



Master Gardener Gazette

Nueces County, Tx



The mission of the association shall be to organize and promote volunteer efforts that support AgriLife Extension programs advancing sound horticultural practices in Nueces County (<http://NUECES.AGRILIFE.ORG>)



Issue 9 – Sept 2016

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The 17th Annual Fall Corpus Christi Home & Garden Show is coming up quickly; September 9 - 11, and will be at the American Bank Center, as usual. MG volunteers are needed, as usual, and you can select to volunteer for what fits your needs the best. Below is the activity and stage schedule . **Volunteers are needed in all areas, your time and effort will be greatly appreciated! Call Deb Holliday 956-433-7110 or Lisa at 361-767-5217**

[Home and Garden Show website for full details - CLICK THIS](#)

NOTE - Help will be needed to load at Robstown and set up at ABC, times and dates will be advised via e-mail when they are established.

SHOW HOURS AND STAGE TIMES

FRI, SEPTEMBER 9 - 2:00PM-6:00PM

- 3:00PM Fall Landscape - NMG Beverly Leach
- 4:00PM Composting for Beginners - NMG Deborah Holliday

SAT, SEPTEMBER 10 - 10:00AM-6:00PM

- 11:00AM Growing Miniature Roses - NMG Betty Whitt
- 12:00PM Herbs Through History - NMG Beth Spirko,
- 2:00PM Kitchen Garden Project - CEA Kevin Gibbs
- 3:00PM Contained, But Not Constrained! - Local Gardening Expert Trent Hoffman
- 4:00PM Growing Mexican Spices - NMG Rosemary Plank

SUN, SEPTEMBER 11 - 11:00AM-5:00PM

- 12:00PM Home Irrigation - How much water is my garden really getting? - NMG Suzy Murray
- 1:00PM Cool Down & Grow Up! - Local Gardening Expert Trent Hoffman
- 2:00PM Capturing and Using Rain Water - NMG Carlos Valdez
- 3:00PM Garden Tools 101 - NMG John Slusarz
- 4:00PM Roses Around the World - NMG Huxley Smith
- After 5PM, Breakdown booth & load trailer for return to Robstown

KID'S ZONE

Master Gardener Jackie Martin & Friends will be doing their usual fantastic job and they can always use some extra helpers.

SAT, SEPTEMBER 10

- 1:00PM-1:30PM Nature Crafts
- 2:30PM-3:00PM Puppet Show
- 4:00PM-4:30PM Nature Crafts

SUN, SEPTEMBER 11

- 1:30PM-2:00PM Nature Crafts
 - 2:30PM-3:00PM Edible!! Worm Composting
- Presentation By: Lisa & Elizabeth Schmidt

PARKING...NMG Volunteers can park in the parking lot across from the main entrance on N. Chaparral St. The lot should have signage indicating it is for "Vendors" and should be free. Make sure you have your MG badge or MG identification in case you are asked.



Leadership Contacts
[CLICK THIS](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

- P1 NMG Officers 2016
- P1 Home and Garden Show
- P2 President's Corner
- P2 Agent's Notes
- P3 Botanical Garden Events
- P3 Gills Garden Talks
- P3 Volunteer Opportunities
- P3 Other Happenings
- P3 Monthly Meeting
- P4 Meeting/Trainee Pictures
- P5 Seed Packing
- P5 Birthdays
- P5 Rummage Sale
- P5 Aquaponics 101
- P5 Regional Conference
- P5 Specialist Training
- P6 Betty Rogers Note
- P6 Birthdays
- P6 John Balcar Pineapple
- P6 NMG Bulletin Board
- P6 A Few NMG Pictures
- P7 Tool Disinfection
- P8 Common Poison Plants
- P9 Good Bugs/Bad Bugs
- P9 Suggestions/Comments
- P9 Editors Note / Disclaimers



Remembering Plants

After last month's article, I've been advised that I can only say nice things for a while, so I thought I would switch gears entirely and write a series of articles about plants that I remember. Most of us that love plants have childhood experiences that led us to the point of loving plants. I'm no different and I thought I would share some of those memories with you. I would love to hear your stories as well.

