



GN Gardening Magazine

February 2024

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Cover photo: A flowering Taiwan cherry tree.

Photo by Chris Dunaway

Look at Me

Taiwan Cherry (*Prunus campanulata*)

On a recent walk in the historic New Orleans French Quarter I was delighted to see a beautiful display of bright pink flowers coming from one of the hidden courtyards. While other plants around were brown and leafless this Taiwan cherry tree was shouting “Look at me!”

Taiwan cherry (*Prunus campanulata*) is native to Southern China. It is a deciduous tree so it does lose its leaves in the fall. They are small trees which can grow up to 20 feet tall and equally as wide. In late

winter, it produces one-inch, bright pink flowers on its naked branches. The trees will produce small red fruit. These ‘cherries’ are bitter to the taste but are attractive to visiting songbirds. In the warm season, the dark green leaves provide shade all summer, turning a bronze-red in fall.

Planting and Care:

The Taiwan cherry is the most heat-tolerant of the flowering cherry species, and can be planted



Photo by Chris Dunaway

The bright flamingo pink flowers of a Taiwan cherry peaking over a garden wall in the French Quarter.

throughout the deep south, in USDA plant hardiness zones 7b-9a. New trees can be propagated by seeds or tip cuttings in the spring.

Taiwan cherry prefers full sun, but will tolerate some shade. Plant your tree where it will be visible to enjoy its spring flowering. These trees do best with regular irrigation and well-drained, acidic soil. Occasional pruning can significantly improve the form of the crown, especially when trees are young.

There are no major pest problems, although tent caterpillars and scale have been observed. A healthy tree can usually withstand minor pests. One drawback of Taiwan cherry is that it's relatively short lived, lasting just 10 or 15 years, but that's still plenty of time for you to enjoy its beauty.

~Chris Dunaway



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A honeybee collects pollen and nectar from the flowers of a Taiwan cherry tree.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A Taiwan cherry tree growing in the gardens of the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station.

Selected Resources:

[LSU AgCenter Get it Growing](#)

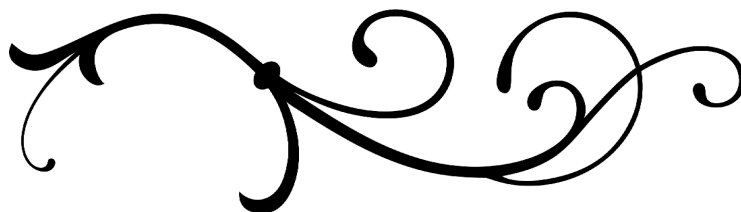
Dr. Heather Kirk-Ballard <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=778376866112998>

[State-by-State Gardening](#)

<https://www.statebystategardening.com/tiawan-cherry-tree/>

[University of Florida Gardening Solutions: Taiwan Cherry](#)

<https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/trees-and-shrubs/trees/taiwan-cherry.html>



February Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Beets	Detroit Dark Red, Kestrel, Red Ace F1, Ruby Queen
Carrots	Danvers 128, Purple Haze, Thumbelina, Apache, Enterprise, Maverick, Sugar Snax 54
Collards	Champions, Flash, Georgia Southern, Top Bunch, Vates
Eggplants (seeds)	Dusky, Epic, Night Shadow, Black Beauty
Irish Potatoes	Dark Red Norland, Red LaSoda, Kennebec, Yukon Gold,
Kale	Siberian, Vates
Kohlrabi	Early Purple Vienna, Early White, Vienna, Winner
Lettuce	Esmeralda, New Red Fire F1, Nevada, Tall Guzmaine Elite
Mustard Greens	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave, Red Giant, Southern Giant Curled, Savannah, Tendergreen
Pepper, Bell (Seeds)	Aristotle XR3, Jupiter, King Arthur, Paladin, Golden Summer, Purple Beauty, Tequila
Pepper, Hot (Seeds)	Grande, Tula, Mariachi, Mitla, El Rey F1, Tobasco, Jalapeño M, Super Cayenne II
Radishes	Cherriette, Champion, White Icicle, April Cross
Shallots	Matador, Prism
Snap Beans, Bush	Blue Lake 274, Bronco, Contender, Festina, Lynx, Provider, Roma II
Snap Beans, Pole	Derby, Blue Lake, Kentucky Blue, McCaslin, Rattlesnake, Kentucky Wonder 191
Spinach	Bloomsdale Long Standing, Melody, Tyee, Unipak 151
Sweet Corn	Merit, Silver Queen, Honey ‘n Pearl, Ambrosia
Swiss Chard	None Given
Tomatoes (seeds)	Bella Rosa, Fletcher, Tribute, BHN 1021, Amelia, Dixie Red
Turnip Greens	Alamo, All Top, Purple, Top White Globe, Seven Top, Southern Green, Top Star, Tokyo Cross

Weed of the Month

Bedstraw (*Galium aparine*)

There are quite a few nuisance weeds sprouting and growing right now. Bur clover is particularly pernicious with its spiked seed pods and rapidly spreading habit. This is one you certainly want to control before it sets seed. See the April 2021 GNO Gardening to read more about our two species of bur clover, *Medicago polymorpha* and *Medicago arabica*. Carolina geranium is another that is really growing heartily right now. See the January 2021 GNO Gardening to read more about *Geranium carolinianum*.

