



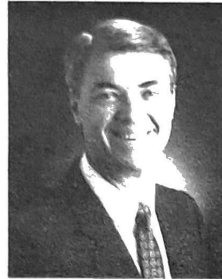
LOUISIANA Nursery & Landscape NEWS

LNLA Quarterly

April/May/June 2006

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INTRODUCING SEVERN C. DOUGHTY, SR., EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, LOUISIANA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

On March 7, 2006 the Board of LNLA selected Dr. Severn Doughty to fill the newly created salaried Executive Secretary position. Severn has long been a part of and served the green industry in Louisiana. He received his B.S. in Plant Sciences from Southeastern University in Hammond and his M.S. in Extension Education and Ph.D. in Horticulture from LSU in Baton Rouge.

He was employed by the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service in 1973 and became an Area Agent in Horticulture in 1975 serving the New Orleans region until 1992. In that position he worked closely with the general public and green industry, and provided effective leadership to the green industry and extension agents in developing effective educational programs and economic development.

Among his many accomplishments while serving in that position, he developed the concept and organized the first Spring Garden Show in New Orleans in 1980, which is still held annually. It has

served as the model for most of the garden shows currently held around the state. He prepared a monthly newsletter, *The Bush*, for nursery and garden center operators and planned and created the "Louisiana Native "Plants Exhibit" at the 1984 World's Fair in New Orleans. He started the annual New Orleans Horticultural Symposium for the purpose of updating professional people in horticulture and related fields. In 1984 he established the Metro Area Horticulture Committee, Inc. Foundation, a group made up of local representatives from the green industry, local government, LSU AgCenter and public gardens to guide LSU AgCenter efforts and promote horticulture related projects and education in the New Orleans area.

He also was an active participant in the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen (now the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association),

(Continued on page 13)

Hammond Research Station Hosts

Landscape Horticulture Field Day

Hammond, LA
Thursday, June 29
starting at 5:00 p.m.
Details on page 5

LA NIÑA SPELLS DOUBLE-TROUBLE FOR SOUTHERN PARISHES

Extremely dry weather in recent months across the southern Louisiana parishes has many farmers concerned about a repeat of the mega-drought conditions of 1998-2001. And their fears are not unfounded, according to LSU AgCenter weather specialist and extension climatologist Jay Grymes.

For some areas of southern Louisiana, March proved to be the driest March on record, and April continued that trend. In fact, 2006 rain-

fall through April was less than 50 percent of normal for much of South Louisiana, and at least part of the blame can be placed on the development of La Niña.

"La Niña is most easily identified by the development of cooler-than-normal sea-surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean," Grymes says, adding, "We view it as the 'alter-ego' of El Niño, when water temperatures

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Welcome!
New LNLA Members

March /May 2006

Delgado Community College

Emily Callahan

Ducote's Nursery

Kurt Ducote

Exterior Design & Landscape Co.

Max Spears

Fountainbleau High FFA

Terry Toney

MAFES, South MS Station

Scott Langlois

Sherwood Greenhouses

Sherwood Akin

Southeastern LA. University

Kristie LeJeune

Southlands Premium Tropicals

Jayanne Crawley

Starks High School

Regina Smart

Sticks-N-Stones

Mitchell Knott

USDA, Natural Resource Conserve

Tommy Moss

THE BUG DOCTOR

There are four critical factors that need to be addressed before we try to manage insect populations. No matter what the insecticide, we must be sure that what we spray is capable of performing the needed function of getting rid of the insect pest we have encountered. Before we get to the insecticides that are recommended for management, we need to make sure the water we use is capable of assisting the costly material in performing its job. Many do not realize that nearly all insecticides are acid forming materials and if we put them in water straight from the faucet, we can be throwing away money by reducing the potential of the insecticide. That's because the average water pH around the state is about 8.3 to 8.5 with extremes of 12 and 4. The optimum water pH is between 5.5 and 6.5. This means that when you use the water without testing its pH you could be wasting your time and money. Water with a high pH can quickly break down the effectiveness of the insecticide and you lose the knockdown as well as the residual effect, which means you spray more and are gradually pursuing the development of tolerance and resistance for the management of that pest or pests at an increased cost. Water with high pH at 9 or over can also reduce the effectiveness of pyrethroids and Bt's.

It is best to check your water pH before each tank load. Invest in a digital pH pen and provide an opportunity for these expensive materials to work for you. If your pH is high, it can be lowered using a buffer which will lock in the pH where you want it. The buffer should be used in small doses and mixed and the pH rechecked until it is at the proper setting. Some use vinegar or acid to lower the pH but these materials can break down with an increase in temperature of the water

and the pH will go up reducing the insecticide effectiveness. These pH pens can be obtained from several companies like, Ben Meadows or Forestry Suppliers, and provide a more exact reading of pH as opposed to litmus paper or swimming pool test kits, although these will work.

Identification is the second critical factor in the management of insect populations. Knowing what you are dealing with will help you select what you need to do about it, how to do it and when to do it. Many see insects and begin spraying when many of the insect populations are beneficial or have no effect in the system. Knowing what you have will help you to know the host range, the number of generations and the most susceptible time to manage the pest. Knowing what your pest potential is can help you set up programs to prevent, as well as, to manage it effectively. Would a spray be best or should I use a granule? Would an insect growth regulator be effective or can I use biologicals?

What formulation should I use? If I am spraying sensitive plants or the foliage plant, it is best to use wettable powders, soluble powders, flowables, or granules? On woody ornamentals and trees emulsifiables can also be used. Ultra fine oils are very effective in enhancing the effects of most insecticides and in some cases are effective alone.

Timing and coverage are the last factors. Spraying the pest at the right and most susceptible time is critical to management. Spraying eggs and pupa seldom have the desired effect on the population. Spraying in the middle of the day can reduce the effectiveness of

(Continued on page 16)



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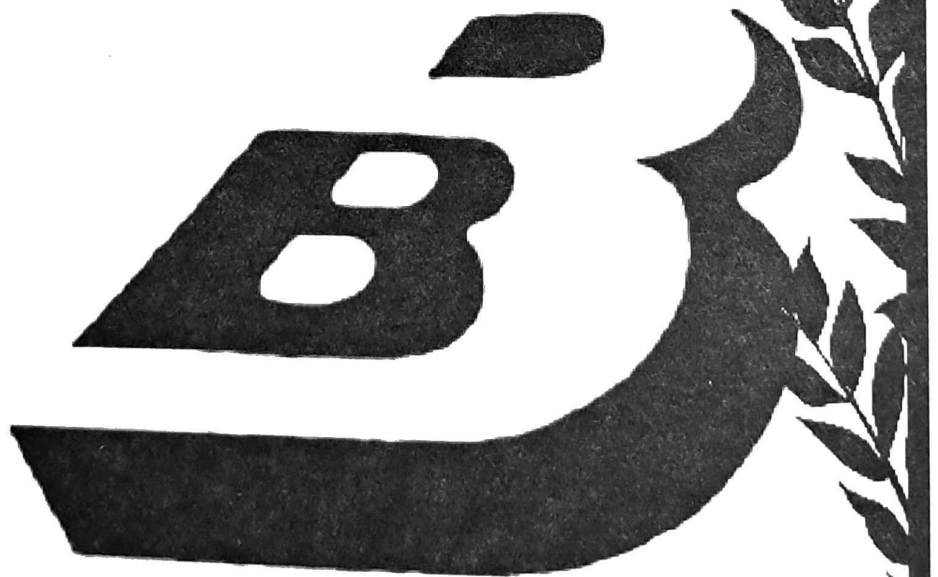
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IN THE NEWS

IN MEMORIAM



On April 24, Earl Wells, passed away at M. D. Anderson Hospital after a battle with cancer. Earl served as executive vice president of the Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association (FNGLA) from 1986 to 1998. He is survived by his wife, Sarah, and their daughters. Upon retiring from his FNGLA position, Wells remained active in the industry and became a valued freelance

writer for *Ornamental Outlook* and *Florida Grower* magazines. Earl had also worked for Tampa Tribune and Florida Citrus Mutual. Notes of condolencemay be sent to Sarah Wells, P.O. Box 391, Gotha, FL 34734

Condolences are sent to **George Hackney**, owner of **Windmill Nursery Inc.**, and his family in the loss of his mother, **Mary Van Landingham Hackney**, who passed away on Saturday, April 29th. Those wishing to give a memorial gift are asked to contact: Thomasville Garden Club, P.O. Box 2654, Thomasville, GA 31799, Reference: Mary V. Hackney.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

The **Hammond Research Station Landscape Horticulture Field Day** will begin with registration at 5:00pm at the Hammond Station on Thursday, June 29. Research results from Dr. Yan Chen's experiments on herbaceous perennials, disease control in vinca, nutgrass control in landscape beds, daylily rust control, stormwater mitigation, and much more will be highlighted. Over 150 varieties of annuals and herbaceous perennials will be on display. Dr. Parish will present results from his spreader research and discuss spreader application. Demonstrations on some unique/interesting grounds maintenance equipment will be available. Tours begin at 5:30pm.

