



LOUISIANA Nursery & Landscape NEWS

LNLA Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 76 | October/November/ December 2021



Submitted by Matthew Bracy for his dad



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Mission... *To enhance the quality of life for people, conserve and protect the global environment, and promote the professionalism and profitability of the nursery and landscape industry in Louisiana.*

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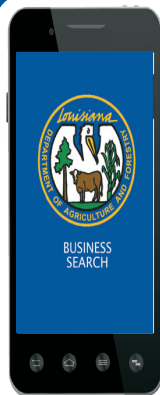
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Download the LDAF App today

With our mobile horticulture application, it's simple to verify individuals claiming to be horticulture professionals.

Did you know? Work such as plant bed preparation, bedding plant installation, landscape design, lawn irrigation system installation, tree trimming and fertilizer application all must be conducted by someone licensed through the LDAF. Be sure an individual is licensed before you hire them.

The app allows users to verify a horticulture license or permit of a business and file a complaint. The mobile app is available for both Apple and Android users. Download it at the iTunes and Google Play stores.

Questions for LDAF? Call 225-952-8100

**Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association
Summer Internship at the LSU AgCenter
Hammond Research Station**

- 14-week paid summer internship
- Experience the nursery and landscape industry
- Work in the Hammond Trial Gardens & learn valuable skills
- Support extension & conduct research with hands-on learning
- Earn college credit

Free on-site housing available

Interested applicants should send a one-page maximum essay detailing their education and career goals, horticultural experience, and interest in this position to Dr. Jeb Fields (JSFields@agcenter.lsu.edu). Internship open to all students in horticulture, agriculture or related field, especially those with interest in ornamental horticulture. The internship is for up to 14 weeks. Timing is flexible . Applications due March 20, 2022.



Current Page Likes

3,311

Current Page Follows

3,704

*Scan here to visit
our page!*



LNLA Facebook Page Analytics

**Demographics - 74% women, 26% men
(typical for most horticulture pages on social media)**

Contacts during calendar year 2020 - 99,087

Contacts this year (January 1 - October 12) - 1,014,761

Time of day for best LNLA FB page activity - 4:00 pm til 7:00 pm

**Cities with people following, liking (1st - 10th) -
Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Lafayette, Prairieville, Shreveport,
Covington, Mandeville, Denham Springs, Metairie, Forest Hill**

Number of posts this year: 345

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings LNLA members,

I have been blessed and honored this year to be president of LNLA, and I feel a great sense of pride to have served in such a vital and thriving organization. I can't help but feel a sense of déjà vu due to a revolving conversation about the adversities our industry keeps facing - major storms, pandemics, labor issues, and now material shortages, price increases, and so on. One consistent thread through all of it is the massive amount of fortitude and adaptability that our members consistently show in the face of it all. We are a hardened and well-seasoned group of people, and we show a great amount of charity to those in need! LNLA has proven to tackle all of these adversities head on, while bringing as many of our state and industry leaders to the table as possible to help.

This past year we have worked with our state legislature and agriculture leaders on licensing reform, H2A and H2B reform, Hurricane Ida relief, and past storm relief. We credit our relationship with Commissioner Mike Strain and Lt. Governor Billy Nung Esser for making sure we are represented as vital to a strong Louisiana economy, and for giving our

members a much needed voice statewide and nationally. We are now 600 + members strong, and it is of the utmost importance that each member feels that LNLA hears their voice and concerns.

I am proud to see the success of our first in-state meeting this summer in Hammond. Being able to have so many of our members and industry leaders present and able to participate in the conversation of what is important to the Louisiana green industry is exactly what this organization is about, and now it will be held annually!

I thank LNLA for allowing me to be president of such a great organization, and know that it is going to be in very capable hands in 2022. Lisa Loup is committed and focused on seeing the goals that LNLA has set for the new year accomplished. My goals for 2022 are to see continued growth in green industry sales statewide, a strong showing of support from our legislature on our labor and licensing issues, and an abundance of fish in Venice. I wish you and your families many blessings in the new year!

Sincerely,
Kurt Ducote

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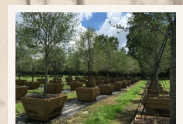
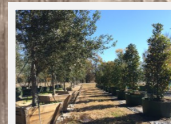
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Drawing will be January 2022 and LIVE on Facebook



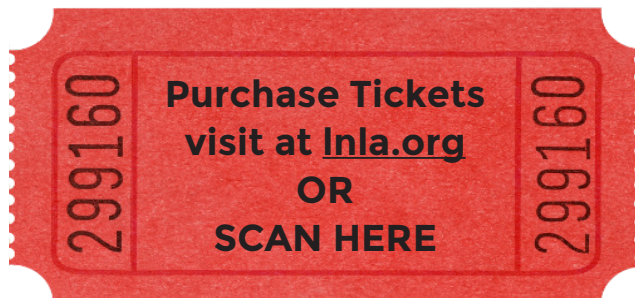
SECOND PRIZE
TRAEGER IRONWOOD 650 GRILL
(Value \$1200)



GRAND PRIZE
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(Value \$3000)



THIRD PRIZE
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(Value \$1000)



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Notes From The Secretary....

Hello Everyone,

The end of the year always seems to sneak up on me! So many things I wanted to accomplish, but never got around to it. The end of the year always brings a new beginning to the next year. Another year older, another year wiser (hopefully) and another year to accomplish my goals.

I can't believe I will be finishing my fifth year as your executive secretary of LNLA! These five years have gone by with the blink of an eye. We have accomplished so much! Our quarterly newsletter has evolved into a first-rate publication and more importantly our membership has nearly doubled from around 370 in 2017 to 623 to-date! That's incredible!!

These membership numbers go to show that LNLA is a powerhouse! We are connected and strong! Each member, their business and employees make up the lifeblood of our organization and no one is more important than another. Nurseries need landscapers and garden centers and vice versa! LNLA is here to help how we can and where we can on important issues that concern us all. I get asked almost on a daily basis "What is LNLA and how will it benefit me?". My answer has become more and more clear over the past five years ... "LNLA is a network first and foremost, getting pertinent and timely information to all facets of our industry that need it to keep their business running smoothly and efficient-

ly. Sure there are great monetary benefits, but being connected with the rest of the industry through LNLA is just good business!"

Also in the past five years, I have been privileged to work with some of Louisiana's most outstanding business men and women on the LNLA board of directors. The past presidents have taught me so much! We have come up against some aggressive giants and overcome them together. These board members work with passion. I cannot wait to see where we go from here!

LNLA 2022 membership dues notices have gone out through email and the mail. Thank you all for your continued participation in and support of LNLA! WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE! And others are definitely seeing it!

I hope you all will be at the Gulf States Hort Expo in Mobile, AL January 19-21, 2022. LNLA will host our annual breakfast and awards meeting that Thursday, January 20, 7am at the convention hall as well as our annual meet and greet reception that evening, 5pm, same place. Register to attend at gshe.org.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Here's to the next 5 years and many many more!

Cari Jane Murray

"and my people will be filled with my bounty," declares the LORD. Jeremiah 31:14

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Well Deserved Recognition! Congrats Country Pines Nursery!

Juan and Alonso Garcia along with Sarah Kay were recognized as the Small Business Persons of the Year at the 108th Annual Meeting of the Central Louisiana Regional Chamber of Commerce Thursday morning at the Randolph Riverfront Center.



Pictured with them are 2021 Chamber Board Chair Zeb Winstead (far left) and Central Louisiana Regional Chamber of Commerce President Deborah Randolph (far right)

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- Spice Jugs & Jars
- Stretch Wrap
- Waxed Boxes
- Unwaxed Boxes



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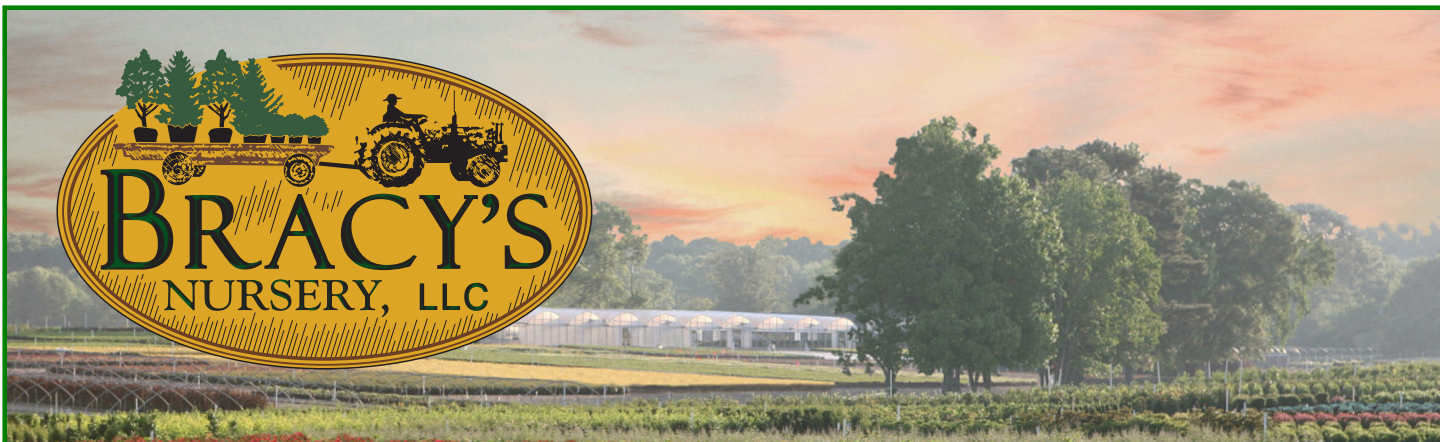
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Growing Up Nursery

by Matthew Bracy

Let me introduce myself. I am Matthew Bracy, a second-generation nursery kid. In 1986, my father, Randall Bracy, gave up dairy farming and a pick-your-own fruit operation to start his own nursery. I consider myself very fortunate that he did; plants smell so much better than cows.

My mom, Regina Bracy, loves to share the story of how their first nursery crop was made up of the 350 of the ugliest peach trees ever grown. She couldn't believe anyone would buy them, but my dad was determined and went from garden center to garden center trying to sell those misshapen trees. He was persistent and finally several garden centers--mostly out of pity--bought those ugly plants. That was the start of Bracy's Nursery, a wholesale production nursery for the past 35 years.

In my early years, I was in the nursery all of the time as it was my playground and backyard. I would pedal my bike all over it. It was great fun until I turned 13...when that nursery was no longer a playground! My dad decided it was time for me to help out in the nursery. I started off by standing up plants in the field and moved to walking drip irrigation. Then I worked alongside a field crew doing all aspects of the nursery from weeding, pruning, staking, and every job in between that needed to be done.

I had never been interested in plants, so Dad decided growing a few plants may help spark my interest. When I was 15, I grew around 30 flats of annuals in my backyard. I would come home from school and instantly head to work at "my nursery". Once summer hit, I spent half the day across the road at Bracy's and the other half at my nursery. The plan was for me to grow them and the nursery to sell them. The nursery didn't hold up their part of the plan – perhaps because quality control had improved since the nursery's inception? So my mom drove me around to a few garden centers. I would nervously approach each store and give my sales pitch. My mom was there for moral support but made me do all the talking. I was so proud of what I had accomplished! Then reality stepped in. All that hard work to grow my plants and sell them — only to be handed a bill from my dad for the pots, liners, soil, and fertilizer. All said and done, I barely broke even from the whole experience. I was so aggravated with my dad at the time. Looking back, I realize my dad was teaching me an invaluable life lesson. You have to pay your bills and life isn't always fair.

Very early in my life I realized the nursery was not a 40-hour-a-week job. I remember one vacation where my father spent almost the entire week surrounded by papers and on the phone handling nursery business. He had packed more papers and stuff from the nursery than clothes. It wasn't unusual when we were on vacation to stop at every garden center we passed on the road. I remember walking down the aisles at some garden center and my dad telling me all about the different plants we were looking at. Of course, he had to point out everything we grew. Those walks down store aisles and family vacations with my dad taught me that running a business was a lifestyle and labor of love – sort of like raising a kid. Just because the nursery closed at 5, didn't mean your job was done. My dad was always very involved in all aspects of the nursery. He spent countless afternoons working late at the nursery, no one else there but him. It was when he did his planning. Even today, he can be found each afternoon

with his faithful Goldendoodle, Sally Ann, driving his Jeep through the nursery taking note of what's going on, noticing what still needs to be done, and planning for the future. Getting invited on one of those Jeep rides is always a treat, as I get to see firsthand my dad's thought process and understand exactly how he does it all.

