



## this quarter...

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- ~ Let's Talk Tomatoes, plus Tips
  - ~ Spring Fertilizing
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  - ~ Leaf Mold Compost...try it!
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# Let's Talk Tomatoes!



Happy spring! It's time for another Seedling to go out. This is the beginning of the fourth month of the new year and I'm hopeful that we'll soon put Covid-19 behind us. Looking forward to brighter days ahead, it's encouraging to see some things returning to normal.

We're starting out this year in pretty good shape. The new MG class is over and it was a good one. Congratulations to all! The Spring Plant Sale and Fall Bulb Sale will take place and we've, tentatively, set May 12th as the MG Graduation/General Meeting date. As you know we've, sadly, decided to cancel Le Tour for 2021. With so much cold damage from snow and sleet earlier this year, we felt cancelling the event was the best thing to do. But we're looking forward to planning Le Tour 2022. Fingers crossed. Speaking of February's freezing weather, we were pretty lucky compared to many others, but no water pressure to shower for days will break even this gal! Tip: A brand new plant sprayer makes an excellent makeshift shower...that's all I'm saying!

It's finally starting to warm up nicely and we can begin work in our yards again. I know mine is in pretty bad shape...lots of cleanup. With my two "new" knees this year, I can do much more than last year, so I'm hoping to get my yard looking better soon.

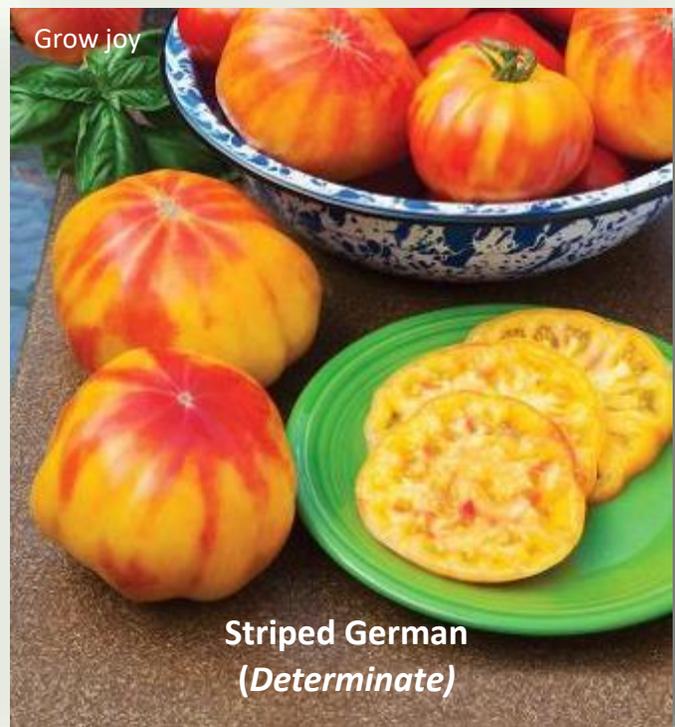
This spring I wasn't planning to plant any seeds, but changed my mind...just had to do it! Since we're all thinking about planting, I thought I'd tell y'all a little about how I grow tomatoes. I really like to grow them and would like to share some tips.

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“Decide what  
*kind* of tomato  
you want to  
grow”

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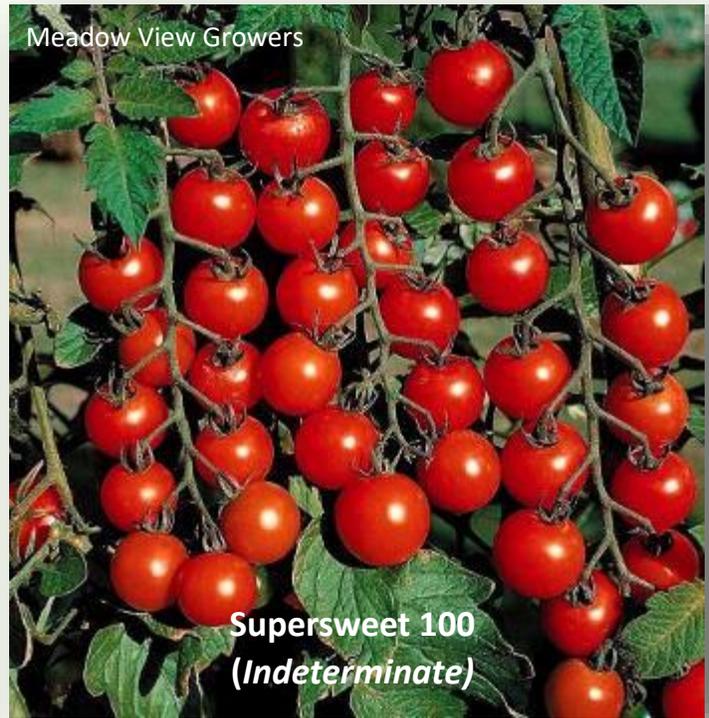
First, decide what kind of tomato you want to grow; for example cherry tomatoes, slicers or tomatoes for making sauce or paste. Consider the size of the mature plants. *Determinate* tomatoes (which only make one crop at the same time and will not produce more) grow to about 3 ft. tall and are the best choice for containers.



