



MG Grapevine



<http://scmg.tamu.edu>

August 2016

<http://easttexasgardening.tamu.edu/>

Vol. XXIII No. 8



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The next SCMG Meeting

August 4, 2016

The HUB (Smith County Election Center) at 302 East Ferguson
11:30 AM

MG Grapevine Staff

Martin Davis, Editor

MG Grapevine Contributors:

Chad Gulley, Wayne Elliott, Sam Griffith, Deanna Olson, Ann Smith, Susan Stone, and Clayton Turner.

Published for the Master Gardeners of Smith County, Texas under the auspices of the Smith County Office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 1517 W. Front St. Tyler, TX 75702.

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Extension Office

Phone - 903-590-2980

Fax - 903-590-2984

SCMG Association Meeting

August 4th

The program will be given by Donna Freeman, Owner and Operator of Briar Creek Vineyard in Whitehouse. Members can view the winery website briarcreekvineyards.com.

The location of the winery is 10488

CR 2180(Yarbrough Rd) Whitehouse.

After the meeting those members who

would like to may visit the winery.

Grapes will be almost be ready for harvest.



Work Day in the Gardens

The regular Tuesday work days will continue during August, starting at 8:30 AM each week.

Please be aware of the policy concerning Garden Workdays.

"Tuesdays are workdays in the Heritage, IDEA, and Shade Gardens.

Hours vary by season; membership is notified though the Grapevine, via email, or by phone.

Volunteers should work within set hours. **For safety reasons, volunteers may not work in the garden without another Master Gardener present.**

Any exception to the policy requires the permission of the garden coordinators."

Please Note

From July 15th to Sept. 15th all reimbursement requests & paperwork should be sent to: Linda Sargent, 730 Charlya Dr., Bullard, TX. 75757.

Susan Stone Sez....

I would say that this has been a Long, Hot Summer, except that it's zipping by pretty fast. Can't go fast enough because my water bill is in the stratosphere! About this time of year I begin to think I feel Fall in the air. You probably think I'm crazy, but an early morning cool breeze will tease and I get a sense of changing seasons. Maybe because I'm just so ready to cool off!



Speaking of Fall, AgriWorld is right around the corner with the Bulbs and More Conference right behind. Both events promise to be new and exciting this year.

AgriWorld in late September is all about gardening in the future using less space and less water with a focus on water conservation, raised-bed gardening, and vertical gardening.

The Bulbs and More Conference on October 8 will offer some new bulb varieties, shrubs and trees, and of course our special speaker, Brent Heath from Brent and Becky's Bulbs in Gloucester, Virginia.

Please be willing and able to support both events when the call goes out for volunteers.

Stay cool and plan your Fall garden. Hopefully, it will help get you through the month of August.

Remember that our August 4 meeting will be held at the Hub Center, in downtown Tyler. See you there!

1st Tuesday in the Garden lecture

Speakers for First Tuesdays this fall:

Sept. 6 - "Fall Color for the Garden" - Patsy Besch

Oct. 4 - "Bulbs and More" - Anne Pattullo

Nov. 1 - "Put Your Garden to Bed" - Ed Bryant

Chad Gulley comments...



August already!! My, how time flies by. School will soon be starting back and fall events will be just around the corner. Thank you for all your assistance with programs, events, trials in both the ornamental and new vegetable trials at the Overton Center. The June Horticulture Field Day, from information I received, was a success.

August 19 will be the date for the East Texas Fruit and Vegetable Conference at the Overton Center. The conference will have a general session in the morning and two breakout sessions going on simultaneously in the afternoon. The afternoon breakout sessions include a grower and a homeowner session. (See page 3 for more information.)

The East Texas Garden Lecture Series will begin again in September. The featured speaker September 10 will be Erfan Vafaie on “THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY” – Learn your beneficial and pest insects.

September 22-23 will be the dates for the Beginning Farmer Conference at the Overton Center as well. This will be for anyone no matter how large or how small the operation. It will also be beneficial for those that want to learn more about farming if a beginner or if you have been farming 20 years and want to learn more of the business.

The October series will be a big program as we team up with the Environmental Horticulture Committee to make the Annual Bulb Sale and Conference a larger event. This year’s conference will highlight Brent Heath – Brent & Becky’s Bulbs covering “BULBS FOR SOUTHERN GARDEN.”