My dad didn't want me to get pigeonholed into the Bracy way. He wanted to make sure I got experience working elsewhere after I got my degree from LSU and before I returned to Bracy's. I spent a year working at Greenleaf Nursery's Oklahoma location. It was an awesome experience! Even though I was from another nursery, they were happy to share their knowledge with me. It was also an eye-opener for me to see how a bigger nursery operates. The experience also helped me understand just because my dad did it one way, didn't mean it was the only way. Granted he would argue that differently now.

After I returned to Bracy's, I thought I was going to be 'management'. That big chair in the office was calling my name. My dad, in his wisdom, had other ideas; I still needed to learn the nursery from the ground up. I started out pulling plants for the shipping department. Since then, I've moved from department to department learning from the managers in each area. I've gone from pulling orders in In-House, to overseeing inventory, to quality control, to assistant to the Sales Manager, and currently I'm the In-House Supervisor and Crape Myrtle grower.

My dad expects a lot of his employees and even more from his son. He may ask a lot, but he makes sure to return the favor. That's one of the things I most admire about my dad. If any employee falls on hard times, my dad does whatever he can to help them get back on their feet. He really cares for the people who work with him.

My dad and I had our challenges working together. We're both very stubborn and strong-headed, and I was young. I had a significant learning curve and needed to grow up, but we've overcome our differences and work well together. We still butt heads every now and then, but what can I say? My stubbornness comes from him!

One day I plan to take over for my dad. I'm not ready yet, but every day is a step closer to that goal. My dad has done everything to help me succeed on this path and continues to do so daily. I hope to one day sit in that big chair and make him proud.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pesticide Receritification Training - For upcoming dates and registration, please visit www.lsuagcenter.com/pesticides

January 13, 2022 - Louisiana Turfgrass Conference and Equipment Trade Show. Conference location is the 4-H Mini Farm on campus with trade show in the Parker Coliseum directly across from the Mini Farm. Registration online at www.laturf.net

January 19 - 21, 2022 - Gulf States Hort Expo (GSHE), Mobile, AL. Visit gshe.org for more information.

January 20, 2022 - LNLA's Annual Membership Breakfast & Awards meeting at GSHE. 7AM Room 202A&B, Arthur Outlaw Convention Center, Mobile, AL.

January 20, 2022 - LNLA's Annual Hospitality Hour at GSHE. 5PM Room 202A&B, Arthur Outlaw Convention Center, Mobile, AL.

February 22-23, 2022 - LNLA's Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP) Manual Review & Certification Exam. Hammond Research Station. Visit lnla.org for more info and registration.

April 2-3, 2022 - New Orleans Spring Garden Show. Contact Anna Timmerman with LSU AgCenter for more information.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Gala XI

with proceeds benefitting the

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation

for Scholarship & Research

Friday June 24th, 2022

6:30 - 9:30 pm

**Pavilion of the Two Sisters
at City Park, NOLA**

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Business Casual Attire



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*Funds generated will be used to provide scholarships for university students
and nursery / landscape research in Louisiana.*

For federal income tax purposes, only the excess paid over the value of dinner(s)
received is deductible. The fair market value of each dinner is estimated at \$90.

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The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association (LNLA) is the sole member of the Foundation.



GALA XII

Friday, June 24, 2022 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Pavilion of the Two Sisters
at City Park, NOLA

MISSION

Our mission is to provide scholarships to Louisiana college students enrolled in horticulture or closely related fields. Provide grants to individuals, institutions and research groups.

Leave a legacy to remember for your family.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Your contributions are most welcome. Please make your donations online at www.lnla.org or contact Cari Jane Murray at 985.37.2939 or carijanelnla@gmail.com for more information.
2. Donate items or gift certificates for auctions held at annual LNLA Hospitality Reception at Gulf States Horticultural Expo and/or our annual gala.
3. Each year the Foundation sponsors a Gala to raise funds to further our mission. Sponsorships are available and greatly appreciated in each of the following categories.

Gold Sponsor

2 tables of premium seating at the Gala,
recognition in Gala program, signage, and
LNLA newsletter.

\$3,000

Silver Sponsor

1 table of preferred seating at the Gala,
recognition in Gala program, signage, and
LNLA newsletter.

\$1,500

Tables seat 8 people
Individual admissions
\$125.00 per person

Bronze Sponsor

1 table of reserved seating at the Gala,
recognition in Gala program, signage, and
LNLA newsletter.

\$1,000



MY SUMMER EXPERIENCE AS THE LNLA INTERN AT THE HAMMOND RESEARCH STATION

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association internship was one of the most profound and memorable opportunities I have received. I learned so much during my time at the Hammond Research Station this summer that will carry throughout my career. Through this internship, I was able to strengthen my leadership skills and

develop horticultural knowledge that I could not attain in a classroom.

This internship provided a wonderful opportunity to develop professionally in horticulture. I passed the Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional course, which is a great insight into some of the cultural practices unique to Louisiana. Moreover, the number of professional connections that I made were enumerable. This internship allowed me to make my name known in the horticulture industry. Our field day was one of my favorite days and a great occasion to network with industry leaders from all over the state.

There were many occasions where I was able to design and plant individual beds in the Hammond Trial gardens. I had the opportunity to provide my input in the bed layout and design. Often, my designs were incorporated into the long-term plans for the gardens. Furthermore, I learned first-hand that communication is key in any workplace setting. Communicating your ideas clearly and effectively is of utmost importance to complete tasks, and I noticed a distinct difference between my communication skills from the beginning of the internship and towards the end.

I also had the opportunity to work with so many diverse people this summer, with a wide variety of skills and knowledge. I think this is an important part of the internship as I was able to learn from all kinds of different backgrounds and skill levels. Personally, I found working with the Master Gardeners the most fun and rewarding. Beyond that, the internship was full of fun. I became good friends with all my coworkers, and we had many adventures together outside of work. We also had our share of laughs at work as well. Running to escape the daily monsoons, getting stuck in the mud and weekly wasp stings are just the tip of the iceberg. Plus, with the Hammond Research Station being located close to Baton Rouge and New Orleans allowed me to explore the cities on the weekends.

I am incredibly thankful for the time spent as the LNLA intern at the Hammond Research Station. I have since turned the experiences I had last summer into the beginning of my graduate school program, where I have elected to stay at the Hammond Research Station and work with Dr. Fields. I absolutely recommend the LNLA internship at Hammond to anyone interested in horticulture, and plan do my best to promote the opportunity to current and future students. It is such a wonderful opportunity to learn and grow. I cannot wait to see who comes next and gets to be a part of this wonderful program.



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Announcing the 2022 Louisiana Super Plant Inductions



From COVID's persistence to record-breaking natural disasters, 2021 has presented numerous challenges to us all. The green industry has experienced its share of unique problems, too, often making it difficult to find the exact cultivar

to stock in the nursery or plant in the landscape. With this in mind, we are hoping to make Louisiana Super Plant access a bit easier with the 2022 selections, all of which provide a bit of flexibility in this ever-changing time. This doesn't mean the superiority of the plant material is compromised, though! Each of the 2022 Louisiana Super Plants has been rigorously tested and vetted by the LSU AgCenter and members of the industry to be a perfect fit for every Louisiana landscape!

Spring 2021 will proudly welcome the addition of Louisiana Iris to the Super Plants program. Native plants such as the Louisiana Iris are well-suited to handle the wild weather swings we can experience in Louisiana. There are myriad flower colors and sizes to choose from, all of which attract a wide array of pollinators. Irises prefer full sun and typically bloom from late March through April, going dormant in the hot and dry late summer weather of August and September. Once temperatures cool off in November, Louisiana Iris plants will once again start growing and provide striking sword-like green foliage throughout the winter when most other garden plants have gone dormant. Louisiana Iris are highly adaptable plants which can make beautiful additions to water features and ponds. The term "Louisiana Iris" is a common name that refers to the five different native species naturally found in Louisiana and the hybrids of these species. Louisiana is home to several fantastic iris breeders that have released gorgeous and unique cultivars on the market, and the best time to find Louisiana Iris plants at retail garden centers is in the spring - just before and during their blooming season.



For summer we are excited to promote the Summer of Salvias! We believe the pollinators are excited about this, too. For years we have wanted to include more salvias in the Louisiana Super Plants program, but we could never decide on just one cultivar because there are so many amazing choices on the market! With the need for flexibility, we have decided that we don't have to limit our choice to a single salvia, but instead have recommended a "summer full of salvias." Additionally, summertime ushers in patriotic feelings for everyone, so we decided to focus on a red, white and blue color palette! We have five cultivars to announce, including:

- Roman Red – Showy crimson red flowers fully adorn this dense, bushy salvia. Plants have done quite well with average drainage in full sun, and bring a pop of bright color to the front or middle of the landscape bed.
- Skyscraper Orange – While technically not red, the dark orange color is a close match and it is too good to not include! Growing larger than Roman Red with taller flower spikes, this excellent performer stands out at the back of landscape beds, and tolerates rainfall and average drainage like a champ. As a bonus, it may perennialize in average to warmer winters!
- White flame – White is not a color often associated with salvias, but this amazing new *Salvia farinacea* shines like a beacon in the landscape. Plants tolerate heat extremely well, and may also perennialize in warmer winters, allowing it to bloom earlier in the spring.
- Mystic Spires Blue (Improved) – With its tall spikes of vibrant blue flowers rising above lush foliage, Mystic Spires Blue is one of the showiest salvias on the market. Plants remain compact and bushy, and they tolerate heat and humidity quite well.
- Rockin' Blue Suede Shoes – Get ready to rock out all summer long with these fantastic light blue flowers contrasted against dark calyces. These are big plants, so give them plenty of room! Blue Suede Shoes

Announcing the 2022 Louisiana Super Plant Inductions continued

should easily perennialize in average winters. Finally, we wanted a plant choice for autumn that perfectly embodies the feeling and colors of the harvest season. And who doesn't love ornamental peppers? We plant them every year at the Hammond Research Station, and after many years of trying to identify the best, we have decided that this might be an impossible task! Therefore, we are including ornamental peppers as an entire group into the Louisiana Super Plants program. With their tolerance for persistent heat and eye-catching range of foliage and fruit colors, these plants are the perfect way to both spruce up the late summer landscape and celebrate the transition into fall. While all ornamental pepper cultivars that are found in Louisiana nurseries and garden centers will be considered Louisiana Super Plants, some of our favorites are: Midnight Fire, Black Hawk, Hot Pops Purple, Chilly Chili and Calico. For some added fun, throw in some edible ornamental peppers like Mad Hatter or Candy Cane Red, since peppers labeled solely as "ornamental" are typically not suitable for consumption.



For more information on Louisiana Super Plants, please contact the Hammond Research Station 985-543-4125 or your local LSU AgCenter Extension Office.



Training Future Landscape Horticulturalists and Providing an Interactive Landscape at Louisiana Tech University's IDEA Place

Kelsey D. Shoemaker and D. Paul Jackson

Former Undergraduate Student and Associate Professor

School of Agricultural Sciences and Forestry, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA

Last year, the LNLFSR Grant Committee approved a proposal to provide an interactive landscape at the Boulware IDEA Place at Louisiana Tech University. The IDEA (Investigate, Discover, Explore, Ask) Place is housed in the College of Education (COE) and seeks to enrich STEM education for young students through experiential learning opportunities. When a recent renovation provided the IDEA Place with a state-of-the-art classroom for its young learners, the existing landscape failed to reflect the new innovative environment (figure 1).



Figure 1: The (a) south (main) entrance and (b) southeast corner of the IDEA Place show the void landscape after the recent renovation. (Photos by Kelsey Shoemaker. June 10, 2020.)

The IDEA Place's landscaping needs inspired a unique collaboration between the COE and the School of Agricultural Sciences and Forestry. Students in Dr. Jackson's Landscape Design and Contracting class could gain hands-on experience by designing and installing the new landscape, and the IDEA Place could extend its mission for scientific exploration to the outdoors.