**Striped German**  
*(Determinate)*

# Let's Talk Tomatoes! *continued*

*Indeterminate* tomatoes (which produce fruit throughout the whole season, till frost) grow up to 6 ft. tall and are best for in-ground beds. These will need support: stakes, cages, or fencing. You can start your seed in just about any container that holds soil and has drainage holes...I have used a lot of different things: from Styrofoam® cups to food containers! Plant your seed about ¼" deep and keep in a warm place. Be sure to keep them damp, but not overwatered. When they start sprouting make sure you keep them watered but, again, not soaked. Place them in the sun. I check my little plants 2 or 3 times a day. When they get about 1" tall, I start watering with Miracle-Gro® and continue to use it *each* time I water. For the mixture, I use a 5-gallon bucket filled with water and add 2 big



spoons of Miracle-Gro®. When they get their true leaves, (which is the second set of leaves that grow) I transplant to individual pots and keep them there until I'm ready to plant outside when it's warm enough. Tomatoes do not like the cold so make sure to wait till all frost is gone before planting outside. I hope this helps anyone who wants to try to grow tomatoes from seed. Ok, on to other things. The sun is shining brightly today and I am going out to check on my little plants.

Hope to see all of you soon.

Sadie Bolyer,  
NWLA MG President



# Top Tomato Tips

*Ensure transplants get off to a good start—amend your soil with lots of compost and plant at the correct depth, leaving only 3” to 4” of plant top above the surface. All the small hair along the stem will turn into roots, making your plant sturdier.*

**Tomatoes need consistent watering—but soggy soil can encourage diseases. Adjust watering to your soil, site, and zone.**

## **Myth: Removing Tomato Sucker Shoots will Increase Fruit Production-**

**Suckers become branches that will ultimately produce fruit. So removing or leaving the suckers is how you manage the overall size and shape of the plant.**

-joe gardner®

## **Myth: Adding Eggshells to the Planting Hole Prevents Blossom End Rot.**

*One of the most common myths out there. Blossom end rot is caused by a calcium deficiency and egg shells do contain calcium, but that’s where the correlation ends. There’s usually enough calcium present in healthy soil...the issue is uptake into the plant. Consistent watering is what allows the plant to transport calcium from the soil to the ripening fruit. So adjust your watering-not your calcium levels.*

-joe gardner®



## Advice for the Garden-



As spring arrives, this is ideal time to think about fertilizing. It is advised to wait until around “Tax Day” or April 15th to start fertilizing. This is because the probability of a freeze event happening after this date is

highly unlikely. Ideally a gardener would test their soil prior to fertilizing to only apply what is needed. If that is not an option a balanced fertilizer such as 8-8-8 or 13-13-13 would work in a pinch. All garden plants could benefit from the application of fertilizer.

Warm season turfs should be fertilized for the first time starting in April at a rate of 1 lbs. of actual nitrogen per 1000ft<sup>2</sup>. For example, Scotts® Turf Builder® has an analysis of 32-0-4 so it would require approximately 3 lbs. of product to get to 1 lbs. of actual nitrogen, or if 8-8-8 is used it would take 12.5 lbs. of product to get the same result. Other areas such as spring flowering shrubs and trees should be fertilized after they have completed their flowering for the season.

-Mark A Wilson, Northwest Regional Horticulture Specialist & Master Gardener Agent



The Spruce

Japanese Flowering Quince,  
(*Chaenomeles japonica*)

## Master Gardener Updates

With 2021 starting off as another atypical year the state Master Gardener Program is adapting yet again. LMG recertification cards are in at the Master Gardener office and can be distributed to individuals upon request. The state program is also following the same guidelines as in 2020. Instead of the standard 6 hours of continuing education and 20 volunteer hours, the requirement will be a total of 20 hours (any combination) during the 2021 calendar year. In addition, those who graduated from the 2020 class will have till the end of 2021 to get their required 40 hours. Additional questions on Master Gardener protocol can be addressed to me via email.

[MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu)



# In the Garden

- Hot weather veggies to plant now include cushaw, eggplant, Southern peas, hot peppers, lima beans, luffa gourds, okra and yard-long beans. Continue to plant transplants of tomatoes and peppers and seeds of snap beans, squash and cucumbers.
- Harvest your cool season vegetables as soon as they reach full maturity.
- Plant warm season flowers in beds that are clear of cool season varieties.
- Prune spring flowering shrubs, such as spirea, viburnum, quince, camellia, jasmine, azaleas and mock orange as soon they finish blooming.
- Fertilize lawns with a "3:1:2 ratio" fertilizer. Mid-month is a good time to begin.

- Continue to plant hot-weather veggies and harvest as they mature. This is when home grown produce excels in flavor compared to shipped produce. *Yummo!*
- May is also one of the busiest months in the flower garden. As cool-season annuals become unattractive, clean beds to replant with warm-season annuals for summer color. This month is also a great time to plant perennials.
- 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 s always, please start with the most environmentally methods.

- Continue planting heat-tolerant veggies.
- Plant herbs: basil, perilla, mints, oregano, lemon balm, lemon verbena, garlic chives, rosemary, Mexican marigold, yarrow, burnet.
- Enjoy blackberries, blueberries and peaches that are currently available in area farmers' markets...shop local!
- During extended dry weather be sure to irrigate any and all of your plants and be sure to mulch.
- Groom beds: deadheading, pinching back to stimulate new grow, weeding, and monitoring pest populations.
- Continue to pick ripening vegetables. Check local farmers' markets for vegetables and fruits that you don't grow.
- A second application of fertilizer may be made to lawns in June or July.

# In the Garden

*continued*

*Aphids* have a reproductive strategy that gives them a leg up in the numbers game. In the spring and summer they can reproduce without mating! No males required! While some species reproduce sexually, some produce progeny through Parthenogenesis (asexual reproduction) and some use both methods. *Fact really is stranger than fiction!*



*Did you know...*

easy annuals

for shady gardens ~

begonia,

impatiens,

torenia,

coleus,

viola,

dianthus,

perilla,

browallia



Pollinator  
Week  
Begins



Plant Nectar  
and  
Host Plants

## Pruning Clematis



Clematis varieties fall into three groups based on bloom time and characteristics: 1) spring bloomers, 2) repeat bloomers, and 3) summer or fall bloomers. Each group has its own pruning requirements. For information on pruning and all things “clematis” check out the International Clematis Society’s website @ [clematisinternational.com](http://clematisinternational.com) (*follow them on Facebook*)

# In the Garden

*continued*

Perplexed by Pill Bugs? In low numbers, these little soil dwellers aren't a problem in the garden. Feeding on decaying plant debris, they're actually an important part of a healthy garden ecosystem; breaking down organic matter that adds to overall soil health. But when populations increase, food sources are consumed too fast and they move on to live plants.

What can you do to minimize damage? Keep your garden clear of hiding spots such as planters, pieces of wood, decorative rock, and periodically use bait control.

Starting with the most environmentally-friendly method, my go-to bait is cantaloupe rind: aka "The Melon Trap." It's easy, economical, and organic!

When cutting up melons, leave a small amount of ripe area on the rind to use as bait. *You can refrigerate or freeze rind to have a supply on hand.* In the evening, place pieces of rind, fleshy side down, throughout the garden. The most effective spots are underneath vegetation. Check traps early in the morning and scrape off any pill bugs into a container for disposal where they cannot return to your garden. Reset trap and check again either late in the evening or again early in the morning. The same rind can be used for several days.

Using this method for a week or so will reduce pill bug populations and damage to your tender plants.

Head to the garden!

-Chris Bertrand, NWLA Master Gardener



## Leaf Mold Compost

Composting woes? Perhaps you'll consider this method. Leaf mold composting differs from standard composting in several ways. Leaf mold is less complicated and less exhausting to make than standard composting. Standard composting involves layering browns and greens (Carbon-to-Nitrogen) at a rate of 25 browns (C) to 1 green (N). This ratio can be achieved by using one handful of a carbon source like leaves to 2 handfuls of a nitrogen source like grass. (*This is because nothing organic is ever all nitrogen or all carbon.*) The browns and greens are then cut into small pieces and moistened. By cutting the mixture into small pieces, you allow the bacteria and fungi doing the actual composting, to get a better bite on the material. Moistening the material activates the microbes and allows them to move about. Be sure not to soak the mixture which would drown the air-breathing microbes. The mixture is then turned at least once a week to make sure it remains aerated. The more you turn it the faster it will decompose. Standard composting done this way can take 4-6 months, especially if done during the summer because heat aids decomposition.

