



GN Gardening Magazine

May 2022

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Flowering Mamou plants and
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Photo by Anna Timmerman

Look At Me:

Mamou/Coral Bean/Cherokee Bean

(*Eyrthrina herbacea*)

I am not home enough to clean and refill my glass hummingbird feeders properly. So a couple of years ago I decided to switch tactics and bring

in the birds by planting their favorite red, tubular flowers. Among the honeysuckle, canna, salvias, and pentas is one of my favorite Louisiana native plants. It has a long history of use as a medicinal herb here, but also is one of the hummers favorite pit stops as they migrate through our area. Mamou, also called Cherokee Bean and Coral Bean (*Eyrthrina herbacea*) is naturally found in the western and some central parishes of the state, but grows well in our area.

Mamou enjoys open sandy woods, especially Longleaf Pine woods, clearings, pasture edges, and gardens. It prefers well-draining soils but can tolerate wetter conditions for short times. It likes full sun to dappled shade. Mamou is a

woody perennial and can grow to be up to ten feet tall, though 4-6 feet is more common. Leaves are alternate, semi-deciduous in our area, and compound. Each compound leaf is made up from three shallow-lobed arrowhead shaped leaflets. Stems have sharp, recurved spines on older woody material. The flowers

are a real showstopper, and are bright red with a tubular structure, arranged in a spike that can be two feet in length. Mine are usually smaller, about 8-9

inches in length. The fruits that form after pollination look like brown, dry bean pods. Eventually they dry to an extent that they split open to reveal bright red beans that seem lacquered with a hard coating. These are the “coral beans”, which have been used to make beads for necklaces and rosaries for generations. The hard seed coat of the bean must be scarified, nicked, or scratched to facilitate a good germination rate. Sow the seeds in loose, sandy potting mix in the fall after nicking that seed coat and almost all will come up.

As a pollinator plant, mamou is enjoyed by hummingbirds as a nectar source. Butterflies, moths, and bees also love to forage in it. It is a preferred

browse food for whitetail deer but adapted to handle a periodic munching. Some bird species have also been observed feeding on the seeds. There is a borer moth (*Terastia metculosalis*) that feeds on the interior stem tissue, which can cause tip dieback. They don't kill the plant, and mamou is its host plant



A watercolor painting of a coral bean plant with flowers and seeds from the book Native Flora of Louisiana - Watercolor drawings by Margaret Stones

much like the monarch butterflies and milkweed. There is no need to treat for these borers. I've also never observed them in New Orleans but I would be happy if they showed up. Other than that, mamou has no pest or disease problems of note.

As a garden plant, mamou is a good one to include in local pollinator and rain gardens, prairie gardens, or wildlife gardens. The French name "Mamou" comes from a town in central Acadiana, the center of the Cajun Prairie historical range. The herbal properties of this plant were known to the local indigenous tribes (Atakapa, Coushatta peoples), as well as later to Acadian/Cajun healers, known as "traiteurs". It has been used as a tea, making an early form of cough syrup for centuries. In the 1940's, it was a key ingredient of an herbal cough syrup called "Dixie Dew Mamou". All parts of the plant are mildly toxic but have medicinal qualities also that must be tapped into with caution (consult other sources than the LSU AgCenter for this information). I prefer to enjoy it in my garden as an "all-natural hummingbird feeder". It gets a lot of attention this time of year from a whole jewel box full of hummers making their spring migrations to their nesting habitats. I am happy to feed them and enjoy the showy red blooms of the mamou plant.

~Anna Timmerman



ASP Master Gardeners

Splitting seed pods reveal the coral red mamou seeds inside.



Photo by Anna Timmerman

Flowering Mamou plants and coneflowers growing in the Docville Farm pollinator garden.

May Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Amaranth	None Given
Cantaloupe	Ambrosia, Aphrodite, Athena, Primo, Vienna
Cucuzza	None Given
Cushaw	None Given
Eggplant	Dusky, Night Shadow, Epic, Santana, Calliope
Hot Peppers (transplant)	Grande, Tula, Mariachi, Mitla,
Lima Beans (bush or pole)	Dixie Butterpea, Jackson Wonder, Thorogreen Florida Speckled, King of Garden
Luffa Gourd	None Given
Malbar Spinace	None Given
Mirlitons	None Given
Okra	Annie Oakley, Cajun Delight, Clemson Spineless
Peanuts	None Given
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Prankster, Sorcerer
Southern Peas	Queen Anne, California #5, Quickpick, Colussus
Soybeans	None Given
Sweet Potato	Beauregard, Evangeline, Hernandez, Jewel
Watermelon	Seedless: Cooperstown, Gypsy, Matrix, Millennium Seeded: Mickey Lee, Sugar Baby, Amarillo
Yardlong Beans	None Given

Look Out Above

Beware of Overhead Danger

Let's face the truth, trees can be incredibly dangerous. In fact, falling trees and limbs regularly kill and maim people. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, there are typically over 100 fatalities each year in the US from falling trees and branches. They are so dangerous because trees are very heavy. Just one foot of an oak limb 10 inches in diameter weighs about 40 pounds. Add in the energy supplied by gravity when falling and we can see that even a small limb can cause serious damage on impact. Also consider that falling trees and limbs don't just harm people. They can also destroy homes, buildings, vehicles, and more. They also have a tendency to knock down power transmission lines leaving widespread areas without electricity. From my experience, I believe that many of these tragic incidents could have been prevented with proper horticultural practices.



'Hangers' are dead limbs that have broken and are either being supported by other branches or hanging from a few remaining fibers.

The first thing to know is that trees do die. When this happens they begin to decay and drop limbs and then will eventually fall. It is not a question of **if** it will happen but **when**. Dead trees along roadways, in parks, gardens and other locations where people may go should be removed.

Next we must understand that individual limbs can also die. This can be caused by insect damage, disease, improper pruning, storm damage or even the tree's way of self pruning. These dead limbs are also decaying and will eventually break and fall. Here again we do not know when this will happen but we do know with certainty that it will. It is therefore important to examine trees on your property (or even those you plan to sit under) for these dangerous limbs.

When a limb is properly pruned by cutting it back to a main limb or the trunk, a callus will form over the pruning site which will protect the tree from insects, rot and disease. When limbs are cut away from the limb collar the limb typically will die, rot and fall but it will also frequently lead to internal decay.

Check out this great article from Dan Gill for more information on proper tree pruning. [To view, click here or go to: http://apps.lsuagcenter.com/news_archive/2014/january/get-it-growing/Pruning-trees-requires-care-.htm](http://apps.lsuagcenter.com/news_archive/2014/january/get-it-growing/Pruning-trees-requires-care-.htm).



This dead tree remains standing in a local park where another falling tree recently destroyed a nearby bench.

Weed of the Month

Florida Betony (*Stachys floridana*)

Florida betony (*Stachys floridana*) is native to Florida and began appearing in other states in the 1940s and 50s. Some other common names

include wild artichoke (not related to artichoke at all) and rattlesnake weed. It is a member of the Lamiaceae (mint family). It has pubescent (hairy), square, upright stems and grows to 12"-24" tall. The ovate leaves are oppositely arranged and attached to the stem by a long (1.5") petiole. Slightly toothed leaves are about 2" long and 1" wide at the usually cordate (heart-shaped) base.

Florida betony is a perennial cool-season plant that produces flowers in early Spring. They are trumpet-shaped, white to pink (sometimes with purple spots) and produced in whorls of 3-9 flowers. The perfect flowers have 5 sepals and petals, with sepals that are fused together at the base. The petals are also fused together at the base, usually with 2 of the 5 lobes forming an upper lip of the flower, and the other 3 lobes forming a lower lip. There are 2 to 4 stamens and an ovary with 2 carpels. The fruit is a schizocarp (<1" long), and splits in two at maturity.

Florida betony produces underground tubers that are the reason for the common name "rattlesnake weed". The tuber is segmented, white, and resembles the rattle of a rattlesnake. The tuber is typically ½" wide and 1-4" long but can grow as long as 8" or more. New tubers are formed in late spring as the temperatures begin to rise and before the plant goes into summer dormancy.

