



GN Gardening Magazine

August 2021



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Crinum americanum plant in bloom Photo by
Chris Dunaway

Look at Me

Crinum americanum

If you are from the South, your grandmother probably had this plant in her garden. *Crinum Americanum* also know as southern swamp lily is a plant native to North America from Texas to South Carolina and Mexico. For much of the year crinum hold their place in the landscape as a stately grouping of dark green, spear shaped leaves reaching up from the soil. In the spring and summer the plants will produce clusters of large flowers with slender recurving white petals and erect pink stamens that remind me of a fireworks display.

As you may guess from the common name, swamp lilies thrive in wet areas in bogs and along the edges of bayous and other waterways making them perfect for your rain garden at home. They can grow in a variety of soil conditions and pH levels. They prefer dappled sunlight but can grow in deep shade or in full sun as long as there is sufficient soil moisture. Swamp lilies are hardy in USDA hardiness zones 7-11. The leaves will freeze and die in cold weather but the plants will regrow from the

bulbs. Apply a thick layer of mulch around the base of the plant prior to a freeze to help protect the bulb from damage.

Crinum americanum produces a bulb from which grow long, upward shooting, spear shaped leaves that are 3-4 inches wide and 3-4 feet long in a rosette pattern. The plants will create offshoot bulbs “pups” that will gradually widen the original planting. An umbel of multiple fragrant flowers burst from the ends of long leafless stems. The plants are happiest when left alone and do not mind being crowded.

Crinums can be propagated from seeds or by gently removing the pups from the mother plant. Crinum prefer to be root bound so try to limit the amount of disturbance. It frequently requires 2-3 years time before a plant will begin flowering after heavily disturbing the plant’s roots. To prevent freeze damage to newly planted bulbs, crinums can be planted in the garden from late march though the end of September.

~Chris Dunaway



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A group of *Crinum Americanum* plants with flowers.



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A close view of a single umbel of *Crinum Americanum* flowers.

August Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety	Planting Depth	Spacing Inches	Days Until Harvest * from transplant date
Bell Peppers	Aristotle XR3, Blushing Beauty, King Arthur	⅝ inch	15-18	140-150
Broccoli	Green Magic, Everest, Castle Dome, Packman	⅝ inch	18-24	70-90*
Brussels Sprouts	Jade Cross E, Long Island Improved	⅝ inch	12-15	90*
Cabbage	Bravo, Rio Verde, Caraflex, Blue Vantage	⅝ inch	12-15	65-75*
Cauliflower	Snow Crown, Cumberland, Incline, Freedom	⅝ inch	18-24	55-65*
Chinese Cabbage	None Given	¼ inch	12	60-80*
Collards	Champion, Flash, Georgia, Top Bunch, Yates	⅝ inch	6-12	75
Cucumbers	Slicers = Dasher II, Diva, Fanfare HG, Indy Pickler = Calypso	¼ inch	12-18	50-65
Irish Potatoes	Red-Dark Red Noland, Red Lasoda White-Kennebec, Yukon Gold, Autumn Gold	4 inches	12	90-120
Kale	Siberian, Vates	½ inch	12-18	25-50
Lima Beans	Dixie Buttercup, Fordhook 242, Jackson Wonder	½ inch	2-3	48-55
Luffa Gourd	None Given	½ inch	48	90
Mustard	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave, Red Giant, Savannah	⅝ inch	1-2	35-50
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Prankster, Sorcerer	½ inch	36-60	90-120
Rutabagas	American Purple Top, Laurentian	⅝ inch	4-8	88
Shallots	Matador, Prisma	1 inch	4-8	50
Snap Beans	Blue Lake 274, Bronco, Contender, Derby, Lynx	½ inch	2-3	48-55
Squash	Zucchini = Declaration II, Justice III, Payroll Straight Neck = Multipik, Patriot II, Liberator III Crook Neck = Destiny III, Gentry, Medallion	⅝ inch	36	50-90
Tomatoes	Bella Rosa, Sun Chaser, Florida 91, Phoenix, Solar Fire, BHN-216, Solar Set	⅝ inch	16-24	100-115
Turnips	Royal Crown, Purple Top White Globe,	⅝ inch	2-6	40-50