As you can see, making standard compost can be both exhausting and time consuming, especially when you think about watering and turning the 3x3x3 ft. to 5x5x5 ft. mass as LSU recommends. By comparison, making Leaf Mold is much simpler. Leaf mold is simply leaves that are allowed to compost over a long period of

time without any other materials added (no mixing of greens and browns.) The easiest way to make this happen is to simply rake your leaves in a pile and leave them. This method, as with standard composting where greens and browns are simply piled up, will take 1-2 years to decompose.

The best way to make leaf mold is to fill large garbage bags with moist leaves, tie the top and then make slits or holes in the bag. This allows air to circulate. You don't want the holes to be any bigger than a quarter, however, or the leaves will fall out. After that you simply leave the bags in a shady spot and wait. Occasionally you'll want to check the bags and add water and turn the bag upside down a couple of times to make sure the leaves are being aerated and that's it.

It should take a season to compost your leaves. What you will have in the end is a substance that is excellent for use as a mulch or for

mixing in with our Louisiana hard-packed mud. It will allow the soil to hold up to 50% more water, plus is an excellent environment for worms and microbes grow in. It won't be quite as good as standard compost for feeding the soil because there is no mixing of different materials to get those extra vitamins and minerals. However, a lot of that helped by the addition of the extra worms which will be in your soil afterward. Worm excrement is some of the best fertilizer around.

Hope I've helped someone,  
-Mike Livingston, NWLA Master Gardener



# From Our Kitchen, To Yours



## Cake

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup canola oil
- 2 cups grated yellow squash (from 2 medium [6 1/2 oz. each] squash)
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest plus 2 Tbsp. fresh juice (from 1 lemon)

## Lemon-Buttermilk Glaze

- 2 cups unsifted powdered sugar
- 2 tablespoons whole buttermilk
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest plus 1 Tbsp. fresh juice (from 1 lemon)

## Directions

Step 1: Prepare the cake: Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat a 10-cup Bundt pan with baking spray. Stir together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a bowl. Place eggs, sugar, and oil in bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment. Beat on medium-high speed until light and airy, about 3 minutes, stopping to scrape down sides as needed. Stir in squash, lemon zest, and juice. Gradually add flour mixture, beating on low speed until just combined, about 45 seconds. Pour batter into prepared pan.

Step 2: Bake in preheated oven until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, 50 to 55 minutes. Cool in pan 10 minutes. Invert onto a wire rack; cool 1 hour.

Step 3: Prepare the glaze: Whisk together all ingredients in a bowl until smooth. Drizzle over cooled cake.

**Reader Tip:** This cake freezes beautifully! After cooling, wrap in plastic wrap, or wax paper and place in 2 gal. plastic freezer bag. Glaze when ready to serve.  
***MG tested and approved!***

# ~ A Tale of Two Gardens ~

During a recent trip to visit family in Tucson, Arizona, I had the chance to see two kinds of gardens in the desert. One, located at the Tucson Botanical Gardens, is an example of a “zoned” garden landscape, featuring plants of various water needs. The other, found at my cousin Linda’s home is what we think of when we imagine a xeriscape landscape found in desert gardens. Both were beautiful and fascinating in their own way.



While the botanical garden had areas where there were plants you expect to see in an arid region, it surprised me to see many of the plants we grow right here in Shreveport, from chaste trees to herbs. There were also Irises, camellias, as well as, spider lilies popping up: all there and thriving. As to be expected watering was mostly done by drip systems wherever it was needed. The botanical garden sits at a slightly lower elevation than my cousin's

yard and did not naturally grow as many of the Saguaro Cactus that Tucson is famous for. There are 18 different areas in the botanical garden including a pollinator garden, backyard bird garden, herb garden, shade garden, xeriscape garden, iris garden, citrus trees, a collection of cacti both in ground and in small containers and tropical orchids from all over the world. It also includes a historical garden that featured the founder’s original home and a cattle tank that was used by the family for swimming and irrigating all 18.5 acres of the original homestead.



