that only a few species may germinate (most likely the ones with less appeal!).

- Consider choosing only native wildflowers for your garden. Easy-to-grow species to look for are: *Salvia coccinea* (tropical sage), *Glandularia bipinnatifida* (prairie verbena), *Lantana urticoides* (Texas lantana), *Echinacea purpurea* (purple coneflower), and *Callirhoe involucrata* (winecup).
- If you wish to collect your own native plant seeds, learn more about the ethics of collecting wild seed. The Native Plant Society of Texas has a Collection Policy at http://npsot.org/?page_id=1321.

Case Study of a Wildflower Seed Mix

When I first heard of Wildseed Farms, I assumed they were growing wildflowers native to Texas, especially since Texas is known for its magnificent wildflower displays. Upon perusing their 2012 catalog, I was dismayed to see that many of the species they sell are non-natives.

Wildseed Farms' "Texas/Oklahoma Wildflower Mix" illustrates many of the points made above. This mix contains 9 species that are not native to North America. One of those is the invasive ox-eye daisy. Wildseed Farms does list the components of their mixes (and even the proportions), but they only use common names. Their catalog includes an extensive section on seeding and growing wildflowers.

Thankfully, only one of the non-native species sold by Wildseed Farms is considered invasive in the <http://texasinvasives.org/> database, and that's the ox-eye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare* also known as *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*). Wildseed's own description of ox-eye daisy includes "often forming dense colonies once established" and "a prolific reseeder" which clearly signal this daisy's invasive characteristics.

The texasinvasives.org database states, "Ox-eye daisy displaces native plant species, growing so densely it excludes other vegetation. While not considered poisonous to cows, it does impart a disagreeable taste to their milk. It is difficult to control or eradicate because of its large seedbank, long viability of seed, and ability to resprout if not completely removed."

With a bit of knowledge and attention, you'll be able to choose wildflowers that will be wonderful instead of worrisome.



Photographer: Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte
Source: Bugwood.org

References:

Native Plant Society of Texas Austin. 2010. Easy-to-Grow Native Wildflowers. <https://docs.google.com/present/view?id=0AQRYDQn10d3AZGZmNXpnYzZfMjFoYzg5YmpmMg&hl=en>

Alberta Native Plant Council. 2006. Guidelines for the Purchase and Use of Wildflower Seed Mixes. <http://www.anpc.ab.ca/>

Texas Department of Transportation. Gulf Coast and Marshes Region Seed List. http://www.txdot.gov/public_involvement/wildflowers/blackland_prairie.htm

Texas Department of Transportation. Blackland Prairie Region Seed List. http://www.txdot.gov/public_involvement/wildflowers/gulf_coast.htm

Texasinvasives.org. 2007. *Leucanthemum vulgare*. http://texasinvasives.org/plant_database/detail.php?symbol=LEVU

Wildseed Farms. 2012 Wildflower Reference Guide and Seed Catalog. Fredericksburg, Texas.

medicinal purposes, and make my own herbal hair rinses and other beauty products (although the results of the latter have not proved to be a silver bullet, but I live in hope!!!)

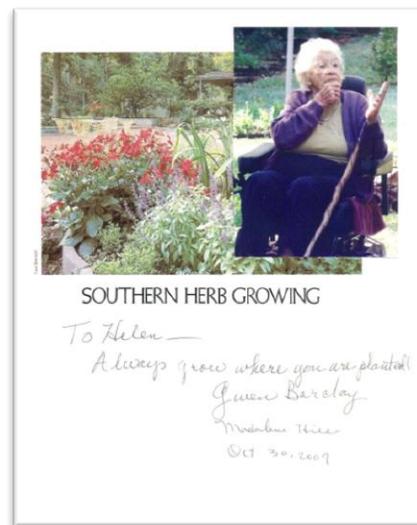
When I came to the US for the third time, my Mother-in-Law of the day kept wanting to take me to Hilltop Herb Farm near to Cleveland, TX to see the place and eat at the renowned restaurant. Then before this could happen, a wicked tornado on December 10, 1983 wiped out the whole place. Madalene and her daughter Gwen Barclay eventually moved out to Round Top, Festival Hill, where they built up (with Henry Flowers) this wonderful property of herbs and restaurant showcasing the culinary aspect.