Meadowbrook Insurance Group, endorsed by LNLA, has a new representative, **Michael (Mike) Misuraca**. Mike is territory manager for Louisiana and Mississippi, replacing Glynn Marcell, and may be contacted at: Meadowbrook Insurance Group, 33507 LA Highway 16, Denham Springs, LA 70706, Phone 225.667.6463, Fax 225.667.6461, Email mike.misuraca@meadowbrook.com

Skinner Nurseries will launch a new landscape distribution center in Biloxi, Miss. This 8.5-acre site, scheduled to open June 1, will serve Gulf Coast markets along Interstate 10 from Mobile, Ala., to New Orleans. Planning for this site was under way in spring 2005, well before Hurricane Katrina ravaged the area, said David Arant, Skinner marketing manager. "The Biloxi opening is a tremendous step to fully servicing this rapidly growing and rebuilding region," said Tom Wall, Skinner branch manager overseeing construction of the site. Skinner now operates 2 Florida growing facilities and 22 distribution centers across the South. <<http://www.skinnernurseries.com/>

Palm Tree City, LLC donated palms to the Re-Leaf Slidell Program while trying to grow it's business again after Hurricane Katrina. Hurricane Katrina washed away our second location that had just opened prior to the storm, including all of their trucks and heavy equipment. They would like to encourage people to start the recovery process from the vast devastation of the storm and get out and Green-up their space, which will have an impact on the overall appearance of our community. www.palmtreecityslidell.com, phone (985)690-9991.

KUDO'S TO...

Allen Owings, director of research and education for LNLA and horticulture professor at the LSU AgCenter, recently accepted a three year term on the editorial board of *Ornamental Outlook* magazine.

Congratulations to **Bobby Dupont**, Dupont Nursery in Plaquemine, on being named winner of the Commemorative Award from the Louisiana Garden Club Federation for 2006. Dupont was nominated by the Plaquemine Garden Club for this distinguished award.

Ron Robbins, LSU AgCenter horticulture faculty member and LNLA member, has been elected a Fellow of the American Society of Horticultural Science. This is the 43rd annual Class of Fellows to receive this distinction in recognition of outstanding contributions to the science, profession or industry of horticulture. He will be honored at a ceremony on July 27 in New Orleans as part of the society's annual meeting.

The Louisiana Agricultural County Agents Association held their annual meeting in early June in Covington. Thanks to **Bracy's Nursery**, in Amite, and **C.J.'s Nursery**, located in Folsom and Wilmer, for their assistance with sponsorship of activities at this event.

Congratulations to **Rusty Ruckstuhl**, of Grass Roots Inc. in Lafayette, who won the John Deere 647A Quik-Trak lawn mower at the GSHE Show in Mobile.

WELCOME NEW CNLP GRADUATES:

Valencia Phelps, Zoe's Garden Center, Denham Springs

Jan Hamilton, Newton Landscape Group, Baton Rouge

Marcie Rome, Rome's Lawn and Light Service, Lake Charles

Wade Evans, Dreamscapes, Baton Rouge

LNLA NEWSLETTER

Contact LNLA's staff if you have "green industry" news:

Severn Doughty, Email scd357@cmaccess.com

Laura Crnko, Email lcrrnko@bellsouth.net



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LSU AgCenter: Research and Extension Update

Starting with the last issue of the LNLA newsletter, the LSU AgCenter began providing several pages of news and information pertaining to on-going and completed research projects and extension program efforts. We hope you will find this useful. Contact horticulture professor Allen Owings at the LSU AgCenter (Phone 225/578-2417; Fax 225/578-0773; email aowings@agctr.lsu.edu) with your questions or comments.

Rose News and Information

Members of the Louisiana State Horticulture Society recently returned from a trip to Shreveport and East Texas. It was a great trip that included stops at the American Rose Center and Garrison's Greenwood Gardens in Shreveport. The roses seemed to be in good shape at the rose center. New gardens have been added over the last few years. Garrison's is a long time LNLA member.

A visit with Mark Chamblee at Chamblee's Nursery in Tyler, TX is always enjoyable. Mark works with the Texas A&M University Aggies on the Earth Kind rose program. Their newest effort is relocating and evaluation Dr. Buck's roses that were developed at Iowa State University 30 years ago. They have successfully relocated about 85 of his 100 varieties. Some of these varieties are being included in the new national Earth Kind rose trial that is being planted at numerous locations this year – we have the trial being planted at Burden Center in Baton Rouge. Observations on 31 varieties will be made in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

More 'Knock Out' roses are coming. We have all been really impressed with the original 'Knock Out' – cherry red flowers on the 2000 AARS winner. In 2005 we saw the release of 'Knock Out Pink' and 'Blushing Knock Out'. 2006 saw the limited release of 'Double Knock Out' – availability of the plant will be improved in 2007. 'Rainbow Knockout' (pinky blush with a pale yellow splash) is one of the AARS winners for 2007. I was really impressed with a house full of these plants in Tyler – they are gorgeous. Novalis will be introducing 'Double Pink Knock Out' in the fall of 2007. There may even be more 'Knock Out' colors coming in later years.

The LSU AgCenter has Jackson and Perkins' new rose for 2007, 'Wild Thing', planted in a comparison trial at Burden Center. 'Wild Thing' is J and P's equivalent of 'Knock Out'. We also have 'Nearly Wild' and 'Home Run' (Week's rose being touted as their 'Knock Out' equivalent) planted next to 'Wild Thing' and 'Knock Out'. It will be interesting to see how these three varieties do in comparison to 'Knock Out' in this "no fungicide applied" test. Preliminary observations should be available this fall.

'Mystic Spires Blue' Salvia

Mississippi State University horticulturist Norman Winter makes a high recommendation for 'Mystic Spires Blue' salvia. Introduced for 2006 by BallFlora Plant, 'Mystic Spires Blue' is the dwarf or compact selection of the popular 'Indigo Spires' cultivar. We think this salvia will be 18-24 inches tall in Gulf Coast landscapes. The old 'Indigo Spires' typically reached 36 to 60 inches in height. With good cultural practices and proper landscape bed preparation, this salvia will overwinter into USDA hardiness zone 7. Plant 'Mystic Spires Blue' with perennials like purple coneflowers and summer phlox, or combined with yellows like Melampodium, black-eyed Susans and 'New Gold' lantana. Try it with the new 'Lucky Pot of Gold' lantana or the new 'Son' series lantanas. It is also a great plant for a backyard wildlife habitat.

'Patriot' Lantanas

LSU AgCenter trials over the last five years have actively evaluated the performance of the 'Patriot' series lantanas from American Daylily and Perennials in landscape settings. Varieties with above average landscape performance have included 'Classic Hallelujah', 'Classic Petticoat', 'Classic Passion', 'Classic Desert Sunset', 'Weeper Honeylove', 'Weeper Dove Wings', and 'Pillar Marc Cathey'. Average performance in the landscape has been observed for these varieties: 'Classic Cherry', 'Classic Firewagon', 'Classic Hot Country', 'Pony Red', 'Pillar Deen Day Smith', 'Weeper Popcorn', and 'Weeper Sunbeam'. Below average landscape performers have been 'Petite Rainbow' and 'Petite Cowboy'.

New additions to the 'Patriot' series for 2006 include 'Pony Gold Galleon' (golden yellow), 'Pony Lollypop' (yellow transition to bright fuchsia pink), 'Classic Grape Cluster' (lavender), and 'Petite Champagne' (apricot-champagne).

Louisiana Iris Weed Control Research

LSU AgCenter scientists are nearing the end of a two-year weed control study designed to help Louisiana iris growers save money. This project is being

... Continued on page 23

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JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Volume 24, Issue 1 (March 2006)

Bark Availability

Estimation of U.S. Bark Generation and Implications for Horticultural Industries. *Wenliang Lu, Jeff L. Sibley, Charles H. Gilliam, James S. Bannon, and Yaoqi Zhang. Journal of Environmental Horticulture 24(1):2934. 2006.*

The concern over the availability of bark for horticultural use is not merely speculative. In the nursery industry, bark has been considered a resource instead of a waste since the 1970s. In recent years, with the continuous rise in energy prices, demand for bark as a clean fuel resource continues to increase. This increased demand for bark has coincided with the stable or slightly decreasing timber harvest since 1986; in the meantime, the horticulture industry has seen a rapid growth for the last two decades. With no significant decrease in current energy prices and only a minor increase in the long term bark output and expected horticulture industry growth, the market share of bark for horticultural usage will keep declining. Furthermore, regional shortages due to the closing of forest product mills will exacerbate the potential bark shortage. This analysis indicates that the demand for alternative substrates will continue to gain momentum in the near future.