Linda's yard, on the other hand, is completely native desert. Except for a small groomed area around the house, the garden appears stark and bare even though it's filled with all kinds of cacti including many of the tall Saguaro. Her landscape survives completely on rainfall with very little maintenance of any kind. They keep a small area near the house clean and free of debris but the rest of the two-acre property

has been allowed to grow naturally. The first time we visited, 37 years ago, the house was easily visible from the road, but now cannot be seen. Every-



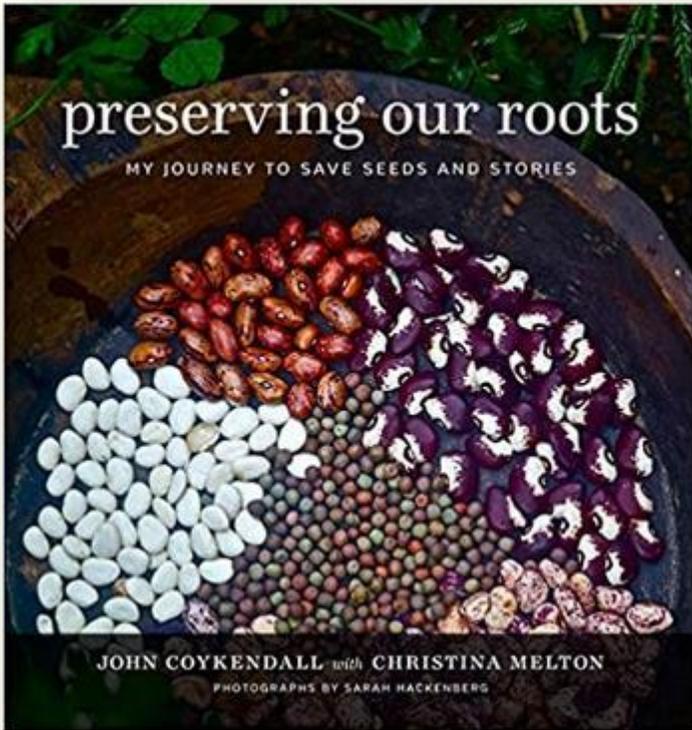
thing has been filled in by natural growth including saguaro, barrel and other cacti. There are several very large specimen cacti planted in the groomed area and a lovely rosemary hedge close to the pool area.



-Margie Caplis, NWLA MG Board Member

For more information about the Tucson Botanical Gardens visit: [tucsonbotanical.org](http://tucsonbotanical.org)

## - books to love -



### ***Preserving Our Roots*** by John Coykendall with Christina Melton

If you're familiar with the PBS series, *Deeply Rooted*, you'll love this book!

"By unearthing and safeguarding rare varieties of food crops and the cultural knowledge of how to grow them, John Coykendall has become a celebrity in the burgeoning farm-to-table movement. While his work takes him around the world, what inspires Coykendall most is his annual pilgrimage to Washington Parish, Louisiana. Over more than four decades, he has forged long-lasting friendships with local farmers and gardeners, collecting oral histories, recipes, and wisdom passed down through generations. *Preserving Our Roots* captures the rhythms of a vanishing way of life seen on farms, in kitchens, and across generations."

—Blackberry Farm

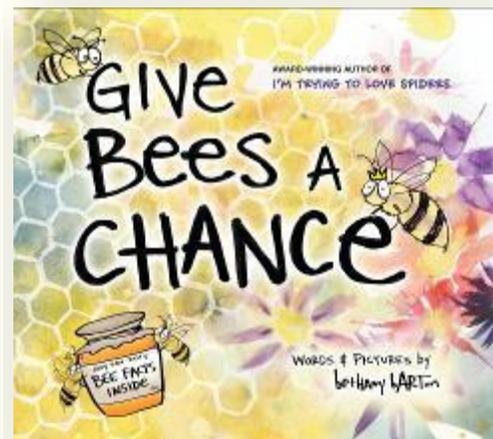
### ***Give Bees A Chance*** by Bethany Barton, Ages 4-7 (or anyone who loves bees!)

"*Give Bees a Chance* is for anyone who doesn't quite appreciate how extra special and important bees are to the world, and even to humankind! Besides making yummy honey, they help plants grow fruits and vegetables. And most bees wouldn't hurt a fly (unless it was in self-defense!).