What's Bugging You:

Palmetto Bugs (*Periplaneta americana*)

A roach by a more polite name, the palmetto bug is indeed also known as the American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*). Locally they are also at times referred to as “water bugs”, though they are not aquatic. Other nicknames include “ship roach”, Bombay canary, and kakerlac, depending on what part of the deep southern United States you are in. The American cockroach is actually native to Africa and the Middle East, so even the accepted common name is a misnomer. It has been present in the warmer regions of the Americas since at least the seventeenth century, moving around the globe as a part of shipping trade and historical slave ship routes. The name ‘Palmetto bugs’ can also refer to a different roach found in Florida and more recently in Houston, the Florida Woods Cockroach (*Eurycotis floridana*), but we usually do not see this member of the roach family here in New Orleans. The American cockroach, however, is extremely common in the GNO area. It has expanded its range beyond coastal port cities and into every corner of the subtropical, frost-free areas of the south. In New Orleans, the palmetto bug makes an appearance in gardens, homes, porches, closets, on sidewalks, in restaurants and just about everywhere in between. Palmetto bugs are the largest roach species in North

America, measuring 4cm (1.5 inches) in length. They are reddish-brown in coloration, with long antennae. Adults have wings, with the male palmetto bug’s visible 4-8 millimeters beyond the tip of the abdomen. Eggs are laid in a purse-like egg case and hatch in 6-8 weeks. Young palmetto bugs are called

nymphs, and do not have their adult wings yet. They go through several instars before reaching maturity in six to twelve months. A female palmetto bug can produce up to 150 offspring in a lifetime.

Palmetto bugs prefer environments that are moist and humid. They lay their eggs in garden mulch, in plant debris, or other protected, moist areas. They generally do not breed indoors unless there is a leaky secluded area to colonize, such as in a bathroom, the drip area of an AC unit, or behind a dishwasher.

They tend to prefer our

gardens and container plants, though will make forays indoors in search of food and shelter from inclement weather.

Palmetto bugs are fairly long-lived for insects, with an average of 700 days from hatching to death. They can also travel quickly and are considered to be one of the fastest insects in North America. In an experiment, a palmetto bug was clocked traveling 3.4 miles per hour, which would be equivalent to a human running



Photo by Chris Dunaway

A female American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*) The small spikes at the rear are called cerci which can detect motion behind the insect.

What's Bugging You:

Palmetto Bugs (*Periplaneta americana*)