Nursery Production

Container Size and Initial Trunk Diameter Effects Growth of *Acer 'rubrum* L. During Production. *Donna C. Fare. Journal of Environmental Horticulture 24(1): 18-22. 2006.*

Container grown trees are an important product for the nursery and landscape industry. Red maple is ranked in the top five trees grown and marketed in the United States. Determining optimal container size for specific liner (young bare root tree) caliper is essential for producing quality trees in a 1- or 2-year production cycle. Data from this project showed that more growth occurred with smaller tree liners in a one year production system and were similar in size after two growing seasons to liners that were initially larger at potting. For a 1- or 2-year production system, results indicated greater plant growth and performance occurred with plants grown in 56.8 liter (#15) containers compared to 26.5 liter (#7) or 37.8 liter (#10) containers.

Transplanting

Root Pruning and Transplant Success for Cathedral Oak® Live Oaks. *Edward F. Gilman and Patti J. Anderson. Journal of Environmental Horticulture 24(1): 13-17. 2006.*

We found that root pruning Cathedral Oak® live oak (*Q. virginiana* 'SDLN' Cathedral Oak®, PP #12015) in a field nursery over two years (throughout production) reduced tree height 9%, trunk caliper 10%, and canopy width by 25%; whereas, root pruning only in the last year of production did not. Root pruning Cathedral Oak® only in the last year of production appeared to be most efficient, resulting in the largest trees with good root systems and only moderate stress after digging and excellent survival. However, these trees were challenging to root prune with a balling shovel because roots were thick and difficult to cut. To cut these large roots more easily, some growers now root prune using a tree spade. Cutting roots throughout the production period was easier because roots were smaller in diameter.



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HOME OF THE CAJUN LIVE OAK

A Glance from the Past... 25 Years Ago

N *Louisiana's* **NURSERYMEN** **N**

The official publication of the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, Inc.

Volume 4

Number 2

May 1981

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DR. FORET'S FORAYS

Nursery business projections all point to '81 being better than '80. Louisiana's nurserymen have increased most areas of their operations. While inflation distorts the facts of increased business, I'm sure that many of you have sold larger inventories of plants and have seen price increases in production, labor and plant materials. The apparent drought cycle we are experiencing should lead you to water conservation practices in plant production and the maintenance of plantings. Please share any ideas you may have found successful with your fellow nurserymen by sending them to the editor of our newsletter or to me.

A few ideas that have been proven in the past are:

1. Use Wilt-Pruf or other anti desiccants on late-planted (after new growth starts) trees and shrubs.
2. Use Wilt-Pruf on the tops and soupy mud dip on the roots of bare-root liners.
3. Check your watering cycles on container grown plants. All same-size and same-age plants should be bedded together. Use a few plants that wilt easily scattered through your container blocks to help maximize the time interval between irrigations. The addition of a portion of finely ground bark or peat to your container mix will increase water holding capacity (be careful, too much can interfere with drainage).
4. If you must use water with salt in it, injury to susceptible species can be minimized by maintaining moist soil conditions.
5. If soil is very dry, water in two steps: (a) lightly to soften surface and minimize run-off; (b) heavily enough later to soak soil to root zone.
6. Mulch to conserve water.
7. Water deeply, not often.
8. Trees planted less than five years may need soaking occasionally.
9. Trees planted bare-root are very vulnerable to drought in the second year.
10. Older trees will show drought stress if not healthy: i.e., if there is insect, disease, or root damage or lack of fertilizer. Water on a monthly basis.

Don't forget our TAN-MISS LARK Trade Show in the Dallas Convention Center August 15-18, 1981. Hope to see you there. — Dr. J.A. FORET

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AGJOBS, COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION PROVISIONS CLEAR SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D.C.— On Monday, March 27, at precisely 6:00 p.m., the Senate Judiciary Committee completed and passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill for consideration by the full Senate. The bill passed by a vote of 12-6.

The main features of the bill include border security and enforcement, a general-industry temporary worker program, a plan for the 11 million undocumented workers already in the United States to keep working and earn legal permanent residency, and a specific agricultural component. The general temporary worker and earned legalization programs are largely patterned after the bipartisan McCain-Kennedy legislation. The agricultural component, essentially the Craig-Kennedy "AgJOBS" bill, was offered in Committee as an amendment by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA).

The Feinstein AgJOBS amendment, which passed by a vote of 11-5, contains the H-2A reform and "earned adjustment" features of the AgJOBS bill (S. 359). Several refinements to the earned adjustment title were negotiated by Senators Craig and Feinstein with the support of the Agriculture Coalition for Immigration Reform (ACIR) and farm worker advocates.

"Today marked an important milestone of achievement on a long and difficult journey that is far from over," said Craig Regelbrugge, ANLA's Senior Director of Government Relations. "The green industry, agriculture, and the American business community owe special thanks to Chairman Peter Specter, whose perseverance produced a bill; Sen. Larry Craig, who has championed AgJOBS; Sen. Feinstein, who carried the AgJOBS amendment in Committee; Sens. DeWine and Brownback, who supported the AgJOBS amendment and final passage, and Sen. Graham, who supported the Chairman in final passage."

Senator Bill Frist has reportedly agreed to consider the Judiciary Committee's bill on the Senate floor beginning Tuesday, March 28. ANLA urges every green industry business owner to seek their Senators' support for comprehensive immigration reform along the lines of the Judiciary Committee's bill.

This article provided by ANLA, a Washington, DC-based trade association, represents green industry business professionals seeking market leadership through advocacy with our nation's government, a community of industry innovators and experts, and unique profitability focused programming, products and services.

Brian Breaux, Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation and LNLA Board member, provided these additional comments: "LNLA supports the immigration compromise, but also supported an amendment by Sen. Saxby Chambliss that would have replaced the Adverse Effect Wage Rate with the prevailing wage rate for H-2A employers. The amendment would have provided equity for users of the H-2A program which now stands as the only guest worker program required to pay wages higher than the prevailing wage rate for their employees. The amendment failed with a vote of 50-43 in the full Senate."

(Continued from page 1)

serving as a board member from 1985 – 1992. He was appointed by the LAN Board of Directors to be the Education and Research Director in 1991 and served through 1992. He was instrumental in creating the LAN Certified Nursery Professional program (now the LNLA Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional) and developing *The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry*.

In 1992 Severn was promoted to Assistant District Agent, an administrative position with the LSU AgCenter. After retiring from the LSU AgCenter in 2000, he applied for and became LSU-Shreveport's Dean of Division of Continuing Education & Public Service and served through 2003.

Immediately prior to accepting the LNLA Executive Secretary position, he served as a sales representative for ITB Co., Inc., a primary distributor of Birchmeier sprayers in the US; Ecogel Solutions LLC., manufacturer of Hydretain and Fungi-Shield; and Spindler enterprises Inc., manufacturer of Bio-Pro Liquid fertilizers.

As Executive Secretary, his duties will include maintaining Board and Executive Committee minutes, handle Association correspondence, attend in-state and regional industry related events as an LNLA representative, oversee the management of the LNLA website, prepare quarterly newsletter, periodical magazine, membership directory, buyer's guide and similar publications, maintain all records, correspondence and historical records of LNLA, and work with industry members, associations and organization on educational program opportunities, Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional training, industry promotion and other activities as assigned by the Board of Directors.

Severn resides in Mansfield with his wife, Caro, and has two children. Severn Doughy, Jr., his son, (head grower for Bracy's Nursery in Amite) is married to Amy; they have two children, Virginia and Severn III. Mary, his daughter, is married to Rickey Reising.

We are delighted to welcome Severn to the LNLA Board, and are confident that the talents and experience he brings to this important position will serve the Association well. Please feel free to contact him with ideas or suggestions you have relating to the LNLA.

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Ornamental Outlook's "Operation of the Year" Award Nominations Sought

It's that time of year again! Time to nominate a nursery or greenhouse operation in the Southeast for *Ornamental Outlook* magazine's prestigious "Operation of the Year" award, sponsored by OHP and Pierson Supply Company. Now in its eighth year, the award program is designed to honor an operation that exemplifies leadership, innovation, and commitment to the horticulture industry. If you think your nursery or greenhouse meets these qualifications - or you know one that does - submit your nomination before August 1st at www.ornamentaloutlook.com <<http://www.ornamentaloutlook.com>>.

Louisiana nurseries previously nominated have included Live Oak Gardens in New Iberia and Bracy's Nursery in Amite.

Previous Operation of the Year winners are:

- * Lake Brantley Plant Corp., Longwood, FL, (1999)
- * Cherry Lake Tree Farm, Groveland, FL (2000)
- * Batson's Greenhouse Inc., Mt. Dora, FL (2001)
- * Overlook Nurseries, Mobile, AL (2002)
- * Grandiflora (previously San Felasco Nurseries Inc.), Gainesville, FL (2003)
- * Boynton Botanicals, Boynton Beach, FL (2004)
- * Agri-Starts Inc., Apopka, FL (2005).