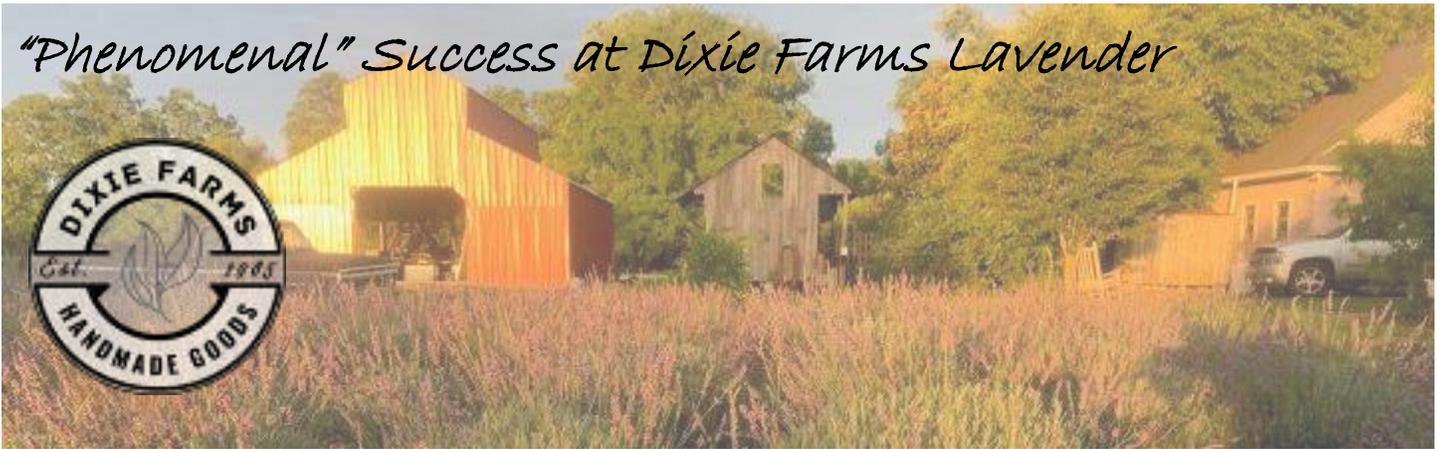
Bethany Barton's interactive cartoon-style illustrations and hilarious narrator mean this book is full of facts *and* fun. With bees officially on the endangered animals list, it's more important now than ever to get on board with our flying, honey-making friends!"—Goodreads

"*Informative, cute, and very funny! This children's book about the importance of bees is written in a casual, factual, and humorous manner. "Best-buddy-Edgar" is a hoot (as he 'doesn't really like bees,' and needs a lot of convincing!). Fictional characters explore a non-fiction topic that is very timely: bee populations are declining worldwide.*"

—Goodreads reviewer



## *"Phenomenal" Success at Dixie Farms Lavender*



Dixie Farms Lavender in the North Caddo cotton community of Dixie has found a way to grow lavender in our hot, humid climate. Owners Randal and Sandie Smoak married in 1985 and moved into a turn-of-the-century craftsman-style home on 20 acres in Dixie. After years of harvesting cotton and hay, the Smoak family planted lavender three years ago and began selling products – from lavender kombucha to aromatherapy sprays.

In the summer of 2020, the farm opened to the public. For a small fee, guests can pick their own lavender bouquets and take photos on the farm. The Smoak family is looking forward to its 2021 season early this summer. The Seedling talked to Sandie Smoak about growing lavender.

**Read the interview**



# *"Phenomenal" Success at Dixie Farms Lavender*

*continued*



**Seedling:** How did you get started planting lavender?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *While homeschooling our three girls, we made many beneficial products, including those with lavender, for our own use. In 2018 we planted our first lavender and began making products to sell.*

**Seedling:** What lavender cultivar are you planting?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *We grow a French hybrid "Phenomenal" (Lavandula x intermedia Phenomenal). It withstands our humidity and high temperatures. It's pretty cold hardy after the plants are established.*

**Seedling:** What growing conditions does lavender require?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *For success growing lavender, it is recommended that plants have plenty of sunshine and well-draining soil. If their feet stay wet, they will absolutely die.*

**Seedling:** How did the February sub-freezing temperatures affect your crop?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *The extreme weather in February killed off 200 or so of our baby plants not yet established. The mature plants seem to have done fine. According to fellow members in the United States Lavender Growers Association, we will only know as plants put on new growth.*

**Seedling:** When is the blooming season?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *Our field will be open most of June as the flowers are in full bloom during that time. (Updates will be on the website and social media announcing when the field is ready for guests).*