During Louisiana Tech's 2020 Fall Quarter, students were challenged to design an interactive, multidimensional landscape that promoted horticultural interest and scientific exploration using educational themes. In addition to teaching landscape design principles, contracting procedures, and landscape installation techniques, this project fostered professional development through a real-world business/client relationship with COE administrators.

Beginning on September 14, 2020, students used the information gathered from a previous site assessment to draft their hand-drawn landscape designs. After four weeks of preparation, students presented their designs to multiple COE administrators. These individuals evaluated the designs and selected the new landscape based on horticultural interest, creativity, landscape maintenance requirements, and estimated project cost.

Students prepared the site and installed the new landscape during multiple class periods throughout the quarter. To prepare the site for planting, students removed the existing sod (figure 2), prepared the space with new bedding material, and tilled the soil (figure 3). After acquiring the landscape plants from two Louisiana nurseries, students had everything they needed to complete the space—Cast in Bronze® Distylium, Chinese Holly, Kaleidoscope Abelia, Lo and Behold® Dwarf Butterfly Bush, Loropetalum, Pineapple Guava, Shishi Gashira Sasanqua Camellias, Trailing Rosemary, and a Teddy Bear® Southern Magnolia (figures 4-6).





Figure 2: Students removed the existing sod from the landscaping site and placed it on the west side of the building in the hopes it would grow there come springtime. (Photo by Paul Jackson. October 26, 2020.)



Figure 3: Students prepared the space with new bedding soil to provide good root establishment for the plantings. (Photo by Paul Jackson. October 26, 2020.)



Figure 4: Students planted rows of Chinese Holly, Dwarf Butterfly Bush, and Distylium to the left of the main entrance. (Photo by Paul Jackson. November 9, 2020.)



Figure 5: The new landscape is shown (a) to the left of the main entrance and (b) at the southeast corner of the IDEA Place. (Photos by Paul Jackson. November 9, 2020.)



Although plant science students' project involvement concluded with landscape installation, new opportunities for horticultural experiences were just beginning for the IDEA Place's young students. To help facilitate student observation and exploration in the new interactive landscape, the COE will provide descriptive signage to explain the educational plant themes that were incorporated in the design. In the coming months and years, the IDEA Place will use this space to foster an appreciation for horticultural education and scientific discovery as their young students interact with the world around them. With the lasting impacts this project will have on students across our campus, similar collaborations of this nature are on the horizon. For the invaluable interdisciplinary partnerships that made the project a success, Dean Schillinger expressed his gratitude on behalf of the COE— "... I am very grateful for the many Louisiana Tech University and off-campus partners who collaborated to create a truly amazing space, providing incredible benefits for our college. . .To all the many people who came together to make the new IDEA Place a reality, we are thankful."

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LNLA Scholarship Winners From the Past WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



LNLF SR Scholarship Winners - Where Are They Now Susannah Burley

Susannah Burley was a LNLA scholarship winner in 2011. She is the founder and executive director of SOUL (Sustaining Our Urban Landscape) in New Orleans. SOUL is driving a resilient and environmentally equitable New Orleans by reforesting our urban landscape.

Susannah Burley has a Master's of Landscape Architecture degree from Louisiana State University. From 2012-2016, she served as Program Director at Parkway Partners, a New Orleans-based non-profit, where she oversaw the ReLeaf tree planting program, the urban farms/community gardens program, schoolyard garden program, incubated their green infrastructure program, and hosted eighty four hours of community environmental education. In 2016 she founded SOUL in order to strategically reforest New Orleans at a meaningful scale and as a system.

Susannah lives in New Orleans and loves gardening, the outdoors, cooking, traveling, music and art. She is married with a son, stepson, and a German Shepherd named Bernie.

Louisiana Tech University Recipient Updates (2013-2021)

2013

Bolton Thomas – landscape foreman and maintenance supervisor, Twin Oaks Landscaping, Ruston

Nicole Thomas – director of cultivation, Globe Cannibas Company, Globe, AZ

2014

Denise Bowe Guyewski – associate extension agent, 4-H LSU AgCenter, Morehouse Parish

2015

Macy Register Ware – Read Lumber and Supply Company, Farmerville

Moran Mayeaux Hess – owner, Bayou Les Fleur Flowers and Gifts, Moreauville

Maverick Fontenot (also 2016) – Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Mamou High School, Mamou

2017

Emily Hartzog Cooper, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Fontainebleau High School, Mandeville

Aaron Babers, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Dodson High School, Dodson

2018

Bailey Fournier, Soil Conservationist, NRCS, Lubbock, TX

2019

Brandi Nava, Coordinator of Student Development at Residential Life, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston

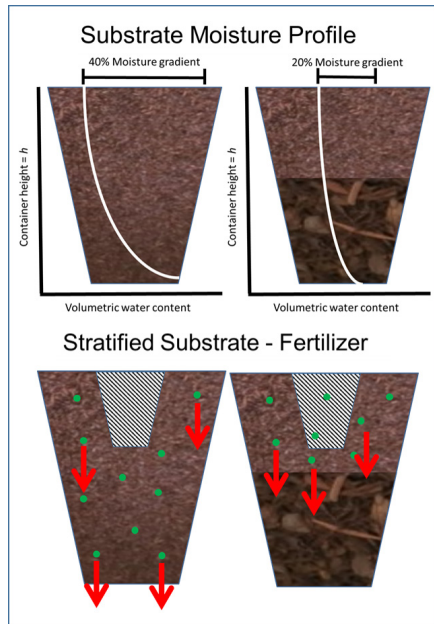
2020 and 2021

Kelsey Shoemaker, M.S. Graduate Research Assistant, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston

Soilless Substrate Stratification: A New Media Management Strategy for Improved Resource Efficiency

Jeb S. Fields and Kristopher S. Criscione

Container production has become ubiquitous with nursery and greenhouse production over the years. Growing in containers allows for more efficient relocation and transportation of plants, crops are



grown uniformly, disease potential is greatly reduced, and growers can better manage their water and fertilizer inputs. Container production relies upon growing media or soilless substrates to serve the role of the soil. In the nursery industry our typical soilless substrate is pine bark,

which is utilized due to its relative low cost, availability, and its favorable growing properties (highly porous physical properties, with low salts and stable pH). The soilless substrates we use need to be highly porous so that they drain readily. In the decades of old, growers would use field soil in containers. The field soils are not as porous as soilless substrates, and therefore do not drain well enough to optimize growth, especially during heavy rains. Therefore, we use materials like bark, peatmoss, coir, perlite, etc. to ensure that there is sufficient drainage. This creates a dilemma. While our materials ensure optimal growing conditions, even if too much water is applied, a problem arises quickly without enough water (these substrates dry out quickly). Thus, continuous daily irrigations are

absolutely necessary to replenish water used by the plant in order to maintain healthy crops. As such, we set out to identify a management strategy that might compensate for reduced irrigation, while still enabling optimal drainage.

In a typical container substrate, gravity pushes water down. Therefore, the upper half of the container profile tends to dry out quickly (where young plant roots are concentrated) and the bottom half remains fairly wet (where water goes unused until roots fully explore the container). This is what we refer to as a moisture profile, and similar profiles exist in nearly every plant container in Louisiana.

At the Hammond Research Station, we began investigating a new concept that we have coined “stratified substrates.” Stratified substrates refers to the stacking of unique substrate materials within a single container. The idea is to place a layer of coarse materials (i.e. coarse pine bark) on the bottom of the container to encourage additional drainage where water typically is retained, and fill the upper portion of a container with fine materials with increased water holding capacity (fine bark, or bark amended with peat or coir fibers). This results in increased uniformity of the moisture profile. In essence, we are redistributing water holding capacity throughout the container and defying gravity. The same air-filled porosity and water holding capacity exists within the container; however, we have manipulated where this exists. The crops are able to still have all the air and water they need, just more uniformly.

So, why is this so important? The redistribution of water allows for more efficient irrigation and fertility practices. Initial research at the Hammond Research Station funded by the Horticulture Research Institute identified equal crop production with a reduction of 20% fertilizer, and that is just the beginning. Recent



M.S. Graduate, Kristopher Criscione's thesis research, funded in part by the LNLFSR, has identified improved crop growth through the use of stratified substrates. In addition, stratified substrates were able to dramatically reduce water stress when compared to typical bark substrates. Going further, we are currently researching how stratified substrates improve root growth and development, impact plant size, and how low we can reduce fertilizer & water inputs. The advantages of substrate stratification continue to present themselves the more it is studied.

Let's take a closer look into Kristopher's graduate research. Initially, we wanted to test the abilities that stratified substrates can offer to the industry. So, we investigated how improved irrigation management strategies could be paired with stratified substrates for added benefits. We found that by stratifying bark blended with fibers (coir or peatmoss) on top of coarse screened bark would not only improve growth, but when paired with a cyclic irrigation strategy or placed in deficit irrigation systems, plants grew as if they were irrigated optimally. The control plants in this experiment (those grown in traditional pine bark substrate) started to wilt and even died when irrigation was reduced and only applied every other day. While this was an extreme case, it looks like it is entirely possible that stratified substrates can support healthy crops with reduced irrigation. More of Kristopher's research highlighted the uniformity in substrate moisture status during and between irrigation events. The stratified substrates maintained adequate moisture levels and removed much of the daily flux. As we delve deeper into this research topic, we are observing how stratified substrates can support rehydration and even help reduce hydrophobicity in container production.

There is also the potential fertilizer reduction to discuss. Having a finer or fibrous material on the top of the container allows for added fertilizer retention. This is the same as traditional substrates; however, in traditional systems, too much fine material would prevent the substrate from drying out and cause root disease or rotting. Not in stratified systems. We found that we could reduce fertilizer levels by 20% through topdressing in stratified systems and grow equivalent plants. Moreover, if you incorporate fertilizer, you can incorporate only in the top strata. We have shown that this practice can also reduce fertilizer by at least

20% and maintain desired fertility levels. How does this work? When you blend fertilizer in your substrate, inevitably the same quantity of fertilizer that is in the upper half exists in the bottom half. When fertilizer starts releasing from the controlled-release prill, the fertilizer at the bottom of the container will wash out before roots even have access. Incorporating only in the top greatly reduces fertilizer loss from leaching.

As mentioned earlier, the benefits are still being observed. Potential reduced media costs through using high-cost peatmoss substrates layered over low-cost pine bark may provide quality growing conditions and a fraction of the cost.

However, this research is still in its initial stages. We want to continue to research effects of stratification, and how any cultural practices need to be modified to produce plants with reduced fertilizer and water prior to making any recommendations.

For more information on substrate stratification or if you would like to discuss any of the projects discussed herein, please contact Dr. Jeb Fields; JSFields@agcenter.lsu.edu. If you are interested in trialing substrate stratification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

This research was funded in part by a grant from the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research. The authors would also like to thank the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association, Phillips Bark Processing, Star Roses and Plants, and the USDA-ARS for their generous support of this and many other projects at the Hammond Research Station.





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PLANTS, PLANTS, and MORE PLANTS

By: Allen Owings, Horticulture Professor Emeritus (LSU AgCenter), Senior Horticulturist (Bracy's Nursery), Horticulturist (Clegg's Nursery)
(p) 225-603-8096 or (e) AOWings64@gmail.com

January Trade Shows

Everyone is looking forward to the Gulf States Horticultural Expo in Mobile, AL in January. Join us January 19th (education), January 20th (trade show) and January 21st (trade show). Should be excellent attendance. See more at www.gshe.org. Other trade shows in January include the Tropical Plant Industry Expo in Florida, Georgia Green Industry Association's WintreGreen show in Duluth, MANTS in Baltimore, North Carolina's Green n' Growin', and the Arkansas Green Industry Association's PLANTS 2022 in Hot Springs.

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LeAnn™ has beautiful maroon new foliage with neat, uniform growth. The evergreen foliage turns maroon in the cooler days of fall. Excellent for use as a medium size hedge or screen. Grows to a height of 10-12 feet with a 6 foot spread.