For more information on the Operation of the Year program, contact Tacy Callies at tcallies@meistermedia.com or 407-539-6552 or editorial board member Allen Owings at aowings@agctr.lsu.edu or 225-578-2417.



Notes From The Secretary

Severn C. Doughty, Sr., LNLA Executive Secretary

Hi, to all my old friends in LNLA and to the many new ones I've met and visited with over the last several months. Since April 1, 2006 I have personally visited three nurseries in the Forest Hill area; nine nurseries and garden centers in the Folsom area; seven nursery and greenhouse operations in the Lafayette area and 14 nursery, landscape contractors, retail and landscape maintenance operators in Northwest Louisiana. What a pleasure it is for me to be making nursery visits again and what enjoyment it is for me to visit with you. I appreciate the time you've taken to spend with me.

I've also attended a quarterly meeting of the Southeast Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association and the Southwest Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association. In speaking with a number of "Green Industry" people in Northwest Louisiana, I've learned that there is sufficient interest in revitalizing the Northwest Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association. So, there will be more information about that later.

Remember, if you have a comment, announcement, request, criticism or if you'd like to contribute to the Newsletter, please contact me at 318-872-4677 or email me at scd357@cmaaccess.com. — *Severn*

IMPORTATION OF SMALL LOTS OF SEED WITHOUT PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

Federal Registry, April 29, 2004, Vol. 69, No. 83. Proposed Rules pp. 23451-23456. Dept. of Ag. APHIS

SUMMARY

APHIS is proposing to amend the nursery stock regulation to allow the importation of small lots of seed under an import permit with specific conditions, as an alternative to the current phytosanitary certificate requirement.

This proposed change is necessary because several entities that import small lots of seed – individual importers, horticultural societies, arboreta, and small businesses – have had difficulty obtaining the necessary certificates and have been adversely affected by the phytosanitary certificate requirement.

The proposed change would make it feasible for those entities to import small lots of seed and would ensure prompt and consistent service for such importers while continuing to protect against the introduction of plant pests into the US and providing APHIS with necessary information about the quality, quantity and diversity of import material.

THE USE OF MULCH AND TERMITE SURVIVABILITY

J. Environ. Hort. 24(1):1-5. March 2006 **Feeding, Weight Change, Survival, and Aggregation of *Reticulitermes flavipes* (Kollar) (Isoptera: Rhinotermitidae) in Seven Varieties of Differentially-Aged Mulch** By O.P. Pinzon, R.M. Houseman and C.J. Starbuck

Seven commercially available mulches (cedar (*Juniperus* sp.) white oak and white oak coated with iron oxide, oak bark, pine bark, bald cypress and pine straw) were aged outdoors for 0, 6 and 12 months then compared for suitability to the subterranean termite in non-choice and multi-choice tests under laboratory conditions. Mulch consumption and survival increased with mulch age and termite weight loss decreased with mulch age.

According to the authors the use of mulch is a beneficial practice used to improve both the health of landscape plants and the appearance of landscaping. Organic mulches such as pine straw and ground wood provide attractive alternatives for recycling and using non-commercial wood. However, the possibility that mulch around a home may be attractive to termites has generated questions from both mulch producers and homeowners alike. In our study, all commercially available wood mulches were equally palatable to the subterranean termite. Our study suggests, however, that aged mulches are more palatable, minimize termite loss, and improve termite survival.

Severn's Comments: *I spoke with an LSU AgCenter Entomologist the other day to clarify the use of mulches in home and business landscapes and termite infestations. I suggested to him that if a landscaper made sure the foundation of the building was treated with a recommended termiticide (Termidor, Premise, Demon, to name a few) after the installation of plants and mulch is laid, there should be no problem. Another solution would be to treat the perimeter of the building with a termiticide first then, apply a 2-4 inch by 18 inch wide layer of gravel around the foundation and apply the termiticide over the gravel. Mulch can then be applied out beyond the gravel. He indicated that the barrier would be present and if termites should infest the mulch, once they tried to reach the foundation, the termiticide would prevent them from doing so.*



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(Continued from page 3)

your program through loss to heat and ultraviolet light. Coverage of the plant material is essential to manage those populations that move very little or are only on a certain part of the plant; like the underside of the foliage, the stems, or the roots.

No matter what the material if not applied properly, it will not control the pest as desired and in many cases will actually create bigger problems through resistance and tolerance. Know what you're treating and use the full potential of the product to manage the pest and do it at an economic cost to you and the safety of your workers.

This article provided by Dr. Dale K. Pollet, Department of Entomology, Phone: 225-578-2180, Cell: 225-281-0585, dpollet@agcenter.lsu.edu

NOTES FROM THE MAST ARBORETUM

We're getting the word out! The SFA Mast Arboretum in Nacogdoches, Texas is a treasure trove of plants for nurserymen and landscapers of the South. The 20 acres of garden are really rather amazing in terms of diversity with literally thousands of common, not-so-common and ridiculously rare and unusual plants on display. Equally amazing is the open door policy we have for nurserymen and landscapers. If you see something you like and the wood is there, well, we have a very relaxed cutting acquisition policy. If there's plenty of seed, take some. Just let us know what you want and be careful not to whittle the plant all the way to the ground! Remember, this is your garden.

The Mast Arboretum is over twenty years old. It's computer mapped and databased with about 95% of the plants accounted for. When you look into the details of the garden, you'll find some enormous collections. For instance, there are over 200 Hydrangea taxa in a long meandering line on the east side of the Ruby M. Mize Azalea garden. Over 200 varieties of Japanese and other maples call the place home. The Japanese plum yew (*Cepalotaxus harringtonia*) collection is represented by over forty taxa. Our camellia collection features some of the best as well as many unusual cultivars. Few gardens can boast the numbers of Snowbell varieties (*Styrax*). There's a drive-through crape myrtle arboretum in the Coliseum parking lot. Our "dry garden" features mostly western and Mexico plants with a long list of Agaves, Hesperaloes, Yuccas, Dasylirions, and Nolinias making their mark. If you like bald cypress, you'll love the Mast Arboretum. Most important, the SFA Mast Arboretum is home to that the resources here are second to none. With five staff, some fine greenhouses and container yards, and a great garden right outside the back door, few students anywhere could have a better learning opportunity. We invite you to visit, become familiar with the collections, and think of this place as the spot to find new plants and new ideas.

In the issues ahead, we'll be featuring plants that are just a bit out of the mainstream, like the one featured this issue. *Cornus pringlei*, or the Mexican dogwood, is probably more accurately referred to as *Cornus florida* var. *pringlei*. This rarely encountered dogwood comes from the San Madre Mountains of Mexico and our 12' specimen has performed admirably in the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden for years. Similar in garden preference to the dogwood of the South, this unusual plant features distinctive lantern-like blooms in early April. We've got our fingers crossed for a good seed set and have yet to tackle grafting it on to our native species. It's a traffic-stopper in the garden.

This article provided by Dr. Dave Creech is a Professor of Horticulture and Director of the SFA Mast Arboretum at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas
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Mexican dogwood (*Cornus pringlei*)



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“Blue Motors”

By Mark Mayberry

I first came in contact with Chuck Strasburg when he ordered a copy of my book, “Building The Dream Workforce,” from my website. I was about to do a program in Mobile, Alabama, and Chuck wanted to read my book before the event. It was no surprise to me that Chuck sat in the front row at my presentation.

During one of the breaks, Chuck shared a story with me that is a real “Shazam!” Chuck’s company, Magnetech Industrial Services, repairs and rewinds electrical motors and generators for large companies, such as power plants, paper mills and chemical plants. Chuck had called on a prospective Customer several times, just trying to get his foot in the door. This prospect worked in a cement plant, and was using 3 of Chuck’s competitors to repair and rewind his motors and generators.

The prospect’s main objection was that Chuck’s price was higher than the competition. Chuck uses better materials for the repairs, and his Team is made up of veterans that have been with Chuck for many years. “Mark,” he said, “We sell ourselves. We sell quality.” Chuck went on to say, “I can tell someone about our quality, but they don’t always believe it.”

After several sales calls, the prospect finally agreed to let Chuck repair a couple of

motors. Chuck had the opportunity that he had been looking for, and he wanted to find a way to prove his quality guarantee to his new Client. He came up with a brilliant plan. He told the Client, “Every motor that we repair for you, we want to paint it blue. Let’s see how many blue motors you have to take out.” Luckily, the Client agreed to let Chuck paint his motors blue.

Chuck got his foot in the door of this cement company 3 years ago. It would take a lot to get it back out. Chuck’s motors worked! When it came time to replace a motor, the Client’s electricians said, “Give me one of those blue motors!” Chuck proved to his Client that his repair work was actually better than the competition.

Chuck is now the primary vendor for the cement company. In fact, his blue motors have opened up other opportunities within the cement company. For other Clients, Chuck doesn’t use blue paint for his repairs, but he does use a paint that costs him about \$50 a gallon. Chuck says that many of the motors are exposed to sunlight, and his Clients wonder how his motors continue to shine long after they are installed.