Florida betony will grow in full sun to partial shade, in almost any soil types and conditions (wet or dry).

This cool-season perennial emerges in the Fall from the tubers, growing vigorously throughout the winter and produces flowers in the warmth of Spring. During the

hottest Summer temperatures, the plant becomes virtually dormant.

Spread is mostly from rhizomes and tubers. The crisp, succulent tuber is edible, and has a crunchy texture and a bland, slightly sweet flavor. Once established, Florida betony is difficult to remove by hand because the tubers and rhizomes break easily and small root fragments can regrow to produce new plants. It can be a persistent weed in turf and beds.

Coarse mulch layers of 2"-4" can reduce emergence of plants in the Fall. Because of the abundance of tubers and ease with which they break and reproduce, systemic herbicides are the most effective means of controlling Florida betony.

Glyphosate and triclopyr are two active ingredients recommended for use. REMEMBER – with all pesticides read and follow the label carefully.

There are no selective herbicides for use on Florida betony and weed fabric is not effective.

~Dr. Joe Willis

Selected References:

- Burgess, C. 2021. Florida Betony. Clemson University. HGIC2313.
- Smith, T. & C. Marble. 2020. Biology and Management of Florida Betony (*Stachys floridana*) in Ornamental Plants in Landscape Planting Beds. UF-IFAS pub. ENH1333.
- Strahan, Ron. 2016. Wide World of Weeds. Presentation.
- Wikipedia. 2021. *Stachys floridana*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stachys_floridana.



Florida betony flowers.



Florida betony tubers. Note the resemblance to rattlesnake rattles.

Large Patch Disease of Warm-Season Turfgrasses

R*hizoctonia solani* causes large patch (formerly known as Brown Patch), a disease of warm-season grasses, including bermudagrass, centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass, and zoysiagrass. Large patch occurs during the spring and fall, when warm-season turfgrasses are just waking up or just going into winter dormancy. The primary symptom is circular patches of diseased turf, ranging in diameter from less than 3 ft. to as much as 26 ft. Newly infected leaves on the periphery of the patch, may appear yellow to reddish in color. Some patches may be perennial, recurring in the same location and expanding in diameter year after year. *Rhizoctonia solani* infection of warm-season grasses occurs on the leaf sheaths, resulting in water-soaked, reddish-brown or black lesions. Infection of the leaf sheath leads to dieback from the leaf tip toward the base. The pathogen does not usually kill the grass but causes a rot at the base of the leaf sheaths, which results in the separation of leaves from the crown of the plant.

Rhizoctonia belongs to a group of fungi called the "Mycelia Sterilia." These fungi do not produce asexual spores, but grow by producing thin, vegetative strands called hyphae. However, *Rhizoctonia* does produce hard structures called sclerotia, which are resistant to environmental extremes, allowing the fungus to survive harsh conditions.

Rhizoctonia species are strong saprophytes. They are able to survive for extended periods of time in the absence of living host plants by feeding on decaying

organic matter. When conditions are not favorable for growth, these fungi persist as mycelium or as sclerotia in the thatch and soil. When a host plant is present and environmental conditions are favorable, *Rhizoctonia* species begin to colonize the surface of the potential host plant.



Large patch disease in a local lawn.

Infection of the lower leaf sheaths by *R. solani* occurs whenever the temperature of the thatch layer is between 50°F and 70°F, and continuous turf wetness for at least 48 hours. Warm-season grasses are not growing vigorously during the early spring and fall and are highly susceptible to pathogen attack. Patches may also develop in the summer during periods of cool weather, especially in wet or shady areas.

Although we usually think of large patch as being a disease of the fall, it also develops quite often in the spring. Optimal conditions for disease development

occur when nighttime temperatures range from 60-75 degrees and daytime temperatures do not exceed 85-90 degrees. It is important to remember, however, that disease can still develop when conditions are less than optimal. Excessive moisture levels in the soil, thatch, and lower turf canopy encourage large patch development. Factors such as poor drainage, shade, restricted air movement, or excessive irrigation increase the severity of this disease.