Bronze Beauty™ is known for being a tidy, compact evergreen with rich bronze new foliage. Growth is very uniform. Sun, part sun or part shade. Best foliage color will be in full sun. Use this variety for hedging or as specimen plants. Matures at 8-10 feet tall with a 5-6 foot spread. The most popular of these three varieties.

Bigfoot™ has glossy evergreen leaves and is very uniform from plant to plant. As with the other varieties, sun, part sun and part shade are the exposure recommendations. A fast grower and great choice for use as a tall hedge or screen. Grows to 15 feet tall with a 6 foot spread.

A Favorite Azalea: Conversation Piece

Conversation Piece belongs to the Robin Hill family of azaleas. One of the best known of the multi-season blooming varieties. Flower size on Conversation Piece can be nearly 4 inches across with colors ranging from dark pink to nearly white with darker pink center blotches. Conversation Piece has small to medium growth with low, broad, moderately dense branching. Use this low-growing, mounding shrub as a color accent or in a foundation planting. These grow to a 3-5' height with a 3-5' spread. Space 4-5 feet apart in the landscape. A LSU AgCenter Louisiana Super Plant and Mississippi Medallion winner.

Crape Myrtle Suckers

Suckers are present on some crape myrtle trees as we enter fall. There are not many at the base of this tree. Prune these off ALL THE WAY BACK to the point of origin. If you leave a stub the suckers will grow back. On trees suckering a lot, removal of suckers in early fall, follow up with another removal of the re-growth in

4 weeks and then working on sucker removal in earlier spring will help get control of these (compared to other times of the year).

After removal of suckers, you can spray the cut area with Sucker Punch or Sucker Stopper (natural auxin - NAA) to prevent/significantly slow the sucker re-growth. No kidding! Do not use herbicides to manage suckers on trees.

These recommendations also apply for hollies, wax myrtles, ligustrums, river birch and other ornamental plants with sucker issues.

Garden Media Group's Garden Trends Report 2022

(From Crisis to Innovation)

Each year, the clever squad at Garden Media Group compile the Garden Trends Report, and this year's account reveals how customers define horticulture in 2022 and beyond.

"Trends help you select plants, products, or services consumers want," explains Katie Dubow, president of Garden Media Group. "Trends ignite a new business, product, service or customer experience. And trends can breathe new life into your current business."

See this article and access the full report:



Resolutions for 2022

- Re-dedicate your garden center to the LSU AgCenter Louisiana Super Plant program
- Improve social media efforts – the results are worth it
- Provide education opportunities for employees & take educational opportunities for yourself *Grow new plants that you never would have considered growing before
- Encourage your friends to join and be active in LNLA
- Improve signage in your garden center
- Attend a bedding plant trial garden event or field day
- Support the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research
- Give talks, provide group tours, sponsor events and find more ways to support your community
- One thought at a time, one task at a time, one day at a time





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Hurricane IDA Urban Forest Damage

The Urban Forest of a Small City

Everyone can clearly see within the city of Mandeville that the urban forest and yards and gardens have been severely impacted by the high winds of Hurricane IDA on August 29, 2021.

Ida, a devastating category 4 storm hit the gulf west of Mandeville exactly six-teen years after Katrina visited its wrath upon the city. The eastern eye-wall hit the city with estimated winds of 150 mph. This storm was equal in strength to the “Last Island Hurricane” of 1856 and “Hurricane Laura” in 2020. IDA was among the strongest winds to strike Louisiana. 1.

Damage from these twin demons of wind is stunning in regard to the loss of landscape beauty in the city.

An unofficial estimate of tree loss during hurricane Ida is based upon a Public Works tally of 280,000 cubic yards of green waste hauled from the city. This suggests some 7000 trees were removed during a two month long, multi-million dollar clean up operation. Calculations below are based upon information and metrics provided by FEMA and corroborated with technical data from the States of California, Ohio, and Minnesota. Research by the University of Florida was also helpful.

The numbers are based on a standard measure estimated from an eight inch DBA tree. A semi-mature tree such as this is said to result in 40 cubic yards of green waste.

A cubic yard of green waste weighs approximately 400 pounds. The total hauled away by trucks with a carrying capacity of 130 cubic yards equates to 100,000,000 pounds. Yes, that is, one hundred million pounds of urban forest debris. That translates to 50,000 tons. The total canopy lost was approximately 156.95 acres. The city is now exposed to the sky.

These numbers make tree loss in the city a disaster of epic proportions. When we add this to number of lost trees to those lost during Katrina it is clear Mandeville is not as green as it was in 2005.

We know by ground observation following the storm that many of the trees lost exceeded the size of the 8” measure. It is not unusual for mature trees in St. Tammany Parish to average 30 inches in diameter. Many overturned trees were as large as 48”. 2.

It is fair to point out that Mandeville trees grow taller and larger than in most parts of the nation. An average 8” dbh tree has what is classified by arborists as a medium size canopy approximately of 900 sf in coverage. Size of course depends upon age and species of tree. A river birch (*Betula nigra*), would be less and a live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), would be much larger.

Therefore the City may have lost at least 6,750,000 square feet or 156.95 acres of shady tree canopy. Some fifty trees, 80’-90’ feet tall came tumbling down around the Mandeville City Hall.

Tree Planting Begins

Due to this tragic loss the city has launched a “Re-leaf Mandeville, Parks and Parkways Tree Planting Program.”

This was recently announced by Mayor Clay Madden. The program offers four landscape quality trees 3. two of which are to be planted in the “front yard.” Two others may be planted anywhere else on private property as selected by the property owner.



Although this is a worthy program more is needed to restore the urban forest which is valued so highly by residents.

Without a doubt, many residents in the city have noted the loss of trees in their neighborhood as well as within the parks parkways and open spaces of the city. 4.

A New Direction for City Tree Planting

It is obvious a larger, almost world war II era type Marshall Plan to replant trees in the urban forest is necessary. To recover the tree canopy removed the City should undertake a thorough



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HOME OF THE CAJUN LIVE OAK

(Landscape Design Sketchbook Continued)

review of the urban forest of the community. The city might consider hiring an urban forestry consultant who can review pre-Katrina air photos as well as current air photogrammetry coverage of the city to establish a proposed canopy cover metric. A 60% canopy would be a good goal to meet.

The consultant should classify the city in regard to deciduous and evergreen species. Then identify wetlands and show calculations for remaining canopy within. Special attention should be given to public lands including parks, parkways, and other city property.

It would be good to point out in the study the value of the canopy over the city. This might be done in regard to annual environmental benefits such as economic value of the canopy, energy saving potential, and stormwater interception capability.

It is possible in an urban forest study such to determine the amount of carbon sequestration processed by trees. Most forestry consultants use I-Tree software and that ascertains property value increases as a result of community trees. Replanting trees will raise the value of damaged properties across the community.

But the primary duty of the consultant is to determine the value of shade and the amount of damage to the urban forest in square feet of canopy lost. Knowing the percentage of the urban forest canopy lost to Katrina and Ida is key to knowing how many trees to be replanted.

It would be very useful if the consultant could propose a long term plan for protecting and replanting the canopy. This might include the amount of coverage to be realized in 10 years and 30 years and the number of trees of recommended species that must be planted. Restoring the urban forest to pre-Katrina days is a good idea. 5.



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THE PLANT DOCTOR



By: *Dr. Raj Singh, Associate Professor and Director, Plant Diagnostic Center, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-4562 or (e) rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu*

Sooty Molds

Sooty molds are a result of non-plant pathogenic fungi that grow superficially as a thin black layer on leaves, fruit, twigs and stems of various crop plants or trees. The fungi grow on the honeydew produced by insects with piercing-sucking mouthparts. The insects, including aphids, leafhoppers, mealy bugs, psyllids, scale insects, and whiteflies, pierce the plant tissue with their stylets and feed on plant sap. While continuously feeding, these insects ingest a large volume of sap fluid into their bodies which is not entirely digested. After extracting nutrients from the sap, these insects excrete excess water and sugars from their bodies in the form of a sticky, sugary substance called 'honeydew'. Most of the time, these insects feed on young tender new growth and the honeydew drops below on all plant parts including leaves, fruit, twigs and stems. Additionally, the honeydew covers understory vegetation, concrete surfaces, sidewalks, furniture, parking lots, etc. under host plants infested by sap sucking insects.

Sooty molds are saprophytic fungi with dark, powder-like spores that breakdown honeydew. Abundance of sooty molds lead to formation of a thin black layer. There are several species of sooty molds, but the most common ones are *Capnodium* spp. and *Fumago* spp. Sooty molds do not directly affect the host plant on which they reside but can inhibit the photosynthetic ability of the plant by covering leaves, twigs, fruit, and stems. Under extreme conditions plants entirely covered with sooty mold may lose vigor and be predisposed to other plant pathogens. Plant growth may also be retarded, and yields can be significantly reduced. The aesthetic value of the plants covered with sooty mold is greatly reduced.

All plant species that are host for sap sucking insects with piercing and sucking type of feeding are affected with sooty molds. Some of the common landscape plants heavily affected by sooty mold are azalea, camellia, citrus, crape myrtle, magnolia, oleander, pear, pine, roses, sago palm and viburnum etc. Hedges, small bushes or other plants such as boxwoods, Indian hawthorn and ground covers get sooty mold if the trees under which they are planted are infested with these insects. This happens when the honeydew from insects high in the canopy of trees drops on the vegetation underneath.



Figure 1: *Aphids feeding on a weed host.*



Figure 2: *Whiteflies feeding on the underside of a holly leaf.*



Figure 3: *Crape myrtle bark scale on a crape myrtle trunk.*



Figure 4: *Crape myrtle leaves covered with sooty mold.*



Figure 5: *Citrus fruit and leaves covered with sooty mold.*



Figure 6: *Honeydew present on the upper surface of crape myrtle leaves.*

THE PLANT DOCTOR



Figure 7: Honeydew present on the upper surface of a rose leaf.



Figure 8: An Indian hawthorn covered with sooty mold planted under a large tree infested with aphids.



Figure 9: Mulch covered with sooty mold under a crape myrtle tree heavily infested with crape myrtle bark scale.

Managing sooty molds is very simple. Keep insects, such as aphids, mealy bugs, scale insects, and whiteflies, in check. Once the insect problem is solved there will be no new sooty mold occurrence. The existing sooty mold infestation dries out after some time and easily sloughs off the infested areas. Pressurized water can be used to wash off the sooty molds. Care should be taken while using pressurized water because it may damage the plant parts.

Insect infestations are generally controlled with insecticides, insecticidal soaps, or horticultural oils. Before applying any kind of chemical pesticide, it is very important to identify the insect properly. Samples of plants infested with insect pests may be taken to your County Extension Agent for identification. Consult with your local Extension Agent on the use of chemicals for managing insects. LSU AgCenter's Plant Diagnostic Center is also available to diagnose your plant health problems.

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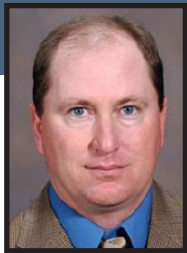
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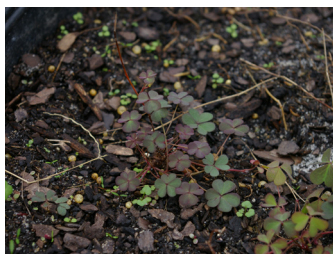


WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER



By: Dr. Ron Strahan, Assistant Professor in Weed Science, LSU AgCenter
Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-2392 or (e) rstrahan@agcenter.lsu.edu

Expect Several Winter Weeds in Flower Beds and Nurseries



After battling the heat all summer and fighting weeds like torpedograss and bushkiller, winter weeds are a welcomed non-challenger with timely pre herbicide applications. Cool season weeds are flourishing and it's time to turn our attention to several unwanted plants that you might see in the nursery and flower bed this winter.

In nursery crops and flower beds, we rely heavily on preemergence herbicides. If you haven't been using pre herbicides, likely you will have to hand pull or carefully apply herbicides such as glyphosate, glufosinate, or pelargonic acid (organic) to reset existing weed populations.

Bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*) - Bittercress, members of the Brassicaceae (mustard) family, are one of the most troublesome weeds in container nursery production in Louisiana. In the wild, bittercress behaves as winter annual but germinates year-round in optimal growing conditions found at nurseries. Conditions are perfect this time of the year for bittercress. Populations reach their peak from October to February.