Another weed that is showing up all around right now is one that I find especially annoying; bedstraw (*Galium aparine*). Aparine comes from the Greek 'apairo' meaning 'to lay hold of' or 'seize'. This is very appropriate especially when list the many common names: catchweed, stickyweed, stickybud, sticky willy, stickyjack, stickeljack, grip grass, cleavers, and Velcro weed. Bedstraw as a common name is

perplexing to me since no one would want to lay down in a field of this. Actually, it was used as mattress stuffing because the clinging of the stems to each other hinder clumping in the mattress. Bedstraw is native to Eurasia but is common in 49 of 50 U.S. states, Hawaii being the exception. It belongs to the Rubiaceae family which is the same family as coffee (*Coffea arabica* and *Coffea canephora*), which is interesting because the dried, roasted fruits have been used as a coffee substitute. I've never tried it. The young leaves can also be eaten raw or cooked.

Galium aparine is an herbaceous creeping annual with simple, narrowly oblanceolate leaves borne in whorls of 6-8. It has a square stem that creeps along the ground and climbs anything it contacts reaching lengths of up to 6 feet. The stem is weak but the stem and leaves are covered with hooked hairs (Figure 1) making it easier to cling to and climb over other plants, walls, fences, almost any rough surface. The

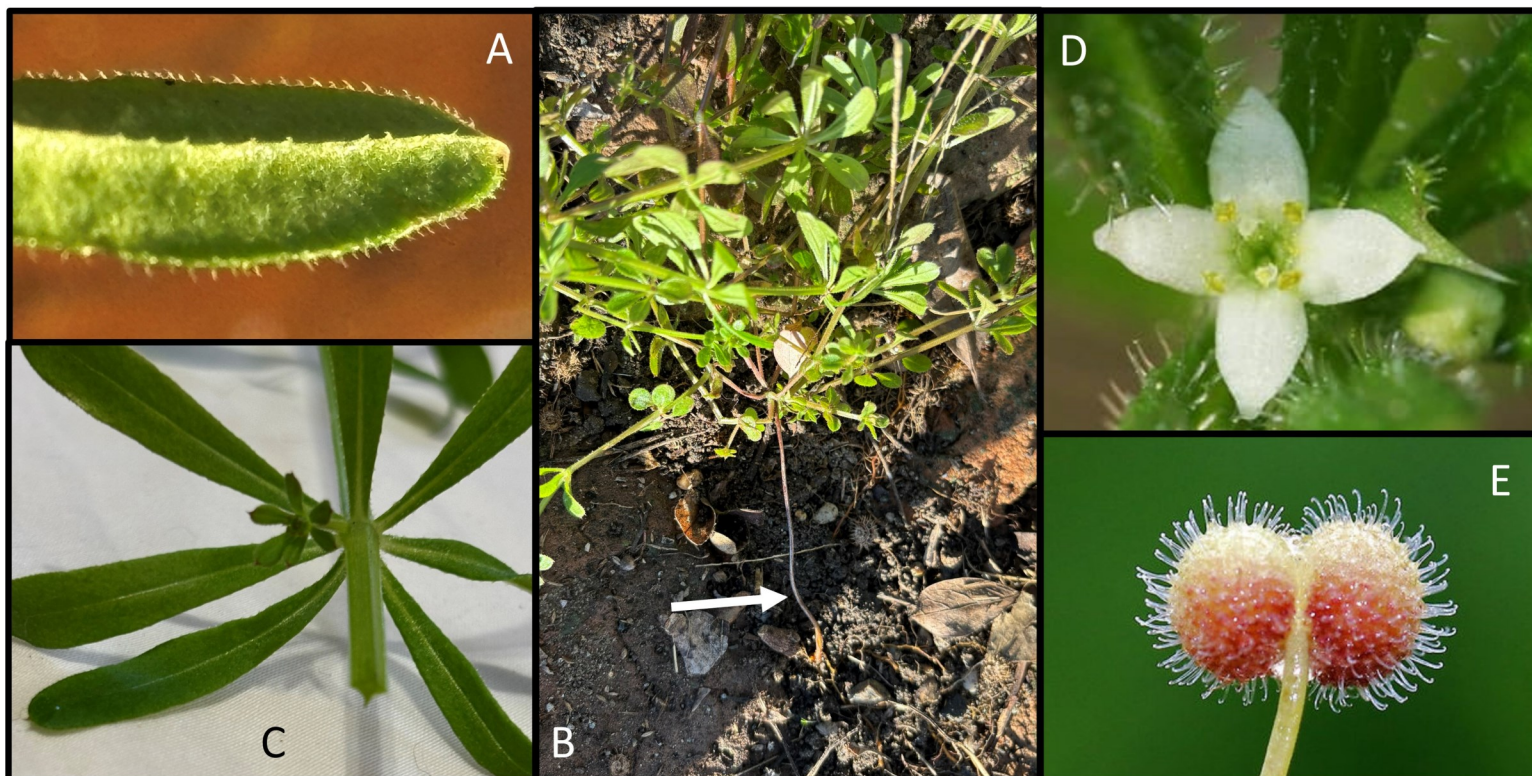


Figure 1: A: Developing leaf covered with tiny hooked hairs. B: Arrow pointing to the slender weak stem attaching the large plant to its root system. C: Note the square stem, whorl of lanceolate leaves, and arising flower stalk in axil. D: Small, white, four-petaled flower. E: Two-lobed fruit covered with hooked hairs.

weak stem is even more weakly attached to the roots/ground (Figure 1). So while the clinging climbing stems are easily removed from the landscape, the roots remain to sprout again.

