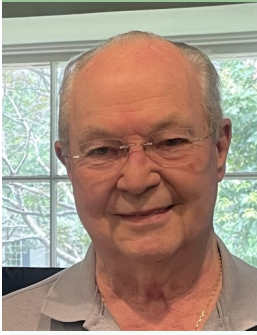


this quarter...

- ~ President's Message
 - ~ The Agent's Corner
 - ~ Spring Plant sale
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 - ~ In the Garden...
 - ~ Le Tour des Jardins
 - ~ Looking forward ...Fall Bulb Sale
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President's Message



"This is the day the Lord has made, let us and be glad in it" and what a great day it has been! Referring to day as a period of time not just one day, Summer 2022 is drawing nigh. The Spring plant sale is in the books and was a phenomenal success, special kudos to John Oswalt and his team for leading this endeavor and Mike Livingston and the Greenhouse committee for producing the huge quantity of plants, along with the hundreds of plants donated by members.

The help from the volunteers was phenomenal and is what makes an effort such as this a success. So, everyone who participated in anyway, give yourself a huge pat on the back.

Le Tour de Jardins is now upon us, and more volunteer opportunities abound. There is much to do to make this major event a huge success, and you are needed June 3-5. The importance of selling your tickets is twofold: one, it raises a lot of the funds we need to operate but, just as importantly, it gets the public out participating in and viewing some of the great, unique and beautiful gardening ideas of our guest gardeners.

Our Fall bulb and plant sale is deep in the preparation stages and we are expecting another great event. As Master Gardeners, you all know fall is the best time to plant trees and shrubs to allow them to start a good root system and get firmly established for the spring growing season. We would like all of you to begin to propagate, dig, or pot trees and shrubs as well as your bulbs and other fall plants to have available for the Bulb & Plant sale. It would be great to have the same success we had with the spring sale.

Our newest endeavor, the Rambling Rose Preservation Project, in conjunction with the American Rose Center, is well underway. Lou Osburn and Larry Williams are organizing a team of trained Master Gardener volunteers to assist in this great project. When completed there will be approximately 330 varieties of Old Rambling Roses relocated to the ARC and will be one of the largest collections of Old Rambling Roses in the world. This project, under the direction of Claude Graves and Frank Hover with ARC, is designed to save a collection of old roses dating back to the early 1800s. Approximately 175 of the roses are on site in specially designed nurseries to grow them out for future transplant on the Rose Center grounds. The balance will be moved to our location by September and October. It is heartwarming to know that the Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners is an essential part of this long-lived project. You too can be a part of saving these Old-World Rambling Roses. Contact Larry Williams to volunteer at 318-458-1950.

Have a great summer! Stay watered and fertilized.

Ed Durham
NWLAMG President



The Agent's Corner



What's Bugging You, or rather, What's Stinging You The Eastern Buck Moth, *Hemileuca maia*



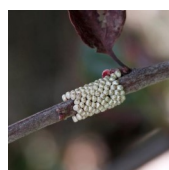
The past several weeks Northwest Louisiana have been lovely despite the “enhanced” weather patterns that seem to accrue every few days. The azaleas have all finished blooming, but Louisiana iris and landscape roses are putting on quite a show. However, with all that beauty there’s bound to be some ugly. And, that ugly found its way into the regional office last week. We are starting to get numerous reports of caterpillars feeding on landscape trees. One of the common springtime pests that we deal with here is the **buck moth caterpillar**, also referred to as a stinging caterpillar.



Stinging caterpillars can refer to any lepidopteran species that produces spine-like appendages containing venom glands. When brushed against human skin, immediate pain usually follows. After the initial sting, localized itching, swelling, and redness are common symptoms. Buck moth caterpillars don’t have a friendly appearance. If observant and attentive one can easily see and avoid them. However, being a caterpillar looking for a place to pupate, they end up in places that you would never have expected and might

cause some irritation.