I went there at the end of October 2007 with a group of Brazos Co. Master Gardeners, and on arrival we were split into two tour groups. I managed to wiggle my way into the one led by Madalene Hill (no disrespect intended to Henry Flowers, who is a great authority and great person). She led the way in a wheel chair, whizzing along the paths and whirling to a stop at points of interest – she was 93 years old at the time, with a mind as sharp as a tack!!! Madalene knew all the plants like they were her own children – their cultural needs, growing habits, where they came from and how to keep them happy! She had many "discoveries" named for her, and has identified several species that were previously unknown. One famous example is the mint "Ne ve y'ar" found in Israel, which is believed to be "the" herb described in the Bible in relation to tithing!!! All of our GCMG trainees have enjoyed the Herb section presented by Ann Wheeler, herself an expert on both herbs and Madalene Hill!

The Day I Met Madalene Hill

Submitted by Helen Quinn

I was raised in a land of simpler living (at least it was back then, during the last few years of WWII) when we ate wild meat (rabbit, pheasant, duck, goose, partridge, etc.) and wild greens (nettles, sorrel, and other unidentifiable green stuff), and my Dad raised "real" vegetables and herbs. Having lived on both the European and the North African sides of the Mediterranean, herbs have always played a huge part in my life. I have always grown herbs, both for culinary and



Some of you know I am going to Israel in October and one place I'll be visiting is the Jerusalem Botanic Gardens. I can't wait to hear what they can tell me about Madalene Hill from Texas!!! Madalene Hill passed away in March 2009, age 95. Her book Southern Herb Growing, is a classic, and if you can find it – buy it!!!

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CLARE (SCOTTY) BENNETT

Where were you born and how long have you lived in Texas?

I was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, and have lived in Texas since 1977--35 1/2 years.

Where is the farthest you have traveled from Texas?

Paris, France

Where would you go on your dream vacation?

Anywhere with Mr. B (my husband) is a dream vacation but we both love visiting just about any part of the United Kingdom.

What is your favorite flower and tree? Do you grow them?

My favorite tree is the dogwood--probably a result of living in north Louisiana and Georgia. I've never grown one, but I'd like to try!

My favorite flower--only one?!!! I love the variety and beauty of a mixed bouquet, but maybe sunflowers--they are such happy flowers! I don't grow those either--not enough sun in my yard!

Where is the prettiest garden you have ever been to and what made it so?

Every garden is beautiful, but I do have two favorites. I love to go to Kew Gardens outside of London. A few years ago we visited Lotusland, in the hills above Santa Barbara, California. Both of these have such a variety of plant life

What is your favorite season?

I love them all, but I think Spring is my favorite.

Why are you a Master Gardener or Intern?

Years ago, we had quite the vegetable garden in the back yard of our first home. When our children got more active outside our home, our gardening endeavors got pushed to the back burner. Now that we are "empty nesters" with no grandchildren on the horizon, I longed to get back to gardening again.

What is the closest you have been to a natural disaster?

Hurricane Ike.

Where would you like to go that is "off the beaten bath"?

My husband jokingly says that the route I take up to Navasota for Master Gardener events is off the beaten path! But of all my choices . . . these days it is not so much off the beaten path any more, but for many years our family vacationed (and hiked) in the mountains of North Carolina.



Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (Brunfelsia pauciflora) growing in Scotty's garden

What electronic gadget could you not live without?

I am far too fond of my iPad, but I am sure I could live without it!

Are you a social butterfly or do you prefer solitary endeavors?

I probably lean more toward the solitary endeavor end, as no one would ever suggest I was a social butterfly--but I find great joy in spending a lot of time with people in smaller groups.

Name one wonderful childhood memory involving gardening.

My mother helped me plant an ornamental pepper plant when I was a little girl.

What would you say is your garden style? (Country, cottage, formal, sculptural, etc.)

My back yard is in the style of a British garden (with a size to match--very small!). The front yard is a work in progress.

Grilled Rosemary Lemonade

The Washington Post, August 24, 2011
Submitted by Marguerite Corbello

Summary:

You can strain this smoky take on a summer classic, but, as it turns out, a little pulp and a few floating bits of char in your lemonade can be a good thing.

For a charcoal grill, Heath Hall of Pork Barrel BBQ recommends using 100 percent hardwood charcoal, in lump or briquette form, to promote smoky flavor.

MAKE AHEAD: The rosemary lemon simple syrup can be refrigerated for up to 1 month.