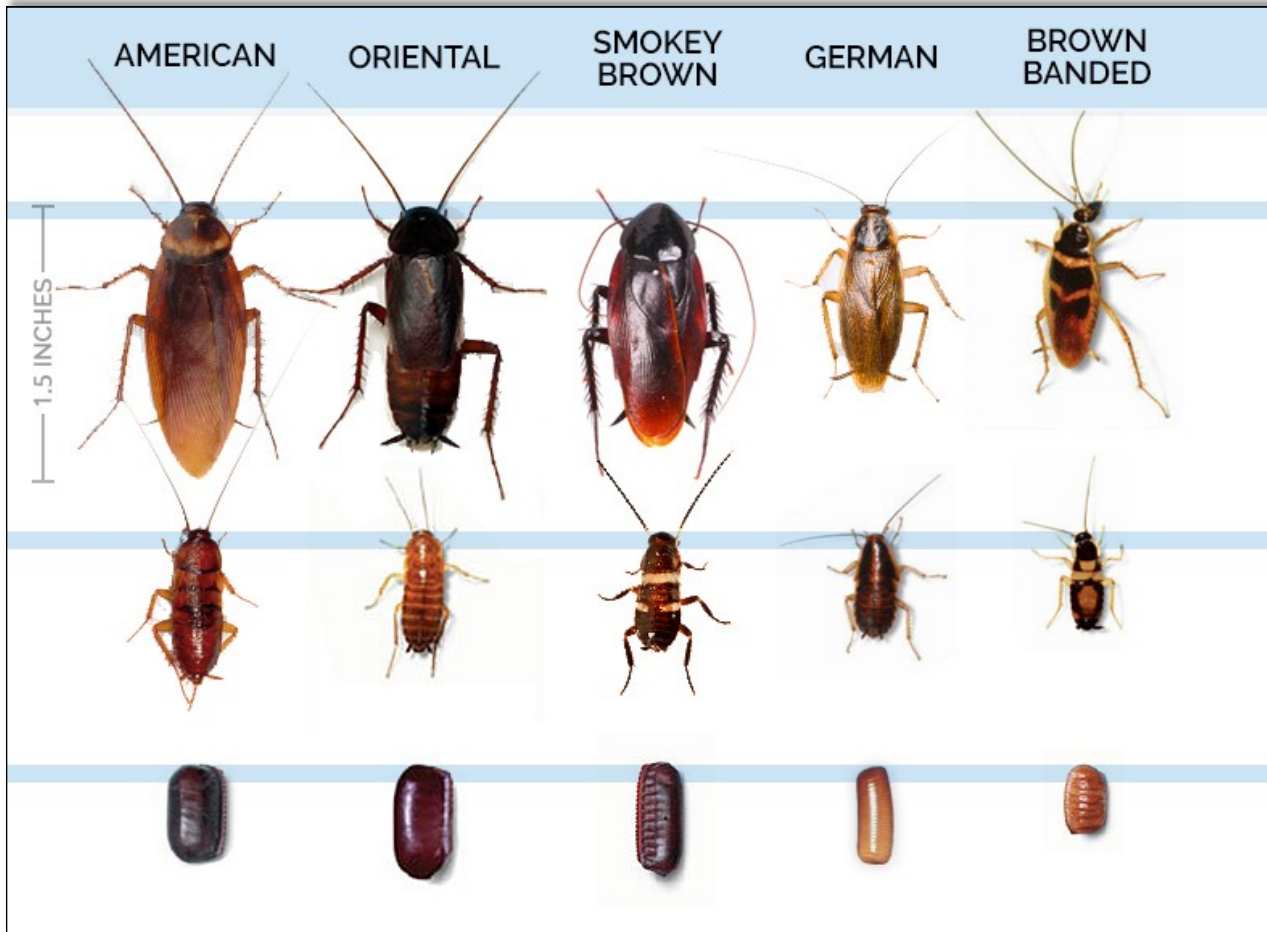
over two hundred miles per hour. Generally, they are pesky indoor visitors and harmless garden residents in New Orleans.

Palmetto bugs are omnivores, and will eat plant debris, book glue, old dead skin, hair, crumbs, and other insects, including smaller palmetto bugs. There is not much they will not try. They have a body that can flatten to slip through small openings and gaps in

insecticides work on palmetto bugs as well as the more common pest roaches such as German cockroaches. Seeing a few indoors here and there is no reason to panic, nor is this an indication of poor home hygiene. They tend to wander indoors and then wander back outside to more favorable habitat. An inverted cup and a sheet of paper do work as a great tool for giving them a lift back to the garden where they belong.

They can fly in a clumsy way, which can be alarming to the uninitiated or easily spooked person, but they do not bite or attack.

In the garden, palmetto bugs are considered to be beneficial and do not harm our plants. They do eat decaying plant material and can be considered part of nature's clean up crew, transforming waste into soil and nutrients



This image shows the egg, nymphal and adult stages of development for 5 varieties of cockroaches found in Southeast Louisiana. The egg capsules, called ootheca, actually contain multiple developing embryos. A German cockroach ootheca can contain up to 50 eggs vs. only 16 eggs in each American cockroach ootheca. The long wings covering the cerci of the American cockroach in the photo indicates that it is a male.

homes, so sealing floors, creating tight door thresholds and window casings, and keeping plant material trimmed back from the house helps to discourage their entry into the house. In cold or rainy weather they may try to come indoors for shelter. It is hard to completely eliminate them, but roach control products such as baits, tracking powders, and other

that plants can use. To keep them off the patio, consider screening them out and eliminating overgrown sections close to seating areas. They are annoying, but harmless. The palmetto bug is an inevitable insect in New Orleans.