Cultural Management: Control of moisture levels in the thatch and soil is an important part of large patch management. The disease is most severe in areas that have poor soil drainage, poor air movement, or excessive shade. In areas with poor drainage,

installation of drainage tile, soil aeration to reduce compaction and increase porosity, thatch removal, and/or leveling or crowning of the soil profile to drainage will limit large patch severity and improve overall turf health. Where air movement and sunlight penetration are low, prune or remove surrounding trees and shrubs to allow more sunlight or don't try to grow turf in this area. Irrigate grass only when needed and to a depth of 4 to 6 inches (generally 1 inch of irrigation water per week), but do not subject the lawn to drought conditions. Water the lawn early in the morning.

Mowing height may also influence the development of large patch. Keep lawns mowed on a regular basis and to the proper height for the turfgrass species. Mowing the lawn lower than the optimum mowing height can increase disease severity, as can mowing too high, which slows the leaf drying time. On zoysiagrass, large patch severity increases as mowing height is decreased from 1.5 in. to 0.5 in. Reduced mowing heights result in a more dense turf stand, which may create a more favorable environment for large patch development by reducing air movement and increasing humidity in the lower turf canopy.

Avoid high nitrogen rates on warm-season grasses in mid-to-late fall or early spring before the lawn fully greens up. The disease-causing fungus readily attacks the lush growth of grass, which nitrogen promotes. Never apply more than 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet for an application.

Chemical Control: Several fungicides are available for control of large patch. Fungicides labeled for large patch control include: azoxystrobin (with propiconazole), pyraclostrobin (with triticonazole), maneb, mancozeb, tebuconazole, thiofanate methyl, and fluoxastrobin. Fall and spring applications of fungicides can limit damage to the turf until conditions become unfavorable for disease development. In turf stands with a history of large patch development, preventative fungicide applications provide excellent control when timed properly. The first application should be made in the fall when conditions become conducive for large patch development, i.e. when the thatch temperature drops

below 70°F for several consecutive days. Subsequent applications should be made as specified on the fungicide label. We generally recommend at least two fungicide applications a month apart in the fall, the first being in mid- to late September and the second in mid- to late October. However, if conditions remain favorable for disease development into November and December, additional fungicide applications may be necessary. In areas where large patch is known to have



Large patch sheath lesions

occurred previously, an application of a fungicide in mid-March at “green-up” is also advisable. Again, if we experience an extended period of cool, wet weather in the spring, additional fungicide applications may be necessary until environmental conditions become unfavorable for disease development.

Little variation in large patch susceptibility is observed among the warm-season grasses. Bermudagrass, centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass, and zoysiagrass incur similar amounts of damage due to activity of the pathogen. However, bermudagrass may recover from large patch damage more rapidly than other warm-season species because of its aggressively spreading growth habit.

~Dr. Joe Willis

Selected References

- Butler, L. & J. Kerns. 2019. Large Patch in Turf. NC State Extension. Turf Files. <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/large-patch-in-turf>
- Couch, H.B. 1995. Diseases of Turfgrasses. 3rd ed. Krieger Publishing Company, Malabar, FL.
- Ferrin, D. 2009. Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrasses. LSU AgCenter Pub. 3133.
- Kataria, H.R., U. Hugelshofer and U. Gisi. 1991. Sensitivity of *Rhizoctonia* species to different fungicides. Plant Pathol. 40:203-211.
- Singh, R. 2018. Louisiana Home Lawn Series: Large Patch. LSU AgCenter Pub. 3624-Y.
- Smiley, R.W., P.H. Dernoeden, and B.B. Clarke. 2005. Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases. 3d ed. APS Press, St. Paul, MN.
- Williamson, J. 2021. Brown Patch & Large Patch Diseases of Lawns. Clemson University HGIC2150.

What's Bugging You, or rather, What's Stinging You?

