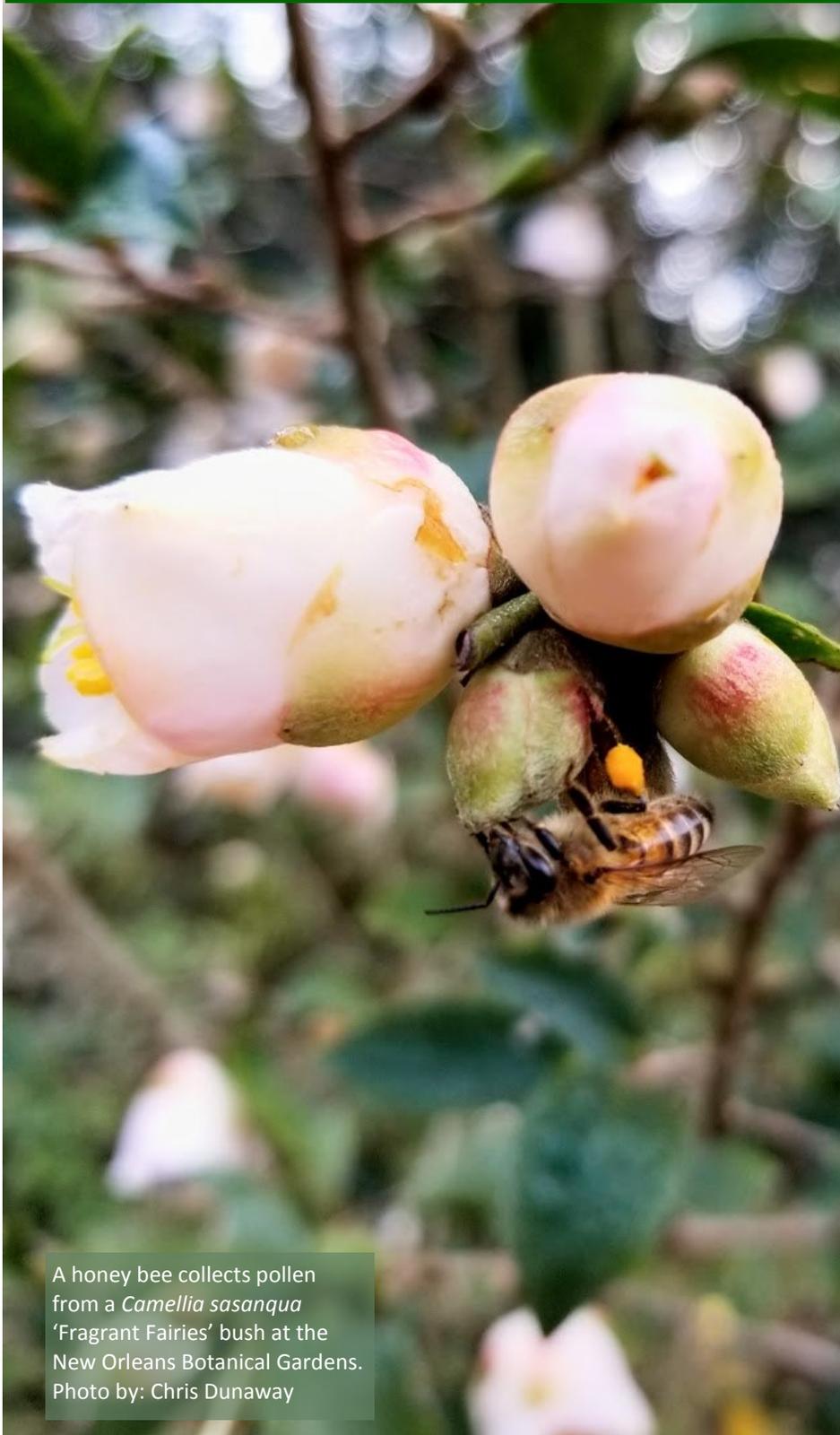




GNO Gardening magazine

January 2019



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A honey bee collects pollen from a *Camellia sasanqua* 'Fragrant Fairies' bush at the New Orleans Botanical Gardens. Photo by: Chris Dunaway

Camellias

If you love plants and appreciate beauty as I do, then you have undoubtedly noticed the wonderful collection of camellia flowers on display in the area. Tucked away in shady hiding spots or even towering over a nearby home, camellia plants can bring a welcome splash of color during the cold winter in an otherwise bleak landscape. Healthy camellia plants also add a deep rich green texture to the garden all year long even when not in bloom.