The Eastern Buck Moth caterpillar, *Hemileuca maia*, is a member of the insect order lepidoptera, which includes all butterflies and moths. Within lepidoptera, *they can* be further grouped into the family Saturniidae, which includes giant silkworms like luna moths and polyphemus moths. Adult Eastern Buck Moths have a wingspan of 2-3 inches with black forewings and hindwings. A narrow white band runs through the



center of the wings providing a distinctive appearance. The adult female’s body is all black, but males have a characteristic red tip on the abdomen. Adults are active October through December where they fly around and mate. Females then deposit eggs on the branches of host trees, which happens to be oak trees, *Quercus spp.*, here in Louisiana. The eggs are laid in masses 360° around the branch and start hatching January through the end of March.



The larval stage, or what most of us call caterpillars, are active during the months of April and May. They are large in size between 2 and 2.5 inches long. The head is somewhat reddish, and you can find small round white spots all over the body. The notorious feature that everyone remembers are the numerous bristly spines the run ion several rows down the back of the caterpillar. These spines are what cause the stinging sensation. They are so effective that some insect species are known to have look-a-like appendages that mimic the looks of Eastern Buck Moths.

Managing these insects is somewhat tricky because by the time we notice them, they are already in search of a place to pupate. Hand removal is going to be the best option to reduce numbers, but gardeners must be vigilant to make a dent in the natural population. Carbaryl (Sevin) is the long-time conventional recommendation to control caterpillars and can be applied to the area directly surrounding oak trees within the landscape. If Eastern Buck Moth caterpillars are an annual pest problem, then one should consider applying products like spinosad or bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) on to young developing oak tree leaves. As caterpillars feed on the new foliage, they will also ingest the pesticide, disrupting their life cycle. No matter what product you decide on using remember to read and follow label instructions. The label is the law.

Mark A. Wilson

Horticulture Regional Agent

Spring Plant Sale

Well, it's come and gone, and who would have thought this year's plant sale, held in a new, more remote location, would be a record-breaker, earning \$18K,000 net profit? We were just hoping our faithful customers would make the trek out to the RRRS. As it turned out, we had overwhelming numbers of shoppers descending upon our sale site, and they were there to buy, some by the wagon loads. I think we impressed them with both the quality and quantity of what we offered, thanks to our propagation crew and all of you who donated cuttings and plants.



Our propagation crew is a dedicated group that meets every Tuesday morning from late October through early April, working 2+ hours until that day's tasks are done. We had more room this year, so you know we had to fill it with more plants. We work, we learn, and we enjoy the fellowship. There are always spots available on the Propagation Committee for those who can and will make that commitment, from late October until early April.

This plant sale is a team effort, of course. The personnel at RRRS were most helpful, but when they offered help setting up Friday morning, I politely told them no thanks, and suggested they watch what was going to happen at 8:00. At 8:00 sharp, it looked like a beehive as Master Gardeners got to work, setting up and covering tables, moving thousands of plants from the greenhouse to the sales site, placing, moving, reorganizing, whatever it took to get things ready for Saturday. You all still amaze me every Friday set-up, and you definitely amazed them.

Thanks to Cindy Rowell for co-chairing with me and John Rowell for taking up the slack when Cindy had to have knee surgery; to our Propagation Committee headed by Mike Livingston; to Gwen Phelps, Mark Wilson, and Sadie Bolyer for your expertise and encouragement; and to you, NWLAMG members, for all you do for this effort. Looking forward to and planning for next year (already), thanks again!



John Oswalt

Plant Sale Committee Chair

One more thing . . .

I hope if or when you're discarding plants such as bulbs, tubers, and corms, you'll remember that two of our fundraisers feature such plants. If you'll call or message Polly Bullard (bulb sale) or John Oswalt (plant sale), we can keep those bulbs, tubers, and corms fresh until we need them for a sale.

And another . . .

And just a reminder, please start a few cuttings now from both herbaceous and woody plants so they have a head start for when the propagation greenhouse opens in the fall. I've got some cuttings going now, and as always, some are working and a few don't look so good, but with some cuttings taken in the fall, we're at a disadvantage when trying to grow sellable seedlings in just five months. We need your support, and we appreciate your generosity.



2022 *Le Tour des Jardins* Garden Tour

The 2022 Le Tour des Jardins was a huge success! The gross proceeds were \$30,000, and netted a profit of over \$23,000 after expenses. The six gardens on the tour had 6,193 visitors between them. Included in the gross revenue was \$9,650 in sponsorships.

