



GN Gardening Magazine

October 2025

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Photo by Chris Dunaway

Look at Me

Yellow Bells (*Tecoma stans*)

One of the showiest plants in my garden is the yellow bells shrub growing on the outside of my fence. While blooming it produces hanging clusters of large bright golden flowers. It is particularly beautiful when I come home in the evening during what photographers call the 'golden hour' and the plant is bathed in red and gold infused sunlight.

In its natural form, yellow bells, will produce a multi-stemmed mounding plant that can reach 25' in height. Modern cultivars have been selected which are smaller and more manageable for most gardens and range in size from 3-9 feet. Pay attention to the description of the plant and select the correct cultivar to meet the needs of your landscape. The plants are easily trained

and can be pruned into a tree-form or even espaliered to fit a two dimensional space.

One of the common names for *Tecoma stans* is Esperanza because "esperanza" is the Spanish word for "hope". This name reflects the plant's hardiness and ability to bloom brightly and reliably, even in very hot, dry weather when other plants struggle, providing a sense of hope for a vibrant garden.

These plants are hardy in zones 9-11 and can grow in a wide range of soil types and are drought tolerant. Plants are evergreen in warm climates with no killing freeze. The above ground portion of my yellow bells plant died during the 2025 snowstorm but readily

regrew from the roots. This did mean that the plant missed the spring blooming. In the New Orleans area they will bloom from early spring until mid-June then begin again in late September.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A yellow bells plant outside my garden fence.

Plants produce compound leaves with 5-13 leaflets. They bloom in large clusters of golden yellow bell-shaped flowers. These flowers attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and people. The fruit are long narrow capsules which contain small disk-shaped seeds with membranous wings. When the capsules dry and open, the seeds will be distributed by the wind.

Pruning is best done after flowering in the spring. For shrub forms, prune the stems to the desired height for the location. If thinning is necessary, cut every 3rd stem down to 3 inches tall. For tree-form plants, select 1, 3 or 5 stems and cut away the rest. As the stems grow longer, remove lower lateral branches. Prune the

branching limbs to the desired shape and size. Cutting the terminal end of stems will encourage branching to produce a full look. Continue to remove shoots from the base and lower trunk. They are easy to remove when they are small and newly formed. After a freeze cut away the dead material and start over.

Propagation:

If starting from seed, place two seeds in each pot about an 1/8-inch deep and mist slightly to keep the soil moist, but not soggy. Germination should occur in two to three weeks.

To start a plant from a cutting, take the cutting from the top of a stem so it's pliable and green (soft-wood cutting). Propagating in mid-spring to early summer is best to obtain the soft-wood cutting before the new growth turns to hard-wood. Consistent with cutting propagation, cut at least two nodes in length and remove all leaves but the top two to three. A node is the area where leaves have emerged from the stem. Place the cutting in a well-draining medium, keep moist (not soggy), and store in indirect sun. Within two weeks, you should see a new leaf budding out, which is the sign that roots have established. Once new leaves are developing, begin to expose the plant to greater levels of sun (harden-off) before moving to it's new home. [From Texas A&M, Extension Education in Travis County.](#) [Texas Superstar-Gold Star Esperanza.](#)

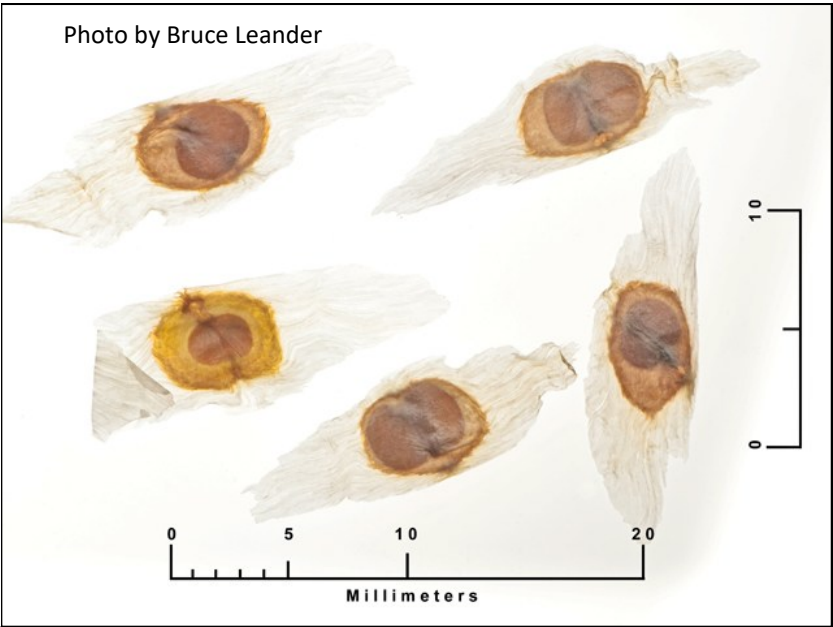
~Chris Dunaway



My yellow bells 2 and a half months after the freeze.



Tecoma stans seed pods.



Tecoma stans seeds. Notice the membranous wings.

October Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Beets	Detroit Dark Red, Kestrel, Red Ace F1, Ruby Queen
Broccoli	Arcadia, Diplomat, Gypsy, Packman, Premium Crop, Windsor, Greenbelt
Brussels Sprouts	Jade Cross E, Long Island Improved, Royal Marvel
Cabbage	Blue Vantage, Platinum Dynasty, Stonehead, Cheers, Blue Dynasty, Emblem, Rio Verde
Chinese Cabbage	None Given
Carrots	Danvers 128, Purple Haze, Thumbelina, Apache, Enterprise, Maverick, Sugar Snax 54
Cauliflower	Candid Charm, Cumberland, Freedom, Incline, Majestic, Show Crown, Wentworth
Collards	Champions, Flash, Georgia Southern, Top Bunch, Vates
Kale	None Given
English Peas	Mr. Big, Novella II, Oregon Sugar Pod II, Sugar Ann, Super Sugar Snap
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, Tender-green
Potatoes, Irish	Dark Red Norland, Red LaSoda, Red Pontiac, Kennebec, Yukon Gold
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Gooligan, Sorcerer, Sprint, Silver Moon
Radishes	Cherriette, Champion, White Icicle, April Cross
Shallots	None Given
Swiss Chard	None Given
Turnip Greens	Alamo, All Top, Purple, Top White Globe, Seven Top, Southern Green, Top Star, Tokyo Cross

Misunderstood Plant of the Month:

Cow Itch Vine (*Cissus trifoliata*)

This month's weed tends to be easily confused with poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) due to the "leaves of three" that it forms.

Cow itch vine, also known as sorrelvine, grape ivy, marine ivy, treebine, hierba del buey, or possum grape (*Cissus trifoliata*) is a member of the grape family (Vitaceae). It is native to the United States and has been recorded in Acadia, Caddo, Cameron, Claiborne, DeSoto, Jefferson, Madison, Morehouse, Orleans, Ouachita, Richland, St. Charles, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tensas, Terrebonne, Vermillion, and Washington parishes. In the New Orleans area, it tends to be found on unkept fence lines, in wooded areas,

empty lots, and overgrown properties. It thrives in sun to shade in a variety of soil conditions.

Cow itch vine has a poisonous sap that can cause uncomfortable skin rashes, which gives it its name. It is a semi-deciduous vine, forming twining stems up to thirty feet in length. The lobed leaves are arranged in groups of three and have a thick, succulent structure. The fleshiness of the leaves is one good identification indicator that differs from poison ivy and other look-alikes. The vine has a woody base, tuberous roots, and flowers form in May, June, and July. The flowers are

small, green in coloration, and have four petals. They are formed in clusters and mature into small black berries. The leaves give off a sharp odor when crushed.



Cow Itch Vine (*Cissus trifoliata*)

Cow itch vine is a larval host plant for the Wilson's wood nymph moth (*Xerociris wilsonii*) in Texas and New Mexico. The flowers provide pollen for bees and other pollinators. The berries are also consumed by birds and other wildlife, including the opossum. Native plant enthusiasts and gardeners will be pleased to learn that this plant is available to purchase in seed form and is sold by some nurseries and online retailers. The interesting, succulent leaves add visual interest, and this plant

does perennialize in the southern states. It is reported to be very drought tolerant and not too aggressive for use in garden settings. A trellis is needed to encourage upright growth.

~Anna Timmerman

References:

[Cissus trifoliata \(Cow-itch vine\) | Native Plants of North America](#)

[Cissus trifoliata - Native Plant Society of Texas](#)
[Plants of Louisiana](#)

Know Your Natives:

Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium* sp.)

Blue-eyed grass, despite its name, is not a true grass but a member of the Iris family (Iridaceae). These charming wildflowers are native to Louisiana and the southeastern United States, offering delicate blooms and grass-like foliage that make them ideal for naturalistic and pollinator-friendly landscapes.

Species Profiles

Sisyrinchium rosulatum (Annual Blue-eyed Grass)

Figure 1.

- Growth Habit: Annual herb, 6–14 inches tall
- Flowers: Star-shaped, yellow to purple, blooming spring to summer
- Leaves: Linear, forming basal rosettes
- Habitat: Sandy soils, lawns, roadsides, old fields
- Native Status: Introduced from South America but naturalized across Louisiana
- Propagation: Best from seed; cold/moist stratification improves germination

Sisyrinchium angustifolium (Narrowleaf Blue-eyed Grass) Figure 2.

- Growth Habit: Perennial, clump-forming, 8–20 inches tall
- Flowers: Violet-blue with yellow centers, blooming in spring
- Leaves: Grass-like, narrow, sword-shaped
- Habitat: Moist meadows, stream banks, open woods
- Native Status: Native to Louisiana and widespread in eastern North America
- Propagation: By seed or division every 2–3 years

Sisyrinchium elizabethiae (a lesser-known perennial species) Figure 3.

Growth Habit: Perennial, similar to *S. angustifolium*

- Flowers: Blue-violet, showy
- Habitat: Moist, acidic soils in open woodlands
- Notes: A desirable landscape species for its ornamental value and adaptability



Sisyrinchium rosulatum. Photo by LSU AgCenter.

Growing Conditions

Blue-eyed grasses thrive in full sun to partial shade conditions. They prefer moist, well-drained, slightly acidic (pH 5.0–7.0). They require moderate watering but avoid drought and overwatering situations. They are hardy in USDA Zones 4–9.

Cultivation Tips:

- To grow from seed, sow seeds in fall with cold stratification for better germination.
- To propagate by division, divide clumps in early spring to maintain vigor.
- Avoid heavy mulch directly on crowns to prevent crown rot.

Habitat and Distribution in Louisiana

- 1) *Sisyrinchium angustifolium* is widely distributed

across Louisiana, with known occurrences in over 40 parishes. It is a native, perennial plant that grows in moist to dry soils and is found in habitats such as meadows, open woods, moist prairies, and stream edges.