The Eastern Buck Moth, *Hemileuca maia*

Spring is such a lovely time of year, especially as our landscapes awaken from the dormant season and start blooming and putting on new growth. The past several weeks on the Northshore have been lovely despite the “enhanced” weather patterns of a few weeks back. The azaleas have all finished blooming, but Louisiana iris and landscapes roses are putting on quite a show. However, with all that beauty there's bound

to be some ugly. And, that ugly came into the St. Tammany Parish Extension office last week. We are starting to get numerous reports of caterpillars feeding on landscape trees. One of the common spring-time pests that we deal with here is the buck moth caterpillar, also referred to as a stinging caterpillar. Stinging caterpillars can refer to any lepidopteran species that produces spine-like appendages containing venom glands. When brushed against human skin, immediate pain usually follows. After the initial sting, localized itching, swelling, and redness are common symptoms. Buck moth caterpillars don't have a friendly appearance. If observant and attentive one can easily see and avoid them. However, being a

caterpillar looking for a place to pupate, they end up in places that you would never have expected and might cause some irritation.



An adult male Buck Moth.

The Eastern Buck Moth caterpillar, *Hemileuca maia*, is a member of the insect order lepidoptera, which includes all butterflies and moths. Within lepidoptera, they can be further grouped into the family Saturniidae, which includes giant silkworms like luna moths and polyphemus moths. Adult Eastern Buck Moths have a wingspan of 2-3 inches with black forewings and hindwings. A narrow white band runs through the center of the wings providing a distinctive appearance. The adult female's body is all black, but males have a characteristic red tip on the abdomen. Adults are active October through December where they fly around and mate. Females then deposit eggs on the branches of host trees, which happens

to be oak trees, *Quercus spp.*, here in Louisiana. The eggs are laid in masses 360° around the branch and start hatching January through the end of March.

The larval stage, or what most of us call caterpillars, are active during the months of April and May. They are large in size between 2 and 2.5 inches long. The head is somewhat reddish, and you can find small round white spots all over the body. The notorious feature that everyone remembers are the numerous bristly spines the run in several rows down the back of the caterpillar. These spines are what cause the stinging sensation. They are so effective that some insect species are known to have look-a-like appendages that mimic the looks of Eastern Buck Moths.

Managing these insects is somewhat tricky because by the time we notice them, they are already in search of a



Photo by Will Afton

A large group of buck moth caterpillars travel down the trunk of a white oak tree



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A closer look at an individual buck moth caterpillar on a live oak tree.

place to pupate. Hand removal is going to be the best option to reduce numbers, but gardeners must be vigilant to make a dent in the natural population. Carbaryl (Sevin) is the long time conventional recommendation to control caterpillars and can be applied to the area directly surrounding oak trees within the landscape. If Eastern Buck Moth caterpillars are an annual pest problem, then one should consider applying products like spinosad or *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) on to young developing oak tree leaves. As caterpillars feed on the new foliage, they will also ingest the pesticide, disrupting their life cycle. No matter what product you decide on using remember to read and follow label instructions. The label is the law.

~Will Afton

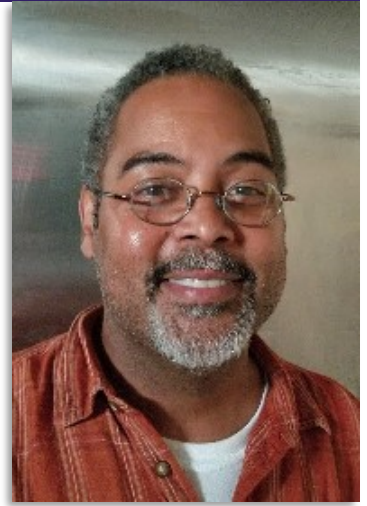
In the Kitchen with Austin

Roasted Radishes

Radishes are the unsung hero of early spring gardens. Inspired by a conversation with a fellow master gardener about their versatility, this recipe shows their sweeter side as a result of roasting.

Ingredients:

2 bunches of radishes, tops trimmed
2 Tbs. melted butter
Salt and black pepper, to taste
1 tsp. garlic powder
Parsley or parmesan cheese, optional



Roasted Radishes served on toast.

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Wash and cut radishes in half lengthwise. Arrange them in one layer in a baking dish.

Add butter, salt and pepper, and garlic powder. Toss radishes to coat. Roast about 20 minutes, until radishes are fork-tender.

A sprinkling of parsley or parmesan cheese is optional, but makes a wonderful addition to the final flavor.