The six private gardens on Le Tour 2022 were at the homes of Stan and Boots Swen, Judy Donaldson, Scott and Christina Cabell, Sharye and Steve Atchison, Polly Buller, and Charles Rascoe.. A garden bazaar was held at the Red River Research Station, with vendors and food trucks.

Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners



Just as when planning what to plant in a garden, though one season has not passed, we are still looking to the next. Thus, it is once again time to begin looking for gardens to be featured on Le Tour des Jardins in 2023. As we all know, no two gardens are exactly alike, and we are looking for gardens that exemplify their type as well as provide inspiration for the potential that a garden inherently holds. We are looking for multiple varieties of gardens such as: cottage, patio, rambling, shade, sun, vegetable, or even whimsical style gardens just to name a few. If you have a garden in mind that you feel needs to be seen by the masses then please do not hesitate to fill out a garden nomination form!

The 2023 Le Tour des Jardins garden nomination forms are located on the Master Gardener website and are due no later than June 8, 2022. Do keep in mind that we will need to contact the homeowner about their garden. So, you should be able to provide the homeowner's name, address, and phone number on the form. Also, please inform them if you are nominating them on their behalf. The tradition of Le Tour des Jardins is an opportunity for our Master Gardeners to display the possibilities of what a garden in our area encompasses. As such, I would like to thank you in advance for your continuing participation in this process!

2022 *Le Tour des Jardins* Garden Tour

Saturday, June 4, 10 am until 5 pm
Sunday, June 5, 1 pm until 5 pm

Amanda Greening,

2023 Le Tour des Jardins Garden Selection
Committee Chair

Clean and Maintain Your Tools

How To Take Care of Garden Tools - Courtesy of NWLA Master Gardener Tim Williams

Every person working in the garden knows that one must have the proper tools to establish and maintain a beautiful landscape. A gardener needs a tool for digging holes for planting, a tool for weeding, a tool for preparing the soil, and a tool for pruning. The number of tools necessary for the success of the gardener's task can amount to small fortune. It would make sense that a little time should be spent to protect that investment.

The proper cleaning of a tool after its use will help prevent rust from forming, help keep edges sharp, and help keep down the spread of plant diseases. Proper storage and marking of tools will help keep them from getting lost.

How Often to Clean Garden Tools

Ideally, garden tools should be cleaned after every use to remove soil. It is most important to remove soil and sap before being put in storage. Use a scraper to knock off clumped dirt and wash off the residual. A wire brush may be needed for a thorough cleaning. A grill scraper and brush work great. Once the tools are cleaned blow them off with a leaf blower to remove any water between working surfaces. Spray them down with an anti-bacteria degreaser and wipe dry. I use Mean Green with success. At the end of the growing season before storing, give every tool a thorough cleaning and inspection. Wipe metal surfaces with oil and wood surfaces with boiled linseed oil. Check the cutting surfaces and sharpen if needed. Remember with garden shears, the cutting blade should only be sharpened on one side, the beveled side.

If tools are used to prune or remove sick plants, they should be cleaned immediately before being used around other plants. Some articles recommend dipping the tools in a bucket filled with one part chlorine bleach and nine parts water to disinfect them and drying well before using to work on the next plant. This works well for tools used for digging, weeding, and soil prep. I find that doing this with garden shears tends to rust them. I use Mean Green instead of the chlorine solution.

What You'll Need

Equipment / Tools

- Garden hose
- Putty knife or scraper and Stiff wire brush or steel wool (Grill Cleaner Brush)
- Old discarded cotton cloths
- 5-gal Bucket or Buckets
- 1- to 2 ½- gal Jug or Jugs with caps
- Steel Wool/Scotch-Brite Pad/Sand Paper
- Safety Glasses/Gloves

Optional

- Medium File
- Sharpening Stone
- Hand Grinder
- Spray Nozzle

This article was taken from The Spruce / Jorge Gamboa website titled "How to Clean Garden Tools" By MARY MARLOWE LEVERETTE. I made changes based on my personal experience with machinery and gardening. *Tim*