According to Mary Mizell of Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery in Folsom, LA, "There are over 250 known species of the genus *Camellia* which is the largest subset in the *Theaceae* plant family. Some other species

of camellias are *sinensis*, *reticulata*, *vernalis*, *hiemalis* and *oleifera*. *Camellia sinensis* is the tea plant that is used in the production of tea. *Camellia reticulata* is known for its extremely large blooms. Yuletide is an example of *Camellia vernalis* though it is often labeled a sasanqua because it shares many of the same traits. This is a similar case for the well know Shi Shi Gashira and Kanjiro camellias which are commonly referred to as sasanquas but are actually of the species *Camellia hiemalis*. There are plenty of other species of the genus but not all are found in the United States." The lines are becoming even more blurred as breeders cross species to create new hybrids. Two species of *Camellia* are generally available: japonicas *Camellia japonica* and sasanquas *Camellia sasanqua*. Both are highly ornamental but different in several respects, including their hardiness, growth habits and flower types.

Sasanqua camellias have dark-green, shiny leaves that are about 2 inches long, and the shrubs' mature heights range from 2 feet to 12 feet, depending on the

variety and growing conditions. The flowers of sasanqua camellias typically bloom in Southern Louisiana from October through December. The blooms are usually white or pink, about 2 to 4 inches in diameter, and can have single or double rows of petals.

Japonica camellias are usually 6 to 12 feet tall, although they can reach a height of 25 feet under perfect conditions, and are generally larger than sasanquas. Their leaves are also larger than those of



Camellia japonica 'Professor Charles S. Sargent'

sasanquas, usually about 4 inches long and more leathery. Japonica camellias begin blooming a bit later than sasanquas. Usually starting in December and flowering through February, although the timing can vary by variety and environmental conditions.

Japonicas typically have larger flowers than sasanquas, up to 5 inches wide and partially or fully doubled. The flowers are in many colors, including white, pink, rose, red and mixed red and pink, and they are lightly fragrant. Japonicas are also a bit hardier than sasanquas and do well in U.S.

Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 6 through 9.

Although camellias require very little effort once established, success with camellias depends on the planting site. Camellias prefer partial shade to part

January Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety	Planting Depth	Spacing Inches	Days Until Harvest * from transplant date
Beets	Detroit Dark Red, Kestrel, Red Ace F1, Ruby Queen	¼ inch	2-4	55-60
Broccoli	Arcadia, Diplomat, Gypsy, Packman, Premium Crop, Windsor Greenbelt, Patron	⅝ inch	18-24	70-90*
Cauliflower	Candid Charm, Cumberland, Freedom, Incline, Majestic, Snow Crown, Wentworth	⅝ inch	18-24	55-65*
Cabbage	Blue Vantage, Platinum Dynasty, Stonehead, Cheers, Blue Dynasty, Emblem, Rio Verde	⅝ inch	12-15	65-75*
Chinese Cabbage	None Given	¼ inch	12	60-80*
Carrots	Danvers 128, Purple Haze, Thumbelina, Apache, Enterprise, Maverick, Sugar Snax 54	⅝ inch	1-2	70-75
Snow peas	None Given	½ inch	4-6	61
Collards	Champions, Flash, Georgia Southern, Top Bunch, Vates	⅝ inch	6-12	75
Kale	None Given	½ inch	12-18	50
Kohlrabi	Early Purple Vienna, Early White, Vienna, Winner	⅝ inch	6	55-75
Lettuce	Esmeralda, New Red Fire F1, Nevada, Tall Guzmaine Elite	⅝ inch	4-12	45-80
Mustard Greens	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave, Red Giant, Southern Giant Curled, Savannah, Tendergreen	⅝ inch	4-6	35-50
Onions	Red: Red Creole, Southern Belle; White: Candy, Savannah Sweet; Vidalia: Candy Ann, Caramelo, Century, Georgia Boy, Mata Hari	½ inch	4-6	85
Spinach	Bloomsdale Long Standing, Melody, Tyee, Unipak 151	⅝ inch	3-6	35-45
Radishes	Cherriette, Champion, White Icicle, April Cross	⅝ inch	1	22-28
Shallots	Matador, Prism	1 inch	4-8	50
Swiss Chard	None Given	¼ inch	6-8	45-55
Turnip Greens	Alamo, All Top, Purple, Top White Globe, Seven Top, Southern Green, Top Star, Tokyo Cross	⅝ inch	2-6	40-50
Tomatoes (seeds)	Bella Rosa, Fletcher, Tribute, BHN 1021, Amelia, Dixie Red	⅝ inch	--	100-115