The flowers are tiny (2-3mm) four-petaled, greenish to white in clusters of 2-9 produced on stalks arising from the node at the leaf whorls (Figure 1). Flowers appear as soon as the plant matures from February to Summer. The fruits (2-5 mm) are schizocarps (a dry fruit that splits into two or more one-seeded portions at maturity), two-lobed, and covered with stiff hooked hairs (Figure 1). These hairs help the seeds spread by hitchhiking on any passerby, animal or human. This trait is why I find it particularly irksome – we have two labradoodles who seem to always find a patch of bedstraw to run through. Removing all those seeds is quite a chore.

Bedstraw is a cool season annual weed that starts germinating in October. Controlling bedstraw requires removing the plant prior to seed production. One plant can produce over 3000 seeds. The above ground plant parts are easily removed by hand, but the roots can only be removed with digging. Most broadleaf and broad-spectrum herbicides will kill bedstraw but are usually not recommended. Pre-emergent herbicides that contain dithiopyr, isoxaben, pendimethalin, or prodiamine, have activity against bedstraw but they must be used prior to seed germination.

~ Dr. Joe W. Willis

Selected Resources:

Anderson, Meaghan. 2024. Catchweed Bedstraw. Iowa State University. [Catchweed bedstraw | Integrated Crop Management \(iastate.edu\)](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/catchweed/)

Catchweed Bedstraw (*Galium aparine*). 2016. UC IPM. [Weed Gallery: Catchweed Bedstraw--UC IPM \(ucanr.edu\)](https://www.ipm.ucanr.edu/weed-gallery/catchweed-bedstraw/)

Galium aparine. NCSU Extension. [Galium aparine \(Catchweed Bedstraw, Cleavers, Goosegrass, Stickyweed, Sticky willy, Velcro plant\) | North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox](https://www.gardeningwithclem.com/galium-aparine/)



Figure 2: Large bedstraw climbing a young lemon tree.

[\(ncsu.edu\)](https://www.ncsu.edu/)

Lanini, W.T. and B. Hanson. 2010. Catchweed Bedstraw. UC Davis Extension. [pncatchweedbedstraw.pdf \(ucanr.edu\)](https://www.ucdavis.edu/extension/pncatchweedbedstraw.pdf)

Mahr, Susan. Catchweed Bedstraw, *Galium aparine*. University of Wisconsin, Madison. [Catchweed Bedstraw, *Galium aparine* – Wisconsin Horticulture](https://www.wisconsinhorticulture.org/2019/04/catchweed-bedstraw-galium-aparine/)

Strahan, R. 2023. Tip Tuesday: Bedstraw. [\(20+\) Video | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/20plusvideo/)

Disease of the Month- Black Knot

(aka *Dibotryon morbosum*, *Apiosporina morbosa*, *Plowrightia morbosum*)

This disease is one that pops up on members of the stone fruit tribe, or *Prunus* genus- plum, nectarine, cherry, apricot, chokecherry, black cherry, and peaches, including all

cultivars grown for their fruit or decorative flowers. This is a widespread fungal pathogen, which singles out these trees and slowly develops. Thick, black, irregular swellings appear over time on the twigs of the trees. Usually, symptoms are first noticed in the winter months after the leaves have fallen, but the disease has been

present for a long time once the black knots are visible. The pathogen disrupts the normal growth pattern of the twigs, and the tumor-like growth appears at the infection site, up to a year or more following initial infection. It is difficult to pinpoint or see the early infection symptoms. Small, light brown swellings appear on the current or previous seasons growth. By the next season, these swellings become olive-green in color and velvety in texture. Over the next season, the growths swell, become hard and cracked in texture, and black in coloration. These

knots can measure 1-30 cm (0.5-12 inches) in length and up to 5 cm (2 inches) in circumference. When knots form on the branch tips, they may curl or distort because of the extra cellular material on one

side of the twig. If the disease is allowed to spread unchecked, the tree can become girdled by the knots and decline, and eventually die. Productivity and attractiveness also diminishes as the disease progresses. The disease cycle starts when spores are released from established black knots in the spring. This



Stem galls caused by the black knot fungus.
Photo by: D.L., Muenster Indiana

occurs in damp conditions when temperatures reach 60°F degrees or higher. The spores are airborne and travel to uninfected twigs or nearby trees to begin the life cycle again. Spores can also be spread on pruning equipment, clothing, gloves, and by animals. New leaf buds and wounds on the trees are good entry points for the fungus to take hold.