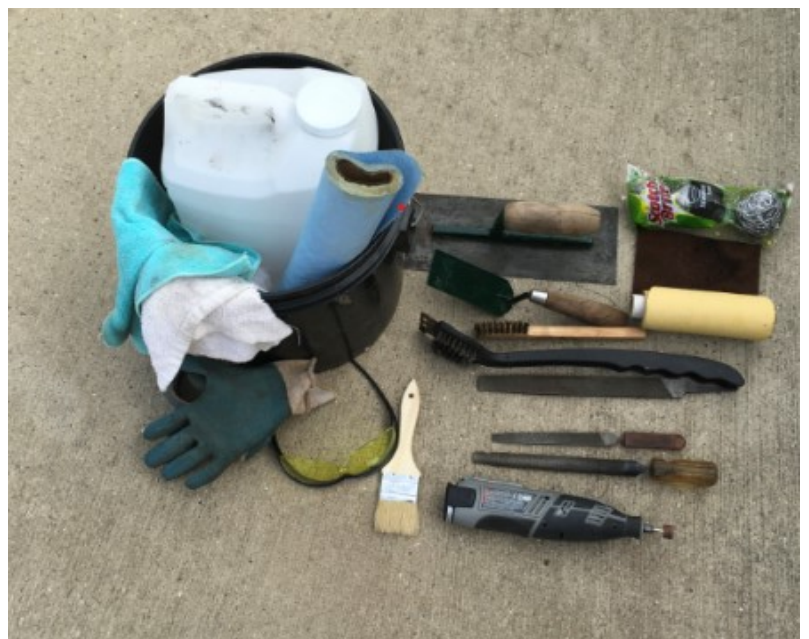


Figure 1: Equipment for maintaining garden tools:

Clean and Maintain Your Tools, continued

Materials

- Chlorine bleach/Pine-Sol
- Distilled White Vinegar/Lemon
- Turpentine, lighter fluid, or Goo Gone
- Anti-bacteria Degreaser Cleaner/Dishwashing Liquid
- Machine/Engine Oil
- Boiled Linseed Oil
- Optional
- Apple Cider Vinegar
- Candle Wax
- WD-40
- Vegetable Oil



Figure 2: Materials for maintaining garden tools.

More Detailed Instructions to Keep Tools in Good Condition

1. Wash Away Soil

Scrape away any stuck-on mud with a putty knife or plastic scraper. Use the blast from the garden hose to remove soil if available. Otherwise, soak in a 5-gal bucket of soapy water to help remove residual soil. Fill the bucket with hot water and add about one-half teaspoon of dishwashing liquid or anti-bacterial degreaser per gallon of water. Add each tool after removing heavy soil and let them soak for 15-20 minutes.

2. Rinse and Dry the Tools

Rinse every tool with fresh water. A second 5-gal bucket can be used for the rinse cycle. Then dry with a clean cotton cloth.

3. Inspect for and Remove Rust

Check each tool for any sign of rust. If rust or pitting is present. Spray with vinegar and use a stiff wire brush or steel wool to scrub away rust spots. Heavy rust will need to be soaked overnight immersed in distilled vinegar then brushed and wiped clean. I just discovered that taking a lemon half and rubbing on affected area works extremely well. See Figure A below of a pair of shears that I found that had been missing for several years. They were sprayed with a coat of WD-40 when put in storage. I thought I would try a little lemon to see what would happen. I only rubbed the one blade for about 15 seconds.



Figure A: Garden Shears lost for several years. Shiny blade rubbed with lemon half for 15 seconds then rinsed, wiped dry, and lightly oiled. I plan to finish this project next week by taking a part and thoroughly cleaning, removing all rust, drying, oiling exposed metal, sharpening cutting edges, candle wax on mating surface, and reassembly.

Clean and Maintain Your Tools, continued

4. Remove Goopy Sap

If the tools feel sticky, it could be plant sap or insect residue. Dip an old cloth in a bit of turpentine, rubbing alcohol, charcoal starter fluid, lighter fluid, or Goo Gone. If one doesn't work try another one until the tool is no longer sticky. Wipe down the tool paying close attention to hinged areas. May have to disassemble the tool if it does not work properly. Be sure to take pictures before and during disassembly. When assembling the tool after cleaning, put some candle wax or car paste wax on mating surfaces.