**Seedling:** What's new on your farm for the 2021 blooming season?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *We'll have starter Phenomenal lavender plants & recipe booklets with tips for growing lavender.*

**Seedling:** What are some of your favorite ways to cook with lavender?

**Dixie Farms Lavender:** *Our favorite culinary use is shortbread cookies and lavender lemonade. Our peaches and figs are grown and canned with lavender also.*

-Jane Allison, NWLA Master Gardener

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**To contact us visit: [dixielavenderfarms.com](http://dixielavenderfarms.com)**

**Instagram: [@dixiefarmslavender](https://www.instagram.com/dixiefarmslavender)**

**Facebook: [@DixieFarmsLavender](https://www.facebook.com/DixieFarmsLavender)**

# Events - (thank you for wearing a mask and social distancing)

## April 2021

### April 1-30, Ennis Texas Blue Bonnet Trails and Festival

[bluebonnettrail.org](http://bluebonnettrail.org) *Bluebonnets will be spectacular this year!*



### April 2<sup>nd</sup> 8am – 12pm, Event Set Up-NWLAMG Spring Plant Sale\*

Randle T. Moore Center, 3101 Fairfield Ave, Shreveport, LA

Need help with tent/table set up.

To volunteer contact: John Oswalt ([mroswalt@gmail.com](mailto:mroswalt@gmail.com))

### April 3<sup>rd</sup> 8am – 12pm, NWLAMG Spring Plant Sale\*

Randle T. Moore Center, 3101 Fairfield Ave, Shreveport, LA

For event info ([nwlamg.weebly.com](http://nwlamg.weebly.com))

Needing Cashiers, Checkers, Greeters, Sales Assistances for this event.

To volunteer, again, contact John Oswalt ([mroswalt@gmail.com](mailto:mroswalt@gmail.com))



### April - Nov, 9:00-1:00, Bossier City Farmer's Market

2950 E Texas St, Bossier City, LA

[bossiercityfarmersmarket.com](http://bossiercityfarmersmarket.com)



### April - June on (Thursdays & Fridays) Moss Mountain Farm Tour & Lunch

Visit P. Allen Smith's Farm in Roland, AR.

*Did this trip two years ago...highly recommend!*

Purchase tickets online: [pallensmith.com](http://pallensmith.com)



### April 22, 10am - 12pm, Shreveport Green's, Earth Day Celebration\*

The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, 3015 Greenwood Rd, Shreveport, LA

Event info: Casaundra Calloway, [ccalloway@shreveportgreen.org](mailto:ccalloway@shreveportgreen.org)

Need a few volunteers to answer questions and provide gardening information on select plants requiring less water & native plants. (tent/table and cover provided)

To volunteer contact Mark Wilson ([MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu))

### April 24, 10am – 4pm, Downtown Development Authority's, Snowmageddon Plant Swap\*

The Lot Downtown Shreveport, 400 Crocket St, Shreveport, LA (the old Sportran Terminal)

Event info: [downtownshreveport.com](http://downtownshreveport.com)

Need volunteers to provide information the public on gardening, plants and the Master Gardener Program—can also sell any remaining plants from plant sale.

To volunteer contact: Mark Wilson ([MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu))

Events approved for MG hours\*

# Events - (thank you for wearing a mask and social distancing)

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## May 2021

**May 12th, Noon, Master Gardener 2021 Graduation Ceremony/General Meeting**

(Due to Covid restrictions, location is yet to be determined)

Due to changing Covid-19 restrictions, many in-person event dates have yet to be determined. Stay connected with us via Instagram, Facebook and our website for event announcements.

## June 2021

**June 5-Aug 28th, Saturdays 7:30am-12:30pm, Shreveport Farmer's Market**

101 Crockett St, Shreveport, LA

[redriverrevel.com](http://redriverrevel.com)

**Dixie Farms Lavender**

Dixie Shreveport Rd

Flowers are in full bloom during June. (Updates will be on the website and social media announcing when the field is ready for guests).