- 2) *Sisyrinchium elizabethiae* is known to be native to western Louisiana and is endemic to the West Gulf Coastal Plain. The plant grows specifically in upland pine-hardwood and hardwood forests on deep sandy soils.
- 3) *Sisyrinchium rosulatum* is found in over 50 parishes, including Orleans, East Baton Rouge, and Caddo. It can be found in various habitats in Louisiana, including lawns, roadsides, old fields, and other disturbed areas. It thrives in moist soil conditions and often grows in small, dense clumps. It is native to Mexico, Central America, and South America.

Landscape Uses

Blue-eyed grasses are ideal for pollinator gardens, wildflower meadows, borders and walkways, rock gardens, and containers and raised beds (as seen at the Audubon Aquarium in New Orleans).

Their compact size, evergreen foliage, and seasonal blooms make them excellent choices for low-maintenance, native landscaping.

~ Dr. Joe Willis

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Flora of the Southeastern United States. 2025. *Sisyrinchium*. [Sisyrinchium \(Blue-eyed-grass\) - FSUS](#)

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. 2025.

Sisyrinchium angustifolium. [Sisyrinchium angustifolium \(Narrowleaf blue-eyed grass\) | Native](#)



Sisyrinchium angustifolium. Photo by Tripple Brook Farm.



Sisyrinchium elizabethiae. Photo by Jared Gorrell

[Plants of North America](#)

LSU AgCenter. 2025. Annual Blue-eyed Grass. [Annual blue-eyed grass](#)

Missouri Botanical Garden. 2025. *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*. [Sisyrinchium angustifolium - Plant Finder](#)

USDA Plants Database, Narrow-leaved blue-eyed grass. [USDA Plants Database Plant Profile Characteristics](#)

What's Bugging You?

Ticks in Louisiana.

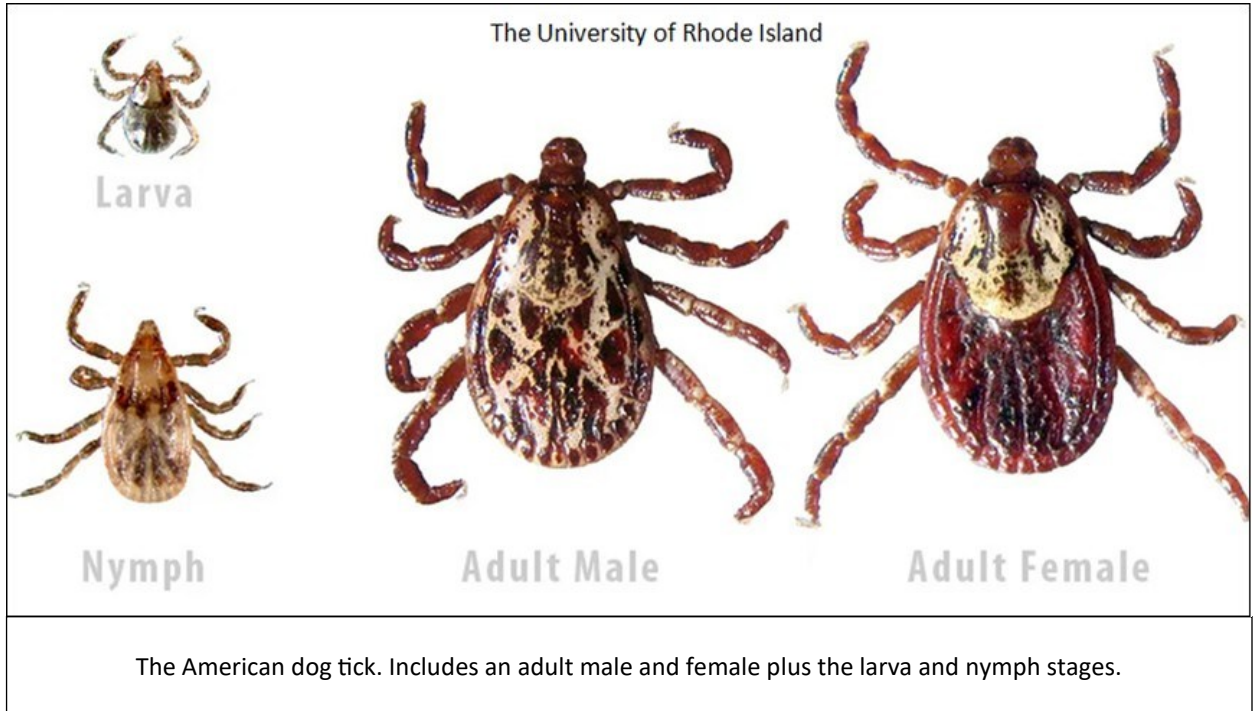
Ticks are small but potentially dangerous parasites that feed on the blood of mammals, birds, and reptiles. There are

around 90 different species of ticks found throughout the United States. In Louisiana, there are 5 common tick species that will feed on human blood: Gulf Coast tick, lone star tick, American dog tick, and the brown dog tick. As we spend more time outdoors, so does the chance of encountering ticks. Learning about the 5 common ticks found in Louisiana and how to protect yourself is essential for public health and safety.

The American dog tick, *Dermacentor variabilis*, also goes by the common name "wood tick". The adults are about 4mm in length and reddish-brown with

distinctive cream-colored markings. When engorged, females can expand up to 15mm in length. American

dog ticks are known vectors of Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF) and tularemia in humans. In dogs, it can cause tick paralysis, a condition that may



lead to muscle weakness and respiratory distress.