5. Disinfect Tools

To make sure tools are ready at a moment's notice, before storing any tools disinfect it to kill bacteria and fungi that can cause future problems. Some articles say to mix a solution of two cups of chlorine bleach and one gallon of water in a bucket. A lite coat of oil must be applied after words to retard rust. Submerge the tools and let them soak for 10 minutes. Rinse well and dry completely with an old cloth.

To save steps I spray my tools with an anti-bacteria degreaser and wipe dry with an old cotton cloth. I sometimes use dishwashing soap with Pine-sol when I have the Pine-Sol at a ratio of 9 parts dishwashing soap to 1 part of Pine-Sol.



Figure 3: Tools ready for gardening season, Cleaned and oiled. They are also painted for identification.



Figure 4: This trowel was left in my garden tool bucket after using last season and surface rust formed on it. I placed it in a paint pail and covered the rusted area with vinegar. About 10 hours later, the rust was replaced with a blackened coating which I wanted. I just rinsed, wiped dry and oiled. For a thicker and richer black coating leave in the vinegar longer, then rinse, wipe dry, and polish with fine steel wool before oiling. Caution: Wear surgical gloves when cleaning black residue off tool as the residue stains.

Clean and Maintain Your Tools, continued

Tips for Keeping Garden Tools in Top Condition

To keep tools in top working condition whether brand new or treasured favorites, some maintenance and care beyond cleaning can keep them in top working condition and last for many years.

- **Store Tools Correctly**

Most gardening chores are seasonal but still need to be put up daily after each use. Even if you know you're going to be using the shovel or trowel or shears the next day, don't leave them outside. After cleaning, put them away in their storage area so they will remain dry and, hopefully, rust-free.

"To keep small trowels and hand-tools rust-free and easy to find, fill a large flower pot or bucket with sand and add one cup of vegetable oil. Mix well and then insert the metal ends of the tools into the oiled sand.

If possible, hang larger tools from hooks or a pegboard to prevent warping of the handles and to keep metal components off the floor and dry."

- **Care for Wooden Handles and Metal Parts**

"If your tools have wooden handles, the wood will eventually begin to dry out, split, and loosen from the metal component. Once or twice a year, sand the handles with medium-grit, 150 to 180-grit, sandpaper to remove rough spots and rub them with boiled linseed oil. If the handles are very dry, apply the boiled linseed oil with a brush, wipe off excess let dry for a few hours before applying next coat. Two coats should be plenty to last for one season. The oil adds a protective barrier to help repel water."

"Most wooden handles can be replaced by removing the metal component and installing a new handle."

Metal components can be painted to help prevent rusting and make easily to identify. I chose Hunter Green to paint metal and wooden parts. This helps me to identify my tools quickly when I am working with others.

- **Oil Moving Components**

Any tool with a moving component like snips, shears, or pruners needs oil to keep moving parts working smoothly. This can be done by placing a drop or two of machine oil or motor oil on the hinged parts and shearing surfaces. When the tools are apart car wax or candle wax may be rubbed on shearing surfaces to help them cut easier.

It is also beneficial to take these tools apart once a year and inspect for rust. If rust is present submerge in distilled vinegar and clean with wire brush and dry. See Figure 4 above. This helps remove any hard-to-see rust and mineral deposits. Once the rust is removed or if no rust present, then rub down all of the components (screws and bolts) with machine oil. I use a very good synthetic engine oil. I usually have a little left over from changing the oil in my lawnmower.

- **Sharpen Blades and Edges**

Only sharpen tools if you know how and use safety equipment, glasses and gloves. A tool sharpened wrong will not make a clean cut and will damage plants. With that being said, any gardening tool with an edge—shovels, hoes, snips, pruners—will need to be sharpened to keep them making clean cuts. "Large blades and edges can be sharpened with a 10-inch flat mill file and smaller, finer edges can be sharpened with a whetstone."

Begin by wiping down the blades with a light oil such as WD-40. File the edges pushing the file into the blade at a 20 to 30-degree angle following the original bevel first then a finishing 35 to 45-degree angle. Pushing the file away from the blade will cause a curl on the opposite side of the shear causing it to not make a clean cut. Finish by honing with a whetstone wiping down with a soft cloth to remove any metal shavings. Note: Do not sharpen both sides of shears as you would with a knife, only sharpen one side. Sharpening both sides destroy the shearing action and causes them to not make a clean cut.