Enjoy on toast, added to a salad, or as a side dish.

Bon Manger!

Pelican Greenhouse Plant Sales



**NEW ORLEANS
BOTANICAL GARDEN**
CITY PARK

Visit the Pelican Greenhouse for a large selection of plants for sale. Many of plants are propagated from cuttings, seeds, and divisions from plants already growing in the Botanical Garden

Friday and Saturday, May 6 and 7

from 9am to 1 pm.

LOTS of beautiful flowering plants and all the good things are available for our Mother's Day sale!

Pelican Greenhouse

2 Celebration Drive.

(Not inside the Botanical Garden) Visit
NewOrleansCityPark.com for park map

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City

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

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park

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

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Uptown

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

SPROUT NOLA ReFresh Market-Truck Farm Table

200 N. Broad (In Whole Foods lobby or in parking lot, weather permitting)
Walk up

SPROUT NOLA ReFresh Market-Lafitte Greenway

2606 St. Louis
Mondays from 3-6PM
Walk up and pre-orders at <https://app.sourcewhatsgood.com/markets/refresh-farmers-market/products>

Vietnamese Farmer's Market

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

Marketplace at Armstrong Park

901 N. Rampart
Thursdays from 3-7PM

New Orleans French Market

Lower Decatur Street
Daily, 9AM-6PM

Know Dat Grow Dat Microgreens & Produce

Online Sales
<https://www.knowdatgrowdat.com/shop>

Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market

Comiskey Park, New Orleans
Market dates vary and are on hold due to Covid-19, check <http://midcityaf.org>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hubs

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

Barcelo Gardens Farmer's Market- Upper 9th Ward

2301 Gallier Street
Saturdays from 10AM-1PM

Bywater Market at Trap Kitchen-Bywater

1043 Poland Ave
Sundays from 10AM-3PM

Paradigm Farmer's Market-Central City

1131 S. Rampart
Sundays 9AM-Noon

Lot 1701 Small Business and Farmer's Market-Central City

1701 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd.
Every 1st and 3rd Saturday from 11AM to 3PM

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point

149 Delaronde St.
First and Third Sundays of the month, from 11AM-3PM

Edgewood Park Market-Edgewood

3317 Franklin Ave.
First market Sunday, May 2nd from 11AM-3PM

New Orleans East Hospital Farmer's Market- New Orleans East

5620 Read Blvd.
First Tuesday of the Month- 3PM-Dusk
Third Thursday of the Month- Noon-3PM

Sheaux Fresh Sustainable Foods- Tremé-Lafitte

585 N. Claiborne at Lafitte Greenway (under overpass)
Wednesdays from 2-5PM
Saturdays from 10AM-2PM
Check for current dates/times at www.sheauxfresh.org

Holy Cross Farmer's Market- Holy Cross/Lower 9th Ward

533 St. Maurice
First & Third Saturday of the month, 10:00AM-2PM

St. Charles Parish

German Coast Farmer's Market at Westbank Bridge Park

13825 River Road, Luling, LA
Wednesdays, from 1-5PM

German Coast Farmer's Market at St. Charles Parish Eastbank Regional Library

160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market

739 Third Street, Gretna
Every Saturday, except the Saturday of Gretna Fest,
8:30AM-12:30PM

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
3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-7:30PM