Growing up, some of my first memories of plants involved gardens, fruits and berries. We lived in Tyler, Texas from 1970 until 1975. Our house sat on Pine Street at the top of a hill. Just below the house was a huge wooded area full of pine trees and east Texas hardwoods. I would also find that it was full of chiggers, ticks, snakes, birds... you get the idea. Along the edges of the forest, blackberries and dewberries grew abundantly. My mother would give us milk cartons with part of the carton neatly cut away and tell us to go gather a batch of berries so that she could make a cobbler. Twenty minutes later, full of scratches and sick to our stomachs from eating too many berries, we would proudly present the berries and mom would craft them into a beautiful, yummy dessert.

The 70's were a fun time, we had lots of neighborhood friends and we really enjoyed running around during the summer. We made go-carts, mud pies, climbed lots of trees, and just had fun palling around with our friends. We skated to funky town and walked or rode our bikes to the neighborhood store. There was a grove of wild plums just down the street and one of our favorite things to do was to have plum wars. I'm sure we were supposed to be picking them to take home to mom so she could make sandplum jelly, but upon reaching the stand of plums we would divide into groups and the war was on; what fun we had.

In 1975, my grandmother became ill and we moved from Tyler to the Lubbock area. No plums and no wild berries. The days of war were over and now the wind began to blow! To this day, when I drive anywhere in East Texas, I can't help but smile a little as I think about the good times that we had on Pine street in Tyler, Texas.

Howdy,

Here it is September and fall planting should be in the front of our thoughts. Mums, pansies, primroses, petunias are on my list along with tomatoes, peppers and cool crops.

After a summer of no rain I am ready to start again in the garden. We all have that one spot that is our dead zone, for me it is my front porch. I have visions of a front porch that is welcoming, cozy and looks like a magazine lay out. But we are back door people and so the gardens in the back get all the attention (a jungle really). The wonderful seasonal plants I put out front are sentenced to death.

Right now my wheel barrow is vacant of any living thing. It was full of beautiful geraniums. Red and White, so full with deep dark green leaves trailing over the sides. Along with them were two full pots of ferns. Placed lovingly next to a red wicker rocker. All fresh from our local nurseries, at the peak of their existence. I was faithful at first, but then my attention waned and so did my beautiful porch plants. Panic sets in and I prune and water, we see a small improvement. I feel better about the porch of death.

When a rare summer storm comes charging through, I run to the front porch to place the survivors out in the wonderful rain. This is my reminder to water, but alas no storms, no watering. They have all been removed or moved to the back to be nursed one more time before they are dumped in the compost pile. This fall I am thinking maybe I should learn to use the front door or try some cactus or succulents in that wheelbarrow. But, no vision of mums, pansies and pumpkins dance in my head as all the magazines start to show their fall colors and I promise to be a better caretaker one more time.

Just a few reminders: September 9-11th Fall Home and Garden Show. Volunteers needed for the Master Gardener booth. September 24th is our annual fund raiser for our educational projects. Make sure and clean out your closets for our rummage sale located at 302 Cole St. Corpus Christi.

Debbie Martin



Thur. Sep 1 - Orchidology Class, 7pm
Sat. Sep 3 - Kids Discover Reptiles & Amphibians, 10-11am and 3-4pm
Sat. Sep 10 - Introduction to Exciting World of Birds class, 9am-12, field trip 1:30-5:30pm
Sat. Sep 17 - Spa Day for Fall Roses, 10am
Mon. Sep 19 - Blacklock's Beginning Bird ID Series, 10 Monday classroom at 6:15-9:15pm, and 3 Saturday field trips
Fri Sep 23 & Sat Sep 24 (field trip) - Hawks in Flight Identification Short Course, 6:15pm-9:15pm, must prepay 852-2100

[For the Botanical Gardens 2016 Full Calendar of Events](#)
[CLICK THIS](#)