I called Chuck as I prepared to write this article. He made this comment about my book, “Mark, just like your book, I’ve always wanted to have a Dream Team.

When my Team Members retire, I want them to feel proud that they were part of my Dream Team.”

Chuck Strasburg found a way to differentiate his motors from the competition. His Dream Team’s “blue” motors have made his competition “green” with envy. You can do the same – after all, you’re in the “green” industry!

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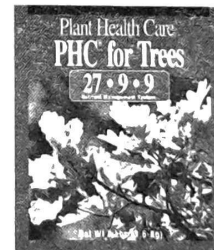
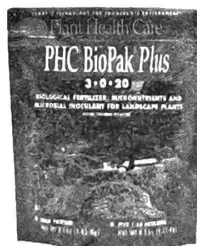


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PLANET-ANLA MERGER EVALUATION

GREEN INDUSTRY UPDATE: MAY 26

"The Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) and the American Nursery and Landscape Association (ANLA) today announced that they have decided not to proceed with plans to merge the two organizations.

In confirming the decision, PLANET President John Gibson, Swingle Lawn, Tree, & Landscape Care (CO) said, "Although we achieved encouraging momentum, we have decided that it is in the best interests of the memberships of both organizations not to merge at this time. The PLANET Board of Directors is focusing on alignments that are still being solidified coming out of the PLCAA/ALCA merger of 2004."

The ANLA-PLANET merger task force embarked on a full-scale evaluation after determining last summer that there was sufficient reason to consider the creation of a single, national industry trade association. The current memberships of the two associations are largely based in different sectors of the green industry, and the merger would have brought together agricultural nursery production, wholesale distribution, retail garden centers, landscape design/build/installation, lawn care, landscape management, and interior plantscaping services.

"When you make this kind of investment - volunteer and staff time, as well as financial resources - it is critical to ensure that you are making the right decision at the right time for the good of both organizations," said ANLA President Buzz Bertolero, Navlet's Garden Centers (CA). "Our thorough investigation substantiated the potential of an ANLA-PLANET merger, and we plan to continue working together as green industry associations and re-examine this possibility in the future."

There is no doubt that some important groundwork has been laid for the future by the due diligence efforts undertaken this year, and a merger would have a dramatic positive impact on the industry. In the meantime, the two organizations intend to remain aligned in delivering services, expanding public outreach, and exerting political influence.

Jointly, the ANLA and PLANET represent more than 6,000 green industry business professionals nationwide that specialize in the growing, selling, installing and maintaining of plant material."

*This article was written by Robert J. Dolibois, CAE, Executive Vice President, American Nursery & Landscape Association. He can be contact at: 1000 Vermont Ave., NW Suite 300, Washington, DC 20005, Ph: 202-789-2900 Fax: 202-789-1893
email: rdolibois@anla.org website: <http://www.anla.org/>*

(Continued from page 1)

in the same region of the Pacific are above average."

El Niño and La Niña are part of a large-scale, irregular cycle in the Pacific Ocean called the El Niño/Southern Oscillation. ENSO has been linked to changing weather patterns over sections of the United States, including the Gulf of Mexico where ENSO's greatest impact can be seen in changing rainfall patterns during the winter and spring. El Niño events have gained the greatest national attention in recent decades and are known to produce "wet" winter-springs for the Bayou State, resulting in enhanced flood threats at that time of year. But La Niñas are proving to be just as important for Louisiana, as evidenced by the state's devastating drought of 1998-2001, which was attributed in part to a prolonged La Niña cycle.

El Niño (the "little boy") and La Niña (the "little girl") events tend to flip-flop over time, with each phase of the ENSO cycle recurring every two to six years, on average. The irregular cycle is further compounded by the fact that the ENSO phases may last as little eight to 12 months but, occasionally may persist for periods of up to three years.

"During La Niñas, winter and spring storm tracks tend to be diverted farther north than usual. At the same time, we tend to see fewer winter storm systems developing in the northwestern Gulf. The lack of well-developed winter rainmakers can leave much of Louisiana, especially the southern third of the state, short on winter and spring rains," Grymes says. "A look at La Niñas over the past 60 years suggests that as many as 8-in-10 La Niña events result in dry winters and springs for the southernmost parishes."

Dryness is a growing concern for south Louisiana agriculture and forestry. Current soil-moisture levels appear to be running at less than 25 percent of capacity at a time of year when soil-water content is typically at an annual maximum.

(Continued on page 25)

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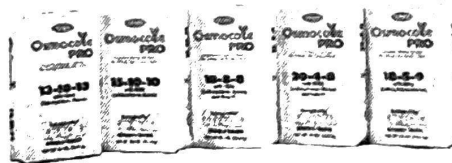
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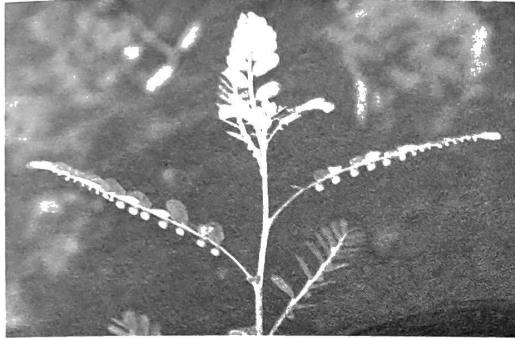
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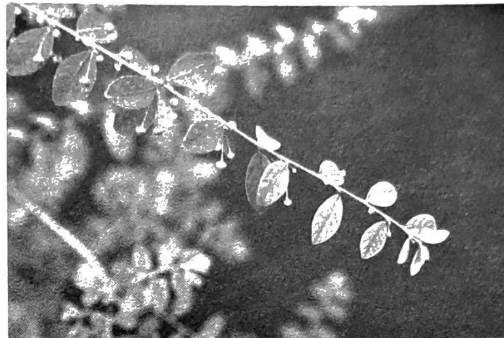
Weed Doctor's Corner: Chamberbitter and long-stalked Phyllanthus (*Phyllanthus* spp.) - common weeds to most LA nurseries and landscapes

Chamberbitter (*Phyllanthus urinaria*) and longstalked phyllanthus (*Phyllanthus tenellus*) are extremely invasive summer annuals that are members of the Euphorbiaceae family. Populations of these two plants have increased significantly since their introduction from Asia because of their prolific seed production and tolerance of most preemergence herbicides labeled for use in ornamentals. The plants are considered the 4th worst weed in nursery crops and the 2nd worst weed in landscaped areas in Louisiana.

Chamberbitter and longstalked phyllanthus resemble hemp sesbania or mimosa seedlings. However, the most distinguishing characteristic of the two species is the round seed capsules located on the underside of slender branches. Chamberbitter is a stout more branched plant with seed capsules borne in the axils of leaves. Longstalked phyllanthus is an erect delicate-looking plant with seed capsules attached to stalks. Chamberbitter is probably a little more common in landscape areas than longstalked phyllanthus. Both species are problems in container and field production nurseries.



Chamberbitter (*Phyllanthus urinaria*)



longstalked phyllanthus (*Phyllanthus tenellus*)

As for control, there are no selective postemergence herbicides that will remove these two species from nursery crops and landscape plantings. Postemergence control can be achieved by directed sprays of glyphosate (Roundup and generics) or glufosinate (Finale). Hand removal can be a very effective means of control because the root pulls up easily with the rest of the plant. However, nurserymen and groundskeepers must rely on preemergence herbicides with activity on *Phyllanthus* spp. Research has shown that Ronstar 2G, Rout, Snapshot, Factor, and Gallery provide some degree of preemergence control. The key to controlling chamberbitter with preemergence herbicides is to apply the products before the weeds germinate. We see chamberbitter in the Baton Rouge area by mid-March in most years. Therefore, apply preemergence herbicides in early March to prevent plant emergence. Two applications spaced 2 or 3 months apart (check product labels) are usually necessary to achieve a satisfactory level of control. Of note, research has indicated that chamberbitter seeds have a light requirement for germination. Therefore, mulching landscaped areas adequately could block sunlight and help to limit germination of this weed in flowerbeds.

* * * * *

The Weed Doctor's Corner was written by Dr. Ron Strahan, Extension Associate in Weed Science, LSU AgCenter. To contact him by email the address is rstrahan@agcenter.lsu.edu or by phone 225-578-2392.

Updated versions of the LSU AgCenter's useful guides to controlling weeds, insect pests and plant diseases are available. The 2006 editions of guides can be downloaded for free from the LSU

AgCenter's Web site at www.lsuagcenter.com - or printed copies of the guides can be purchased through that site. Prepared by experts in the LSU AgCenter, the publications are known as the Louisiana Suggested Chemical Weed Control Guide, the Insect Pest Management Guide and the Louisiana Plant Disease Management Guide.