In the Garden

June

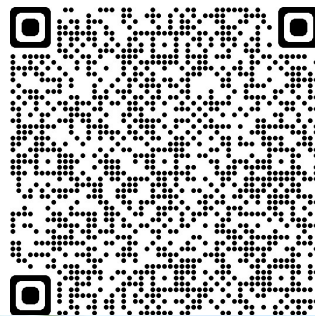
- It's harvest time for vegetables. In times of drought, be sure to water plants to keep them producing well. If you see blossom-end rot on tomatoes, side-dress with calcium nitrate, or another source of calcium, several inches away from the base of the plant. Scout tomato plants for fruit worms. They make pencil-sized holes in the fruit. Use worm killers, such as Bt or bifenthrin products, to control them.
- Calibrate your sprinkler system to apply one-half inch to one inch of water. Do it yourself by setting out several cans in the spray area, turning on the water and checking the time. Check cans at 15-minute intervals; when they reach one inch, check the time. Set timers to this time and water in the early mornings.
- Tips from Heather Kirk-Ballard, Assistant Professor in Consumer Horticulture, LSU AgCenter; more tips on the Get It Growing calendar.



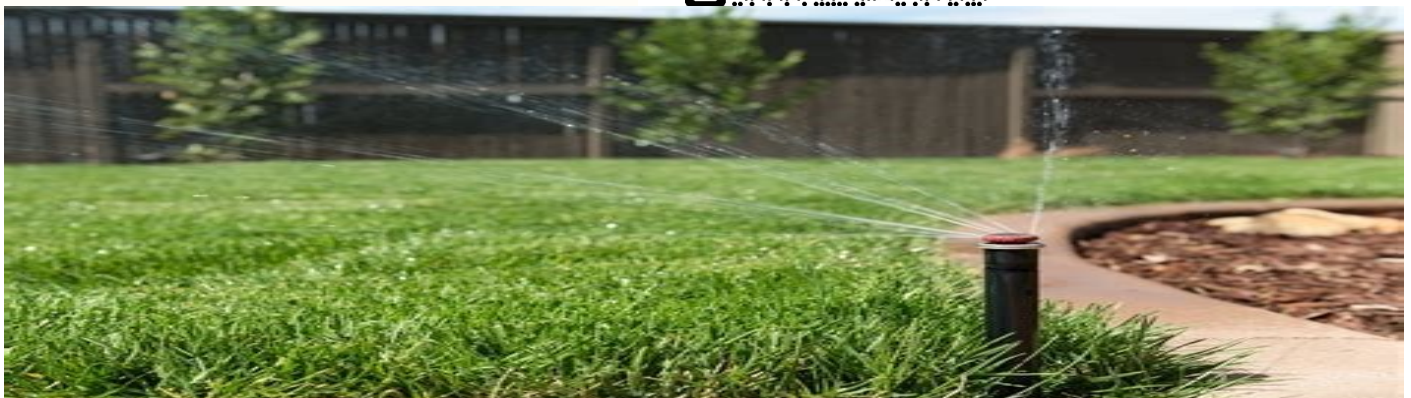
Plant lettuce near tomato plants to create ground cover that will help keep the soil moist and cut down on weeds (and weeding). In return, the shade from tomato plants can help provide some cover for the lettuce and stop it from bolting.

Marigolds: These bright blooms not only attract bees and ladybugs, which are good for a garden, but they also keep away aphids, slugs, tomato worms, and snails that love to munch on tomatoes. These helpful plants *also* help keep soil healthy for tomatoes.

—Grumpy Gardener, southernliving.com



Scan for complete
LSU Ag Center
planting guide.



In the Garden

july

- Continue to plant hot-weather veggies: cantaloupes, collards, cucumbers, luffa, okra, pumpkins, Southern peas, shallots, squashes and watermelons. In addition, you can plant seeds to grow transplants of broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Chinese cabbage, peppers and tomatoes for fall.
- Remove developing seed pods from Louisiana iris, agapanthus and amaryllis when they finish blooming.
- Watch for insect pests. Bagworm will begin to appear on junipers and other similar evergreens. Lace bugs will be invading azaleas. Control them before populations become large and, as always, start with the most environmentally friendly methods first.
- A second application of fertilizer may be made to lawns in July.