Gills 2810 Airline, 992-9674 10am - 11am

Sat. Sep 3 - Planning Your First Food Garden, Debbie Pinkerton, Plant Buyer
Sat. Sep 10 - From Beginning To Bouquets, Cultivating Cut Flowers, Emily Capule, Flower Farmer, Design Assistant
Sat. Sep 17 - Fall Lawn & Landscape Care, DeAnna Baumgartner, Garden Center Manager
Sat. Sep 24 - Creative Garden Ideas, Merlien Wilder, Bedding Design & Sales

MASTER GARDENERS MEETINGS

Tuesday, Sept 20 at Garden Senior Center

- 10:00am - Board of Directors Meeting**
- 11:30am - Meet and Greet Over Lunch**
- 12:00pm – Arborist Phillip Christian. will talk about tree problems and solutions**
- 12:30pm – General Meeting**

Many thanks to the lunch volunteers for this meeting; Karen Smitt, Pat Botkin, Karen Easton, Roger Myers & Rita Phillips
To volunteer for future lunches, contact Rita Phillips 991-0750 or email rnphillipsctx@grandecom.net

NMG TRAINING SCHEDULE - All classes 12:30pm - 4:30pm

Wed. Sep. 7 - #6, Soils/Fertility, Robstown
 Wed. Sep. 14 - #7, Fruit Crops/Pomology, Botanical Gardens
 Tues. Sep. 20 - #8, Irrigation/Rainwater Harvesting, Rockport
 Wed. Sep. 28 - #9, IPM/Entomology, Robstown



See the VMS Event Calendar for a complete and detailed listing of all available volunteer events COMMITTEE/PROJECT CONTACTS - [CLICK THIS](#)

ONGOING PROJECTS

RAY HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE Tuesday MG Workday 9:00-11:00
FOOD BANK PROJECT "Outgrow Hunger" Tuesdays 7:30a.m. (Except MG meeting day then Wednesday)
 Contact: Mary Lambert 813-7596 or e-mail her at cwlmel@yahoo.com
NATURE CONSERVANCY Mondays, 4:00pm & Blucher Park 5:00 pm until sundown (Behind the Main Library). Contact: Karen Smith 877-9723
COURTYARD AT THE GARDEN SENIOR CENTER, 1st Monday, 9:15 a.m. Contact: Betty Whitt 991-5375
BOTANICAL GARDENS, Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m.

OTHER HAPPENINGS THIS MONTH

Wed. Sep 7 - Coastal Bend Cacti & Succulent Society meeting, 7pm, Garden Senior Center, 687-6474
Sep 9-11 - Home and Garden Show - see page 1
Tue. Sep 13 - Garden Council, 10am, Garden Senior Center, 537-8231
Wed. Sep 14 - Seed Packing for Learning to Grow, at Botanical Gardens, 9am - see page 5
Thur. Sep 15 - Aquapoics 101 at Del Mar Economic Center, 8:30am to 3:00pm - see page 5
Sat. Sep 17 - Victoria MG Seminar, at Victoria TX, 9am to 4pm - see page 6
Tue. Sep 20 - Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardener Association, 10am, 892 Airport Rd., Rockport, 361-790-0103
Thur. Sep 22 - Bromeliad Society meeting, 7pm, Garden Senior Center, 658-8650
Thur. Sep 22 - Bonsai Society meeting, 7pm, Garden Senior Center, 992-0009
Sat. Sep 24 - Backyard Grilling, AgriLife Extension workshop, 10am, Botanical Gardens, prepaid registration required by Sept. 19, 767-5217
Thur. Sep 28 - Plumeria Society meeting, 6:30pm, Garden Senior Center, 813-9616
Sep 28-30 - EarthKind Specialist Training at McKinney TX - see page 5



At the August 16 meeting, Nueces Master Gardener Rosemary Plank presented a program titled “Plante Medicinali Giardino dei Simplici”, when loosely translated it means - “Medicinal Plants: Garden of Simple”. As a wonderful bonus Rosemary gave everyone seed packets containing seeds for 5 of the plants that were included in her presentation. She also distributed pots, with soil and a unique watering process, that could be used to germinate the seeds. Excellent!