Camellias

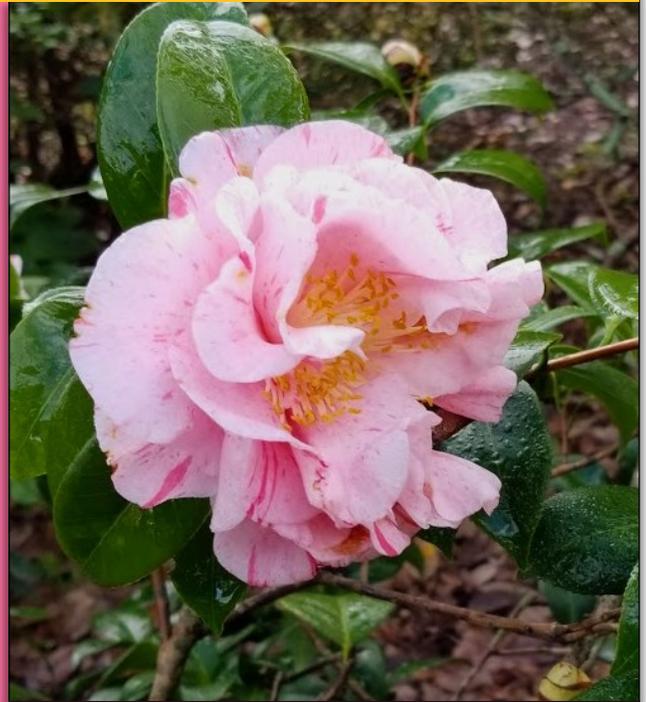
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sun – about four to six hours of direct sun with shade in the afternoon. When planted in full sun the foliage sometimes has a yellowish look, and flower buds may not open properly.

Good drainage is also essential. Do not plant camellias in areas that are poorly drained or where water settles after a rain. After this past wet December you should know where your trouble spots are. Plant camellias on mounds or in raised beds in areas where drainage is a problem. The addition of organic matter and, in some cases, sand to the planting area will help improve drainage. Compost, peat moss and rotted manure are all suitable forms of organic matter. Camellias will also do very well in pots. Use an equal mixture of potting soil and soil conditioner.

And finally, Camellias are acid-loving plants, and an alkaline soil (pH above 7) can limit their ability to obtain some nutrients, especially iron. When you are preparing the area for planting, incorporate a soil acidifier, such as sulfur, copperas or aluminum sulfate, if the pH of your soil is above 7. Take a soil test to get your numbers.

Camellias are generally planted in the late fall through the early



Camellia japonica 'Carter's Sunburst Pink'

Camellias are great sources of pollen for foraging honey bees. Pollen is an essential source of protein for bees.

If you are interested in wildlife gardening, look for varieties with prominent visible stamens. The stamens are the male reproductive part of a flower and are visible as the yellow dots in the center of the flower in the photo above.
Photo by Chris Dunaway



Camellia sasanqua 'Pink Snow' Photo by Chris Dunaway

spring, although they may be set out any month of the year if properly cared for. Adequate moisture is a necessity until the roots become well established in the soil. The newly developed roots will then provide enough moisture for the plant to start growth when spring arrives. Now is the perfect time to select a camellia for your garden. Our local nurseries are loaded with blooming plants so you can know what you are getting. There are also 4 separate local camellia events occurring over the next two months where you can meet other camellia growers, learn about the plants, and possibly find your perfect plant. Check the coming events section on page B for details.

The American Camellia Society hosts a website with more information about all things camellia:

www.AmericanCamellias.com.

You can also follow The New Orleans Camellia Club on Facebook to find out more about local growers and events:

<https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaClubNola/>.

~Chris Dunaway

Evergreen Trees & Shrubs to Plant Now

Now that the holidays have passed, the Christmas trees are on the curb, and we all could stand to shed a few pounds; what better way to get active than tackling some yard work?

Winter is a great time to plant trees and shrubs because they will have a few months to develop strong root systems before producing leaves and flowers in the warmer season. The bones of our landscaping should be really apparent at this time of year as well. Maybe there's some dead things that need to be removed.

Yews, sky pencil holly, boxwoods, Italian cypresses, and other ornamental evergreens in our area are sometimes hit hard with phytophthora root rot, spider mites, and other issues during the summer. If these shrubs are brown, crunchy, and have not recovered by now, consider replacing them during the month of January. Retail nurseries should be stocking woody ornamentals following the removal of all of the holiday stuff.

Evergreen shrubs provide year-round greenery and are very popular in almost every landscape design. If you are ready to break the mold and try some of the more unusual or less common evergreen trees and shrubs that do well in our area, here is a good assortment to check out. Several of these produce attractive flowers and berries for added visual interest in the landscape. Many of these plants also work well in "problem areas" like low, wet spots or full shade.

- **Southern Wax Myrtle *Morella cerifera***: A great smaller tree that grows ten or more feet tall, wax myrtle can be pruned up into a multi-trunked form and used as a border or screen. It is very easy to grow, and



Southern Wax Myrtle *Morella cerifera*



Buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*

prefers part sun to full sun. The leaves have a spicy, pleasant smell when crushed. Wax myrtle likes wetter soils, and would do well in a low area. The dwarf wax myrtle, *M. pumila*, grows to a height of about four feet and can make a nice hedge. It can be hard to find wax myrtle at local nurseries but they do grow widely in our area naturally. Wax myrtles are also attract birds and larval hosts for banded hairstreak butterflies and red-banded hairstreak butterflies.