Controlling black knot is difficult. There has been little breeding work towards black knot resistance in southern stone fruit cultivars, and the pathogen is readily found in American black cherry trees and sand

plums, which are abundant in many areas. The best control is by inspecting your trees regularly, especially in the dormant season. Look for cracks, discoloration, swelling, or raised areas on the twigs. Remove any knots or damaged areas with hand pruners or loppers. Cut back to healthy wood at least an inch below the infection site. Be sure to wipe or dip your cutting tools with a 10% bleach water solution or the horticultural disinfectant Pysan 20 in between cuts. Pick up any debris or pruned material from the ground and burn it. If you can't burn in your area, double bag the twigs and send them to the landfill. Fungicides only work if corrective pruning and good orchard sanitation is also used. Fungicides such as neem oil, copper, lime sulfur, sulfur, Captan, Chlorothalonil, and Thiophanate-methyl can be used

and are most effective if sprayed prior to rain events in spring when temperatures first begin to hit 60°F. This can be difficult to pinpoint in our area.

~Anna Timmerman

Selected Resources:

Black Knot of Plum and Cherry. University of Maine Cooperative Extension. <https://extension.umaine.edu/ipm/ipddl/publications/5091e/>

Black Knot. American Phytopathological Society. <https://www.apsnet.org/edcenter/disandpath/fungalasco/pdlessons/Pages/BlackKnot.aspx>



Cherry stems growing at distorted angles due to black knot galls. Photo by N. Brazee

Leaf Mulch Benefits Soil Health and Arthropod Communities

Leaves are an important source of nutrients for the environment. As leaves decompose, the resources, such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and other elements, are released in the environment,

replacing nutrients and rejuvenating the soil. Leaves also hold water, increasing the moisture content in the soil. Additionally, if leaf mulch is maintained in the landscape, the debris does not need to be disposed of using the waste management system. Leaves can be used as mulch in a few different ways. Thin layers of dry leaves can be regularly mowed into fine pieces and left in the yard. Leaf litter can also be chopped and integrated into garden beds, increasing soil aeration while acting as a fertilizer. Whole or fragmented leaves can be spread in

garden beds, covering unwanted weeds while also being a fertilizer. Surround the base of plants with 3 to 4 inches of chopped leaf mulch, or 2 to 3 inches of whole leaves. Once placed, the leaves could be left as is or tilled in the soil if desired. These strategies for maintaining leaf mulch can also reduce the overall

amount of labor associated with bagging leaves and disposing them.

Another benefit of maintaining leaf mulch is that a variety of beneficial arthropods require leaf litter as a

habitat to live and reproduce. These arthropods act as biocontrol agents or predators of pest insects. Often times due to high levels of activity in human environments, the number of beneficial arthropods around homes is substantially reduced, resulting in the need for insecticides to control pest insects. Maintaining leaf litter for arthropods and other organisms, creates habitats that promote reproduction, survival, and the success of naturally occurring enemies of pest insects. It also will support arthropods that will break down leaf



An established leaf mulch bed under a magnificent live oak tree.

mulch or are pollinators. We will review some of the different insect families that benefit when leaf litter mulch habitats are created for them.

Many beneficial species go dormant or “overwinter” in leaf litter when temperatures drop. Lady beetles (Family Coccinellidae), soldier beetles (Family

Cantharidae), and fireflies (Family Lampyridae) are beetles that overwinter in leaf litter for protection from cold temperatures. Predatory ground beetles (Family Carabidae) and rove beetles (Family Staphylinidae) inhabit leaf litter and are primarily nocturnal hunters. Predatory Phytoseiid mite species perform biocontrol services in gardens and orchards. If leaf litter is placed around the base of fruit tree trunks and the peripheries of orchards, it will greatly benefit their populations. Various non-web producing hunting spiders also benefit from leaf litter habitats. Wolf, crab, and jumping spiders all use leaf litter to hunt, overwinter, and deposit egg sacs into for

protection. Tachinid flies (Family Tachinidae) which look similar to house flies, and hover flies (Family Syrphidae), which look like bees, will use leaf litter as a site to pupate and complete their development. Similarly, lacewing larvae (Family Chrysopidae and Hemerobiidae) pupate on the underside of leaves to overwinter. For more information on arthropods that benefit from leaf mulch usage, be on the look-out for our upcoming fact sheet “Leave it Be: Maintaining Leaf Litter in the Landscape”.

~Drs. Aaron Ashbrook, Damon Abdi, and Jeb Fields



A ladybug enjoys a feast of oleander aphids.

I Saw the Sign

It is imperative to consider how plants grow around other features – particularly in public areas when safety is at risk. Where roadways and walkways meet, signs guide us to where we walk or drive, and perhaps more importantly, where we stop. Bearing this in mind, we can all agree that our communities are safer when everyone can say “I saw the sign”.

Life is demanding, and without understanding the importance of properly maintaining plants around signs there can be issues. Consider how we can harmonize landscape aesthetics with the important messages that signs provide. Here are some thoughts to consider:

Make sure to prune plants that grow near signs so that they do not block the message. Consider selecting plants that maintain a low profile, as this runs less of a risk of shielding the sign from view. Compact or low-growing plants are good choices versus plants that will get dragged up into the light where they DON'T belong.

For very important signs (such as STOP signs), a vibrant color will naturally gravitate the eyes to that location so that everyone can say “it opened up my eyes” – but avoid overwhelming viewers with so much color that it distracts from the crucial message.

We always stress “right plant, right place”, so take a hint from Ace of Base and make sure that everyone saw the sign.