Full House - The Master Gardener training class on August 24 , held at the CC Botanical Gardens, was a joint session that included both the Nueces and the San Patricio Master Gardener trainees. The presentation was titled “Weeds” and the class instructor was Joshua McGinty, Ph.D. Assistant Professor & Extension Agronomist.



On August 17 the Nueces Master Gardener trainees went on a field trip designed to familiarize them with the type of projects that we are involved with. They visited 7 locations in Corpus Christi where the NMGs have ongoing projects.



Best part of the field trip - at the end - ice cream party!

This is to prove that the trainees actually do attend class.



Where - Botanical Gardens Education Room

When - 9AM, Wednesday, September 14

It's that time again, and volunteers are needed to pack seeds for the fall Learning to Grow program. These seed packets, and other supplies, will be distributed by Nueces Master Gardeners to schools throughout Nueces County and will be sowed, by the students, in their schools' fall gardens.



Register Now and Enter to Win!

All who register before 11:59pm CST on Monday, September 5th will be entered to win: One of five full REGISTRATION FEES* (current value: \$275.00) or One of five TOURS or THE COWBOY EXPERIENCE (winner's choice; valued between \$30.00 and \$70.00)

[FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CLICK THIS](#)



STATEWIDE MASTER GARDENER SPECIALIST TRAINING

EARTH-KIND® RESEARCH SPECIALIST TRAINING

Conducted by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Personnel and Key Collin County Master Gardeners

September 28 - 30 at The Landing at the Myers Park and Event Center in McKinney, Texas. Enrollment fee \$200 per person. This fee covers all instruction, educational materials, two meals, and refreshments.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CLICK THIS](#)



The Nueces Master Gardeners are planning their annual rummage sale on Saturday, Sept 24, 2016, with all of the proceeds going towards our Educational Fund. It will be held at 320 Cole Street in Corpus and the sale hours are from 7am until 2pm.

Please plan on cleaning out those closets and donating items for our fund raiser. If your items are boxed up or ready to go, you can contact Norma Hernandez (816-8206) who will be glad to take these treasures off your hands until the sale.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the set-up, help with the sale and then clean/pack up any leftovers - Contact Deb Holliday or Norma Hernandez if you can offer any of your time.

[CLICK THIS FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE LOCATION](#)

**Aquaponics 101:
An Introduction**

**Thursday, September 15 - 8:30am to 3:00pm
Del Mar Economic Development Center
3209 S Staples, Room 106, Corpus Christi, TX 78404**

Join AgriLife Fisheries Specialist, Peter Woods, for an informative short course on the Basics of Aquaponics.

A participation fee of \$30, which includes lunch and a light breakfast, will be charged at the door. Seating is limited to the first 30 participants to RSVP before September 9th to:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Nueces And San Patricio Counties
710 East Main
Robstown, TX 78380
361.767.5223
j-ott@tamu.ed

[FOR MORE INFORMATION - CLICK THIS](#)

John Balcar sent in pictures with the first pineapple that he harvested from his garden and he reports that it is sweet and tasty.



Interested in growing your own pineapple at home? Check out this Aggie Horticulture site - [CLICK ON THIS](#) to go there. Even better, ask John - obviously he knows how to do it.



If you have not joined the Nueces Master Gardener Bulletin Board on Facebook you are missing out on a lot of useful information and helpful sources. Seeds have been swapped, plant problems identified and fixed, ideas raised, shared and discussed. NMGs now have the ability to share what they are proud to display. And so much more!

This Bulletin Board was started at the end of June and there are 42 members on the Bulletin Board right now, and it is steadily growing. Isn't it time that you joined?

Nueces Master Gardener Bulletin Board - [CLICK THIS](#)

For more information on the Bulletin Board - [CLICK THIS](#)

The below pictures are from the EarthKind beds at Botanical Gardens. The pictures were taken during June 2016 and have been submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Sandra Williams.