Makes 3 1/2 to 4 quarts

Ingredients:

For the simple syrup

- 3 cups sugar
- 2 cups water
- 4 stems rosemary
- Finely grated zest of 2 lemons (at least 3 teaspoons)

For the lemonade

- 14 lemons, cut in half
- 12 cups chilled water
- Ice
- 16 rosemary sprigs, for garnish

Directions:

For the simple syrup: Combine the sugar, water, rosemary and lemon zest in a medium saucepan over high heat. Bring just to a boil, stirring to dissolve the sugar, then reduce the heat to medium-low and cook for 30 minutes to create an infused simple syrup. Cool completely; strain and discard the solids.



For the lemonade: Prepare the grill for direct heat. If using a gas grill, preheat to medium-high (450 degrees). If using a charcoal grill, light the charcoal or wood briquettes; when the briquettes are ready, distribute them evenly under the cooking area. For a medium-hot fire, you should be able to hold your hand about 6 inches above the coals for about 4 or 5 seconds. Have ready a spray water bottle for taming any flames. Lightly coat the grill rack with oil and place it on the grill.

Place the lemons cut sides down on the grill. Cook for 5 to 7 minutes, or until they are slightly caramelized and showing a little char. Transfer to a plate, cut sides up. Cut 4 of the lemon halves into wedges (for a total of 16).

When cool enough to handle, squeeze the remaining lemon halves to yield about 2 cups of juice.

Transfer the lemon juice to a very large (at least 14-cup capacity) pitcher, then add the rosemary lemon simple syrup and the cold water, stirring to mix well.

Pour the lemonade into glasses filled with ice. Garnish each with a sprig of rosemary and a grilled lemon wedge.

TEXAS SUPERSTARS®

Sharon Murry bring us this month's Texas Superstar®: Esperanza.

The "Stars" keep shining, all summer long. In this particular case, I'm not referring to the stars in heaven, but the fabulous Texas Superstar® plants. This spring brought an abundance of rain to our area followed by some really hot scorching weather. This is the type of weather that the Texas Superstar® plants can tolerate. The Superstar hibiscus, featured last month, keeps right on blooming and growing, giving the landscape giant colorful saucers of flowers.

Another show stopper in the landscape is the 'Gold Star Esperanza'. The Gold Star Esperanza is also known as '*Tecoma stans*' and 'Yellow Bells'. There are different varieties of Esperanza but the improved Gold Star variety blooms earlier and does not get as tall as some other species of Esperanza. This very heat tolerant native has striking masses of golden yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers. It is very pest resistant and is a great shrub for mass plantings or containers on your patio or at your front door. It grows to 4-5 feet in height but can reach 8 feet in height in frost free areas and 3-4 feet wide.



Esperanza will bloom all summer long and by pruning the seed pods as they form, the showy, trumpet-shaped yellow bells will reproduce faster. It is tropical in appearance with dark green glossy foliage and hummingbirds and butterflies are attracted to the yellow clusters of flowers. The hardiness zone is 8b and higher.



LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY SERIES

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11, 2012
LANDSCAPE DESIGN COURSE I

This course will feature some of the best and most popular instructors from the past as well as an outstanding featured speaker for our "outside" topic.

Dr. Neil Odenwald who was for many years head of the Landscape Architecture Department at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge will present "Principles and Elements of Landscape Design" and "Planning Your Home Grounds". Both these topics will provide inspiration and new ideas for improving our home landscapes.

Dr. Alice LeDuc has been on the horticulture faculty at Duke University for many years and has now returned to her home state and is teaching at Texas State University at San Marcos. She will discuss "Landscape Design Resources" which puts all of the design related professions into perspective and helps participants understand how the best utilize them in their own projects.

Barbara Coody is a local, practicing Landscape Architect and certified historian and will present enlightening information relating development of landscape design in the past and how these influences can be adapted for today's home and garden. She will speak on "Development of Landscape Design".

Master Gardeners who complete a course may apply 12 hours of credit to their requirements for continuing education.

For more information, please refer to the TMGA newsletter or go online at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/LDSep12/>

The World's Largest Flower

Submitted in part by Kathleen Flick

Amorphophallus titanum (Araceae), also called "cadaverous flower" or "corpse flower", has the peculiarity of blooming only during three days every 40 years. Do you suppose God gave us a flower that represents the 40 years in the desert, and it only blooms for 3 days - **the length of time Jesus died and rose.**"



The largest flower ever recorded was born in Río Blanco, Veracruz, México. Two meters high and weighing 75 kilos!