[dixiefarmslavender.com](http://dixiefarmslavender.com)

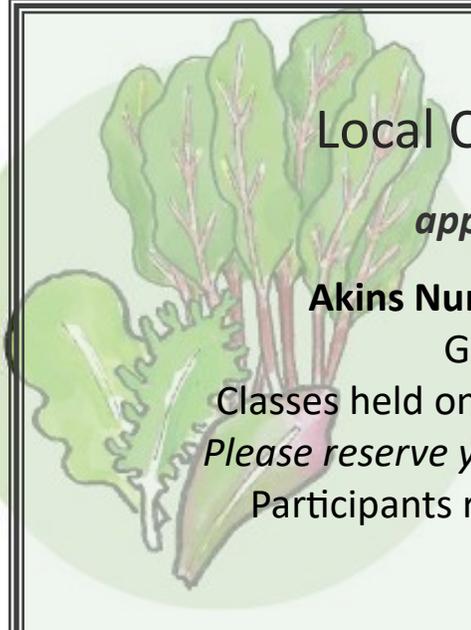
**June 19th, Sunflower Trail & Festival**

In Gilliam, LA and along Hwy 3049 north of Shreveport

[redrivercrossroadshistorical.org](http://redrivercrossroadshistorical.org)

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**All public events hosted by the NWLAMG/LSU AgCenter will be events in which a mask must be worn while around others – masks will be required.**



## 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](http://akinsnursery.com)*

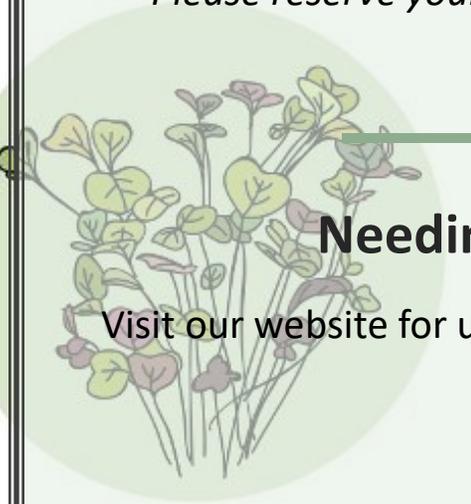
Participants receive 10% off purchases the day of class.  
(sign up for their newsletter)

**Louisiana Nursery**, 12290 Mansfield Rd. Keithville, LA

Gardening Seminars & Workshops – Seminars\* are \$5.00/person at the door

*Please reserve your spot: 318.925.0971 or [LouisianasNursery.com](http://LouisianasNursery.com)*

(sign up for their newsletter)



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## Needing Master Gardener Hours?

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

[nwlamg.weebly.com](http://nwlamg.weebly.com)



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## 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](mailto:MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu) or Melissa Elrod [melissa532@aol.com](mailto:melissa532@aol.com)

## Let's Talk Tomatoes

Rare Heirloom Seeds | Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds  
[rareseeds.com](http://rareseeds.com)

Organic Heirloom Tomato Seeds | Heirloom Tomatoes TomatoFest  
[tomatofest.com](http://tomatofest.com)

Pinetree Garden Seeds  
[superseeds.com](http://superseeds.com)

Seeds of Change  
[seedsofchange.com](http://seedsofchange.com)

Totally Tomatoes: Tomatoes, Peppers, Vegetables & More  
[totallytomatoes.com](http://totallytomatoes.com)

## Spring Fertilizing

It's time to fertilize lawns  
[lsuagcenter.com](http://lsuagcenter.com)

## A Tale of Two Gardens

The Tucson Botanical Gardens  
[tucsonbotanical.org](http://tucsonbotanical.org)

Native Seeds/SEARCH (Seed Bank & online seed source specializing in heirloom varieties from the Greater Southwest)  
[nativeseeds.org](http://nativeseeds.org)

## Leaf Mulch Compost

Making Leaf Mold  
[finegardening.com](http://finegardening.com)

Composting Leaves  
[epicgardening.com](http://epicgardening.com)

## Dixie Farms Lavender

[dixiefarmslavender.com](http://dixiefarmslavender.com)



## Editorial Notes-



What a pleasure it was to work on this quarter's Seedling. I hope everyone likes the new format. Big thanks to our writers for sharing their ideas and passions about all things gardening! Seedling would, literally, not be possible without their contributions and I hope they've inspired you to share some of your tips, tricks, and gardening advice in future publications. I'd also love to hear your thoughts, ideas or comments on what you'd like to see in upcoming issues.

Happy gardening!

*Chris*

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*Upcoming July  
Issue!*

- ~ **Let's Talk**
- ~ **Horticulture Advice**
- ~ **Seed Banks...Protecting Plant Diversity One Seed at a Time**
- ~ ***Tigers* in the Garden?**
- ~ **318 Growers**
- ~ **Summertime Recipes**
- ~ **Events and Goings On...Y'all**
- ~ **Master Gardener Project Updates**

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