FROM BETTY ROGERS

TIPS ON REPORTING YOUR HOURS

All students, interns, and MGs are encouraged to attend monthly Board Meetings. They are held at 10am the third Tuesday of the month at Greely Senior Center before our general meeting. If you attend the entire board meeting you receive 2 hours volunteer service. If you don't attend the entire meeting, you receive hours for the time you were there.

Nueces Master Gardeners celebrating a birthday this month include the following. The next time you see them be sure that you wish them

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

09-06	Betty Whitt	9
09-07	Stephanie Martin	13
09-09	Pat Parr	10
09-09	Norma Hernandez	21
09-15	Jackie Martin	22
09-16	Iris Klanecky	10
09-24	Joshua Wigley	26
09-25	Hope Romero	24

**Victoria County Master Gardener Assn
FALL SYMPOSIUM**



**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2016,
9:00AM TO 4:00PM**

They are having some interesting topics this year; growing roses organically, a family who started a successful vineyard in Goliad County, Native Dave and growing landscapes Texas style, butterfly ranching in the Texas Coastal Bend, and farming edible crickets.

Full details about the symposium is available at their website - [CLICK THIS](#)



NMGs Thorunn Kelly, Norma Hernandez and Debbie Holliday at Sandy Oaks Olive Grove outside San Antonio. Checking out possible locations for an upcoming member excursion.

For the web page of the location that they visited - [CLICK THIS](#)

DISINFECTION OF HORTICULTURAL TOOLS

University of Florida, IFAS

Disinfecting and sterilizing your horticultural tools is a good way to prevent the spread of disease-causing pathogens in your landscape. There are a number of products that can be used to disinfect tools and gardening surfaces, and each has advantages and disadvantages.

Cleaning and disinfecting are two distinct steps. Cleaning involves physically removing soil and debris and is the first step *prior* to disinfecting your tools. Soil and other organic residues reduce the effectiveness of disinfectants. Before disinfecting, always remove dirt, debris, or sap by wiping your tools with a damp cloth or paper towel.

Household Disinfectants - The advantages to using household disinfectants, such as Lysol, to clean are that they're



easy to find and most aren't corrosive. The disadvantage is that little research has been done regarding their effectiveness against plant pathogens. Additionally, household disinfectants are relatively expensive when compared to other disinfectants that can be used on horticultural tools. How you use household disinfectants will vary depending on what product you are using. Generally you will want to apply a full strength spray or dip; always be sure to read the label first. Commercial household disinfectants are widely available at a variety of stores.

Chlorine Bleach - Chlorine bleach is inexpensive, effective, and easy to find. However, it is corrosive, can produce harmful fumes, and isn't as effective against viruses as



some other products. To use chlorine bleach to disinfect horticultural tools, mix up a 10% bleach solution (one part bleach to nine parts water) and do a 30-minute soak. The solution has a short lifespan—effectiveness is cut in half after two hours—so fresh batches should be made for each round of cleaning. Rinse tools with clean water after soaking to prevent corrosion.

Ethanol or Isopropyl Alcohol - The advantages of alcohol (ethanol or isopropyl) to sanitize your gardening tools is



that it can be used as a wipe (no soaking necessary), you don't have to rinse the product off, and it's immediately effective. The disadvantage of alcohols? They're very flammable. To disinfect your tools with alcohol you can either wipe or dip them in a solution that is 70–100% alcohol. Ethanol and isopropyl alcohol are widely available at a variety of stores.

Trisodium Phosphates (TSPs) - are inexpensive; the disadvantage is that they are *very* corrosive. To sanitize with

TSP, mix a 10% solution (one part TSP to nine parts water) and let the tools sit in the solution for at least three minutes. When using TSP take care to avoid contact with your skin; the granules can cause nasty chemical burns if they stick to your skin and become wet. Many commercial TSP products are available at hardware stores and home-improvement centers. You may find TSPs in areas with painting products, as it's commonly used to clean surfaces prior to painting. Pay attention to the label; there are synthetic versions of TSP that are useless for tool disinfecting.