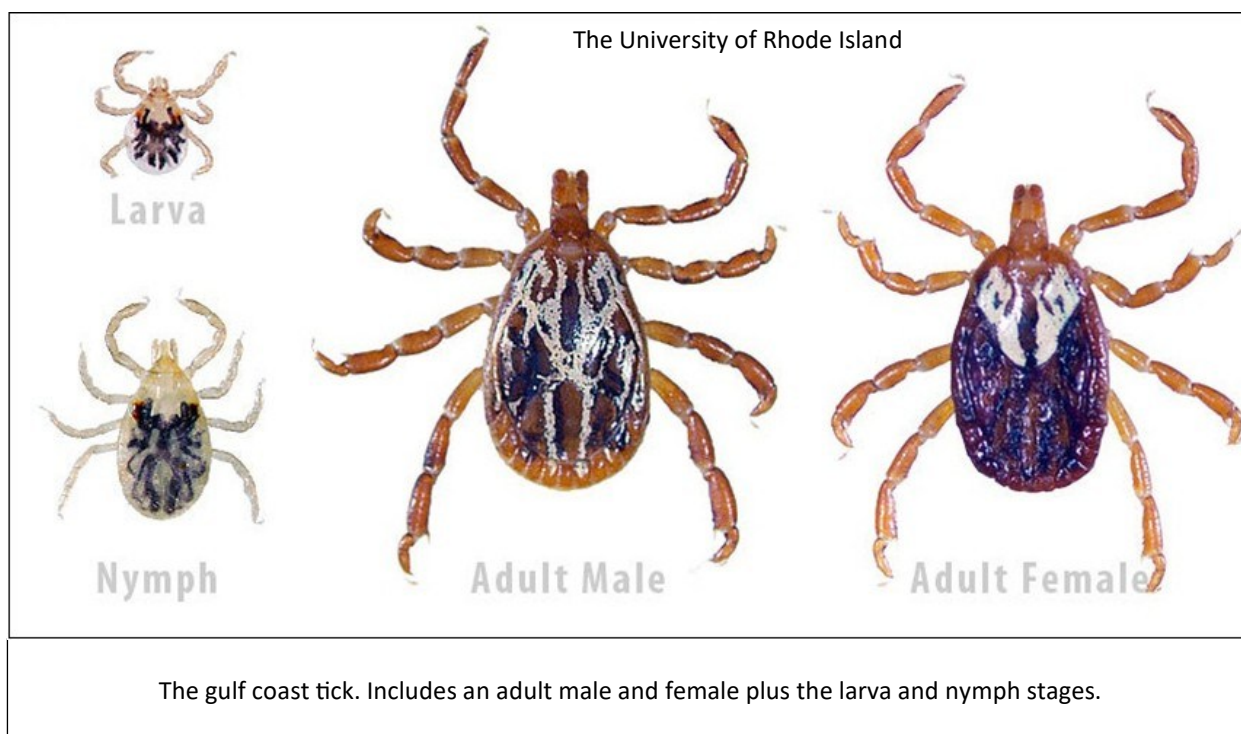
The eastern blacklegged tick, *Ixodes scapularis*, is

commonly referred to as a “deer tick”. Adults are 2-4mm in length. Adult females tend to be more of a reddish color while the males are more of a darker brown, but the legs on each are a dark brown almost black color. Engorged females may reach 12mm in length and become dark grey in color. This tick species is interesting because it uses a different host for each stage of its lifecycle: larva, nymph, and adult. Eastern blacklegged ticks are the primary vector of Lyme disease, but also vector babesiosis and Powassan virus.

The lone star tick, *Amblyomma americanum*, doesn't really have many common names. The name lone star tick comes from the appearance of a white dot on the females back.

Adults may reach 3-4mm in length and engorged females may reach 12mm in length. Females possess a white dot on the back behind the head while males possess subtle, tan to white markings along the edge of the body. Lone star ticks are vectors for ehrlichiosis, Heartland virus, and Southern Tick-Associated Rash Illness (STARI). This is also the species of tick linked to alpha-gal

syndrome, a rare allergy to red meat triggered by tick bites.



The Gulf Coast tick, *Amblyomma maculatum*, is hard to distinguish when compared to the lone star tick because they are closely related being two different species in the same genus. Instead of a white dot, adult females possess a small white plate on their back, differing in appearance than the white dot seen in female lone star ticks. Males lack the white plate

but have thin white lines running in various patterns on the body. Both are similar in size to lone star ticks. Gulf Coast ticks are vectors for rickettsia parkeri rickettsiosis, a bacterial disease of humans, and tick paralysis.

The brown dog tick, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*, is not just found in Louisiana but worldwide. Obviously, the common name leads to the notion that this is the common tick that feeds on dogs, but they can also feed on humans. They can complete their entire lifecycle indoors or outdoors so a pet could bring them into the home. Adults are 2-3mm in length, reddish-brown in color, and no markings.

Believe it or not, the overall size and lack of distinctive markings make this tick a little easier to identify. Brown dog ticks can vector Rocky Mountain spotted fever, although the American dog tick is the more common vector.

General tick biology and behavior.

In general ticks go through 4 life stages: egg, larva, nymph, adult. Eggs hatch into larva, which are commonly referred to as seed ticks, and immediately start looking for a host. Seed ticks molt into nymphs and later into adults, feeding at each stage. To find a suitable host, ticks utilize a behavior call “questing” where they climb vegetation and wait with outstretched legs to latch onto a passing host.

Once ticks find a host they will burrow in and begin the feeding process. They secrete anesthetics and a cement-like substance to stay put and unnoticed.

They will remain attached to their host for several days. Once an engorged female has completed feeding they drop off and look for a secluded area for egg incubation. Once eggs are laid, another generation begins.

Prevention and protection:

When participating in outdoor activities, reduce skin exposure by wearing long sleeves, long pants, and



high socks. If possible, wear light colored clothing so that it's easier to see ticks. The Louisiana Office of Public Health recommends tucking your pant legs into your socks to help prevent ticks from crawling up the inside of your pant legs. Use repellents with active ingredients like DEET (on skin or clothing) or permethrin (on clothing). Once the outdoor activity is complete check yourself for ticks. Inspect your clothing, pets, and physical body for signs of ticks. Go ahead and take a bath or shower directly afterwards.