- **Buttonbush *Cephalanthus occidentalis***: Mostly evergreen in our area, buttonbush produces one of the most funky, unusual flowers in the botanical world. The flowers emerge in the summertime and look like two inch round pin-

cushions or atoms. All pollinators love these flowers, and children find them unusual and irresistible. Buttonbush grows to be 6-8 feet tall and makes a great focal point in a landscape bed. It likes soils that are moist to well-drained and sun to part sun. If it becomes leggy and overgrown, cutting it back encourages new growth and a profusion of sputnik-like blooms the next summer.

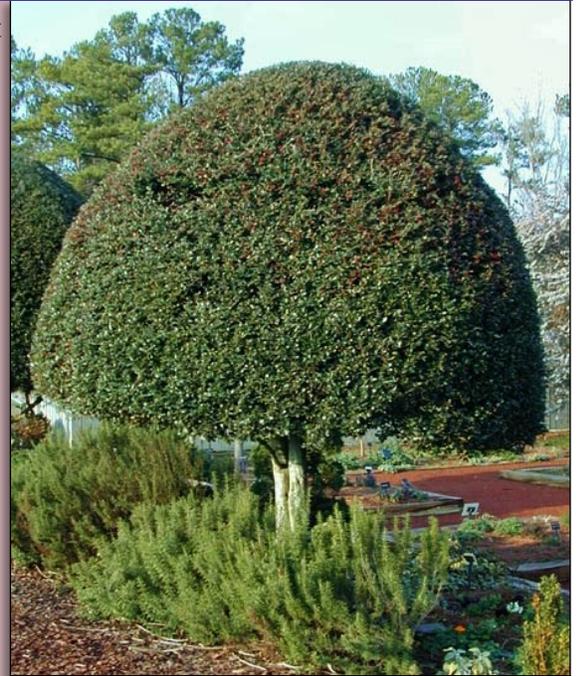
Evergreen Trees & Shrubs to Plant Now

- **Yaupon Holly *Ilex vomitoria***: Yaupons aren't new in our area, but they can be used in the landscape in new ways. Yaupon makes an attractive evergreen tree and can be pruned up into a single trunk form or left to grow out into a clump-forming shrub. Dwarf cultivars are available at local nurseries and make an attractive hedge with few of the disease issues of boxwood. A weeping version of yaupon makes a stunning conversation piece in the garden as well. Yaupon hollies grow easily here and enjoy partial to full sun and just about any soil condition you can throw at them.

- ***Distylium* spp.**: This may be the best new plant you've never heard of. It grows sort of like a boxwood and may be a great substitute. Several different sized and foliated cultivars are available at local nurseries, including Cinnamon Girl, Linebacker, and Vintage Jade. Depending on your needs, there is something for nearly every landscape situation. In areas where boxwoods refuse to thrive, why not try something new? *Distylium* handles cold, drought, and flooding well. Plant it just about anywhere and stand back. Light tip pruning in May or June encourages thick, compact growth. Maintenance beyond that is minimal.

- **Florida Anise *Illicium floridanum***: This dependable evergreen shrub produces star shaped maroon colored flowers measuring two inches across in the spring. Glossy, dark leaves and an open-branched growth habit of 10-15 feet in height and 6-10 feet wide make this a good large shrub or small tree depending on how you prune it. To create a compact, thick hedge, plant them ten feet apart and allow the shrubs to grow into one another. Florida anise prefers partial to full shade and well-drained, moist soil. It thrives along fences and in low spots of the landscape. It has few, if any, pest or disease issues.

- **Fetterbush *Lyonia lucida***: Bell-shaped pale pink flowers adorn this evergreen shrub each spring, making it a favorite of bees and other pollinators. Growing 5-6 feet tall, Fetterbush works great as a backdrop plant and a specimen plant. The branches are arching, making a graceful platform for the flowers to dangle from. Grow fetterbush in part shade to sun, in slightly acidic moist soil. It also has few pest and disease issues and grows relatively quickly.



Yaupon Holly *Ilex vomitoria*



Distylium 'Blue Cascade'



Florida Anise *Illicium floridanum*



Fetterbush *Lyonia lucida*

Home Citrus Production

Though winter began on December 21, January into early February is an active time when citrus is the subject. If you are just starting with your first citrus or expanding your home

orchard, winter (January to early February) is the ideal time for planting or transplanting citrus trees.

The first consideration is what type of citrus to grow. One major characteristic is cold tolerance. If you are only planting one or two trees, choose ones that will survive the occasional low-20's cold snaps that are possible here. In order of most cold tolerant to least cold tolerant: kumquat, satsuma (upper teens to low 20's), orange, grapefruit (mid 20's), lemon, lime (upper 20's). Young trees are less tolerant and older established trees are more tolerant.

For a new planting, choose a healthy-looking tree, 2-4 ft. tall with 3-4 well-developed branches 2 ft. above ground. Choose a site with that has soil with good drainage and plenty of organic material and gets at least 8 hours of direct sunlight daily. You can add compost prior to planting to improve soil quality and increase drainage by creating a mound to plant the tree into. Kumquats, lemons and dwarf citrus also grow quite well in large containers.