~Anna Timmerman

Growing Media for Containers

Part 1: The Organics

Over the next couple of issues, we will be looking at container potting mixes and the characteristics of the components used to make them. Successful production and growth of plants in containers is largely dependent on the physical, chemical and biological properties of the growing media. Most natural soils will have 5% or less organic matter, whereas potting mixes are usually 60% or more organic matter. But like natural soils, potting mixes should provide the plant with a continuous supply of air, water and nutrients and provide a matrix for the plant to become established and stabilized.

A good container potting mix should be heavy enough to stabilize the plants growing in it and not be easily tipped over yet light enough to make handling and moving a doable chore. The mix should drain easily while retaining a reservoir of plant-accessible water. The soil should have plenty of pore space for gas exchange and maintain an aerobic environment for soil microorganisms. There should be sufficient CEC (cation exchange capacity) to retain soil nutrients and make them available for plant use.

Potting mixes traditionally contain a high percentage of organic components like peat, coir and bark and a lower percentage of inorganic components like sand, perlite and vermiculite.

Peat

Peat is formed by the slow decomposition of mosses, reeds and sedges in a wet environment where biomass accumulates under low pH and low oxygen conditions – conditions not conducive to microbial activity. Peat is the partly decomposed remains of

plants that grow in swampy conditions. The most common are the Sphagnum mosses (*S. fuscum*, *S. angustifolium*, *S. magellanicum*, etc.), hypnum moss (*Hypnum cupressiforme*) and sedges (*Caryx* spp.). Peat comes in various forms under various names (sphagnum peat, sedge peat, white peat, dark peat, black peat) depending on what plant species make up the majority of the biomass and how much decomposition has occurred.



Peat being harvest from peat bogs.

Sustainability issues surround the harvesting of peat moss. It only grows in a few areas worldwide where peat bogs can survive. Peat moss grows slowly from sphagnum moss debris that decompose in an oxygen-free environment beneath the water in a peat bog, and it takes many years for the moss to turn into peat and renew the resource. Careful peat mining works to minimize the environmental impact of peat harvesting so that the resource isn't depleted, but other more renewable options, such as coconut coir, are sometimes preferred over peat. Peat bogs are also huge carbon sinks and the draining and mining of peat releases carbon dioxide.

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Peat moss is the most used form of peat in the horticulture industry. This is the least decomposed form of peat and is:

- Light tan in color
- Very lightweight (bulk density of 50-370 lbs./yd³ depends on type and compaction)
- Acidic (pH of 3.5-4.1)
- Very porous (93% pore space by volume)
- High water-holding capacity (20-45% by volume)
- CEC 150-250 meq/L
- Hydrophobic (resists wetting) and requires a wetting agent, sometimes included by the manufacturer

Peat moss is added to potting mixes to increase water-holding capacity and aeration while reducing weight. Because of the low pH, potting mixes high in peat moss often contain lime (calcium carbonate) to help raise the pH to the 6.5 range.

Sphagnum moss is young residue and is commonly used for shipping packing with plants, propagation and lining baskets.

Coir

Since around 1990, there has been a dramatic increase in the use of coir fiber in the horticulture industry. Coir is derived from the coconut fruit – the

fibrous material that makes up the coconut husk (the mesocarp). Long fibers are extracted after soaking



Dried and sifted peat moss.

and used for brushes, matting and insulation. The remaining material is mostly short fibers and pith. This material is often composted for several months, dried and then used as a potting material (coir dust). Coir pith can be very high in salts (Na, Cl, K) and is washed with water or solutions to remove the salts

prior to processing for horticultural use. Increased consistency and reliability of the finished product has led to the widespread use of coir as an organic potting media substrate.

Coir is:

- Light tan in color
- Lightweight (bulk density of 67-150 lb./yd³ depending on origin)
- Slightly acidic (pH 5.0-6.9)
- Porous (86-96% pore space by volume)
- High water-holding capacity (20-38% by volume)
- CEC 70-150 meq/L
- Less hydrophobic than peat, rewets easier



Coconut with seed removed showing fibrous husk used to make coir.