Ticks live in moist and humid environments, particularly near wooded and grassy areas. You can come into contact with ticks around your home, walking through leaf litter, brushing up on plant material, or while out exploring trails at the local nature park. Avoid walking in weedy vegetation and stick to the center of a trail to minimize your contact with ticks.

Power of Shrub

Have you heard the News? Hedges are a living wall where a wide range of woody perennials can offer features that go beyond just boxwoods. Now the power of shrubs is a curious thing, one plant may have a weeping form, while another one stings. More than a feeling, texture is also a visual element. For example, the needle-like foliage of Japanese Yew can offer a unique appearance and feel to a landscape while also providing height to maintain privacy. Looking to remix your hedges? Start your playlist off with a little *Huey Lewis and the YEWs*. Geometrically shaping shrubs such as Japanese Yew creates a clean, rectangular look that provides order to the landscape.... so it is indeed “Hip to Be Square.”

Boxwoods have historically been the hallmark of hedges; however, rather than focusing on the past, go Back to the Future and consider alternative species when planning a hedge row. Abelias offer a range of features, including unique foliage colors/ combinations and flowers, and can be shaped geometrically into a hedge. Sunshine Ligustrum offers vibrant yellow foliage, but if you prefer a more muted green look to your hedgerow that isn't boxwood, consider Yaupon Holly. Is winter interest on your want list? Loropetalum and Camellias offer vibrant colors to get you through the cool season. An extra layer of security can be added to your property by



This abelia shrub can also be pruned to a formal hedge with the bonus of having lovely flowers.



Notice the fine texture of the yaupon holly in the center compared with the coarse leaf texture of the Japanese yew in the outer ring.

putting prickly plants such as barberry into your hedge composition. Options abound when it comes to selecting a hedge species, so don't get stuck in the past by relying on just one (or a few) species.

Hedging doesn't necessarily have to be expensive. If proper planning is not taken; however, the costs of replacing plants can mount. Avoid perpetually moist soil around your hedges as disease risks to plants can increase. Ensuring adequate drainage (either by site grading or a subsurface drain) can help alleviate concerns. You don't need (much) money to put in a hedge, and it certainly doesn't take fame. But you might need a credit card to install this drain. Heavy rains can be strong and sudden; in fact it can be cruel sometimes.... But a drain might just save your hedge's life..... That's the power of shrub.

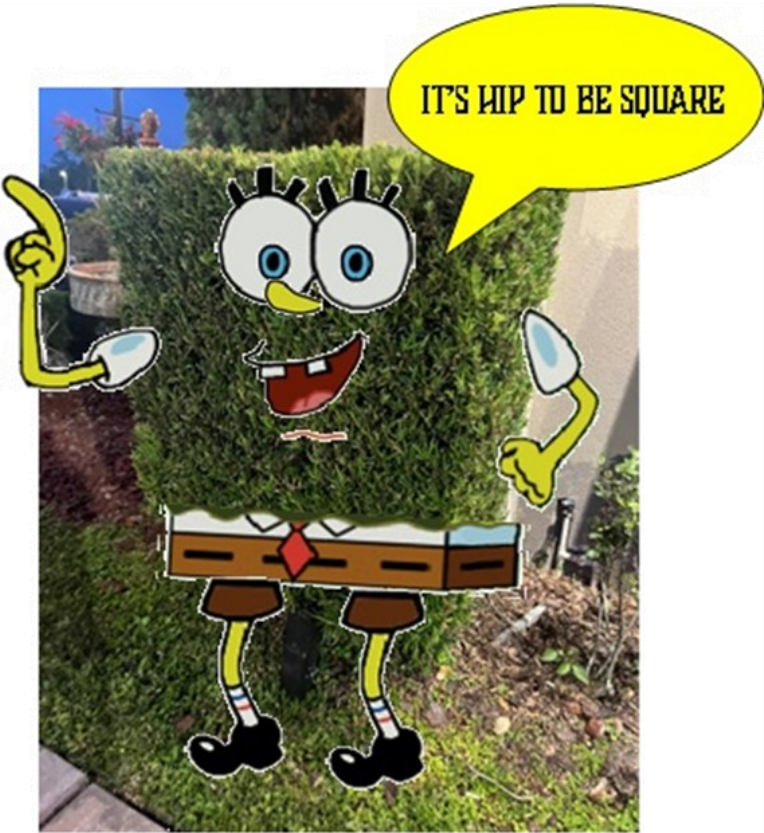
~Dr. Damon Abdi



These tall podocarpus hedge does an excellent job at dividing the New Orleans Botanical Gardens into individual, private parterres. Compare them with visitors in the background to see the scale.