The plant can produce as many as 5,000 seed and has an effective method of dispersal that forcefully expels mature seeds two to three feet. Seed are extremely viable and can germinate immediately when growing conditions are favorable. Bittercress matures very quickly and can produce a new crop of seed 4 weeks after germination.

Woodsorrel (*Oxalis* spp.) – Woodsorrel, members of the Oxalidaceae (woodsorrel) family, are perennial weeds that produce numerous creeping above and below ground stems and deep taproots that make hand removal difficult. Woodsorrel has three heart shaped leaf components that vary in color from dark green to reddish purple.

Creeping woodsorrel (*Oxalis corniculata*) has a prostrate growth habit and produces numerous above ground stems, whereas yellow woodsorrel (*Oxalis stricta*) grows more upright and produces below ground stems. Both species produce thousands of seed and have a very effective method of seed dispersal. At maturity “okra” shaped seedpods burst open and expel seed 10 to 12 feet in all directions.

Heavy seed production is just one reason that makes woodsorrel difficult to manage. The good news is that there are several preemergence options for this for woodsorrel. However, many growers often think their preemergence herbicides failed. The problem could be that the existing plants were allowed to produce stolons and rhizomes before they were hand removed. Once woodsorrel is established, hand pulling often fails to completely remove lower portions of the weed. For example, pink woodsorrel (*Oxalis debilis*) mainly infests flower beds and has underground storage organs that prevent effective hand removal. When practical, I would consider wiping the weeds with a 10% glyphosate solution. Glyphosate will translocate through the woodsorrel leaves into the stolons and rhizomes and successfully destroy the plant.



Asiatic hawkbeard (*Youngia japonica*) - Asiatic hawkbeard is an annual broadleaf that is a problem year round in landscape beds and nursery crops. However, I see it most often in the fall in the gulf south area. Very rarely do I see a

flower bed in the fall and winter that is free of hawkbeard.

The weed features spatulate leaves that are lobed along the edges. It also has a long flowering stalk and it has a short taproot that allows for easy hand removal. When in bloom, Asiatic hawkbeard features flowers that are yellow in color and have five tiny teeth at the end of outermost petal. Seeds are dispersed by the wind just like dandelion.

Dollarweed (*Hydrocotyle* spp.) – Dollarweed is a creeping perennial in the same family as parsley. The weed reproduces vegetatively and by seeds. I see this plant often in irrigated flowerbeds and in neglected nursery containers. It



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likes wet areas but will linger once established even after the irrigation has been removed.

Unfortunately, hand removal is about all that we have in sensitive container crops. This is marginally effective because most often parts of the plant will be left behind leading to reestablishment. In some situations, you may just be better off to re-pot the plant and start over. In landscape beds, hand removal and repeated applications of imazaquin (Scepter/Image) can help. Imazaquin doesn't blow dollarweed away but helps suppress the weed with follow-up applications. Check the herbicide label for tolerant plants. Repeated applications of glyphosate will suppress dollarweed as well. Good thick mulch helps suppress dollarweed but more than likely, you will find yourself hand weeding this plant in landscape beds.



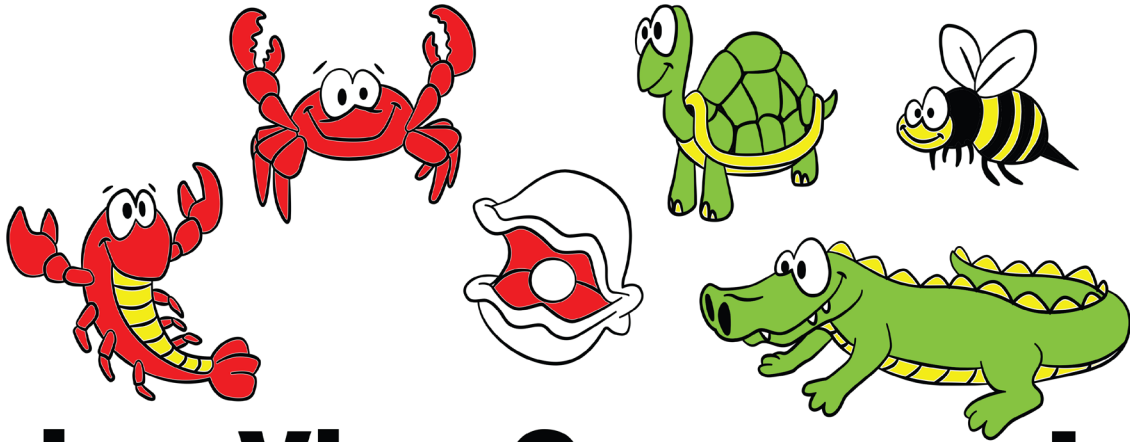
Catchweed Bedstraw (Galium aparine) – Bedstraw, a winter annual gets its name because of one of its most well-known uses. In the medieval times, the plants were dried to stuff beds and mattresses. Often the plant is called “Velcro” weed because it has spines at the base of leaves that allow bedstraw to cling to objects. The leaves of bedstraw are formed in whorls containing

6 - 8 leaves around square stems. The stems of bedstraw are weak and form mats that cover landscape bed plants and nursery crops. Bedstraw is sensitive to isoxaben, a preemergence herbicide found in Snapshot, Gallery, and other herbicides.

Annual bluegrass (Poa annua) - Annual bluegrass is characterized by its pale green color and heavy seed production. Seed germination is stimulated by daytime temperatures in the 70s and nighttime temperatures in the 50s and high light intensities. Poa becomes most noticeable from mid to late winter through spring because of the weed's unsightly seed heads that seem to pop up everywhere. Annual bluegrass is the most common cool season grass found in nurseries and landscape beds in the winter and spring. Normally, I would prescribe sethoxydim or fluzazifop postemergence for grasses infesting nurseries and flowerbeds. However, these herbicides are not effective on annual bluegrass. Clethodim is the most effective of the grass killers when applied on pre-flowering annual bluegrass. Glyphosate is highly effective. However, the best way to control annual bluegrass is with timely preemergence herbicide applications beginning in September and reapplied as directed by the product labels.

Preemergence and postemergence options for bittercress, woodsorrel, and annual bluegrass in container nurseries and landscape beds		
Weed	Herbicide	Remarks
Bittercress/rockcress	flumioxazin, isoxaben, oxadiazon, oxyfluorfen	Control is difficult due to periodic germination throughout the year. Scout nurseries and landscape beds often. Sanitation is essential for management. Consult labels for tolerant crops.
Woodsorrel	flumioxazin, isoxaben, oxadiazon, oxyfluorfen, pendimethalin, prodiamine	Combination of preemergence herbicides and wiping established plants with glyphosate necessary for complete control
Asiatic hawksbeard	flumioxazin, isoxaben, oxadiazon, oxyfluorfen, pendimethalin, prodiamine, trifluralin	Easily hand removes; several preemergence options
Dollarweed	Imazaquin provides suppression only. Very high rates of glyphosate will control.	No preemergence option. Combination of hand removal and herbicides are necessary
Catchweed bedstraw	Isoxaben, oxyfluorfen	Apply in late September and every 60 to 90 days
Annual bluegrass	Pendimethalin, dithiopyr, prodiamine, dimethenamid etc. provide preemergence control	Timing preemergence herbicides is essential to keep this weed in check. Glyphosate is the best option post emergence in landscape beds. Clethodim is the most active of the grass killer herbicides.

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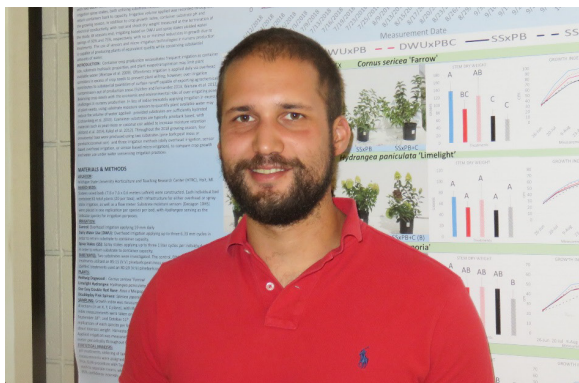
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Articles with *Dr Abdi*



Compacted Soils and Plant Health

The Issue with Compaction

Compacted soils pose an issue to plants in the landscape. The extensive heavy machinery use in new construction leads to compacted soils, and pedestrian foot traffic can also lead to compaction. Plants in compacted soils suffer due to reduced capability for roots to penetrate through vertical and horizontal layers, limited oxygen, poor water infiltration, and issues with drainage.

A healthy, non-compacted soil is roughly 50% pore space, where air and water can move freely. Pore space is comprised of small pores (micro-pores), and large pores (macropores).

Compaction leads to compressed soils with less macropore space. In wet conditions, water cannot flow freely through the limited macropore space, thus starving plant roots of oxygen. In dry conditions, soils may become so hard that roots are incapable of penetrating, leading to limited root development and poor plant health. Not all compaction sources are the same, the force applied by heavy machinery can result in compaction to a depth of one to two feet; whereas, pedestrian foot traffic typically exerts a force of up to half a foot. Compaction may be present before the plant is even in the ground, or it may be a result of extensive foot traffic over an area.

Testing for Compaction

Assessing the extent of compaction present in soils can be accomplished via a number of methods. A penetrometer is a tool that simulates root growth, and measures how much force is needed to penetrate through soils. This tool is comprised of a steel cone tip, roughly $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, connected to a shaft with a pressure gauge at the end. The steel cone is pressed down into the soil, allowing the user to assess how much pounds per square inch of pressure is required. The shaft has measurement markings from the steel tip to the pressure gauge. The user pushes the steel shaft down at a rate of approximately one inch per second, and when the pressure required exceeds 300 psi, the depth of the shaft is noted. Plant roots capability to penetrate through soils decreases linearly with greater compaction, and virtually ceases above 300 psi. It is best to use a penetrometer when soils are at field capacity (i.e. all free water in the macropores has drained through, but the micropores remain saturated). This allows the most accurate reading as dry soils will offer more resistance and saturated soils will offer less resistance, leading to over or underestimating the extent of compaction. In assessing where compaction begins and ends, push the shaft to the point where 300 psi is exceeded, measure this depth, then continue pushing until you “break through” the compacted layer and it requires less pressure to continue deeper. The point where pressure is below 300 psi would be the bottom of the compacted layer, if it is indeed measurable.

Measuring the bulk density of a soil is another method in assessing compaction. Bulk density is the weight (in grams) of a unit volume (cm^3). A greater weight of soil per unit volume can serve as an indication of high levels of compaction. To assess bulk density, one would use a soil core extracting tool, pulling out a specific, known volume of soil from the site. Following core extraction, soil should be oven dried to force out any residual water before weighing. This method is effective at measuring compaction at the surface, and if the core is long enough may allow bulk density to be measured at different levels throughout the soil.

Another method for assessing compaction is to perform a drainage test, with more compacted soils exhibiting poor drainage. To do this, one would dig a hole approximately one foot wide by one foot deep, and then fill the hole with water until it reaches the surface. Following this step, a measuring stick will be held in the hole and the rate that the water drains will be measured until water has completely infiltrated and percolated through the hole. This provides insight into how likely the soil will remain flooded following irrigation or precipitation events, and overall drainage quality.

In total, these three tests provide valuable insight into how compacted a soil may be. Penetrometers allow measurements across all horizons, and can be used to identify where a compacted layer may start or stop. Core samples can provide a surface assessment of compaction, and can also allow gradations of compaction to be assessed at different depths. Finally, the drainage test provides insight into deeper levels of the soil, and reflect the environment of which plant roots will be subjected to.

Author

Damon E. Abdi, PhD, Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist, Hammond Research Station

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The Louisiana Certified Habitat Program

By Phyllis Baudoin Griffard and Tammany Baumgarten



We both love beautiful gardens, especially hard-working ones that are also beautiful to birds, pollinators and other wildlife.