Pine Oil Products - Pine oil products are not as corrosive as



some other disinfecting products on the market, but they're also not as effective. To use pine oil products, mix a 25% solution (one part pine oil to three parts water) and then soak the tools in the solution. Many commercial products are available at grocery and hardware stores and at home-improvement centers.

Industrial Products - There are several different types of disinfectants use in commercial agriculture, typically available only through horticulture-supply vendors. There are *quaternary ammonium compounds*, commonly called "quats" or "q-salts", used to control fungal, bacterial, and



viral plant pathogens. Products include GreenShield® and KleenGrow™. There are also hydrogen dioxides, which are labeled as a disinfectant for use on greenhouse surfaces, equipment, tools, and for use on plants. Products included ZeroTol® 2.0 and Oxidate® 2.0.

Keep It Clean - Regardless of which product you choose, being diligent about keeping your tools clean is very important to keeping your plants healthy. A longer soaking may be needed for pruning surfaces that are not smooth. Ideally tools should be disinfected after working on every plant; however, this is usually not practical. If possible, rotate between several tools while working in the garden. That way, one tool can be disinfected while you work with another. After dipping your pruning tools, be sure to wipe away excess disinfectant to avoid injuring the next plant.

Whether you have one tool for the whole garden or many you rotate between, it is important to sterilize as frequently as possible. Remember, clean garden tools are an important part of garden sanitation, and can prevent the spread of disease-causing pathogens. For more information on sterilizing your garden tools or dealing with disease in your landscape, contact your local county Extension office.

FULL ARTICLE WITH MORE INFO AND HELPFUL CHARTS
 - [CLICK THIS - DISINFECTION OF HORTICULTURAL TOOLS](#)



COMMON POISONOUS PLANTS AND PLANT PARTS

Vegetation helps sustain life. We eat many plants, herbs and so forth in our daily diet. But, we must remember to be choosy. Some plants, trees or shrubs are potential killers of man. Some part of the ornamental plants or flowers in your yard may contain deadly poison. Many poisonous plants are so common and seemingly innocuous you do not suspect their toxic qualities.

For example, who would expect that the beautiful oleander bush-grown indoors and outdoors all over the country-contains a deadly heart stimulant, similar to the drug digitalis?

It is easy to be deceived by plants...one part may be edible while another is poisonous. The following chart lists some of the more common poisonous plants

HOUSE PLANTS

Hyacinth, Narcissus, Daffodil - Bulbs - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea. May be fatal.

Oleander - Leaves, branches - Extremely poisonous. Affects the heart, produces severe digestive upset and has caused death.

Dieffenbachia (Dumb Cane), Elephant Ear - All parts - Intense burning and irritation of the mouth and tongue. Death can occur if base of the tongue swells enough to block the air passage of the throat.

Rosary Pea, Castor Bean - Seeds - Fatal. A single Rosary Pea seed has caused death. One or two Castor Bean seeds are near the lethal dose for adults.

FLOWER GARDEN PLANTS

Larkspur - Young plant, seeds - Digestive upset, nervous excitement, depression. May be fatal.

Monkshood - Fleshy roots - Digestive upset and nervous excitement.

Autumn Crocus, Star of Bethlehem - Bulbs - Vomiting and nervous excitement.

Lily-of-the-Valley - Leaves, flowers - Irregular heart beat and pulse, usually accompanied by digestive upset and mental confusion.

Iris - Underground stems - Severe - but not usually serious-digestive upset.

Foxglove - Leaves - Large amounts cause dangerously irregular heartbeat and pulse, usually digestive upset and mental confusion. May be fatal.

Bleeding Heart - Foliage, roots - May be poisonous in large amounts. Has proved fatal to cattle

VEGETABLE GARDEN PLANTS

Rhubarb - Leaf blade - Fatal. Large amounts of raw or cooked leaves can cause convulsions, coma, followed rapidly by death.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

Daphne - Berries - Fatal. A few berries can kill a child.