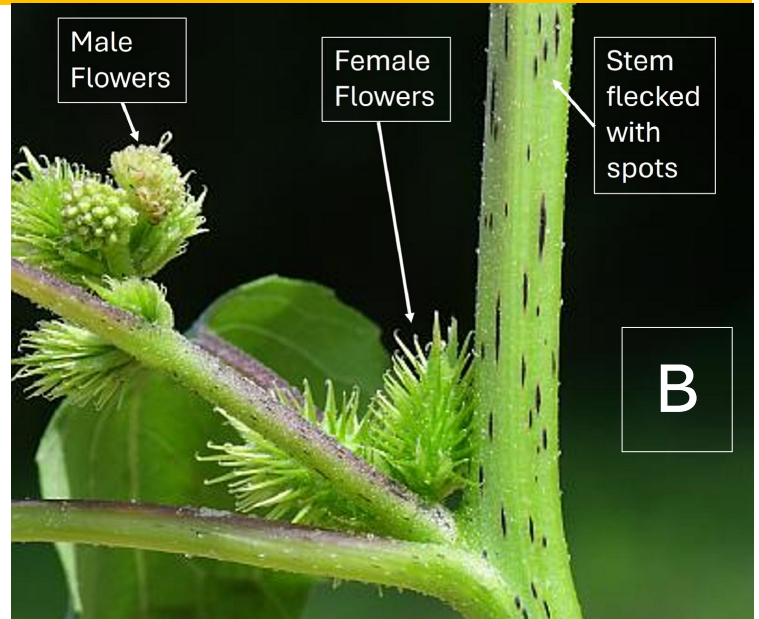
Podocarpus can be pruned into various shapes like this formal box shape.



ShrubBob agrees, "It's hip to be square."

Weed of the Month:

Rough Cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*)



A shows the typical mature cocklebur plant with characteristic leaves and maturing burs. **B** shows the characteristic flecked stem with male and female flowers. Photo by SRTurner.

Cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*), commonly known as rough cocklebur, is a summer annual broadleaf weed in the Asteraceae family. It typically grows 2 to 4 feet tall, with a rough-textured, branched stem that may be flecked with purple or black spots.

The leaves are alternate, triangular to heart-shaped, and irregularly toothed, often divided into 3 to 5 lobes. They are covered in short, abrasive hairs, giving them a gritty texture. Cocklebur is monoecious (both male and female flowers on the same plant), and self-pollinating. The plant produces inconspicuous green flowers, with male flowers forming clusters above the female flowers, which are enclosed in spiny burs. These burs are egg-shaped, about 1 inch long, and covered in hooked spines, allowing them to cling to fur, clothing, and equipment for dispersal. The story goes that it was the inspiration for Velcro.

Burs usually contain two seeds (achenes), and these differ in size and dormancy. The smaller (upper) seed often sits closer to the tip of the bur and is usually dormant. The larger (lower) seed usually germinates the next spring. The smaller seed usually does not

germinate until summer or the following year. This dormancy is apparently due to germination inhibitors in the seed coat and the inability of oxygen to pass through the seed coat. Germination of both types of seeds is promoted by microbial decay or mechanical seed coat damage.

Cocklebur has a deep taproot and thrives in disturbed soils, especially in moist, sunny areas such as ditches, pastures, gardens, stream banks, riverbanks, and roadsides.

Folklore and Herbal Medicine

Despite its prickly nature and reputation as a nuisance, cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*) has a history in traditional medicine and folklore across cultures.

In Chinese herbal tradition, cocklebur was valued for its ability to treat rheumatic pain, sinus congestion, and skin conditions. It was also used as a yellow dye. Among Native American tribes, cocklebur leaf tea was used to treat kidney disease, arthritis, tuberculosis, colds, and even as a blood tonic. Its widespread use suggests a deep-rooted belief in its healing properties. Folklore often emphasized the plant's obnoxious seed

Pods, which cling stubbornly to animal fur and clothing. This trait led to stories of cocklebur “traveling” across landscapes by hitching rides on unsuspecting creatures, symbolizing persistence and unwelcome intrusion. In some tales, the burs were seen as nature’s way of reminding humans to tread carefully through wild spaces.

CAUTION – DO NOT EAT

Though cocklebur has a history in herbal and folk medicine, cocklebur is not edible and is toxic to humans and livestock. Its seeds and seedlings contain a potent chemical called carboxyatractyloside that causes symptoms such as nausea, liver damage, and low blood sugar. Cocklebur is especially toxic to young animals. It also competes aggressively with desirable plants for nutrients, water, and sunlight, and its burs can irritate skin, mat pet fur, and contaminate feed.

Recommended Control Methods

1. Manual Removal - Hand-pulling is effective for small infestations, especially when the soil is moist. Remove the entire plant, including the taproot, before it sets seed. Hoeing or using weed puller tools can help in larger areas.

2. Mowing - Mow cocklebur plants when they are about 12 inches tall, cutting them down to 4 inches or less. This reduces seed production and weakens the plant over time.

3. Chemical Control - Post-emergent herbicides

such as 2,4-D, or glyphosate are effective against mature plants. Always follow label instructions and avoid spraying near edible crops or sensitive garden areas.

4. Prevention - Maintain a dense, healthy lawn or garden to outcompete cocklebur. Avoid disturbing soil unnecessarily, and mulch garden beds to suppress weed growth. Clean equipment, clothing, and pet fur to prevent burs from spreading.

Though native to Louisiana, cocklebur is a persistent and problematic weed in our landscapes and a real nuisance to our pets. With proper control strategies, homeowners can effectively manage and control infestations using manual removal, mowing, or herbicide application.