It was this common optimism that led us to start talking about how to inspire Louisiana residents to consider nature in their yard management plans. With others, we planned

the Louisiana Certified Habitat Program and launched it in mid-2020 with backing by the Louisiana Native Plant Society. Administered locally across the state by volunteers and conservation nonprofits, the LCH Program provides a prominent certification of the property owner's efforts to garden ecologically by way of a metal yard sign that reads 'This property conserves Louisiana's natural heritage: native plants, animals, lands and waters. Applicants who document at least 25 native plant species in their yard qualify for certification at the bronze level, with free upgrade decals for silver (50 species) or gold (75 species) levels. Several applicants have documented over 200 species! The \$45 fee offsets costs of the signs, brochures and decals, and most administering organizations offer a discount to their members. Once an application is submitted, a local volunteer visits the site and gets a tour. To date, over 150 properties have been certified, including several schools and public facilities. To our knowledge, no other state in our region has such a program, but we would be delighted if they did.

The Louisiana Certified Habitat Program provides an entry point for beginners to ecological gardening by offering them a simple, easy-to-reach goal. The plant checklist in the application introduces them to the hundreds of Louisiana native plant species that are well-suited to conventional landscape design, with resources for plant selection for size, bloom times, sun, and moisture needs. They are often surprised that so many of their existing trees qualify, especially Louisiana's majestic oaks, willows, elms, hollies, and

plums. Understory woodies like native beautyberry, iteas, viburnums and buckeye have impressive and colorful seasonal displays that all landscapes can showcase. So many of our wildflowers, like native coneflowers, sages, and irises, provide perfect color symphonies for sunny flower beds all summer into fall, and are even available in garden centers. By adding more natives, these gardeners are noticing more pollinators, and not just monarchs and honeybees. Their birds are no longer just mockingbirds and jays but now include charming hummingbirds and migratory songbirds. Over time even owls may show up. These are the experiences that motivate, and a little metal sign in the yard is how we hook them.

The application process also gives us an opportunity to go beyond plant selection and encourage them consider design and their maintenance practices. The least functional habitat anywhere is a manicured lawn of shallow-rooted turf grass. Applicants are asked to set a goal of reducing their lawn to only that which they use by expand beds over time. Practices like delayed or selective deadheading and leaving the leaves protects winter food sources and life cycles of beneficial ground-nesting insects. Incorporating deep-rooted natives and pervious paths help slow runoff that exacerbate flooding and soil and nutrient loss. We encourage patience and selectivity in applying chemicals.

But one message every applicant receives is that all gardens, native or not, need maintenance to stay looking good. That is why the landscaping industry will always have a clientele, even if they go native. If your clients' neighbors expect a certain conventional



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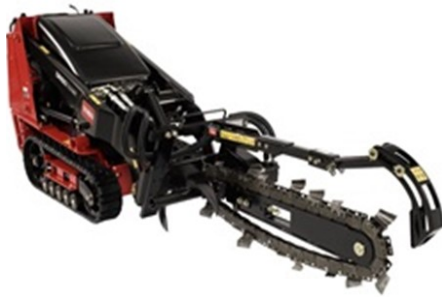


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aesthetic, you can propose the “mullet” strategy: a neatly trimmed business look in the front with a wilder party happening out back. We can help with ideas for how to do that.

Our outreach asks Louisiana residents to think about their plants differently. Plants are at the base of every terrestrial food chain, but plants in their native habitat do this best because they coevolved with local herbivores, microbes, climate and soils. The vast majority of plants available in the nursery trade are from Asia or the tropics or highly bred — retaining little of what makes them function in an ecosystem. We also expose them to research showing that a garden needs to be 70% native in biomass (thank you trees!) to keep bird populations stable over time, and that two chickadee parents need to find 6000 caterpillars in about ten days to raise their six babies. Those non-native crape myrtles, camellias and azaleas can't put up those numbers because butterflies and moths think those are just plastic plants and don't lay their eggs there. These are some of the common messages in our outreach. The call for ecological gardening practices is now coming from the loudest pulpits in garden circles nationwide. That may explain why you may be having more and more inquiries for native plants and landscapes, and why those professionals already specializing in ecological landscaping struggle to meet the demand.

Your clients and customers are better informed and motivated today about what environmental good their property can do, and they may ask you to help. Why not suggest that you help them qualify as a Louisiana Certified Habitat? Several volunteers from around the state are helping to administer the program. Just get in touch and we'll connect you to resources, potential clients or native plant material for propagation. The Louisiana Native Plant Society has lots more information and resources on landscaping with native plants and the Louisiana Certified Habitat program at LNPS.org.

Local organizations that are also available to assist are the Acadiana Native Plant Project, <https://greauxnative.org/> and the Native Plant Initiative of Greater New Orleans, <https://www.npi-gno.org/>. We can help!

Phyllis Griffard is a biology educator in Acadiana active with the Acadiana Native Plant Project (greauxnative.org).

Tammany Baumgarten is a horticulturist in New Orleans and current President of the Native Plant Initiative of GNO.



To date, over 150 properties have been certified across Louisiana, including several schools and public facilities



Unlike other certification programs, the LCH is based primarily on the presence and quantity of native plants

Hammond Research Station Update

Jeb S. Fields



The Hammond Research Station proudly serves as the primary destination for nursery and landscape Extension within the LSU AgCenter. As such, we strive to provide the most relevant and beneficial research and programming aimed to help the industry grow. Our goal is to enhance production efficiency and landscape sustainability through research, extension, and educational outreach.



First and foremost, we would like to congratulate Kristopher Criscione, who successfully defended his Thesis and has graduated with his Master's of Science. Kristopher's research focused on stratified substrates, much of which we discuss in a separate article in this very newsletter, so go check it out! I plan to continue research into stratified substrates and look forward to fully understanding the benefits for growers. Kristopher's hard work and great attitude has made him a wonderful student to have around in Hammond over the past two years. However, he will not be missed! At least not yet, because Kris has elected to stay in Hammond to work on his PhD.

We are all very excited to follow Kristopher's work and see what he has in store for the next four years. In other graduate student news, we would like to congratulate Max McKeown and Ashley Edwards for starting their Master's programs at the Hammond Research Station. Max started in August and Ashley is set to start her graduate program in January. Max, who was the LNLA intern this past summer, has started his research into ground cover usage and sustainability. Ashley, as you all know is also a research associate at the station is going to be investigating fertilizer release timing in nursery production. We love the increased student presence at the station and look forward to the coming years of graduate student research.

Speaking of new students, in January we will be hosting an international student scholar, Ms. Fidelina Esperanza Oliva Lemus, of Zamorano University (Honduras) has earned a visiting scholarship with LSU and is going to be spending a few months at the Hammond Research Station. She is very interested in sustainable agriculture and we are excited for her to come join our team.



We did not have an opportunity to get an update in the last newsletter due to Hurricane Ida. However, we want to let everyone know that the station is well and in operation. While the storm did damage the station, we



were able to salvage and continue research operations. The gardens did take some significant damage, and unfortunately, the gardens are currently closed to visitors until the damage is repaired. That being said, we are planning restoration efforts and expect the gardens to be back on track in the spring.

Until then, we encourage you to visit our website for more information on our current and previous trials.

<https://app.lsuagcenter.com/hammondtrials>



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Also, don't forget to follow the Hammond Research Station on Facebook for our weekly Hammond Highlights and Monday Marvels, as well as other research and garden related content.

We look forward to hosting the Margie Jenkins Lecture Series in person (and virtually) on Friday, April 22, for our industry members. We are building an exciting lineup of guest speakers, so make sure you don't miss this event. We will also be holding our Spring Garden Festival on Saturday April 23, for the public. While we are on this topic, be sure to hold Friday July 22 for the Hammond Research Station Horticulture Field Day. We plan to continue hosting the LNLA membership meeting that same day, so you can get all your horticulture needs in a one-stop shop.

On a side note, I would like to personally thank everyone who contacted us in support after the storm. Knowing how much you care and that we are in your thoughts means the world to us.

Until next time,

Jeb





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The Louisiana Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization founded in 1983. LNPS's mission is to:

- To preserve and study native plants and their habitats,
- To educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species,
- To promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape, and
- To educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.

SELNA UPDATE

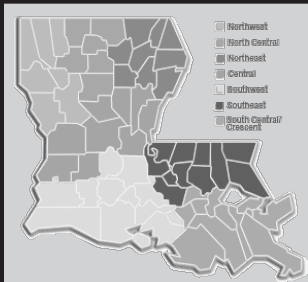
Visit SELNA.org for association updates, membership information, and horticulture related news. You can also download a copy of the SELNA Plant Locator while you're there. To request a Nursery Locator Map or more information contact SELNA at 985.875.2635 or wafton@agcenter.lsu.edu.

THE NEW ORLEANS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The New Orleans Horticultural Society is back to having regularly scheduled meetings after having to take a year off due to restrictions. The NOHS is a non-profit organization that began in 1885, the second oldest of its kind in the United States. It's a place where like-minded professionals in the green industry can meet and talk about the trade and attend lectures and activities that promote all aspects of the landscape profession. The group is comprised of licensed horticulturists, florists, nurserymen, garden center operators, pesticide applicators, landscape contractors and architects, arborists, and those in allied trades. Our meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of every month, unless an event or holiday changes the day. We meet at

the City Park Garden Study Building which is set among the beautiful New Orleans Botanical Gardens. We have our annual Christmas party coming up for dues paying members only, but we hope to recruit new members in the coming year for our regular meetings.

We are always ready to welcome new members as the green industry continues to grow in our area. Meetings typically last two hours and refreshments are provided before the guest speaker takes over. For up-to-date information, please contact us at NOHS1885@gmail.com to request to be added to our email mailing list and newsletter or you can find us on Facebook for updates.



Support Louisiana's green industry by joining your regional association.

Contact the following:

BRLA: Elena Fennell, Secretary, (e) ecfennell@cox.net, (p) 225-921-4095
 CLNA: Myra Poole Maloney, President, 75 Nick Strange Road, LeCompte, LA 71346, (p) 318-321-6046, (e) myramaloney41@gmail.com
 LIA: Chuck Davis, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, (e) geauxlia@gmail.com
 NOHS: Shaun Hebert (e) nohs1885@gmail.com
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Agcenter Takes Boxwood Disease Training To Louisiana's Nursery Capital

by V. Todd Miller

(10/22/21) FOREST HILL, La. — The first thing one notices when exiting Interstate 49 to Forest Hill in Rapides Parish is mile upon mile of plant nurseries — the largest concentration in the state, according to one attendee of a boxwood dieback disease identification and management training presentation on Oct. 19.

The hands-on training was conducted by plant doctor Raj Singh, of the LSU AgCenter Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology Department. Singh, who first identified boxwood dieback in 2015, structured the presentation to give nursery operators and landscapers the tools they need to recognize and combat the spread of the disease.

The training was divided into three sections: the brief but destructive history of boxwood dieback, how to properly identify it and preventative methods to control it.

“This disease doesn’t spare younger or more mature boxwoods,” Singh said. “Once it’s there, it’s not going to stop.”

Singh said the disease, which is caused by a fungal plant pathogen, is spreading at an alarming rate in the United States. It causes random dieback of twigs. Initially leaves turn light green, then become light tan as the disease progresses. It resembles other boxwood diseases, which is part of the problem when it comes to properly identifying and managing it.

Louisiana’s warm and humid climate provides fertile ground for the spread of boxwood dieback, according to Singh, who described it using a local analogy.

“The spores like it here; the weather is very welcoming,” he said. “It’s like we’re serving it a big bowl of jambalaya and it keeps coming back for more.”

The disease is spread through both roots and leaves, and spores can remain active for a while. Singh said it takes about 12 weeks to see symptoms if you know what to look for. Spores can spread through everything from wind-driven rain to leaf blowers and unclean, contaminated lawn equipment.

During the training, Singh showed the crowd examples of plants with problems that resemble boxwood dieback, including *Phytophthora* root rot, *Volutella* blight and *Macrophoma* blight as well as injury from high and low temperatures and herbicides.

Singh said the following are ways to control the spread — although at this point, there is no known way to fully eradicate it:

- Remove and discard any diseased boxwoods.
- Prune using sharp tools and disinfect tools with bleach, quaternary ammonia or rubbing alcohol.
- Avoid overhead irrigation if possible; if not, irrigate before sunrise.
- Preventative fungicide sprays, like Mural, Pageant and Orkestra, which can be costly.

If you suspect you may have boxwood dieback, send a sample to the AgCenter Plant Diagnostic Center for study.