Coir is used much like

peat to increase water-holding capacity and aeration while reducing weight of potting mixes. The high lignin content of coir when compared to peat makes it more resistant to microbial breakdown.

Growing Media for Containers

Part 1: The Organics

Bark

Bark is a forest industry by-product, especially of sawmills, and bark from softwoods and hardwoods is often a major component of growing media. Bark

used to be discarded as a waste product until the 1960s when its value as a mulch and growing media was recognized. Its use has steadily increased, particularly pine bark. Aged bark is the preferred form and refers to material being left in piles for months or years.

Aging allows for the dissipation of potentially phytotoxic materials (phenols and terpenes) and

reduces the potential for nitrogen immobilization when used. Bark can also be composted prior to use. Composted bark has less nitrogen drawdown than aged bark.

Pine bark is:

- Variable in color but tends to be dark
- Has a bulk density of 246-455 lb/yd³
- Slightly acidic (pH 4.0-5.5, liming may be necessary)

- Porous (70-89% pore space by volume for screened aged pine bark)
- Water-holding capacity of 16-27% by volume
CEC 30-74 meq/L



Pine bark chips – screened.

Unlike peat and coir, aged pine bark can contribute macro- and micro-nutrients to the media

Pine bark is screened to various sizes: < 1mm, 1-2mm, 2-4 mm, 4-6.3mm.

Unscreened pine bark is very variable in particle size. Bark is used in potting mixes to increase porosity and water-holding capacity.

Rice Hulls



Parboiled rice hulls.

Rice hulls are the outermost protective cover for the rice grain. The hulls are removed during milling following parboiling. Rice hulls are made up of cellulose, hemicellulose, lignin and silica. Lignin (15-25%) and silica (15%) confer a high degree of stability to the rice hulls which degrade very slowly.

Parboiled rice hulls can make up as

much as 40-50% of potting mixes.

Growing Media for Containers

Part 1: The Organics

Parboiled rice hulls are:

- Light tan in color
- Has a bulk density of 337-506 lb./yd³
- Variable (pH 4.6-7.0, fresh pH is lower than aged parboiled)
- Porous (89-93% pore space by volume)
- Water-holding capacity of 20-23% by volume
- Low CEC 4-7 meq/L
- High substrate stability leads to very little N immobilization

Rice hulls are also used to increase potting mix porosity and water-holding capacity. The very low CEC makes rice hulls very inefficient and retaining nutrients.

Compost

Composted organic matter can be made from all forms of biomass and is extremely variable in physical and chemical characteristics. Compost can be made from strictly plant material or strictly manures or a combination of organic materials.

Compost that is used in potting mixes should be finished compost and should be made using the hot composting method. Cold composting will break



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Finished compost from the LaSalle Park demonstration garden in Jefferson Parish. Garden maintained by Louisiana Master Gardener Volunteers.

down the organic matter, but it will not kill weed seeds or pathogenic organisms whereas hot composting will do both.

- Compost can vary in color but tends to be dark
- Bulk density variable (251-934 lb/yd³)
- pH tends higher (7.0-8.0)
- Porosity 76-92% pore space by volume
- Water-holding capacity 35-68% by volume
- CEC of finished compost is greater than 600 meq/L

Though not considered a fertilizer, compost contributes a broad range of nutrients

Compost is used in potting mixes to improve texture, aeration, water-holding capacity, biodiversity and nutrients.



Learn how to make compost at home with the LSU AgCenter Home Composting Class. The class is available online at the following link: https://www.lsuagcenter.com/topics/lawn_garden/master%20gardener/home-composting-class

Growing Media for Containers

Part 1: The Organics

Biochar

Biochar is defined by the International Biochar Initiative as "The solid material obtained from the thermochemical conversion of biomass in an oxygen-limited environment". Biochar is charcoal that is produced by the thermal decomposition of materials at elevated temperatures (400°C to 700°C) in an atmosphere where oxygen is absent or greatly limited. It is used as a soil conditioner for both carbon sequestration and soil health benefits. Biochar is a stable solid that is rich in carbon and can endure in soil for thousands of years.