Westwego Shrimp Lot

100 Westbank Expressway at Louisiana St., Westwego
Daily Mon-Thurs 8AM-6PM, Fri 8AM-7PM, Sat 7AM-7PM,
and Sun 7AM-6PM

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie

3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 3-7PM

Laughing Buddha Farm Hub-Clearview

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

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte

920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-1PM

Harahan Farmer's Market

6437 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA
Sundays, Noon-4PM

Good Time Guild Farmer's Market at St. Martin's Episcopal Church- Metairie

2216 Metairie Rd.
1st Thursdays monthly, 2PM-7PM
3rd Saturday monthly, 10AM-3PM

St. Tammany Parish

Covington Farmers' Market

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

Mandeville Trailhead Community Market

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

Madisonville Market

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

Folsom Village Market

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

Abita Springs Art and Farmers' Market

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

Camellia City Farmer's Market

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



Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans

Urban Roots	2375 Tchoupitoulas St., New Orleans, LA 70130	(504) 522-4949
The Plant Gallery	9401 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-8887
Harold's Plants	1135 Press St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 947-7554
We Bite Rare and Unusual Plants	1225 Mandeville St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 380-4628
Hot Plants	1715 Feliciana St., New Orleans, LA 70117	www.hotplantsnursery.com
Delta Floral Native Plants	2710 Touro St., New Orleans LA 70117	(504) 577-4290
Pelican Greenhouse Sales	2 Celebration Dr., New Orleans, LA 70124	(504) 483-9437
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713
Jefferson Feed Mid-City	309 N. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119	(504) 488-8118
Jefferson Feed Uptown	6047 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 218-4220
Ninth Ward Nursery	2641 Deslonde St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 296-8398
Crazy Plant Bae	800 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans LA 70119	(504) 327-7008
Canopy Plant Company	6030 St. Claude, New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 381-4033
Too Tall Nursery	2817 N. Roman, New Orleans, LA 70117	tootallfarm@gmail.com
Nice Plants Good Pots	Pop Up and Online Sales	Etsy.com/shop/NicePlantsGoodPots
Plantery NOLA	Pop Up Locations	www.plantery-nola.com
Canopy Plant Co.	Pop Up and Online Sales	www.canopyplantco.com
New Orleans Succulent Boutique	Online Sales	https://sites.google.com/view/nolasucculentshop/home
Root Life Mobile Plant Nursery	Pop Up Locations	https://rootlifeplantnursery.com/
New Orleans Green LLC	Online Sales	www.neworleans-green.com

Plaquemines

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

St. Charles

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

St. Bernard

Renaissance Gardens	9123 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA 70043	(504) 682-9911
Plant Pricks	Pop Up Locations	https://plantpricks.com/



Mounted New Orleans Police ride in line after a street parade on Easter Sunday.

Local Independent Garden Centers

Jefferson

Perino's Garden Center	3100 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 834-7888
Rose Garden Center	4005 Westbank Expressway, Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 341-5664
Rose Garden Center	5420 Lapalco Blvd., Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 347-8777
Banting's Nursery	3425 River Rd., Bridge City, LA 70094	(504) 436-4343
Jefferson Feed	4421 Jefferson Hwy., Jefferson, LA 70121	(504) 733-8572
Nine Mile Point Plant Nursery	2141 River Rd., Westwego, LA 70094	(504) 436-4915
Palm Garden Depot	351 Hickory Ave., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 305-6170
Double M Feed Harahan	8400 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 738-5007
Double M Feed Metairie	3212 W. Esplanade Ave., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 835-9800
Double M Feed Terrytown	543 Holmes Blvd., Terrytown, LA 70056	(504) 361-4405
Sunrise Trading Co. Inc.	42 3 rd St., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 469-0077
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-4336
Creative Gardens & Landscape	2309 Manhattan Blvd., Harvey, LA 70058	(504) 367-9099
Charvet's Garden Center	4511 Clearview Parkway, Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 888-7700
Barber Laboratories Native Plants	6444 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 739-5715
Plumeria Insanity Nursery	https://www.facebook.com/Plumeria-Insanity-Nursery-102123651930419	

Soil Vendors

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

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



Mardi Gras Indians performing at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

May Checklist/Garden Tips

Great warm-season bedding plants for sun include abelmoschus, ageratum, amaranthus, balsam, begonia, blue daze, celosia, cleome, coleus (sun-tolerant types), coreopsis, cosmos, Dahlberg daisy, dusty miller, gaillardia, gomphrena, lantana, marigold, melampodium, narrow-leaf zinnia, ornamental pepper, periwinkle, pentas, portulaca, purslane, rudbeckia, salvia, scaevola, sunflower, tithonia, torenia, verbena (perennial), zinnia.

During dry weather don't forget to keep your compost pile evenly moist. Dry organic matter will not decompose. Do, however, avoid keeping the pile saturated as this will create bad odors.