~Dr. Damon Abdi and Dr. Jeb Fields



Blocked road signs can be extremely hazardous to drivers.



Low growing plants can enhance the area and still allow for visibility.

Galls on Trees

As we wait to see the extent of damage caused from the 2023 drought on deciduous trees throughout the region and landscape, I thought it pertinent to discuss a common complaint involving trees. Folks new to owning and managing trees in the landscape or those who start paying closer attention to the trees growing on their property will eventually become familiar with some of the oddities seen in nature. I'm sure we've all seen weird growths on tree branches at times. They become especially apparent on deciduous trees during the winter months when there are no leaves on the tree to obstruct view. The weird growths are termed "galls" and they aren't caused by the same insect, but rather can be caused by a slew of gall-inducing insects. Galls are abnormal growths of plant tissue with an external cause. Insects, mites, nematodes, viruses, fungi, bacteria, and even other plant species can cause galls.

Gall formation is a biochemical alteration of the natural growth pattern of a plant. The gall inducing organism introduces a compound to plant tissue. These compounds imitate natural growth regulating hormones to stimulate abnormal tissue growth creating a gall. Gall formation begins in spring when insects become active. Leaves, stems, and flowers are common plant parts that can be infected with various types of galls. The gall itself provides shelter for the immature organisms while they grow and develop into adults. Once the organism completes its life cycle, the initial gall can remain on the tree for several years.

Back in the November 2023 issue of GNO Gardening, I wrote about Cypress Twig Gall caused by the Cypress Twig Gall Midge Fly. For this article, I am focusing on wasp insects that form some of the common galls seen in oak trees throughout Southeast Louisiana.



Oak apple gall



Gouty Oak Gall

Wasp insects are classified into the order Hymenoptera, and gall wasps are further classified into the family cynipidae. There are close to 50 genera and over 750 different species within cynipidae! These wasps are very small (3/16 inch) insects and their young are even smaller.

Oak Apple Gall is very common in the southeast United States. Spongy oak apple gall is caused by *Amphibolips confluenta* and empty oak gall is caused by *A. quercusspongifica*. In general, both galls can measure up to 2 inches in diameter. The gall surface is light green and covered with purple-red colored bumps. The difference between the two oak apple galls occurs on the inside and is straight forward as the common names suggest. Both are very common on red oak, *Quercus falcata*, and are routinely brought into the Extension Office for identification,

The Horned Oak Gall and Gouty Oak Gall are other common galls seen in the area. Both are caused by members of the genus, *Callirhytis*. Horned Oak Gall is caused by *C. conigera* and Gouty Oak Gall is caused by *C. quercuspunctata*. Mature specimens of both oak galls can be individual swellings or a massive compound of galls ranging from 5cm in diameter to over 20cm in length. As the galls get older, they become very woody and discolored. The Horned Oak Gall will eventually display horned like protrusions.

Detachable Woolly Oak Leaf Gall, caused by *Andricus quercuslanigera*, is a common gall seen on Live Oak trees, *Q. virginiana*. These galls are much smaller and fuzzy compared to the previous oak galls. The fuzzy looking galls occur on the under side of the leaf along the midrib. It is commonplace to see 4-5 galls down one midrib.

Although their appearance may be unsightly, galls rarely contribute to poor plant health. Gall-inducing insects aren't known to seriously harm trees. The numbers of galls can fluctuate from year to year depending on the population of the gall-inducing organism. In most cases, management isn't required. However, if the situation arises hand removal of galls

from smaller landscape trees will provide immediate improvement. This option can provide control if gall is active and contains immatures. Leaf galls from the previous year can harbor gall-inducing insects and become a source of reinfection. In these scenarios it might be recommended to remove and destroy fallen



Andricus quercuslanigera wasp

leaves. Although there are insecticidal sprays labeled for use on gall-inducing insects, they must be perfectly timed for when adults emerge from galls in late winter and early spring.

For more information on galls in trees or other horticultural issues connect with your local parish extension office or visit www.LSUAgCenter.com.

~William Afton

Selected Resources:

- Baker, J. 2019. Detachable Woolly Leaf Gall. PDIC Factsheets. NC State Extension. Raleigh, NC.
- Cranshaw, W. and D. Shetlar. 2018. Garden Insects of North America. 2nd ed. Princeton University Press, New Jersey.
- Townsend, L. and D. Potter. 2014. Horned oak gall. Entfact 457. University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY.
- W. Dixon. 2021. Featured creatures:gall wasps. University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. DPI Entomology Circular 355. Gainesville, FL.

In the Kitchen with Austin

Sweet Potato Pancakes

While sweet potatoes are in season, you have to try this recipe. They are delicious anytime, but especially on a lazy week-end morning.

Ingredients:

1 cup sweet potatoes, mashed	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup all-purpose flour
2 eggs	1 tsp. cinnamon
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk	1 tsp. baking powder
2 Tbs. light brown sugar	$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt
1 Tbs. maple syrup	Pinch nutmeg
2 Tbs. butter, melted	



Hot Sweet Potato Pancakes

Directions:

In a large bowl, whisk flour, cinnamon, baking powder, salt, and nutmeg together.

In a separate bowl, whisk sweet potatoes, eggs, milk, light brown sugar, maple syrup, and melted butter together.

Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir just until combined.