Because the production process and starting materials can be so varied, the chemical and physical properties of the finished product is also variable. Post-production screening to size the product also has an influence on the biochar characteristics:

- Black in color
- Bulk density (172-506 lb/yd³) can be variable
- pH is generally high (9.4-12)
- Porosity of 90-95% by volume
- Water-holding capacity 14-20% by volume
- CEC can be variable (50-400 meq/L) effected by temperature of production and starting material
- Biochar is very hydrophobic (easily wetted)

As you can see, the properties of biochar can vary greatly. But as it becomes more common in horticultural use, there is an incentive for manufacturers to provide a product that is more consistent and reliable.

Conclusion

Organic components are the major constituents in potting mixes. This can include any or all of the materials discussed above. Other organic materials that are sometimes used in potting mixes include:



Screened biochar. Note the charcoal appearance.

wood-based substrates (wood chips, sawdust, etc.), cotton gin trash, and bagasse. The organic potting mix components will breakdown over time but at different rates. Some, like coir, are more resistant to breakdown and might be a better choice for potting mixes where plants are expected to spend years in the same container.

While potting mixes can be 100% organic components, most also have an inorganic constituent as well. We will discuss these in next month's installment. In part 3, we will be looking at basic recipes for potting mixes and their use.

References:

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- Jacques, D. and R. Walden, 2015. A Review of the Major Growing Media Components.
- Joseph, S., Taylor, P., Rezende, F., Draper, K. and A. Cowie. 2015. The Properties of Fresh and Aged Biochar.
- Raviv, M.J., Lieth, J.H. and A. Bar-tal, 2019. Soilless Culture: Theory and Practice.
- Robbins, J.A. 2018. Growing Media for Container Production in a Greenhouse or Nursery – Part I: Components and Mixes, Part II: Physical and Chemical Properties.

Super Plant Spotlight

Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*)

One of the earlier Super Plants chosen (2013) is also one of the largest. It begins

The willow oak is a Louisiana native, a member of the red oak group, that reaches an average height of 60-80 feet with a width of 40-50 feet but can get over 100 feet tall. Occurring naturally in acidic soils (pH 4.5-5.5), the willow oak is very adaptable and can grow happily in less acidic soils (pH's in the 7s). Willow oak leaves set it apart phenotypically from most other oaks and earned it its common name. The leaves look much like willow leaves. The alternate deciduous leaves are 2-4" long and 3/8 to 1" wide with an entire margin and a tiny terminal prickle. It is monoecious with inconspicuous male and female flowers and pollen is usually produced in abundance. The fruit is an acorn 5/16-8/16" long and almost as wide with a shallow cup. The acorns mature in the Fall of their second year and



Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

A well-formed mature willow oak.

producing acorns at about 15 years (earlier than most other oaks) and is one of the more prolific acorn producers. It has moderately fast growth (about 2' per year) and loves a full sun location. Annual fertilization with a balanced fertilizer will keep the tree healthy and growing. It has very few pest and disease problems. Willow oaks have yellow to russet-red fall color which is better in central and northern Louisiana. The bark is gray-brown, tight and quite hard, with broad, irregular ridges and very shallow furrows.

Willow oaks definitely need a large area to grow in and does not fit well into a small landscape. But if you have a large enough space to use a willow oak, this LA Super Plant will make a beautiful long-lived specimen that will also be a benefit to for hundreds of other creatures.

~Dr. Joe Willis



Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

Figure 1: *Quercus phellos* bark, leaves and acorns.

Weed of the Month

Torpedograss (*Panicum repens*)

If you've never seen torpedograss, then you've never looked down while walking the lawns of New Orleans. Torpedograss is a warm season perennial grass common throughout Louisiana. Torpedograss produces flowers and seed heads but the seed is mostly not viable. It spreads primarily by rhizomes (creeping underground horizontal plant stem). It is called torpedograss because of its sharply pointed or torpedo-like growing tips.