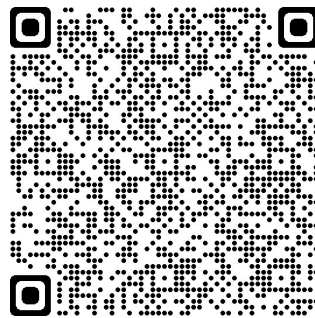


Hydrangea French types (blue or pink flowers).

Best time to prune: For once-blooming types like 'Nikko Blue,' prune in summer after blooms fade. **Finish by mid-July.**

For rebloomers like 'Endless Summer,' prune in winter, spring, or summer. Prune as little as possible, primarily removing dead and spindly growth.

—Grumpy Gardener, southernliving.com



Scan for complete
LSU Ag Center
planting guide.



august

- Vegetables to plant now include broccoli, Brussels sprouts, bunching onions, cabbage, cauliflower, Swiss chard, Chinese cabbage, collards, cucumbers, lima beans, mustard, snap beans, Southern peas, shallots, squash and turnips. Plant transplants of bell peppers, tomatoes and eggplants by mid-August
- For late-summer color, continue to plant heat-tolerant bedding plants available at local nurseries and garden centers.
- Prune everblooming roses back about one-third their height in late August or early September. This pruning prepares the roses for an outstanding blooming season in October, November and early December.
- Begin to order spring-flowering bulbs from catalogs for delivery in October.
- If you need to, dig and divide Louisiana irises, acanthus, Easter lilies and calla lilies this month and in September.



GardenEasy

-Better Blueberries -

Blueberries usually thrive with minimal care, but a little attention in August can make a big difference in how well they produce the following year. Why? Blueberries begin producing the buds that become next year's flowers while summer is still in full swing. Water and fertilize your plants sometime this month, and spend a few minutes pruning out dead and damaged limbs.

The Southern Garden Advisor, by Barbara Pleasant

Looking forward to the fall . . .

Bulb Sale



This past winter, were your daffodils delightful? Did you see irresistible irises? Perfect paperwhites that left you wondering, how did they do that? I am no expert, as my friends can tell you. It wasn't that long ago I learned how day lilies earned their name. But I am eager to learn. In 2016, I bought my first bulbs from the Master Gardener Bulb Sale. As I had no bed to plant them in, I solved the problem by buying a bag of Miracle Grow garden soil, slicing it open, and placing the bulbs inside. Two years and a nest of termites later, the bulbs found a home, bloomed, and lit a spark for my love of bulbs.

I have learned that to have blooms the following year, keep the leaves on. The plant needs the leaves for photo-synthesis which feeds the bulb as well as the new bloom growing inside. Only cut the leaves when they have yellowed. Once the leaves have faded, stop watering the bulb or you may cause it to rot. Label your bulbs while they are in bloom and take close up photos of the blooms. Then take a step back and photograph enough of the area that you know the location of the bulbs. On a smart phone, these photos can be captioned with the identification and location. If you are really organized, start an album just for your bulbs! Especially if you plan to share some bulbs with the Bulb Sale!

When should you dig your bulbs? Bulbs that are not blooming due to overcrowding, need to be thinned. The time to dig and divide them is when the leaves have faded and turned brown. This means the bulb is entering its dormant stage but it isn't dead. If you plan to donate bulbs to the MG Bulb Sale, it would be best if you dig and store them in net bags until October or wait until October to dig them. And be sure to label them!

Email me questions you have about your bulbs. If I don't know the answer, I will find someone who does. Do you fertilize your bulbs? Why do bulbs rot? What do you plant next to your bulbs?

Polly Buller

Director, 2022 Bulb Sale

Opportunities to serve and earn volunteer hours:

Bagging bulbs on-going throughout October

Set up for the Bulb Sale: Friday October 28, 2022

Bulb Sale: 9:00 to Noon Saturday October 29, 2022



garden-to-kitchen

Easy 10-Minute Gazpacho

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds fresh tomatoes (*I used a mixture of roma and cherry tomatoes*)
- 1 English cucumber, peeled and cut into large chunks
- 1 small red bell pepper, cored and cut into large chunks
- quarter of a red onion, peeled
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled
- 1/4 cup lightly-packed fresh basil leaves
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- pinch of Kosher salt and freshly-cracked black pepper (*optional: and crushed red pepper flakes*)
- optional garnishes: extra chopped tomatoes, red onion, basil, olive

Summer Fresh!