- Dig a hole about twice as wide as the root ball but at the same depth as the root ball. Loosen the soil you excavated and remove any rocks or big root pieces. This will be your backfill.
- Remove the tree from its container and examine the root ball. Cut or straighten any roots that are starting to circle the root ball.

- Place the tree in the hole and ensure that it is at the proper depth. In most cases, the soil level after planting should be the same as it is in the container.



Satsuma fruit on the tree.

- Make sure the tree is straight, then backfill with the soil you removed earlier. Firmly but gently pack the soil as you backfill.
- Water the tree several times as you backfill to settle the soil around the roots and eliminate air pockets.
- Stake the tree, if necessary, to maintain a straight profile. Use wide soft material as staking ties. Be sure to remove the ties after 6 months.
- Add a 2"-4" layer of mulch around the tree base to hold moisture, moderate soil temperature extremes, and reduce grass and weed competition.

Newly planted trees should be

pruned to properly shape the young tree, encourage lateral branch development and balance the top to root ratio. January is also when older trees should be pruned to maintain size, thin the canopy to allow light penetration, remove water sprouts and too low branches, and remove crossing branches.

One of the best ways to store your home-grown citrus is to leave it on the tree and pick as needed. However, all fruit should be removed from the trees by late January or early February. If fruit is left on the tree longer than this, it will reduce flowering and fruit production in the following year.

While you should not fertilize a newly planted tree, established trees should be given their first fertilization in January. A general rule is to fertilize

Home Citrus Production

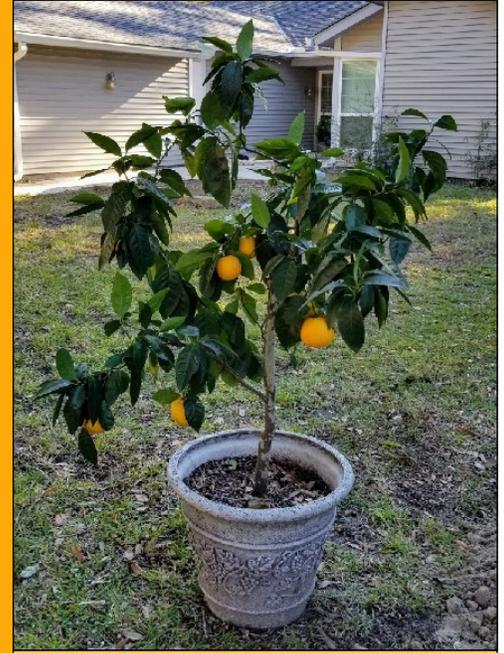
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with 1 to 1 ½ lb. of 8-8-8 or 13-13-13 per year of tree age up to a maximum of 18 lbs. If you do a soil test, follow the recommendations provided with the test results. To reach the maximum feeder root location, spread the fertilizer evenly in a 12"-18" band at the tree dripline.

It is possible during a warm winter for citrus to start new growth. If that is the case, watch for aphids or other insects and treat as needed.

For more detailed and complete information, check the LSU AgCenter Publication 1234, *Louisiana Home Citrus Production* available at the LSUAgCenter website.

~Dr. Joe Willis



Blood orange tree growing in a pot.



Dig your hole just slightly wider and deeper than the root ball.

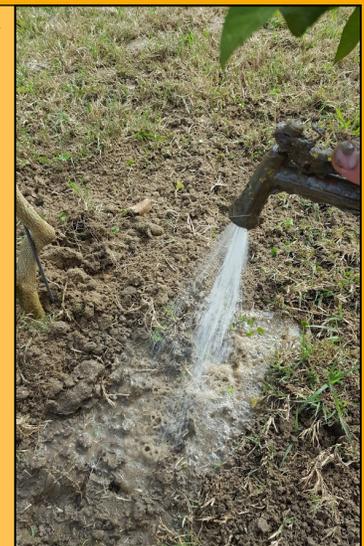


Plant the tree at the same depth as the original soil level. Use the shovel handle to check.



Cut away encircling roots grown to the shape of the original growing container.

Water thoroughly to settle the soil and eliminate air pockets from the soil.



Benefits of Compost

As more and more gardeners are accepting and incorporating organic gardening, whether fully or just adopting individual practices, adding compost is one of the most popular methods employed by gardeners today. But what about compost is so beneficial?

Many gardeners add compost to the landscape or vegetable beds to be used as a fertilizer. Compost contains the macro nutrients needed by the plant. There are nutrients that inorganic fertilizers provide, such as nitrogen, phosphate and potash. But compost contains these nutrients in much lower quantities. A typical nutrient analysis on a bag of manures is 1-0.5-1. These numbers represent the percent of nitrogen, phosphate and potash respectively. Gardeners may need to use eight to 10 times the amount of compost to yield the same results that a 10-10-10 inorganic fertilizer would provide.