“We work pretty quickly and can tell you in a day or two if you have it,” Singh said.



LSU AgCenter plant doctor Raj Singh shows training attendees an example of black discoloration of sap wood under the bark of an affected twig caused by boxwood dieback. Photo by V. Todd Miller/LSU AgCenter



LSU AgCenter plant doctor Raj Singh displays a dead boxwood that has been affected by boxwood dieback. Photo by V. Todd Miller/LSU AgCenter

LNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 10-21-2021**MINUTES**

The LNLA Board of Directors met Wednesday, October 21, 2021 at Pat's Seafood in Henderson, LA. Those board members in attendance were: Kurt Ducote, Lisa Loup, Brian Bridges, Tony Carter, Juan Garcia, Matt Fennell, Brandon Adams, Craig Roussel, Candria Ray Angelo Quaglino Dr. Jeb Fields and Cari Jane Murray. Board members absent were Michael Roe, Ricky Becnel, Dr. Ed Bush and Reuben Mitchell.

Those attending via Zoom were: Jeff Reid, Tina Peltier and Marsha Dugas

LNLA President, Kurt Ducote opened the meeting at 10:20am with a welcome. All stood for the pledge of allegiance. Kurt asked everyone to review the minutes from the last LNLA board of directors meeting held on July 23, 2021. Lisa Loup motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Tony Carter second and all were in favor.

Cari Jane updated for LNLFSR that GALA XII will be Friday, June 24, 2022 at The Pavilion of the Two Sisters at City Park, NOLA just as this past year. Scholarship application period is open till November 20th. Winning recipients will be announced and presented at GSHE in January 2022.

Tina Peltier, Director of Horticulture and Quarantine Programs at LDAF gave the board updates. Allen Fabre, the program coordinator for Nursery and Apiary will be retiring February 2022, his vacant position will be announced in December. We are sad to see him go but happy for him. The citrus canker suspect sample taken in Assumption parish back in March of 2021 was reported negative by Beltsville. PPQ will continue to monitor the area. No additional citrus canker was detected in the 2 mile delimiting survey in St. Martin Parish where citrus canker was found in January of 2021. We are still working with the homeowner to have the trees removed. In June of 2021, citrus greening was confirmed in St. Charles Parish. A 1-mile and 2-mile delimiting survey was conducted resulting in 10 additional positives. We are working on updating our regulations to add St. Charles Parish to the citrus greening quarantine. We continue to remove HLB positive trees. Around 330 trees have been removed so far. We continue to receive pre-shipment notifications from the nursery in Florida that shipped foxtail ferns in March of 2021 containing Guava Root Knot nematodes. All samples taken for the shipments have been negative for GRKN with one still pending. Our first round of required sampling at the confirmed positive nursery for P. Ramorum was completed in June of 2021. 332 samples were taken, resulting in 41 ELISA positives that were forward to the Michigan State University lab for further testing. All 41 samples were reported negative for P. ramorum. It is normal for about 10% of the samples to come back ELISA positive. The second round of bi-annual sampling is scheduled for this Friday, October 22. 332 samples will be taken again along with 2 water baiting samples from the retention pond on the nursery property. The spring/summer Citrus Commodity survey has been completed with 46 locations being inspected. Fall inspections are underway. 60 samples were taken during the SOD survey and all were reported as negative. The water baiting portion is scheduled to take place in November. The Solanaceous survey has been completed. 60 traps were deployed at 20 locations. All suspect pests have been submitted for identification and we are awaiting the results. The Forest Pest survey is still ongoing. 42 traps have been deployed at 14 locations and are serviced monthly. The traps will remain deployed until November. The monthly sample collections are sent to USDA for identification. We have issued over 83,000 blue tags to nurseries this year. This number seems to continue to increase each year. Contributing factors for the increase are the freeze in February of 2021 and individuals are continuing to plant nursery stock during COVID.

Marsha Dugas, Assistant Director let us all know about Dec 2nd Commission meeting via Zoom. Renewal letters will go out the first week in December. New nurseries certificates (wholesale) issued since April this year is 37, Landscape Hort License 41 and Landscape Architect 6.

Brian Breaux with LFBF was unable to attend but sent word that he would like the board and membership to be aware that we are requesting our US Representatives to support HR3897 that provides H2B cap relief. Rep Julia Letlow just signed onto bill as a cosponsor and we will make same request to rest of House Delegation. We hit the H2B cap with H2B applications filed no later than September 30, 2021.

Craig Roussel and Jeff Reid elaborated more on the above with the Labor Committees update. The LNLA board members would like to send an email blast for everyone to contact Senator Kennedy's office about H2B and HR 3897. We will form a letter detailing what's going on for everyone to forward or make their own. We also need to send these letters to Cassidy, house of representative and senate in the state. Let as many people as we can know about the issue and how it affects us. Dear Senators we are in support of HR ... we are part of LNLA and industry we are 600 members strong ...

A lengthy discussion ensued.

Brian Bridges, LNLA's treasurer, gave the financial report. We currently have total cash in checking \$68K, money market \$25K, savings \$88K ... total assets \$184K. Last year we were at \$212K. We have had more expenses this year and less income. Dues are up \$7400. No income from GSHE (\$35K) also no expenses for GSHE. In 2019 we were at \$183K .. we are not doing bad financially by any means. Expenses up are labor \$12K, manuals \$5700, newsletter \$4100. Lisa Loup made a motion to accept the financial report, Angelo Quaglino second and all were in favor.

Brandon Adams, funding chair gave an update on two things that have happened since the last meeting. LNLA sponsored the DYN Golf Tournament for \$500 and sponsored the Boxwood Dieback Training event for LSU AgCenter and Dr. Raj Singh for less than \$500.

Tony Carter, marketing chair reminded everyone about the raffle items for January 2022. We have about \$4000 in sponsorships so far. We need to reach back out to those that have sponsored in the past. We will also have ticket sales between now and GSHE. Tickets available through LNLA board members and online at Lnla.org.

To keep the forward momentum of our LNLA quarterly newsletter, we are looking for recommendations of changing the name of the publication to keep people interested and spark membership ownership and involvement. Deadline is

November 15 then the board will decide what direction we will go in.

We are hoping to get more information about a hurricane and wind policy for nursery growers for the next board meeting ... a member made us aware of this and could be very beneficial to those members. Pandemic response and safety grant program with the USDA is another opportunity for help we need to promote to our members.

Lisa Loup, membership chair let everyone know that we are getting ready to send out dues renewals. First will go out by email on November 15th and printed invoices will go out December 1st to around 850 current and lapsed members. We will mail out solicitation letters to over 4000 prospects at a cost of \$4700. Prospects will get multiple emails as well as membership drives. Lisa motioned to spend no more than \$5000 to send out these mail outs to prospects in November using KTeam Printing. Tony Carter second the motion and all were in favor. Lisa made a second motion to spend up to \$2000 for printing and mailing invoices to current and lapsed members for 2022 dues renewals. Juan Garcia second the motion and all were in favor.

Lisa asked the board for suggestions for the members packets that we will send out in January after renewals have been made. We will make decisions at December 8th meeting. We are increasing members every year and we want to keep that momentum going.

Nominating Committee had no report to give at this time. The deadline for nominees to the board is November 15.

Candria Ray Awards Committee chair let the board know there was no report to give at this time. The deadline for award nominations is November 15. The winners will be announced to the board at the December meeting and presented at the LNLA Membership Breakfast and Awards meeting at GSHE in January 2022.

IT Committee & website chair, Matt Fennell reported. How many visits to the website monthly? Total visits have been 282K for the home page. The awards page that is newly created has over 280 visits already. We have created a QR code for the website to use on all printed material. Allen Owings keeps up with our Facebook page and just this year we have had over a million views. Allen posts at least once a day on Facebook, very interesting stuff!

LSU AgCenter Hammond Station Update from Dr. Jeb Fields. 2022 Louisiana Super Plants will be featured in the next LNLA newsletter. The station took on a lot of damage during Ida. Between 130-150 trees came down. Hoping to be fully operable by Summer 2022. Taking FEMA bids right now. No power at the station for 30 days after the storm! We would like to send the new Vice President of the LSU AgCenter a welcome letter. Lots of events have been cancelled just due to the hurricane damage. USDA Grower Conference in Hammond in April 2022, Jeb would like LNLA to have a presence at this meeting. The LNLA intern Max McKeown has been working diligently on a new garden guide.

Cari Jane reported the next CNLP manual review and certification exam will be (Feb 22-23, 2022) / Plant Materials Con for fall 2021 has been canceled.

GSHE Jan 19-21, 2022 (Wed-Fri) LA in charge of exhibitor move in/out. Lisa Loup will be President of GSHE this year.

Our volunteers for move in and out are Tom Fennell, Matt FENNELL, Kurt Ducote, Reuben Mitchell, Candria Ray and Juan Garcia and Max McKeown. Lisa Loup will be our alternate for move in and out.

Next Meeting - December 8th at Mike Anderson's in Baton Rouge

Juan Garcia motioned to adjourn and all were in favor.

LANDSCAPE HORT LICENSING VS LNLA CERTIFICATION

Louisiana Department of Ag & Forestry (LDAF) Landscape Hort Licensing Facts

- Licensing is REQUIRED to conduct business as a "Landscape" in the state of Louisiana; this is anything above grass cutting.
- Licensing is offered only through LDAF (225-299-8100) or ldaf.state.la.us.
- Licensing exam fee is \$114. This exam can be taken Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment but must be scheduled with LDAF
- Licensing exam is in-person but computer based with 50 questions that consist of a mix of True/False, Matching, and Multiple Choice.
- An exam score of 70% or greater is required to then apply for the license.
- If you fail the licensing exam you must wait 14 days to take the exam again.
- Study material for licensing exam is "The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry" \$65 offered only at lnla.org

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association (LNLA) Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP) Certification Facts

- Certification is NOT REQUIRED to conduct business as a "Landscape" in the state of Louisiana.
- Certification is optional and given through LNLA (985-237-2939) or lnla.org
- Certification exam is offered 2x a year in Feb and June. The certification exam follows a 2 day in-person manual review session.
- Study material for certification exam is "The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry" \$65 offered only at lnla.org
- Cost of the 2 day manual review is \$75 and certification exam cost is \$100.
- The Certification exam is made up of 5 parts. 4 are written from manual material and the 5th is plant identification. All sections require a 70 or greater to pass. Once you pass any section of the certification exam you do not have to take that section again but certification will not be issued to the exam taker until all 5 parts are passed with a 70 or greater. All 5 sections must be passed in a 2 year period ... after 2 years all sections will be required to take over again.
- Certification is a marketing tool for yourself or a course that employers may have employees participate in to have a better understanding of the industry. Manual Reviews are great for both the Licensing and Certification exams. The review is not required but available to those who would like to participate.

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985.237.2939
carijanelnla@gmail.com
www.lnla.org

To: Louisiana Green Industry Professionals

Re: Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Exams (CNLP) – **2022**

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association has scheduled the certified nursery and landscape professional manual review and exams for 2021. The schedule is as follows:

February 22-23, 2022 LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Hwy,
Hammond, LA 70403

June 7-8, 2022 Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, 2206 Johnson St, Lafayette, LA 70503

Manual reviews will be held on the first day from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and second day from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The exam will be given (*if held in person*) at about 1:00 p.m. on the second day; 3 hours are allowed for the full exam. There are five sections to the exam:

- Section 1** - Plant Classification, Growth and Development
- Section 2** - Understanding Pests and Their Control
- Section 3** - Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards
- Section 4** - Landscape Contracting, Tree and Turf Management
- Section 5** - Plant Identification

Primarily, persons in the retail garden center and landscape contracting/maintenance areas of the 'Green Industry' participate; however the course is also recommended for wholesale growers, irrigation contractors and Master Gardeners. The CNLP was established to provide a professional educational opportunity for 'Green Industry' professionals. The manual review is also excellent preparation for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's landscape horticulturist license exam. An LDAF license or permit is required to be in various landscape & nursery related businesses in Louisiana; the CNLP is not required. **This certification is not a license.** Call LDAF Horticulture Commission at 225-952-8100 or your nearest LDAF regional office to schedule the license exam.