~ Dr. Joe Willis

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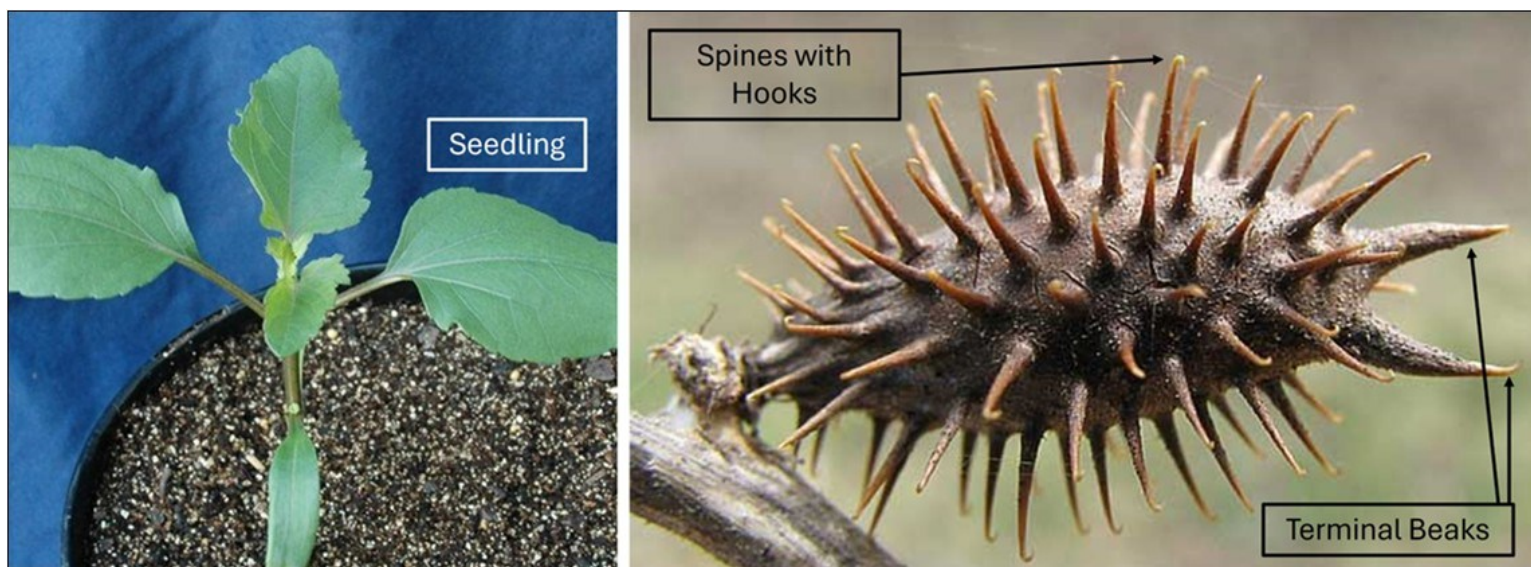
Common Cocklebur. [Common cocklebur | CALS](#)

LSU AgCenter. 2025. Louisiana Suggested Chemical Weed Control Guide. [Louisiana Suggested Chemical Weed Control Guide](#)

Medicinal Herb Info. Cocklebur. [Cocklebur - Medicinal Herb Info](#)

Missouri Plants. *Xanthium strumarium*. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/database/feis/plants/forb/xanstr/all.html>

USDA Forest Service. 1992. *Xanthium strumarium*. Fire Effects Information System. [Xanthium strumarium](#)



Left - cocklebur seedling. Right - mature bur with two terminal beaks and hooked spines. Photo by Jim Conrad.

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City

500 N. Norman C. Francis at the Bayou
Thursdays from 3-6PM
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park

City Putt Parking Lot
Dreyfous Dr. @ Anseman Ave.
Sundays from 8AM-Noon
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

Vietnamese Farmer's Market

4861 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East
Saturdays, 5:30AM-9:00AM

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

4516 Clearview Pkwy, Metairie, LA
Or online at:
<https://laughing-buddha-nursery.localline.ca/online-store>

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, 10-4.
Check here the link below for other times and locations.
<https://www.facebook.com/BarceloGardens/>

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point

530 Powder St, New Orleans, LA
First and Third Sundays of the month, from 10AM-1PM
See more times and events at the link below.
<https://www.bounyfulgreenmarket.com/>

Sankofa Fresh Stop Market

5200 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA
<https://sankofanola.org/rfq/>

Sheaux Fresh Sustainable Foods

2500 Bayou Road
Order online at:
sheauxfresh.food

FUBU Market NOLA

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

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/TheMandevilleTrailhead>
985.624.3147

Folsom Village Market

Hwy 40, one block east of Hwy 25
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (weather permitting)
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/farmers-market>
985.892.0711

Camellia City Farmer's Market

2055 2nd Street, Old Towne Slidell
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
<https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaCityMarket/>
985.640.7112

St. Charles Parish

German Coast Farmer's Market-East Bank

St. Charles Parish East Regional Library
160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

German Coast Farmer's Market-West Bank

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

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market

Between 3rd & 4th St. along Huey P. Long
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
Saturdays 9AM-5PM & Sundays 9AM-4PM
Fridays 11AM-3PM
<https://www.facebook.com/NawlinsMarket/>

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/>

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte

920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/JeanLafitteLa/>

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie

3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 1-6PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064920097975>

Westwego Farmer's Market

484 Sala Ave., Westwego
3rd Tuesday of the month, 11AM-3PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075979938725>

Laughing Buddha Farm

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

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>

Harahan Farmer's Market

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

The Market at Kenner City Park

3800 Loyola Drive, Kenner, LA
Thursdays 1PM-6PM
2nd & 4th Saturdays 10AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/RivertownFarmersMarket>

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, Marrero, 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	
Garden Specialties, Inc.	3601 Florida Ave., Kenner, LA 70065	(504) 468-2300
Clearview Plant and Garden	4511 Clearview Pkwy, Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 888-7700
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

Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans

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
Banting's Nursery-Northshore	26300 Hwy 190, Lacombe, LA 70445	(985)882-5550

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In the Kitchen with Austin

Pumpkin Butter

If you like apple butter, you will absolutely love pumpkin butter. It is a great spread and a wonderful addition to seasonal baked goods.