Powdery mildew on many ornamentals (crape myrtles, roses, euonymous) and vegetables (squash, cucumbers) continues to be a problem due to dry weather. Treat with chlorothalonil or other labeled fungicides.

Birds will peck holes in tomatoes just before you decide they are ripe enough to harvest. If birds are a problem, cover your plants with bird netting or harvest the fruit in the pink stage and ripen them inside. Bird netting also works well to protect fruit crops, such as blackberries, blueberries and figs, from bird damage, and is available from local nurseries or feed stores.

Grow cucumbers on trellises to save space, increase production and improve the quality of the cucumbers produced.

Constant watering rapidly leaches nutrient elements from the soils of container grown plants. To replace them it is best to use either soluble fertilizers or slow release fertilizers. Soluble fertilizers are easy to apply especially when you use a hose end applicator, but they must be applied every two weeks to maintain a constant supply of nutrients. Slow release fertilizers provide nutrients over several months from one application and so cut down on labor.

Cannas that have brown, deformed leaves with holes in them have been attacked by canna leaf-rollers, a caterpillar that is devastating to cannas in our area. Control is difficult and requires regular spraying all summer. If you decide to treat, use a systemic insecticide such as acephate and make weekly applications.

Plant basil plants now and enjoy a wonderful fresh seasoning for summer cooking. Many herbs already in your garden, such as thyme, sage, oregano, lavender, dill, cilantro and parsley, are at their most productive now and will play out as the weather gets hotter. Harvest freely and dry or freeze the extras.

Remove the developing seed pods from such plants as Louisiana irises and amaryllis when they finish blooming. This keeps the plants more attractive and prevents them from wasting effort on seeds that are not needed. It would be better for the plants to put that energy into growing leaves and roots.

Watch azaleas for azalea lace bug damage. Small white spots on the upper surface and small dark brown spots on the back of leaves indicates they are present. Spray with a broad spectrum insecticide getting under the leaves thoroughly.

Caterpillars will feed on the foliage and flowers of ornamentals and the foliage and fruit of vegetables. The tomato fruit worm eats holes in tomatoes. Sevin, spinosad and BT regularly applied will keep them in check.

Termite mating season is upon us and millions of sexually mature Formosan termite alates will be seen flying around light poles at night for the next several weeks. Although termites are active year round, the heightened activity makes it more easy to find the harborages in which they live. Check for the soil and debris that the termites use to hide themselves on local structures and trees. [Click here for more information on termites in trees.](#)

May is one of the busiest months in the flower garden. As cool season annuals become unattractive, the beds need to be cleaned out and replanted with warm season annuals. Don't forget that summer heat makes the care of flower bed uncomfortable to say the least.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. This is the prime planting season for warm season grasses such as St. Augustine, centipede, bermuda and zoysia.
2. This month is the last chance to apply broad leaf weed killers before the weather gets too hot. Button weed is particularly troublesome around the state. This low, mat-forming weed has one inch pointed leaves and small, four petaled white flowers. Most people don't notice it until July, but it is beginning to grow now. LSU AgCenter trials show Ferti-lome Weed Free Zone to work best, especially when applied to young plants in early summer.
3. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. [Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.](#)
4. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches.
5. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
6. Dethatch the lawn if necessary.
7. Keep an eye open for insect pests and treat if necessary.
8. Spread fill soil and compost over the lawn to add organic material and smooth out the lawn. Do not add more than 2 inches over actively growing grass.
9. Set your mower to the correct height for your turfgrass type.

Don't's

1. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height at a single time.
2. Do not let winter weeds go to seed in the lawn. Use the bagging mower to collect clippings and dispose of them if seed heads are present.

2022 LSU AgCenter Learn what you need to know about how to maintain a healthy home lawn.

Lawn School

Includes topics from aeration to weed control.

Presented By: Chris Dunaway,

Wednesday May 25

LSU AgCenter Horticulture Extension Agent for Jefferson Parish

Time: 7:00 PM-8 PM

Location: Jefferson Parish Westbank Regional Library

Free Admission

2751 Manhattan Blvd, Harvey, LA 70058

Send your lawn guy!

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

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



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