The weed control guide includes helpful information on herbicides and weed control - with detailed suggestions for aquatics, commercial nursery stock, field crops, forestry, fruit crops, home gardens, lawns and many other Louisiana crops. It includes information on different types of herbicide registrations, as well as information on herbicide labels and restricted uses. Also included are sprayer calibration techniques, suggestions for reducing herbicide drift and a guide to proper spray tip selection.

To access the publications on the Web or to find links to the information on ordering printed copies, go to the publications section of the LSU AgCenter Web site (www.lsuagcenter.com). You also can go directly to the weed control guide at <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/communications/publications/Publications+Catalog/Crops+and+Livestock/Weed+Control/louisianas+Suggested+Chemical+Weed+Control+Guide.htm>



LA Iris Weed Control ... cont'd from page 7

coordinated by horticulture agent Bobby Fletcher, Jr and weed scientist Ron Strahan. It is the only weed control study in the state concentrating on field production of Louisiana iris, and it's purpose is to increase yields and reduce weed competition. Read more information on this effort at <http://www.lsuagcenter.com>

Photo: LSU AgCenter horticulture agent Bobby Fletcher, left, and LSU AgCenter agronomist Dr. Ron Strahan, right, take a break from their Louisiana iris research plot to admire some of the prized plants with Rusty and Bud McSparrin, owners of Bois d'Arc Gardens, an iris farm in Chacahoula



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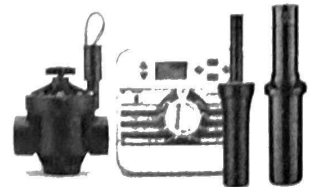
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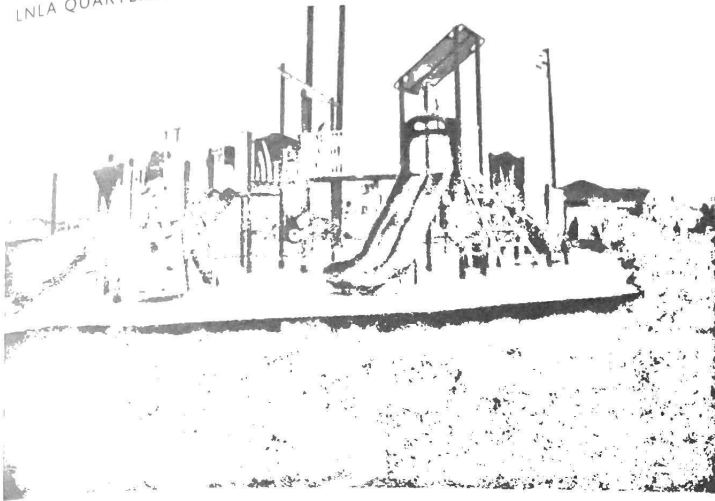


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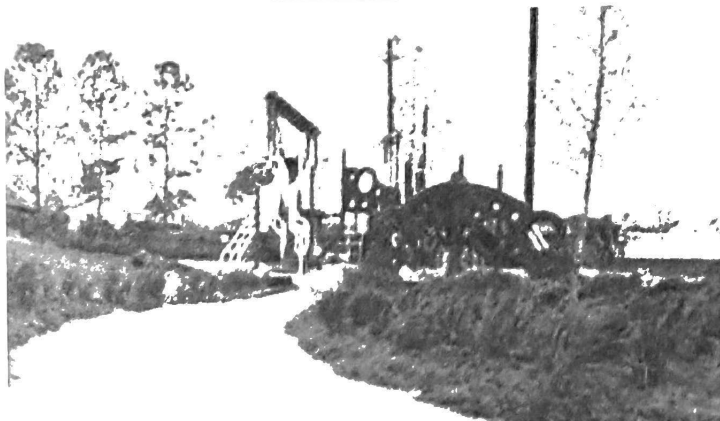




'Extreme Home Makeover' Rebuilds Vista Park... or did they?

Due to the hurricane devastation in Louisiana, Vista Park in St. Bernard Parish, was chosen for an 'Extreme Home Makeover'. This local project, which aired on ABC in April, featured plants that were donated by Windmill Nursery, located in Folsom, LA.

Chad Everett Harris, Oasis Horticultural Service, Inc. in New Orleans, wrote: "Thank you all for getting involved in rebuilding Vista Park for a great community devastated by Hurricane Katrina. This project was effortless because of the great vendors that made this happen in an extremely short time table. The students from Hinds Community College came with a "save the day" mentality and really made this park happen...to fast for TV. A planting plan with over 2000 trees and shrubs was a lot to ask but, Windmill Nursery not only delivered, they delivered superior quality. A park isn't a park without an ultimate play system that just wasn't provided by Game-Time, they worked around the clock to get it installed. The project was complete when the final transformer was installed and I joking said to myself, "Let there be Light!" and all 50 spotlights that Vista Lighting donated made nighttime magic. Now it was finished but, looked incomplete until the last bench was installed, from Campania, next to the beautiful pots with cascading flowers." He added, "So, these kids got a new park, huge ultimate playground, new bike from Fuji & with SE Racing helmets from Bell and their faces were absolutely priceless when they saw it for the first time....together, we can make many dreams come true... Thanks for all your work and compassion." It's ALL about local businesses donating supplies, local people donating their time and labor, ALL for a local community project! That's Louisiana's 'green industry' at it's best.



(Continued from page 21)

"As we head into the warmer months, the moisture that vegetation would normally obtain from the deeper soils is simply not going to be there," Grymes notes. "Without significant rains in the next few weeks, even those fields, pastures, timberstands and natural landscapes that are doing OK today will be suffering serious moisture stress."

And a return to "normal" rainfall may not be sufficient to bring a quick end to the drought. "What we need is a prolonged run of wet weather to get the southern parishes ready for the summer," Grymes says, adding, "Unfortunately, that does not seem to be in the cards."

Current long-range outlooks suggest that drier-than-normal weather may persist into the early summer or beyond. Projections by the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center indicate only a 3-in-10 chance for above-normal rainfall over the next three months for South Louisiana.

"We also must recognize that the recent run of drought weather is compounded by what proved to be a very dry year in 2005," Grymes says. Rainfall was below normal statewide last year, with southern parishes reporting annual totals from 10 inches to nearly 20 inches below average.

"And that's even with the three hurricanes - Cindy, Katrina and Rita," Grymes recalls, noting, "In fact, were it not for those tropical rains, some southern parishes would have experienced below-normal rainfall for each of the past 12 months."

But La Niña may continue to play a role in south Louisiana long after she releases her stranglehold on winter-spring rains.

The consensus opinion among tropical-weather experts is that 2006 will be another active year in terms of storm counts, and La Niña is tagged as a probable contributor. History shows that hurricane activity in the Atlantic Basin tends to be increased when La Niña persists into the summer and fall months.

"A couple of things to remember," notes Grymes. "First, hurricane forecasters are not anticipating a repeat of last year's record setting pace of 27 names storms, but just about everyone expects storm counts to climb back into the teens this season. Second, keep in mind that 10 of the past 11 seasons have been above-normal, and that alone is reason enough to be wary."

Add the likely increase in storm frequencies should La Niña persist into the fall to the recent decade-long trend of above-normal storm counts, and the threat of landfall somewhere in the Gulf becomes a near certainty, the climatologist predicts.

"That does not mean that Louisiana is a definite target this hurricane season, but the past five years have been the busiest five years on record for the Bayou State in terms of landfalls, punctuated by last year's devastation. All indications point to a heightened threat for a Louisiana landfall this season," Grymes says.

*This article provided by: Jay Grymes (225) 578-6870, or
JGrymes@agcenter.lsu.edu*



HAMMOND RESEARCH STATION: Best Performers in 2005 Perennial Cultivar Trial

Testing new varieties has been part of an overall ornamental horticulture program at LSU AgCenter. The diversity of herbaceous perennials being used in landscapes has increased dramatically since the 1980's and perennials are one of the plant categories with strong market demands in recent years. Hammond Research Station (USDA hardiness zone 8b, heat zone 9) initiated cultivar trials focusing on herbaceous perennials in 2005. Evaluation results of the first-year landscape performance of 77 cultivars are presented in trial reports that are available from www.lsuagcenter.com.

Major species evaluated included columbine, begonia, coreopsis, erysimum, hibiscus, geraniums, gazania, pentas, phlox, perennial salvia, sedum, verbena, and veronica. Seeds and rooted cuttings were received from breeding companies and plants were transplanted into flowerbeds during April 2005. First-year performance evaluation included flowering display rating and overall performance rating. Disease and pest problems were also recorded.

Specific performance ratings for each variety are listed in the attached Table 1. Best performers received 5 for overall performance rating and included 'Bayou' begonia (*B. semperflorens*) and 'Kiss' garzania from GoldSmith Seeds, 'Silver Mist' helichrysum from PanAmerican Seeds, and 'Hot Rose' and "Husker Red" penstemon from Ball FloraPlant. Notable problems were aphids on veronica and perovskia, two spotted spider mite on hibiscus, and leaf blight on 'Butterfly' pentas.