These three macronutrients are not everything that a plant needs. Plants are also in need of group of nutrient call secondary nutrients, such as sulfur, calcium and magnesium. Though these nutrients are needed by the plant in lower amounts than the macronutrients, a substantial amount is still needed for the plant to thrive and is provided by the added compost. The compost also is an excellent source of micronutrients the plant needs, such as zinc, boron, iron and copper.

Not only does compost provide nutrients for the plant to thrive, but it has other qualities that help improve the soil conditions. Particles of humus derived from compost have a negative charge while most of the nutrients plants need carry a positive charge. Incorporating compost into a native soil helps keep the naturally provided nutrients that the plant needs within the soil and prevents those nutrients from leaching or running off.

Incorporating compost into the garden also helps with water retention. The organic material acts like thousands of tiny little sponges, absorbing water, then slowly releasing it to the plants at a later time.

Compost can be added to the gardening area at a rate of 450 pounds per 1,000 square feet. If your gardening area is not this large or you don't have the means to weigh the compost, a great rule of thumb is to add 1 to 2 inches of compost. Use a tiller to mix it into the soil where there are not established plants. In areas where plants are present, use a hand-held cultivator to work compost into the soil.

Adding compost to the garden can prove to be very beneficial, but is not a silver bullet. Be sure to continue to take a soil sample every two years to ensure that the nutrients being provided are what are needed in the soil for your garden to thrive.



Volunteers work with NOBG staff to spread composted manure in the PLANO Garden.

~Lee Rouse



CAUTION



MASTER GARDENERS AT WORK

A Message from MGGNO President

Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans was established in 2006 by a group of certified Louisiana Master Gardeners in the greater New Orleans area to coordinate their volunteer service activities and continuing education events. Under the leadership of LSU AgCenter Horticultural Agent Karen Blackburn, membership reached 134 members within two years. Today, we have 200 active members.

Projects and events for 2018 we were engaged in included LSU AgCenter-sponsored programs and public events such as AgMagic on the River at Docville Farm; New Orleans Spring Garden Show; and, LaSalle Park Demonstration Garden as well as MGGNO projects Federal City Community Garden; NOMA LA Super Plants Demonstration Garden; and, public, private, and school gardens for butterfly, hummingbird, herbs, and vegetable gardens. New projects include National Park Service native plants project; Garden on Marais 4-H agricultural garden; and Delgado greenhouse.

MGGNO's mission is "to increase the public's love for and knowledge of gardening and responsible stewardship of the environment." In 2018, we realized this through hosting our annual Winter Gardening Symposium (Let it Rain - Living with water in our Louisiana landscape); contributing to the GNO Gardening Newsletter; and through our Speakers Bureau with 20 speakers and over 40 topics. Our Speakers Bureau is a free community outreach service that provides Master Gardeners to speak to groups in the Greater New Orleans area. Garden clubs, schools, businesses, churches, parish libraries, and neighborhood and civic organizations are invited to take advantage of this learning opportunity.

This year we will expand the use of greenhouses for growing plants for our projects; conduct trials for native, pass-along, and local heirloom plants; provide Garden Coaches to the LSU AgCenter School Garden Program; and host our annual Winter Gardening Symposium on Feb. 9, 2019, Low Maintenance Landscaping w/Local Heirloom and Native Plants.

~ Linda Vinsanau



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Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans



Low Maintenance Landscaping

w/Local Heirloom and Native Plants

Presented by Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans and LSU AgCenter

Winter Symposium

Saturday, February 9, 2019

8:00 A.M. to Noon

Join our outstanding speakers and specialists in their fields, MGGNO Master Gardener and Landscape Horticulturist Tammany Baumgarten, Gulf District Chairman of Old Garden Rose and Shrub Peggy Martin, and state Vegetable Extension Specialist Dr. Kiki Fontenot, as they discuss plants suitable for your home garden. At check out, you will have an opportunity to pre-order event merchandise (heirloom and native plants, broccoli plants and a vegetable gardening book) that will not be for sale at the symposium.

Landscaping with Native Plants. Because native plants evolved in our part of the world, they are acclimated to our weather patterns and soil conditions, and are not as prone to disease issues. Learn about many fuss-free native plants that can be used to make your gardens beautiful, resilient and easier to care for.

Landscaping with Local Heirloom Plants. Non-native heirlooms such as crinum, Shi Shi Gashira camellia (an LSU Louisiana Super Plant), sweet olive, fig, foxtail fern, and Chinese fringe tree have adapted to Louisiana's growing conditions and are freeze and heat tolerant, have few diseases, require little pruning and are available locally. Hear the 'Peggy Martin Rose' story and learn how to grow and maintain this found rose.

Local Vegetables and Herbs. Low maintenance vegetables do exist. The key to lowering maintenance is choosing (1) the ideal location, (2) the correct varieties, and (3) constructing the garden in a manner to reduce size without reducing yields. Come learn about which vegetable crops are easier to maintain than others, pest reducing production practices, and what we can grow easily right here in Louisiana.