The plant enters a dormant phase of several months after a leaf senesces, before sending up a replacement leaf and growing a new root system. Leaves are hysteranthous: flowers are borne by otherwise dormant plants. The timing of dormancy and growth phases seems to be more or less random with respect to the seasons; wild populations are reported to have plants in various stages of growth at any given time. It is unclear why the plants ever go dormant at all, given their equatorial habitat.

There are 16 species of *Rafflesia*, found in Sumatra, Malaysia and Borneo. The species is named after the naturalist Sir Stamford Raffles, who founded the British colony of Singapore in 1819. Raffles discovered the parasitic plant with his friend Dr. Joseph Arnold during their travels in May 1818. The *Rafflesia arnoldi* is named after the two.

Several species of *Rafflesia* grow in the jungles of Southeast Asia, all of them

threatened or endangered. Not only is it the world's largest flower, it is one of the most bizarre and improbable organisms on the planet.

It produces no leaves, stems or roots but lives as a parasite on the *Tetrastigma* vine, which grows only in primary (undisturbed) rainforest. Only the flower or bud can be seen; the rest of the plant exists only as filaments within its unfortunate host. The blossom is pollinated by flies attracted by its scent.

However fascinating and beautiful the *Rafflesia arnoldi* may be, it is also called "corpse flower" and really reeks, the latter to attract flies for pollination.



Growing Rafflesia

As *Rafflesia* is one of the rarest plants on earth, people started to study them since 1929. They tried to cultivate the plant artificially, as the plant takes 9 to 21 months until a bud flowers - only to last for less than a week. But all the experiments ended in failure.

Largest Inflorescence

Titan arum is also the native of rainforests of Sumatra. *Titan arum* belongs to the family Araceae. *Titan arum* is also called as Corpse flower due to its rotten flesh smell when the flower is in bloom. The *Titan arum* plant can reach to a height of 7 to 12 feet and weigh 170 pounds.

In *Titan arum*, both male and female flowers grow in the same inflorescence at the base of the spadix. The female flowers open first, and then in a day or two the male flowers open. This prevents the flower from self-pollinating. In *Titan Arum* the spathe is green outside and dark burgundy red inside, and is deeply furrowed. The spadix is hollow and pale yellow. The upper, visible portion of the spadix is covered in pollen, while its lower extremity is spangled with bright red-orange carpels. When the *Titan arum* reaches full bloom, the spadix collapses from its own

weight and the spathe withers away, possibly never to bloom again. In the wild, the leaf can reach 20 feet tall and 15 feet across.

The Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition. 2008. *Encyclopedia.com*. 14 Jul. 2009 <http://www.encyclopedia.com>

To read about the one that bloomed in **Houston, Texas** in 2010, click here <http://www.chron.com/news/bizarre/article/Hold-your-nose-Corpse-flower-to-bloom-at-1597222.php>

AGENDA ITEMS

If you would like to see something on the agenda for next month's Master Gardener meeting, please submit to Jennifer Corzine ahead of time so that time can be allowed for discussion.

PHONE NUMBER CHANGES:

The new extension phone numbers are:

MG Desk: 936-825-0140

Sandra: 936-825-0465

Latisha: 936-825-0468



Do you receive the Texas Master Gardener Association Newsletter? It contains lots of valuable information regarding specialist training, the International MG Conference (it's a cruise!), events happening in other counties, etc. Check it out at <http://txmg.org/> and click on newsletter signup.

Health and Safety Fair at the First Baptist Church August 1st

Photos and commentary courtesy Helen Quinn



Project leader Marguerite Corbello, along with helpers Marti Luedtke and Phyllis Pollard, educated the public about toxic plants.



There were loads of other "safety" type tables



Phyllis and Marti



Samples of toxic plants

According to Helen, there was also a fire truck present for the little ones to climb on; but they were not offering rides (you know Helen asked!!)

Questions Received at the Extension Office:

The St. Augustine grass I planted this spring is turning yellow. What can I do?

We advised him on watering and fertilizing.

What can you plant in a hayfield this time of year and through the winter? When do I plant jigs?

We advised her to plant annual rye now through October. Then late winter through March, till up soil and plant jigs. Fertilize with high middle # fertilizer.

The Navasota Garden Club called to see if we could give a 20-30 minute talk on drought-tolerant plants.

We were advised they have all their presentations booked for this year and will be calling us back for next year. They will also see what other topics their members may be interested in.

That's all for this month; enjoy the cooler temperatures of September.

Warm Regards,
Nicky Maddams