For more information on the upcoming *Landscape Horticulture Field Day*, June 29th, see page 5 in this publication.

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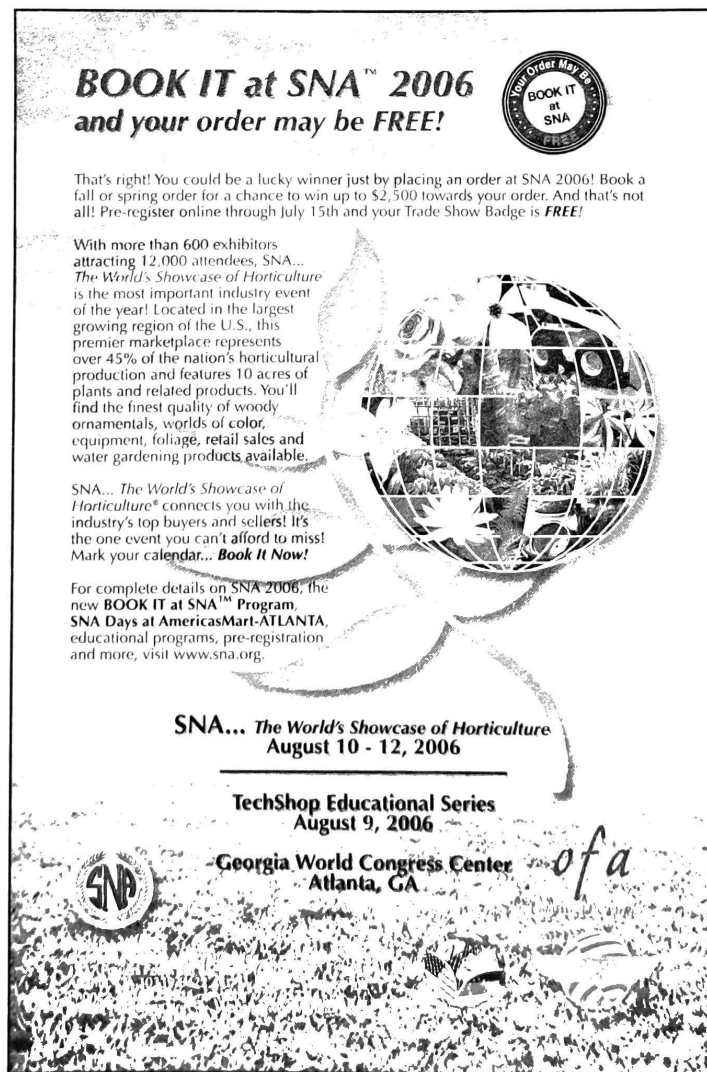
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**Louisiana
Nursery &
Landscape
ASSOCIATION**

**LOUISIANA NURSERY AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
May 17, 2006
Pat's Restaurant, Henderson, LA**

The meeting was called to order shortly after 10 a.m. by Lancy Strange. Those in attendance were Dan Gill, Tom Fennell, Chauncey Nichols, Allen Owings, Rusty Ruckstuhl, Debbie Head, Frances Thorne, Danny LaFleur, Albert Durio, Brian Breaux, Pat Newman, Beth Perkins and Severn C. Doughty, Sr. Guests present were Mike Misuraca (Meadowbrook), Jeff Keuhny (LSU), and Ed Bush (LSU). Lancy Strange introduced all board members, indicating their terms, then introduced the new Executive Secretary, Severn C. Doughty, Sr.

A motion was made by Danny LaFleur, and seconded by Tom Fennell, to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2006 Board of Directors meeting as submitted. Motion passed.

Pat Newman provided a financial statement from 1-1-06 through 5-16-06. Total income was \$46,975.00 with total expenses being \$33,894.13. The checking account balance as of 5-17-06 was \$15,477.39, the mutual fund balance was \$55,612.79 and the money market funds were \$103,442.09 for total assets as of 5-17-06 of \$174,532.17.

Pat Newman further stated that the GSHE check should be forth coming and sizable. She also stated that she paid off a large American Express credit card bill and said that we need to reduce our spending. She suggested three ways to do that: 1) Don't do a colored magazine, 2) Workman's Comp. needs to be paid for she and Laura Crnko and 3) Tighten the spending belt. Allen Owens suggested reinvesting the money market and mutual funds. All that being said a motion to accept the budget was made by Frances Thorne and seconded by Debbie Head. Motion carried.

Pat Newman provided a spread sheet on LNLA's contributions to LSU from 2002 to present. The break down follows: Burden Research, \$ 57,500.00; Hammond Research, \$25,000.00; Graduate Assistants, \$59,250.00; Scholarships, \$19,500.00; Research, \$44,250.00; Sponsorships and Contributions, \$23,029.00. Total contributions \$228,529.00.

Other non-LSU contributions totaled \$14,000.00. This report fulfills a request by Beth Perkins several board meeting ago inquiring how much LNLA has contributed to other entities.

The Board recommended that the Executive Secretary serve as a clearing house and to archive all research data, papers and/or articles published by researchers in which monies have been provided for research and maintain a record of all research done. The Executive Secretary will, in turn, place the articles in the newsletter, on the web site and other wise make the research available to LNLA members upon request.

Brian Breaux provided an excellent presentation on labor issues, reviewing all the ramifications of various bills and amendments that have come before congress to date. In summary, according to Brian Breaux of Louisiana Farm Bureau, the Immigration Reform package, that Congressional leaders will consider, addresses border security and provides an avenue for 11 million illegal foreign workers to get legal residency status. However, it does not correctly address the temporary guest worker program. Giving illegal workers in this country legal residency status is not a long-term solution to worker shortages. Once foreign workers get legal status, those new residents tend to seek higher paying jobs in non-farming sectors. If we do not fix what is wrong with the H-2A Program, farmers across the nation will face increasing economic pressures to avoid using the H-2A Program.

The main amendment from Senator Chambliss will be to replace the Adverse Effect Wage Rate in the H-2A Program with the true prevailing wage rate. The Adverse Effect Wage Rate mechanically drives up wages every year and is why so many farmers refuse to use the program. It costs. This is only fair when one considers that the Immigration Reform Package allows every other industry in the U.S. to pay their workers no more than the prevailing wage rate. We also support other amendments that may be offered by Senator Chambliss such as abolishing the new private rights of action in the reform package, abolishing the 50% employment rule, and correcting the Arriaga decision.

Danny LaFleur motioned, Pat Newman seconded, that LNLA support the Louisiana Farm Bureau's position of Senator Chambliss' amendment to reform the H-2A Program, especially the prevailing wage rate amendment. Motion carried. This position is contrary to SNA and ANLA's position and the Executive Secretary will convey this to SNA whom has made a request of Louisiana to support their position.

Severn C. Doughty Sr. asked a number of questions of the Board for clarification. Some of the items included: Which LABI committee should I serve? Small Business. Does LNLA have a budget? Pat and Severn will prepare a budget. Should I attend the Mid-South Greenhouse Conference in June? Yes. Is LNLA on a fiscal year or a calendar year? Calendar. How often does LNLA conduct an internal audit? Beth Perkins motioned, seconded by Frances Thorne, that LNLA conduct an internal audit. Motioned carried. Pat Newman has already contacted a CPA who has agreed to conduct the audit. Is it time for another Green Industry Economic Survey? In about a year.

Lancy Strange asked the Board if they wanted to support the LSU Nursery and Landscape Golf Shootout Friday, June 2, 2006, at the LSU Golf Course, in Baton Rouge, LA. Danny LaFleur motioned, Beth Perkins seconded, that LNLA contribute \$500.00 to the Shootout. Motion carried.

(Continued on page 29)

SIGN-UP FOR USDA HURRICANE DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association is pleased to announce that sign-up for four crop assistance programs providing aid to producers affected by the destructive 2005 hurricanes begins on May 17th. These programs are funded by \$250 million in Section 32 funds authorized immediately following these destructive storms. The crop assistance program most beneficial to nursery growers is the new Hurricane Indemnity Program (HIP). The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association worked jointly with Mississippi, Alabama and Florida to push Congress for funding after Hurricane Katrina last year.

Contact Your local USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Contact your local USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) office for detailed sign-up and application information. To be eligible for this assistance, a producer's loss must have occurred in one of 261 counties that received a primary presidential or secretarial disaster designation due to 2005 Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Ophelia, Rita or Wilma. Assistance is unavailable with respect to losses in contiguous counties. All Louisiana parishes have been declared presidential or secretarial disaster areas due to Hurricane Katrina. All parishes in Louisiana with the exception of EBR, Assumption, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Orleans, St. Helena, St. Charles, St. Bernard, Point Coupee, W. Feliciana, Tangipahoa, Washington, St. John the Baptist and St. James are presidential or secretarial disaster areas due to Hurricane Rita.