Registration fee is \$35.00. Go to the registration site on Eventbrite at:
mggno2019ws.eventbrite.com

Seating is open and limited. We encourage you to register and arrive early.
Have a question? E-mail symposium_project@mggno.com

Follow us on [Facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfGreaterNewOrleans](https://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfGreaterNewOrleans) for updates and the latest news about our 2019 Winter Symposium.

Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans

Our mission: To increase the public's love and knowledge of gardening and responsible stewardship of the environment

For more information, contact us via e-mail: info@mggno.com
www.mggno.org



Compost at Your Next Event

Compostable Material Dropoff

Commercial Composting

Residential Composting

Now selling compost & soil mix per cubic yard. A discount is available to local farmers in the LSU AgCenter small farms network. If you have any questions or comments call 504-206-9298 or write to info@compostingnetwork.com.

In the Kitchen with Austin

Applesauce Fruitcake

I had totally forgotten how much I like fruitcake until I had a slice during a recent Holiday social. This moist, seriously spicy loaf is perfect with fresh fruit, tea, or as a dessert with vanilla ice cream.

Ingredients:

2 cups golden raisins/cherries, dried figs, or dried apricots; or a combination of all three

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour

½ cup brown sugar

½ cup granulated sugar

1 tsp. each: ground cloves, cinnamon, & allspice

1 tsp. salt

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 300°, and set the rack on the middle level. Toss the dried fruit in a mixing bowl with the flour. Add the sugars, seasonings, nuts, and baking powder. Beat the butter into the thick applesauce; blend all the ingredients together in the bowl. Turn the batter into a loaf pan prepared with non-stick baking spray.



1 cup pecans or walnuts, toasted and chopped

1 Tbs. double-acting baking powder

4 Tbs. melted butter

1 cup cool, boiled-down canned applesauce



Set the cake in the oven. Do not press, poke, or shake the cake for an hour at least, or it will deflate. The cake is done when nicely browned, and a skewer, plunged through it, comes out clean.

Set the pan on a rack and cool for 20 minutes, then unmold onto the rack and turn it right side up. When thoroughly cold, wrap airtight with plastic wrap and let cure at least a day before serving. It will keep several weeks under refrigeration.

Bon Manger!

Coming Events

Date	Event	Cost	Link
Friday, January 11 th 12:00-3:00 PM	A Walk in the Woods with David Baker @ A Studio in the Woods 13401 River Road, New Orleans, LA	Free with advance registration required	https://www.facebook.com/events/756833411383188/ * Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Saturday, January 12 th 10:30 AM-NOON	Passion for Camellias @ New Orleans Botanical Gardens	\$15	https://www.facebook.com/events/400880723784608/ * Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Saturday, January 19 th 9:00 AM-NOON	Arbor Day @ LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/1484770251649219/ * Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Saturday, January 19 th 10:30 AM-NOON	Artful Training of Niwa-ki, Traditional Methods of Japanese Tree Sculpting @ New Orleans Botanical Garden	\$15	https://www.facebook.com/events/371703070239501/ *Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
January 25 th 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM January 26 th 9:00 AM-3:00 PM January 27 th 10:00 AM-2:00 PM	Winter Open House @ Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery 12497 Joseph's Rd., Folsom LA	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/361634494571125/ * Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Saturday, January 26 th 2:00 PM-4 PM	79 th Annual Camellia Show @ Delgado Community College 614 Navarre Ave., New Orleans	Free	For any additional information, please contact JOHN GRIMM (504)610-7828 or NICK PIAZZA (504)616-4378 or Npiazzajr@gmail.com
Saturday, February 9 th 8:00 AM-NOON	MGGNO Winter Symposium @New Orleans Museum of Art	\$35	http://www.mggno2019ws.eventbrite.com/ * Master Gardener Continuing Ed Credit!
Sunday, February 24 th 1:00-4:00 PM	2019 Camellia Stroll @LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station 21549 Old Hammond Hwy, Hammond,LA	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/606908476378820/

Camellia events in Pink

2019 New Orleans Spring Garden Show April 7 & 8th

Now Accepting Vendor Registration

**Green Industry Professionals
Nursery Growers**

**Artists
Craftsmen**



Contact GNOGardening@agcenter.lsu.edu for more information.