Melt a small pat of butter in a nonstick skillet over medium heat. Ladle portions of batter into skillet. Cook until golden underneath, about 3 minutes, then flip and cook another 3 minutes on the other side.

Repeat with remaining batter. Serve with more butter and maple syrup.

Bon Manger

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market

739 Third Street, Gretna
Every Saturday, except the Saturday of
Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
<https://www.gretnala.com/visitors/farmers-market/>

Nawlins Outdoor Market

1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey
Every Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM
<https://www.facebook.com/NawlinsMarket/>

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte

920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-1PM
<https://www.facebook.com/JeanLafitteLa/>

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie

3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 2-7PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064920097975>

Westwego Farmer's Market

484 Sala Ave., Westwego
3rd Tuesday of the month, 10AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075979938725>

Westwego Shrimp Lot

100 Westbank Expressway at Louisiana St.,
Westwego
Daily Mon-Thurs 8AM-6PM, Fri 8AM-7PM,
Sat 7AM-7PM, and Sun 7AM-6PM
<https://www.facebook.com/officialwestwegoshrimplot>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hub-Clearview

4516 Clearview
Store Pickups, preorder online at <https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/buy-groceries-1>

Harahan Farmer's Market

501 Oak Ave., Zeringue Park, Harahan
Sundays, 9AM-1PM
<https://www.facebook.com/HarahanMarket>

Rivertown Farmer's Market

400 Block of Williams Blvd., Kenner
Thursdays Noon-6PM (Off for August)
<https://www.facebook.com/RivertownFarmersMarket>

Old Metairie Farmer's Market

Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn
Dr. and Labarre
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-
7:30PM** Check for seasonal dates!
<https://www.oldmetairiegardenclub.com/tag/farmers-art-metairie-market/>

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City

500 N. Norman C. Francis
Thursdays from 3-7PM
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park

Tad Gormley Stadium parking lot at
Marconi and Navarre
Sundays from 8AM-Noon
Preorder contact-free drive through only,
info at www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Uptown

200 Broadway
Tuesdays from 8AM-Noon
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders, info at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

SPROUT NOLA Truck Farm Table

200 N. Broad (In Whole Foods lobby or in
parking lot, weather permitting)
Walk up <https://www.sproutnolafarm.org/>

Vietnamese Farmer's Market

14401 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East
Saturdays, 5:30AM-8:30AM

Marketplace at Armstrong Park

901 N. Rampart
Thursdays from 3-7PM
<https://www.facebook.com/MarketplaceArmstrongPark/>

New Orleans French Market

Lower Decatur Street
Daily, 9AM-6PM

Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market

Comiskey Park, New Orleans
Market dates vary.
Check <http://midcityaf.org>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hubs

Pick up points vary, pre-orders available
Bywater, Broadmoor, Lakeview, Irish
Channel, Mid-City, Algiers Point, Uptown
Locations
[https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/](https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/events)
events

Barcelo Gardens Farmer's Market- Upper 9th Ward

2301 Gallier Street at the garden, Saturdays
from 10AM-1PM
3440 Piety Street Fresh Market open daily,
weekly bulk produce sale.
<https://www.facebook.com/BarceloGardens/>

Bywater Market at Trap Kitchen-Bywater

1043 Poland Ave
Sundays from 10AM-3PM

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point

4123 Woodland Dr. Algiers
First and Third Sundays of the month, from
10AM-1PM
<https://www.bounyfulgreenmarket.com/>

Sankofa Fresh Stop Market

Coming soon!
<https://sankofanola.org/rfq/>

Sheaux Fresh Sustainable Foods- Treme-Laffite

585 N. Claiborne at Lafitte Greenway
(under overpass)
Check for current dates/times at
www.sheauxfresh.org

FUBU Market

3101 Erato Street New Orleans, location
changes, check website/social media
<https://www.facebook.com/TheFUBUMarket>
www.fubumarket.com/

St. Tammany Parish

Covington Farmers' Market

Covington Police Department
609 North Columbia St., Covington, LA 70433
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
Covington Trailhead
419 N. New Hampshire
Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (rain or
shine)www.covingtonfarmersmarket.org
General information: 985.966.1786

Mandeville Trailhead Community Market

Mandeville Trailhead
675 Lafitte St, Mandeville, LA 70448
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheMandevilleTrailhead)
TheMandevilleTrailhead
985.624.3147

Madisonville Market

Riverside Park South
Water St., Madisonville, LA 70447
Sunday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
www.madisonvillemarket.org

Folsom Village Market

Hwy 40, one block east of Hwy 25
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (weather per-
mitting)
Every 2nd and 4th Saturday
985.507.6496 (daytime only)

Abita Springs Art and Farmers' Market

22049 Main St., Abita Springs, LA 70420
Sunday: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.townofabitasprings.com/](https://www.townofabitasprings.com/farmers-market)
farmers-market
985.892.0711

Camellia City Farmer's Market

Old Towne Slidell
333 Erlanger St. (Corner of Third St.)
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaCityMarket/)
CamelliaCityMarket/
985.640.7112

St. Charles Parish

Luling Farmer's Market at Westbank Bridge Park-Luling

13825 River Road, Luling, LA
Wednesdays, from 1-5PM
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

German Coast Farmer's Market

160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

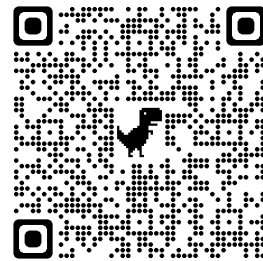
Help Support Horticulture programs in the Greater New Orleans Area

Funding helps the LSU AgCenter agents provide help for:

- School and Community Gardens
- Educational Training Events
- Seed Libraries
- Demonstration Gardens
- Educational Scholarships
- Local Research
- and Much More



A Louisiana Master Gardener Volunteer helps to plant a garden at a local school.