Torpedograss can grow up to 3 feet tall but will tolerate mowing. It has been demonstrated to grow from rhizomes buried up to three feet deep. It has hairy leaf sheaths and hair on the upper margins of the leaves (Figure 1). Leaf blades are stiff, linear, flat or folded; the surface often with a waxy or silvery-white coating (Figure 2). Here is a link to a good video by Dr. Ron Strahan: <https://youtu.be/zwU9lFZlJ3Y>



Figure 1: *Panicum repens* close-up showing identifying hairs on leaf sheath and upper leaf margin.



Figure 2: Typical looking torpedograss with silvery leaves. Note the leafblade angles.

Prevention is the most important method for managing torpedograss. Torpedograss is often introduced into landscapes from contaminated soils used for flower bed and lawn renovation or construction. Make sure soils brought in from other sites are free from torpedograss. Torpedograss can be controlled in landscapes and beds using a systemic non-specific herbicide like glyphosate. A 2 to 3% solution of glyphosate (Roundup, etc.) is very effective. Multiple resprays may be required for complete control.

Controlling torpedograss in your lawn is a much more difficult task. [Click here or go to https://www.lsuagcenter.com/~media/system/d/1/a/6/dla64fffd43d8a0688dc82b11b52f299/p3624jj_lahomelawntorpedograsspdf.pdf](https://www.lsuagcenter.com/~media/system/d/1/a/6/dla64fffd43d8a0688dc82b11b52f299/p3624jj_lahomelawntorpedograsspdf.pdf) to find the latest control options for torpedograss in your lawn.

~Dr. Ron Strahan

In the Kitchen with Austin

Basil Pesto

My little backyard garden is overflowing with basil right now. So, I harvested quite a bit and made this pesto. It's great and can be used on everything from pasta to grilled chicken.

Ingredients:

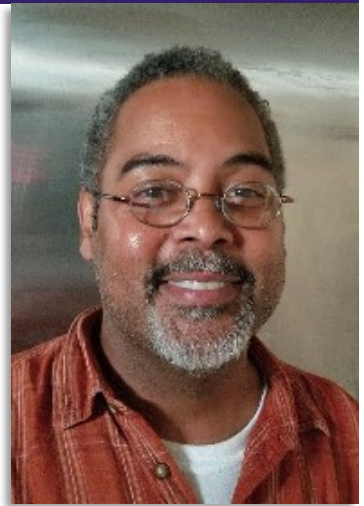
2 cups fresh basil

2 cloves garlic

½ cup Parmesan cheese

¼ cup olive oil

Salt and pepper, to taste



Directions:

1. Wash the basil well.
2. Place all the ingredients in a food processor and pulse until the pesto reaches the consistency you prefer.
3. Toss into pasta, serve as a condiment, or use as a marinade.



A jar of basil pesto

Bon Manger!

Coming Events

Pelican Greenhouse Plant Sales

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



Open Saturdays 8am - 1pm

Location: Pelican Greenhouse

2 Celebration Drive.

(not inside the Botanical Garden)

Visit NewOrleansCityPark.com for park map



Join us for the Annual



New Orleans Fall Garden Festival

*An Educational Experience for the
Home and Professional Gardener*

**Saturday, September 11, 2021 - 9 AM to 4 PM &
Sunday, September 12, 2021 - 9 AM to 4 PM**

**New Orleans
Botanical Garden**
Victory Avenue, City Park

Admission: \$10.00 Adults / Children 5-12: \$5.00

Children under 5 & Friends of City Park enter free

Plant and Garden Products, Exhibits & Sales

Kids Discovery Area

Educational Programs

Music, Arts & Crafts

*For more information email
GNOGardening@agcenter.lsu.edu*



Sponsored by:
LSU AgCenter in cooperation with the
Metro Area Horticulture Foundation
New Orleans Botanical Garden
The Friends of City Park
New Orleans City Park Improvement Association



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-Laffite

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 Saturday of the month, 9:30-Noon beginning May 1st

St. Charles Parish

German Coast Farmer's Market at Westbank Bridge Park-

Luling

13825 River Road

Wednesdays, from 1-6PM

German Coast Farmer's Market at Ormond

Plantation-Destrehan

13786 River Road

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



In the photo Louisiana Master Gardener Laurie P. gives a tour of the demonstration garden at Destrehan Plantation in St. Charles Parish.