Ingredients:

1 can pumpkin puree
1 ½ cup sugar
¾ cup apple juice
2 tsp. ground ginger

2 tsp. ground cinnamon
½ tsp. ground nutmeg
½ tsp. ground cloves



Pumpkin Butter with Toast

Directions:

Cover five ½-pint jars with water and simmer until pumpkin butter is ready. Wash new lids and rings in warm soapy water.

Add all ingredients to a saucepan and stir until well combined. Bring mixture to a boil over medium heat. Lower heat and simmer gently for about 30 minutes, stirring frequently.

Place pumpkin butter in hot jars, filling almost completely. Remove air bubbles by running a clean knife around the inside of each jar and tapping lightly on a countertop. Dry lids and rings with paper towels. Screw onto jars until just tight.

Cool to room temperature, then refrigerate.

Enjoy!

October Checklist/Garden Tips

Collect seeds from your warm annual flowers to plant next year. A few that have seeds relatively easy to harvest include cosmos, cleome, sunflower, abelmoschus, balsam, amaranthus, wheat celosia, marigold and zinnia. Do not save seed from hybrid cultivars.

November through February is the ideal season for planting hardy trees, shrubs, ground covers and perennials into the landscape.

October weather can be dry; water plantings as needed. Pay special attention to any newly planted areas. It is generally best to water direct seeded beds of flowers or vegetables lightly every day to make sure the seeds do not dry out.

If you intend to dig and store your caladium tubers and haven't already done so, it's time to do it now. Don't wait for the foliage die down and disappear since that will make it harder to find the tubers. Dig the tubers carefully leaving the foliage attached. Spread out in a well ventilated area to dry. When the foliage is dry and brown, remove it from the tubers and store them in paper or net bags indoors.

October Checklist/Garden Tips

Flowers to plant in October and November include seeds or transplants of calendula, carnation, sweet alyssum, Chinese forget-me-not, clarkia, cornflower, dianthus, foxglove, hollyhock, larkspur, lobelia, nasturtium, nicotiana, pansy, petunia, phlox, poppy, snapdragon, stock, , sweet peas, bachelor's button, Virginia stock and wall flower.

Summer bulbs may still be growing, but colder weather is in the not too distant future and none of them should be fertilized now. Bulbs that are in active growth such as Louisiana iris, calla lily, Easter lily and spider lily (Lycoris) could be fertilized lightly now.

Azalea lace bugs will be active through November. These insects feed from the underside of the leaves causing small, white dots on the upper side of the leaves and dark brown spots on the back. Do not let a lot of damage occur before you treat. Once the damage occurs, the leaves will not turn green again even if you control the lace bugs. Spray under the leaves with Orthene (acephate), Malathion or horticultural oil every ten days or as needed.

Move any plants you intend to winter indoors to very shady areas outside, such as under carports or trees, for the next three or four weeks. This will allow them to adjust to lower light intensities before you bring them inside where light is more limited. Make sure you place plants in front of bright windows when you bring them indoors. Also check them for insect pests and other hitchhikers before bringing them in.

Spray plants such as camellia, holly, gardenia, magnolia, privet and citrus with horticultural oil sprays to control scale and whitefly.

Dig, divide and transplant perennials such as daylilies, ajuga, daisy, rudbeckia, coreopsis, yarrow and others now through February. Keep plants well watered and mulched.

Water in newly planted bedding plants with a half strength fertilizer solution to get them off to a good start.

Don't forget that late October through early December is the time to plant spring flowering bulbs. Tulips and hyacinths are exceptions that are planted later. They must first be chilled in the vegetable bin of your refrigerator for six to eight weeks, and are planted in late December through mid January.

Plant sweet peas now through November. If you wait and plant them in the spring they will not have time to grow and bloom before hot weather sets in, so planting in fall is a must. Choose a sunny location at the base of something they can climb on such as a chain-link fence or lattice work. Sweet peas planted now will generally begin to bloom in March and last until early May.

Control aphids with insecticidal soap or horticultural oils.

Control caterpillars on cool season vegetables and bedding plants with applications of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (or BT for short). This bacterium is deadly to caterpillars but harmless to other organisms. So remember, not all caterpillars need to be destroyed. Citrus trees, for example, will recover from the feeding of orange dog caterpillars and the giant swallowtail butterflies that they become are a marvelous addition to your garden.

Now is the season of free mulch. Collect fallen leaves to use as mulch. Use a bagging mower to chop and collect them at the same time. Chopping the leaves makes for a more even look and they do not blow away in the wind.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do:

1. Make every effort to pull up or otherwise control warm season weeds going to seed now. If you let the flower set and drop seed your problems will only be worse next year. Do not put weeds with seeds on them in your compost pile.
2. Apply selective herbicides and sedge killers to kill off summer weeds and sedges.
3. Apply pre-emergent herbicides to prevent winter weed germination.
4. Continue to scout for insect damage and control with insecticides if necessary.
5. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass.
6. Take a soil test.
7. Apply sulfur or lime to adjust the pH if necessary according to soil lab recommendations.
8. **Leave the leaves.** The leaves falling on the ground are an excellent source of organic matter for your soil. Use the mower to shred them and leave them in place to break down. You can also collect leaves to add to your compost pile. In the spring you can aerate the lawn and rake out the compost over the area and fill in the holes.

Do Not:

1. Do not apply fertilizer until mid-February or March of next year.
2. Do not lay sod.
3. Do not spread warm-season turfgrass seed.
4. Do not dethatch the lawn.
5. Do not aerate the lawn.
6. Do not overseed St. Augustine or centipede grass with winter ryegrass. In these lawns, ryegrass can compete with the turfgrass as spring comes on.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help



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Have Questions? Contact the LSU AgCenter Extension Agent in your Parish.

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