Scan the QR code above to go to the LSU Foundation donation webpage.

Or Click here: <https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1585/17/interior.aspx?sid=1585&gid=1&pgid=666&cid=1464&bledit=1&dids=5517>

Local Independent Garden Centers

Jefferson

Perino's Garden Center	3100 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 834-7888
Rose Garden Center	4005 Westbank Expressway, Marerro, LA 70072	(504) 341-5664
Rose Garden & Pet Store	5420 Lapalco Blvd., Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 347-8777
Banting's Nursery	3425 River Rd., Bridge City, LA 70094	(504) 436-4343
Jefferson Feed	4421 Jefferson Hwy., Jefferson, LA 70121	(504) 733-8572
Nine Mile Point Plant Nursery	2141 River Rd., Westwego, LA 70094	(504) 436-4915
Palm Garden Depot	351 Hickory Ave., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 305-6170
Double M Feed Harahan	8400 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 738-5007
Double M Feed Metairie	3212 W. Esplanade Ave., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 835-9800
Double M Feed Terrytown	543 Holmes Blvd., Terrytown, LA 70056	(504) 361-4405
Sunrise Trading Co. Inc.	42 3 rd St., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 469-0077
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-4336
Creative Gardens & Landscape	2309 Manhattan Blvd., Harvey, LA 70058	(504) 367-9099
Plumeria Insanity Nursery	https://www.facebook.com/Plumeria-Insanity-Nursery-102123651930419	

Soil Vendors

Schmelly's Dirt Farm	8301 Olive St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 535-GROW
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-433
Reliable Soil	725 Reverand Richard Wilson Dr., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 467-1078
Renaissance Gardens	9123 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA 70043	(504) 682-9911
Rock n' Soil NOLA	9119 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-0908
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713

If you would like your licensed retail nursery listed, please email gnogardening@agcenter.lsu.edu



One of the contestants takes a nap before the big 4-H livestock show.

Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans

Urban Roots	2375 Tchoupitoulas St., New Orleans, LA 70130	(504) 522-4949
The Plant Gallery	9401 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-8887
Harold's Plants	1135 Press St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 947-7554
We Bite Rare and Unusual Plants	1225 Mandeville St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 380-4628
Hot Plants	1715 Feliciana St., New Orleans, LA 70117	www.hotplantsnursery.com
Pelican Greenhouse Sales	2 Celebration Dr., New Orleans, LA 70124	(504) 483-9437
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713
Jefferson Feed Mid-City	309 N. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119	(504) 488-8118
Jefferson Feed Uptown	6047 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 218-4220
Ninth Ward Nursery	2641 Deslonde St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 296-8398
Crazy Plant Bae	800 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans LA 70119	(504) 327-7008
Canopy Plant Company	6030 St. Claude, New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 381-4033
Too Tall Nursery	2817 N. Roman, New Orleans, LA 70117	tootallfarm@gmail.com
Plantery NOLA	Pop Up Locations	www.planterynola.com
Canopy Plant Co.	Pop Up and Online Sales	www.canopyplantco.com
New Orleans Succulent Boutique	Online Sales	https://sites.google.com/view/nolasucculentshop/home
Root Life Mobile Plant Nursery	Pop Up Locations	https://rootlifeplantnursery.com/
New Orleans Green LLC	Online Sales	www.neworleans-green.com

Plaquemines

Southern Gateway Garden Center	107 Timber Ridge St., Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 393-9300
Belle Danse Orchids	14079 Belle Chasse Hwy., Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 419-5416

St. Charles

Plant & Palm Tropical Outlet	10018 River Rd., St. Rose, LA 70087	(504) 468-7256
Martin's Nursery & Landscape	320 3 rd St., Luling, LA 70070	(985) 785-6165

St. Bernard

Plant Pricks	Pop Up Locations	https://plantpricks.com/
Nice Plants, Good Pots	6720 St. Claude Ave., Arabie, LA	Etsy.com/shop/NicePlantsGoodPots

St. Tammany

The Boho Being	1184 Front St., Slidell, LA 70458	(985)707-1623
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New Orleans Spring Garden Show

*An educational experience for the
home and professional gardener*

April 6-7, 2024
9 am to 4 pm

New Orleans Botanical Garden
Victory Avenue, City Park

**Plant and Garden Products, Exhibits &
Sales, Kids Discovery Area,
Educational Programs, Music,
Arts & Crafts**

**Admission: \$12.00 Adults /
Children 5-12: \$6.00
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City Park enter free**



For more information,
please contact
504-736-6519 or
GNOGardening@agcenter.lsu.edu



February Checklist/Garden Tips

February is the month to fertilize hardy fruit trees such as apple, peach, nectarine, fig and fruit bushes such as blackberry and blueberry. Citrus are fertilized in late January or early February. Wait until March to fertilize tender fruit trees like banana, guava and avocado. For information on growing fruit trees in our area click on the link for the LSU AgCenter publication [Louisiana Home Orchard](#).