Master gardeners are essential to our task of educating the public and are a powerful force multiplier. Thank you for all of your hard work.

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
Crazy Plant Bae	800 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans LA 70119	(504) 327-7008

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 Center4	516 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

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
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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) 887-4336
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

August Checklist/Garden Tips

Small, yellow aphids on your butterfly weed or milkweed will not damage the plants or affect the feeding of adult and larval monarch butterflies. Do not use pesticides.

Spider mites and white flies are abundant now and many gardeners are experiencing heavy outbreaks. Make several applications of Year Round Oil or All Seasons Oil before they get too out of hand. Spray the underside of the leaves for best control, and spray in the early morning when it is cooler.

Begin to order spring flowering bulbs from catalogs for delivery in October.

Remove flowers on coleus, and pinch back vegetative growth to prolong new foliage production.

Prune ever blooming roses back about one third their height in late August or early September. Also remove any dead canes and weak spindly growth. This pruning prepares the roses for the outstanding blooming season in October and November. Do not cut back once blooming roses that only bloom in spring and early summer and stop, as you will reduce flowering next year.

After a summer of vigorous growth outside, some containerized plants may be pot bound. Check and repot into larger containers if necessary. Also, plants in pots sitting on a brick surface or soil may grow roots out of the drainage holes into the ground. Prevent this by lifting the pots occasionally or boost them up on pot feet or pieces of brick.

Fine, silvery webbing on the bark of area trees is being caused by tiny insects called psocids or bark lice. These scavengers are completely harmless to the trees and no control is needed.

If your spring planted eggplant and pepper plants are still in good condition, they can be generally be relied on to produce a fall crop. Control pests and keep the plants well watered and fertilized as needed. They will begin to set more fruit as the temperatures become cooler.

Transplant fall tomato plants into your garden by mid-August. Be prepared to spray with insecticides and fungicides since insect and disease pressure is usually greater in the fall than in the spring. The cultivars that have produced satisfactorily in the fall are Mountain Pride, Mountain Delight, Hawaiian Hybrid, Pelican, Bingo, Whirlaway, Floradel, Celebrity, Pacific and Solar Set.

If you need to, dig and divide Louisiana irises, Easter lilies and calla lilies this month.

Many bedding plants that will continue to bloom through fall were planted months ago and may be somewhat leggy and overgrown by this time. Cut them back by about 1/3 to 1/2 to produce stockier, fuller plants for the fall blooming period. Fertilize after you cut them back to stimulate new growth. This is often done to bedding plants such as impatiens, begonia, lantana, blue daze, verbena, pentas, salvia and periwinkle.

As your flowers and vegetables grow, they deplete the soil of organic material. Be sure to add plenty of compost to your garden plots before planting your Fall crop. You should also take a soil test and add fertilizer and amendments according to the test results

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. This is the last month to lay sod Bermudagrass.
2. You may fertilize at this time if you have not already done so. Look on page 5 of the [Louisiana Lawns Best Management Practices Guide](#) for information on the correct timing and application rates.
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. The best time to water is in the morning. It is safest, from a disease standpoint, not to keep a grass wet all night long. Watering established sod during midday is discouraged because of extra loss from evaporation.
5. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
6. Dethatch the lawn if necessary.
7. Keep an eye open for insect pests. Hot, dry weather is ideal for chinch bug damage to show up on area lawns, particularly St. Augustine. Look for enlarging areas of brown, straw-like grass, especially in sunny, dry areas between the sidewalk and the street and along driveways. Treat with acephate, bifenthrin, Malathion, or other insecticides labeled to control chinch bugs on lawns. Read and follow label directions carefully.
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 apply selective herbicides to the lawn.
2. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height at a single time.
3. Do not try to grow grass in deep shade.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

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



Follow us on Facebook at GNOGardening

For more information visit LSUAgCenter.com

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