Farmers Markets in the Greater New Orleans Area

Jefferson Parish		
Fat City Farmer's Market	3215 Edenborn, Metairie	Every 2 nd and 4 th Sunday, 9AM-1PM
Gretna Farmer's Market	739 Third Street, Gretna	Every Saturday, except the Saturday of Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
Kenner Rivertown Farmer's Market	2115 Rev. Richard Wilson Drive, Kenner	Every Saturday, October-July, 9AM-1PM
Nawlins Outdoor Market	1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey	Every Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM
Old Metairie Farmer's Market	Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn Dr. and Labarre	3 rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-7:30PM
Westwego Shrimp Lot	100 Westbank Expressway, Westwego	Daily Mon-Sat 8AM-8PM, Sun 8AM-6PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Bucktown	325 Metairie-Hammond, Highway at Bucktown Harbor	Fridays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Rivertown New Orleans	Williams Boulevard at the River	Saturdays, 9AM-1PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Ochsner West Campus	2614 Jefferson Highway, Ochsner Rehab Facility	Wednesdays, 3PM-7PM
Orleans Parish		
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Uptown	200 Broadway Street at the River, New Orleans	Tuesdays, 9AM-1PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Bywater	Chartres and Piety, New Orleans at Rusty Rainbow Bridge	Wednesdays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Mid-City	3700 Orleans Avenue, New Orleans	Thursdays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Downtown	750 Carondelet St at Julia, New Orleans	Saturdays, 8am-12PM
Sankofa Market	5029 St. Claude St., New Orleans	Monday-Thursday, 9:30AM-4:00PM
ReFresh Farmer's Market	300 North Broad St., New Orleans	Mondays, 4:00PM-7:00PM
Vietnamese Farmer's Market	14401 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East	Saturdays, 5:30AM-8:30AM
Marketplace at Armstrong Park	901 N. Rampart, New Orleans	Thursdays, 3PM-7PM
Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market	Comiskey Park, New Orleans	Market dates vary, check http://midcityaf.org
Treme Farmer's Market	814 N. Claiborne, New Orleans	Market dates vary, check https://gloriastremegarden.com/treme-farmers-market/
St. Bernard Parish		
St. Bernard Seafood and Farmer's Market	409 Aycock St., Aycock Barn, Old Arabi	2 nd Saturdays, 10AM-2PM

January Checklist/Garden Tips

Planting cool season vegetables and bedding plants continues. Although exceptionally cold weather can cause problems, winter weather is mostly mild. Watch the weather and avoid setting out transplants when a hard freeze below the upper 20s is predicted.

During cold of winter weather the water coming out of the tap can be decidedly chilly. When filling up your watering can to water your indoor plants, don't just turn on the cold water tap. Turn on both cold and hot water and adjust the temperature of the water coming out of the faucet until it feels tepid or barely warm. This is healthier for tropical houseplants and will prevent the spotting of African violet foliage.

Regularly mow overseeded rye lawns at a height of one and one-half inches to keep them looking attractive.

Resolve to pick more flowers from your garden for indoor arrangements this year. Most gardeners are too reluctant to harvest the flowers growing in their gardens, when flowers can enrich our home interiors in wonderful ways. Think how nice it would be to have a little vase of pansies, snapdragons or stock on the table beside you right now.

After your Holiday cactus plant stops blooming, don't forget to move it into a sunny window for the rest of the winter. Keep it evenly moist but not constantly wet as this promotes root rot. In April, you may move it to a spot outside that receives morning sun for the summer.

You must plant any spring flowering bulbs you have been refrigerating by early January, or you will be too late. You cannot keep the bulbs, such as tulips and hyacinths, and plant them next year.

Now is a good time to make hardwood cuttings of such plants as pears, figs, roses and hydrangeas. Cuttings should be taken from the ends of branches and be 6 to 8 inches long.

Bare root rose bushes are arriving at local nurseries and garden centers. If you choose to plant bare root roses, January is the month to do it, or by the end of February at the latest. Containerized roses may also be planted as soon as they become available at the nurseries, but can be planted as late as April.

Add leaves falling from deciduous trees to your compost pile as they become available. Speed decomposition by chopping the leaves and sprinkling some nitrogen fertilizer over the leaves as you build the pile. Keep the piles evenly moist but not soggy. Turning the pile occasionally will also speed decomposition.

Whenever practical, continue to deadhead cool season annuals such as pansies, snapdragons and dianthus to keep them blooming through the spring.

Pansies and other cool season bedding plants may bloom less during the mid-winter period but should pick-up again in the late winter and early spring. If the foliage color is a good deep green and the plants seem to be growing well, you shouldn't need to fertilize now. Pansies are, however, heavy feeders. If the foliage is even slightly pale and if the growth is less vigorous, fertilize every two to three weeks with a 20-20-20 soluble fertilizer according to label directions until the color and vigor improves.

Root crops, such as radish, carrot, turnip and beet, should be direct seeded right where they will grow this month. Young plants may need some protection from temperatures below the mid-twenties.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do:

1. Apply selective herbicides and sedge killers to kill off winter weeds growing in the lawn. You may also scout the lawn and remove weeds by hand. Make a game out of it with kids and grandkids.
2. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. [Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.](#)
3. Take a soil test.
4. Apply sulfur or lime to adjust the pH if necessary according to soil lab recommendations.
5. Use a mulching mower to shred fallen leaves without removing them or use a bagging mower to collect them and put them in your compost pile or use them as mulch in your gardens.
6. Recent heavy rain may have revealed low areas and poor drainage in your lawn. Begin planning and implementing remediation methods. Consider installing a rain garden. Dedicating a small portion of your property to water management can improve the health of your lawn.

Do Not:

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



Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

E-mail us at: GNOGardening@agcenter.lsu.edu



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