Plant gladiolus corms this month through mid March. Plant groups of corms every two weeks during the planting season to extend the display of flowers.

Pick snow peas in the vegetable garden frequently. Ideally the pods should be harvested when flat before the seeds begin to enlarge.

You may clip ground covers back now before new growth appears to remove unattractive foliage, rejuvenate the plants and control growth. Liriope, monkey grass, ferns (if browned back by freezes), wedelia, Japanese ardisia and Asiatic jasmine among others can be cut back with a lawn mower adjusted to its highest setting (make sure the blade is sharp), a string trimmer or even hedge clippers on small plantings. Selectively remove unattractive leaves on aspidistra (cast iron plant) and holly ferns by hand.

Keep beds mulched to a depth of two to three inches to control weeds in beds. Use leaves, pine straw or other available materials. Use your bagging lawn mower or shredder to chop up the leaves prior to putting down. This reduces the volume of the leaves, increases surface area to help the leaves break down and release nutrients, reduces matting and fungal growth, reduces movement by wind and makes for a cleaner look. Mulch helps prevent weed seeds from germinating and helps to retain moisture in the soil.

If you are growing caladiums from tubers, plant them indoors this month to get a head start. Plant the tubers in trays or pots of potting soil, placing them in a warm area of the house. Water them when the soil is dry to the touch. As the leaves appear, move them to a sunny windowsill or a shady area outdoors (if day temps are 70ish and evenings in the 60s). Plant pre-sprouted tubers into the garden in early April.

Finish harvesting any citrus fruit remaining on the trees. Quality will begin to decline as the trees get ready to flower.

Onions, shallots, garlic and leeks are susceptible to an insect called thrips which causes small white marks on the foliage called stippling. Heavy infestations can damage foliage to the point that the harvest is reduced. Control thrips with Malathion.

Clean out your pond garden or aquatic garden this month, if you need to. It is advisable to do this if there is a thick layer of gunk on the bottom. It is best to get this done while the weather is cool, the plants are dormant and the fish are less active. Pond cleaning is the best time to divide and repot water and bog plants that are dormant or semi-dormant. Do not divide those in active growth such as Louisiana irises and calla lilies.

Plant rose bushes in well prepared beds with good drainage and plenty of sun. It is important for the graft union to be 2 inches above the soil of the bed. If you plant roses purchased in containers, this was taken care of by the nursery. Just plant the bush so the top of the root ball is level with the soil of the bed. In the case of bare root roses, you must see to this yourself during planting. Finish planting bare root roses by the end of February.

Plant hardy bedding plants now for a spring burst of color. Foxglove, delphiniums, and hollyhocks need to be planted now so that they will bloom before the summer. Plant snapdragons, dianthus, petunia, stock, phlox, and lobelia as spring annuals in sunny areas. Need cool season color in a partial shade area? The best choices are cyclamen, primroses, pansy, viola, nicotiana, foxglove, alyssum and forget-me-not.

Sow some herbs to enjoy this spring into your garden beds or in containers. Chervil, dill, fennel, cilantro, stevia, oregano, parsley, and rosemary can be planted now. Basil needs warmer temperatures, so hold off until the end of the month.

In the vegetable garden, it's time to get spring crops started! Do a soil test to determine what amendments need to be added.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do:

1. If you have a history of problems with crabgrass or goosegrass, apply a pre-emergent herbicide now. [Click here to see more information on Crabgrass from the LSU AgCenter.](#)
2. Apply selective herbicides and sedge killers to kill off winter weeds growing in the lawn. You may also scout the lawn and remove weeds by hand. Make a game out of it with kids and grand-kids.
3. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. [Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.](#)
4. Take a soil test.
5. Apply sulfur or lime to adjust the pH if necessary according to soil lab recommendations.
6. Use a mulching mower to shred fallen leaves without removing them or use a bagging mower to collect them and put them in your compost pile or use them as mulch in your gardens.
7. Late winter to early spring is a good time to address drainage issues in your lawn. Consider installing a rain garden. Dedicating a small portion of your property to water management can improve the health of your lawn.



Crabgrass in a lawn.

Do Not:

1. Do not apply fertilizer until mid-March as the weather warms up.
2. Do not lay down fill over the lawn grass.
3. Do not lay sod or spread warm-season turfgrass seed.
4. Do not dethatch or aerate the lawn.
5. Do not aerate the lawn.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help



Follow us on Facebook at **GNOGardening**

For more information visit **LSUAgCenter.com**

Dr. Joe Willis
Orleans Parish
Horticulture Agent
JWillis@agcenter.lsu.edu

Anna Timmerman
Plaquemines & St. Bernard
Parish Horticulture Agent
Timmerman@agcenter.lsu.edu

Chris Dunaway
Jefferson Parish
Horticulture Agent
CDunaway@agcenter.lsu.edu

Will Afton
St. Tammany Parish
Horticulture Agent
WAfton@agcenter.lsu.edu

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