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Add all ingredients to a blender or large food processor, and puree until completely smooth. (If all of the ingredients don't initially fit, you can puree the first half of the ingredients, then gradually add more in as there is more room available.)
2. Taste, and season with extra salt and pepper and/or lemon juice if needed.
3. Cover and refrigerate for a few hours to chill. Or serve immediately, topped with your desired garnishes.

Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners Out and About, Volunteering

Pioneer Heritage Center work day



**Training for the Rambling Rose Project at the
American Rose Center**



**Planting super
plants at Re-
search Station**



Events & Things to Do!

You-Pick-it Farms & Farm Stands:

Ed Lester Farms, Open Mon-Sat, 8:00am-5:00pm. Awesome place! Featured in *Southern Living Magazine*.
1165 US-84 Coushatta, LA 71019 (318.932.4298)
Subscribe to their newsletter for all the latest info!
edlesterfarms.com



Shuqualak Blueberry Farm, Open 7-days a week, 7:00am-7:00pm.
Old fashioned family fun! Be sure to get a blueberry popsicle!
232 Shuqualak Farms Rd., Frierson, LA 71027 (318.797.8273)
Check out their Facebook page.



Me and McGee Market located just outside of North Little Rock, AR
10409 Hwy 70 North Little Rock, AR. (501.355.6222)
Tues-Fri (10-5), Sat (9-4), Sun (11-4)
So much more than an ordinary farm stand!
Check out their website and Facebook page.



meandmcgeemarket.com

Be sure to sign up for their newsletter.

P. Allen Smith did a wonderful YouTube video tour of this place...link is on the website.

For an awesome list of markets and you-pick-it farms visit: louisianatravel.com
Search for "pick-your-own farms" or use this rather lengthy link. :)

louisianatravel.com/articles/visit-Louisiana's-pick-your-own-farms



Stay connected via Instagram, Facebook and our
website for event announcements.

Local Classes and Workshops 2021

*approved for MG education hours**

Akins Nursery, 5901 E Kings Hwy Shreveport, LA

Garden Education Series* – Free

Classes held on the last Saturday of the month at 10:00 am

Please reserve your spot: 318.868.2701 or **akinsnursery.com**

Participants receive 10% off purchases the day of class.

(sign up for their newsletter)

June 25 — Succulents

July 30 — Potting Plants

August 27 — Success with Interior Plants

September 24 — Fall Planting

Needing Master Gardener Hours?

Visit our website for up-to-date information on committees and projects that you can participate in.

nwlamg.weebly.com

Volunteers needed for the Master Gardener Hotline

Connecting with the community is one of our most important functions as Master Gardeners, please remember to sign up for phone duty to answer gardening questions from the public.

Mondays 8-12 · Tuesdays 9-12 · Wednesdays 1-4 · Thursdays & Fridays 10-1

Drop by the carriage house to sign up or email Mark Wilson

MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu or Melissa Elrod **melissa532@aol.com**

Community Supporters



Crew Masters, LLC



Thank You!

Editorial Notes-



Well, summer's almost here, and . . . I forget the rest, but I'm finally getting this issue of the Seedling finished.

I am a brand new NWLA Master Gardener, and so proud to be part of this organization. I have met so many wonderful people, and I am learning so much—about gardening as well as to be careful about what I volunteer for.

I have wanted to take the MG class for nearly twenty years, and just now had the opportunity after retiring last year. My mother was an inspiration to me; she loved to garden, and on visits home, a walk around her yard to see how everything was doing and anything new was a given. She loved to plant and watch things grow, and I believe those instincts have begun to take root (pun intended) in me. I think she would be proud and happy that I am a Master Gardener. I certainly am!

The Fall issue will come out around the first of September. Please let me know if you have any ideas or suggestions for the Seedling.

As always, many thanks to all of our writers!

Happy Gardening!

Sarah

Sarah Nadeau, NWLA MG &
Seedling Editor
sarahgnadeau@gmail.com.

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