Wisteria - Seeds, pods - Mild to severe digestive upset. Many children are poisoned by this plant.

Golden Chain - Bean-like capsules in which the seeds are suspended - Severe poisoning. Excitement, staggering, convulsions and coma. May be fatal.

Laurels, Rhododendrons, Azaleas - All parts - Fatal. . Produces nausea and vomiting, depression, difficult breathing, prostration and coma.

Jasmine - Berries - Fatal. Digestive disturbance and nervous symptoms.

Lantana Camara (Red Sage) - Green berries - Fatal. Affects lungs, kidneys, heart and nervous system. Grows in the southern U.S. And in moderate climates.

Yew - Berries, foliage - Fatal. Foliage more toxic than berries. Death is usually sudden without warning symptoms.

NOTE - The following categories have not been included in this article:

TREES AND SHRUBS

PLANTS IN WOODED AREAS

PLANTS IN SWAMP OR MOIST AREAS

PLANTS IN FIELDS

[For the complete article - CLICK THIS](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/landscape/poisonous-plants-resources/common-poisonous-plants-and-plant-parts/)

http://aggie-

horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/landscape/poisonous-plants-resources/common-poisonous-plants-and-plant-parts/

**American Association of Poison Control Centers
HELP LINE 1-800-222-1222**

GOOD BUG/BAD BUG

Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Sandra Williams



MEALY BUG



“RAGMOP” larva of a beetle, *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*.

In the photo on the left is a mealy bug and on the right is a “ragmop” which is the larva of a beetle, *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*. It is a type of ladybird beetle and both the beetle and larvae will feed on the mealybug. It is difficult to tell them apart at first glance, particularly when the ragmop is first developing. As it grows, the ragmop becomes larger than the mealy bug. In the right-hand photo are the *Cryptolaemus* beetle and its larvae.

It seems to be the season for the cottony cushion scale and others of its ilk. Before you even realize it’s here, it has infested some of your favorite plants! I found a colony of mealy bugs on my Henry Duelberg Salvia. There was a massive infestation on the underside of the leaves. If I’d found just a few, or found them on a house plant, I’d remove them by hand or swab them off with a q-tip dipped in alcohol. Since that was not the case, I trimmed off the infested portions of the plant and put it in a plastic garbage bag. Next I hosed off the plants with water. I’ll check those and surrounding plants frequently. I’ll keep a look-out for rag mops - GOOD BUGS - and leave them in place if they are present. If the mealy bugs persist, I’ll mix up a solution of insecticidal soap and spray it on any affected plants in the evening, when the plants are shaded. It’s necessary to spray the underside of leaves as well as the rest of the plant. Repeat the process as needed. My personal choice is often to remove the plant if I have other starts of the same plant and wait for cooler weather to replant them.

Two weeks later: No signs of mealy bugs, but I think I noticed some white flies on some seedlings....



BIDHAL

A Note From Your Master Gardener Gazette Editor

Editor: John M. Slusarz Phone: 361-939-0505 E-mail: jmslusarz2@gmail.com

The end of August rain was nature’s way of letting us know that the heat and drought of summer are almost over. The soil has been irrigated and we can begin our fall gardening in earnest. Fall in coastal Texas is the second best time, anywhere, to garden.

Our spring time is unquestionably the best. Make the most of the upcoming wonderful weather. Show no mercy and clean out the waning remnants that are lingering from your summer garden. Rejoice and appreciate; it’s time to sow those new seeds and plant those new seedlings for your new fall/winter garden. **GO GROW YOUR GARDEN!**



Kevin O. Gibbs, CEA-Horticulture—Editor: John M. Slusarz

Disclaimer - The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The information herein is for informational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Master Gardeners is implied.

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361-767-5217 at least one week in advance of the program in order for proper arrangements to be made.

Contact for general information and name, address or phone number change please contact the office at:
 Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service
 ATTN: Horticulture Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
 710 E. Main, Suite 1, Attn: Horticulture
 Robstown, Texas 78380 (361) 767-5217