Hurricane Indemnity Program

The Hurricane Indemnity Program (HIP) will provide payments to eligible producers who suffered crop losses and received either a Federal Crop Insurance Corporation crop insurance indemnity or a FSA Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) payment. Producers' HIP benefits will equal 30 percent of the crop insurance indemnity or 30 percent of the NAP payment. More information on HIP is available in the online HIP fact sheet at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/hip06.htm>.

Additional Disaster Assistance

On Dec. 30, 2005, President Bush signed the 2006 Defense Appropriations Act, which provides \$900 million to address natural disaster damages from 2005 hurricanes. Of these funds, approximately \$200 million is designated for the Emergency Conservation Program, \$400 million for the Emergency Forestry Conservation Reserve Program, and \$300 million for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (which is available to communities and landowners in Tennessee, in addition to those in the six previously mentioned states). Sign-up dates for the Emergency Forestry Conservation Reserve Program will be announced as soon as new regulations and software are developed. USDA has already made \$63 million in Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) funds available to assist agricultural producers struck by hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico region during the calendar year 2005. Eligible agricultural producers may receive up to 100 percent cost-share to remove debris and restore fences and conservation structures. Additional funds for oyster, nursery and poultry producers and forest landowners will be made available when new rules authorizing assistance are published in the Federal Register. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is developing these rules and plans to publish proposed rules for public comment in the near future.

(Continued on page 29)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 22-23 *CNLP Review and Exam
ULL Horticulture Center, Lafayette, LA
Contact: Dan Gill dgill@agctr.lsu.edu
- Aug 10-12 SNA ... World's Showcase of Horticulture
Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA
Contact: www.sna.org - Ad pg 20
- Aug 18-20 Nursery/Landscape Expo 2006
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center,
San Antonio, TX
Contact: www.txnla.org - Ad pg 3
- Sept 28-29 *CNLP Review and Exam
Botanical Garden, New Orleans, LA
Contact: Dan Gill dgill@agctr.lsu.edu
- Nov 16-17 *CNLP Review and Exam
Lomax Hall, LA Tech Univ., Ruston, LA
Contact: Dan Gill dgill@agctr.lsu.edu
- Jan 4-5 '07 Mid-States Horticulture Expo
Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY
A partnership of KNLA, TNLA and SNA
- Feb 1-3 '07 Gulf States Horticulture Expo
Arthur Outlaw Convention Center
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Debbie Head - Owner

(Continued from page 27)

Laney Strange then asked the Board if they would like to support a request from Bradley Leger, Executive Secretary of FFA, for \$500.00 to support youth contests on a state and national level. The board referred the request to the committee that reviews all monetary requests for LNLA and tabled the request until the next Board meeting.

Laney Strange then asked about another request from Dr. Bobby Fletcher, Jr., LSU AgCenter who is garnering support for an educational program the AgCenter will implement in January, 2007 titled "*The Louisiana Yards and Neighborhoods Program*". It entails five pilot regions around the state and will focus on eight principles/concepts: 1. right plant-right place; 2. water efficiency; 3. maximize mulch and recycle yard waste; 4. fertilize appropriately; 5. manage yard pests; 6. protect surface waters and wetlands; 7. provide for beneficial wildlife habitat; and 8. Louisiana house – environmental design.

Dan Gill gave more details on the new program. Rusty Ruckstuhl moved, with a second by Pat Newman, that LNLA endorse the concept. Motion carried. The Board also suggested that we invite Dr. Fletcher to our next Board meeting for a short 10-15 minute presentation.

Allen Owings gave an update on the LSU AgCenter. 1) Hammond Research Station Field Day, Thursday, June 29, 2006 starting at 5:30 p.m.; 2) Golf Shootout, June 2, 2006 at 7 a.m., LSU Golf Course 3) Mid- South Greenhouse Growers Conference, June 5-7, 2006 Raymond, MS. 4) Irrigation licensing conducted by Mark Leblanc with the LDAF is going well. Eighty-three persons have successfully passed the licensing exam, but there are 700 to 800 more to reach. May 1st is the deadline for licensure.

Jeff Kuehny, with the LSU AgCenter, reported on the Floriculture and Nursery Environmental Horticulture Research Initiative where grant funding is available to select researchers. Severn Doughty offered to work with him on this funding. Dr. Kuehny also reported on a new partnership between BRCC and LSU, where students could start out at BRCC and finish at LSU.

Dan Gill reported on the Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional review and exams. The first review and tests for 2006 took place at the Burden Center on February, 9-10, 2006. There were 11 participants from south Louisiana and the results were; one did not take the test; one was there for the review; 5 failed and 4 passed. Dates for the next trainings are: June 22-23, 2006 at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center in Lafayette, LA; September 28-29, 2006 at the New Orleans Botanical Garden Study Center, New Orleans City Park; and November 16-17, 2006 at Lomax Hall, Louisiana Tech campus in Ruston, LA.

Our next meeting will be held at Pat's Restaurant in Henderson, LA from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

(Continued from page 28)

Emergency Loan Assistance

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) currently has \$156 million in low-interest emergency (EM) loan funds available to help farmers and ranchers rebuild their operations. In certain cases, FSA can provide producers with both EM and operating loans to assist them with spring operations. Eligible producers who expect to receive future hurricane disaster payments from USDA may receive loans now and assign the disaster funds to EM loan payments. Emergency loan funds may be used to: restore or replace essential property; pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year; pay essential family living expenses; reorganize the farming operation and refinance certain debts. To apply for an EM loan, producers are encouraged to contact their local USDA Service Center. An FSA fact sheet explaining the loan application process step-by-step and is available at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/facts/html/loanapplication04.htm>



Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Manual Review and Exam - 2006

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feb 9-10
Burden Center,
Baton Rouge | <input type="checkbox"/> June 22-23
ULL Horticulture Center,
Lafayette | <input type="checkbox"/> Sept 28-29
Botanical Garden,
City Park, New Orleans | <input type="checkbox"/> November 16-17
Lomax Hall
LA Tech Univ., Ruston |
|--|--|--|--|

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Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

FAX _____

Person(s) Registering:	Name/Section	Fee (s)
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\$15 per section(s) re-taken by each person.	_____	_____
* Please specify re-take section(s) if known.	_____	_____
Sec #1- Plant Classification, Growth & Development	_____	_____
Sec #2- Understanding Pests and Their Control	_____	_____
Sec #3- Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards	_____	_____
Sec #4- Landscape Contracting, Tree & Turf Mgt.	_____	_____
Sec #5- Plant Identification	_____	_____
\$35 per person for manual review only (no exam) in preparation for LDAF license test or professional training.	_____	_____
\$60 per copy of, " <i>Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry</i> ", the suggested manual for this course.	Manual(s) # _____ x \$60 =	_____

<p>Make check or money order payable to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association</p> <p>Mail check to: Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association PO Box 25100 Baton Rouge, LA 70894-5100</p>	<p>Total \$ _____</p> <p>Check # _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
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For further information contact: Dan Gill

Ph 225/ 578-2222
Fax 225/ 578-0773
E-mail dgill@agcenter.lsu.edu

Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association

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Please select **X** all categories that apply:

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|---|--|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Mass Merchandiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale Greenhouse Grower | <input type="checkbox"/> Arborist/Urban Forester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allied Supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Landscape Design/Architect |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horticultural Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Landscape Contractor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale Woody Grower | <input type="checkbox"/> Sod Grower |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Please select **X** your LNLA membership type:

Regular Members - \$ Based on gross sales

Any corporation, partnership, firm, or person engaged in any facet of the green industry or other related business with a definite address and appropriate facilities having further been actively engaged in the nursery business in a reputable, trustworthy and ethical manner for one year in Louisiana.

Dues	Annual Gross Sales
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	\$0 - \$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75.00	\$100,000 - \$250,000
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	\$250,000

Associate Members - \$100.00

Associate members shall be reputable persons, firms, or corporations outside the state of Louisiana actively engaged in the growing and selling of nursery stock, and reputable persons, firms, or corporations inside or outside the state of Louisiana engaged in the supplying of accessories incidental to the nursery business.

Affiliate Members - \$25.00 **Business Employed By** _____

A person or persons employed in any capacity in any nursery industry or establishment, or allied industry which is a member in good standing of the association.

Student Members - \$ No Charge **Name of university and location:** _____

Any student actively enrolled on a full-time basis in a Louisiana university and majoring in horticulture or a closely allied field.

OPTIONAL: Members wishing to support these funds should add the \$\$\$ to their dues check. LNLA will forward the funds on to ANLA.

ANLA Beacon Fund - \$10.00 An industry fund supporting federal immigration and labor law reform.

ANLA Lighthouse Fund - \$36.50 An industry fund supporting grassroots legislative lobbying efforts.

• Please **PRINT CLEARLY!!!** The information provided will be used to print LNLA's annual 'green industry' directory.

Company Name _____ Representative's Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone (____) _____ - _____ x _____ FAX (____) _____ - _____ E-mail _____

Renewal

New Member

Referred by: _____

ID# _____

Date _____

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Return dues application and check to:

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References and prices for your area are available upon request