Dr. Jeb Fields, LSU AgCenter's Commercial Horticulturist, is the primary instructor for the manual review/training session. It is recommended that participants acquire and read the manual, [The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticultural Industry](#), before attending the CNLP review. Participants can then ask questions on the content of the manual during the review. A highlighter and pen, as well as the manual, are highly recommended to be brought to the review with each participant; this allows marking of items which will be included on the exam. The manual is not included in the fee for the review &/or exam.

Please contact me, by phone (985)237-2939, or email carijanelnla@gmail.com, if you have any questions in regard to this year's certified nursery and landscape professional programs.

Sincerely,

Cari Jane Murray
LNLA Executive Secretary



Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Manual Review and Exam - 2022

February 22-23, 2022

LSU AgCenter
Hammond Research Station
21549 Old Hammond Hwy.
Hammond, LA 70403

Begins at 9am daily

June 7-8, 2022

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
University of LA at Lafayette
2206 Johnson St.
Lafayette, LA 70503

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COULD BE VIRTUAL DEPENDING ON COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

Register for the Manual Review and Exam by selecting the appropriate location above:

Business Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone/Email (P) (E)

Table with 3 columns: Registration & Manual Fees, Participant Name(s) & Section(s), Fees. Includes registration fee of \$175 per person, re-take fee of \$20 per section, and manual purchase fee of \$65 per copy.

Make check or money order payable to: Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association. Total \$, Check #, Date.

For further information contact: Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (C) 985-237-2939, (E) carijanelnla@gmail.com

REGISTRATION AND MANUAL PURCHASES MAY ALSO BE DONE ONLINE AT LNLA.ORG

OBITUARY



Sandra Jumonville Patrick

SEPTEMBER 4, 1944 – OCTOBER 25, 2021

A loving, caring mother and passionate gardener and artist, Sandra Patrick passed away peacefully on Monday, October 25, 2021. She was 77 and a resident of Baton Rouge. She was born and raised in Napoleonville, and graduated valedictorian of her class at Assumption High. She continued her education at Nicholls State and LSU, where she earned a Master's Degree in Chemistry. In college she met the love of her life, J.C., whom she married and moved with to Memphis after school. There, she worked as a research chemist at St. Jude Children's Hospital, a position she was extremely proud of. She and J.C. later moved to Baton Rouge, where they started and ran a landscape company for over 30 years. Her true passion though was art and creating. Art wasn't just something she did; it was part of her very fiber and she found many ways of expressing it: painting, especially watercolor, as well as printmaking, jewelry making, gardening and writing. She loved creating beauty in everyday life, and especially took great pride in her garden and generously shared her knowledge of horticulture with anyone who asked. Her latest project was a book that she had written chronicling her travels through Italy and France years ago. Her enthusiasm and joie de vivre were contagious. Sandra will be deeply missed by her son, Kelly Patrick, her brother and sister-in-law, Charles, Jr., and Gloria Jumonville, her brother-in-law, Jimmy Patrick, her nieces and nephews, Melissa DesHotels, Casey Blount, Amy Sibley, and Corey Patrick, as well as numerous cousins and friends. She is preceded in death by her beloved husband, J.C. Patrick, and her parents, Charles, Sr., and Eloise Jumonville. Sandra's family would like to thank the Neuro ICU staff and nurses at Our Lady of the Lake, as well as Dr. Vincent Cataldo and Dr. Laura Finn for taking such great care of her and providing treatment with such great kindness. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Sandra's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Hellen Smith Robbins Hibbard

Hellen, 82, of Forest Hill, entered eternal rest on Sunday, October 31, 2021, in Forest Hill. She was born June 20, 1939, in Lafayette to William Sewell Smith and Reba Jenet Johnson Smith.

Hellen was a member of the Longleaf Baptist Church and was known to many as MawMaw, who loved so many people. She loved flowers and enjoyed sports games. Hellen was an avid animal lover and she got great joy from raising her four-legged friends, especially loved being known as Maw Hellen. She enjoyed fishing on the creek.

She is preceded in death by her parents, William and Reba Smith; one brother, Benjamin Smith; her husband of 40 years, Donald Bascom Robbins; her husband of 14 years, Stanford Baxter Hibbard; and grandchild, Jamie Ray.

Those left behind to cherish her memory are her children, Rusty Robbins (Mary) of Glenmora, Stanford Hibbard Jr. (Tinker) of Cotile, Jeffery Hibbard of Cotile, Gina Sharpe (Buzz) of Turkey Creek, Donna Coker (Bryant) of Glenmora, Cindy Ray (John) of Forest Hill, and Loretta Slaughter (Russell) of Pollock; one sister, Sandy Satcher (Ray) of Colfax; twenty-six grandchildren; thirty-one great grandchildren; niece, Brandy Teal (Tom) of Effie; along with a host of family and friends.

Pallbearers to serve will be Rocky Ray, Dusty Robbins, Bear Robbins, Tanner Robbins, Trevor Blankenship, and Garrett Babb. Honorary pallbearers to serve will be Riley Robbins, Chance Babb, Carson Powers, and Landon Spurgeon.

The family would like to send a special thank you and send their gratitude for the professional and caring times to Guardian Hospice and her caregivers, Margie Bounds, Cyndy Fogleman, Robin Blankenship and Julie Ashmore for their support and love of their mother during her time of need.



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Louisiana Tree Farm	7	318-346-1822	www.louisiantreefarm.com
LSU Ag Center	39		www.LSUAgCenter.com
Mark Jenkins Nursery	16	985-748-6177	www.facebook.com/JenkinsFarmandNursery
Michael's Nursery	2	318-748-6015	www.michaels-nursery.com
NB MetalWorx	2	318-955-0380	www.nbmetalworx.com
North Carolina State University	3	919-513-2579	https://forestry.ces.ncsu.edu/forestry-urban-and-community-forestry/
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Roxanne's Southern Roots	25	318-229-7462	www.rs nursery.com
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MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (select one) and Business Types (select all that apply – up to 5)

- REGULAR MEMBER (Voting) - \$ Based on gross sales per year (below)**
 A licensed or permitted business or person (in Louisiana only) engaged in one or more of the business types listed in box at right -- *Please select no more than 5.*

Dues	Annual Gross Sales	→
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	\$0 - \$249,999	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	\$250,000 or more	

- ASSOCIATE MEMBER (Non-Voting) - \$150.00** – includes out-of-state businesses
 - In Louisiana - Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS)** A business/person selling any non-plant item such as chemicals, containers, equipment, fertilizer, garden décor or furniture, insurance, mulch, soil, stones, etc. Product(s) sold: _____
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- AFFILIATE MEMBER (Non-Voting) – \$25.00**
 An employee of any horticulture business with a paid regular membership -- *Please select no more than 5.*

- GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION MEMBER (Non-Voting) – \$25.00**
 An employee of a government or non-profit entity, having a job responsibility in horticulture or closely related field
 - College or University Education/Extension/Research (U)
 - Educational/Regulatory Government Agency (GV)
 - Public Gardens or Parks (PG)

- RETIREE MEMBER (Non-Voting) (R) – \$25.00** - Any person formerly actively employed in horticulture or closely related field and having been a paid member of LNLA before retirement from that employment.

- STUDENT MEMBER (Non-Voting) (S) – FREE** - Full time student enrolled in a Louisiana university/college in horticulture or a closely related field.
 University/College name & location (city): _____

The **★Business Type** designation is used in LNLA's membership directory and website. Check each that applies - up to 5.

- Arborist/Urban Forester (A)
- Interior Plant Maintenance (IM)
- Irrigation Contractor (IR)
- Landscape Horticulture (LH)
- Landscape Design/Architect (LA)
- Landscape/Lawn Maintenance (LM)
- Plant Broker (BR)
- Retail Nursery / Garden Center (GC)
- Small Greenhouse/Field Grower (SG) -grow/sell direct to consumers
- Sod/Turf Producer (T)
- Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS)
- Wholesale Greenhouse Grower (WG) -bedding/ tropical plants
- Wholesale Field Grower (WF) -balled/container woody plants, perennials

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OPTIONAL: Members wishing to support the **Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation for Scholarship & Research (LNLSFR)** fund for scholarships to deserving university/college horticulture/landscape students and grants for horticulture/landscape research/education should indicate amount and add the \$\$ to their dues check. This donation is tax deductible. Donation Amount \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association**
Mail check and **entire** form to: **LNLA, PO Box 1447, Mandeville, LA 70470**

SEND DUES & APPLICATION BY MARCH 1 TO BE IN ANNUAL MEMBER DIRECTORY **TOTAL Amount: \$ _____**

The LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station

LSUAgCenter.com/hammond

Home of the Louisiana's Ornamental Plant Trials and Louisiana Super Plants

The Hammond Research Station is the LSU AgCenter's official destination for Ornamental Horticulture research and extension in support of the Nursery and Landscape Industry. Our mission is to strengthen the green industry through improving nursery production, promoting sustainable landscape practices, and evaluating emerging specialty crops.



SAVE THE DATE

January 16 – 22, 2022
Mobile Convention Center
Mobile, AL

Advertise your business in the LNLA Quarterly Newsletter

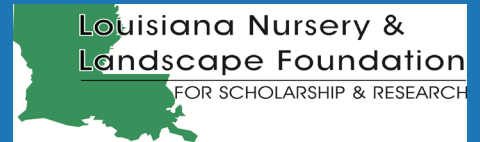
Quarterly publications: *Jan/Feb/March, April/May/June, July/Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov/Dec.*

Reach over 1200 members and industry professionals with each issue!

AD Sizes	Dimensions	1 QTR Issue	Non-Member Rate 1 YR / 4 issues	*Member Rate 1 YR / 4 issues
Full pg Color	7-1/2" X 9-1/2"	\$300	\$1200	\$960
Half pg Color	3-1/2" X 9-1/2" V 7-1/2" X 4-1/2" H	\$180	\$720	\$480
Quarter pg Color	3-1/2" X 4-1/2"	\$120	\$480	\$300
Business card Color	3-1/2" X 2"	\$110	\$420	\$270

Ad Specifications: Ads should be saved in a jpeg or tiff format, with fonts converted to curves.
Deadline: Ads are due the first of the month each quarter (March, June, September, December).
For Questions and Ad Submissions Contact: Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (E) carijanelnla@gmail.com (P) 985-237-2939.

Named Scholarship or Research Grant Funding are great ways to honor your loved ones.



While the express purpose of the Foundation is to provide funding for scholarships and research, there are also naming opportunities that exist for businesses or individuals that may desire to name a Scholarship/Research in honor of someone or some other entity.

LNLFSR requires a minimum investment of \$10,000.00 to have a named Scholarship/Research. The investment may be accomplished in four different time frames:

- \$10,000.00 in a lump sum payment
- \$5,000.00 over a two year period
- \$2,500.00 over a four year period

Once the named Scholarship/Research is fully funded, the donor has some discretion working with the Foundation, to decide the dollar amount of the Scholarship/Research and thus the length of the time their naming funds would last.

Options for dispersal of funds towards scholarships or research grants could be:

- \$1,000.00 each over ten years
- \$2,000.00 each over five years
- \$2,500.00 each over four years

Donors would have the opportunity to add to their original investment if they decided to continue their named Scholarship/Research longer. Contact Cari Jane Murray, LNLFSR Executive Secretary for more information.



LNLFSR is proud to be funding the following research for October 2021-Sept 2022 funding cycle:

- Dr. Jeb Fields and grad student Kristopher Criscione's research at LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station "Reducing Fertilizer in Container Production Through Targeted Placement" (\$2,950)
- Dr. Heather Kirk-Ballard, Dr. Kathryn Fontenot and Dr. Jeff Kuehny's research at LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden "Assessing Preference for Plant Selection, Maintenance and Aesthetic Appeal of Louisiana Sustainable Landscape" (\$10,000)
- Dr. Yan Chen and Hort Instructor Jennifer Blanchard's research at the Hill Farm teaching facility on LSU Campus "Evaluation of Indigenous and Adaptive Medicinal Plants for Consumer Market in Louisiana" (\$3,500)
- LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station Trial Gardens (\$5,000)

*Save
the Date*

LNLFSR "The Foundation" Gala XII
Friday, June 24, 2022
Pavillion of the Two Sisters at City Park in NOLA
Let's paint the town!



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