Thanks for all you do. Stay cool and stay hydrated.

Bulbs & More Sale

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! At the next MG Meeting August 4 at the HUB. ... The sign-up sheets for working the BULBS AND MORE SALE, October 8, 2016, will be available for you. If you are unable to attend the meeting and wish to volunteer, contact Ann Smith at smithvae@aol.com.

Why a Green Roof Display in the IDEA Garden?

By Clayton Turner



I have spent time in the IDEA Garden explaining what a Green Roof is even with the words on the display. Many wanted to know, “Why would I build one of these for my yard? That’s when I realized people were NOT getting the message. So, to help clarify the message, I asked Pat to paint a house

front for the roof display. The “Gnome House” seems to draw attention and people understood the concept better. One of the nicest surprises was the kid’s reaction. They no longer seemed ‘bored’ with being in the garden, but asked questions about the scene and display.

Let’s face it, the future and success of the Green Roof concept lies with the kids of today. Very few adults will create their own Green Roof; it is the kids who grow up learning the following values and more. A Green or Living Roof: Reduces building energy consumption, makes for cleaner air, improves natural habitat of birds and insects, retains rainwater, lessening flooding, improves rainwater purification, and lowers city temperatures during the summer when they may be 5 to 7 degrees C higher than the countryside.

While Charlie, Victor, Pat and I were installing the Green Roof display in the IDEA Garden, Stephanie Rollings, “City of Tyler Managing Director of Culture, Recreation & Tourism Service” told us she recently attended a Library Board meeting about replacing the library roof. The possibility of a Green

Roof was discussed.

In 2014 the top cities for “Green Roofs” in North America were:

- Washington D.C. -----1.2 million sq. ft.
- Toronto----- 775,000 sq. ft.
- Philadelphia-----600,000 sq. ft.
- Chicago-----400,000 sq. ft.
- New York City-----380,000 sq. ft.

Because our “Green Roof Display” is in the succulent area, it is planted in succulents. However, some Green Roofs are planted in: grasses, trees and shrubs, vegetables, recreational parks and sports arena fields.

When my family and I moved to Tyler in 1972, the population was around 72,000. Today, 44 years later, the population is slightly under 100,000. The whole East Texas area is growing. I believe East Texas will become a metroplex made up of Tyler, Longview, Kilgore, Lindale, Whitehouse and other close communities in another 50 to 75 years. When this happens, the demand on our water resources, the quality of our air, increased city temperature and increased flooding potential will make Green Roofs not only desirable, but could become mandated in our building codes as it is in other parts of the world.

The Green Roof project is an effort to Innovate, Demonstrate, Educate and Apply (IDEA) this concept. It is vital that we begin and prepare future generations to incorporate water conservation.

Clayton Turner – Succulent Area Leader – IDEA Garden

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH AND IDES OF AUGUST ARE'NT ANY BETTER

By Sam Griffith



In *Julius Caesar*, Shakespeare warned: “Beware of the Ides of March.” He was warning the dangers of mid-March. If Shakespeare had lived through a Texas summer, he might have added, “Beware the Ides of August, too - it’s too HOT.”

With the staggering Texas heat - we are now hitting one hundred degree temperatures with searing regularity - but on the cusp of a moderating fall season, east Texas gardeners need to be aware of several factors.

First, it is HOT! So work smart. Work in the cooler early morning and early evening hours. (Sure, that is when the mosquitoes are out looking for breakfast or an evening snack - that’s you --, but beats having a heat stroke.)

Second, you need to start planting your fall vegetable garden very soon, especially those plants you generally think of as summer vegetables, such as cucumbers and squash and tomatoes. If planted by August 1 or so, you can actually have abundant fresh tomatoes and squash in September and October, rather than trying to nurse heat-damaged and bug-damaged squash plants to try to produce a couple more fruit before the killing frost. Simply plant a new fall vegetable garden.

But remember, the calendar is working against you. In Proverbs 90: 12, we are admonished: “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our heats unto wisdom.” So “number” or count the days until the frost.

Let me explain: look on the back of your vegetable seed packages at the “days until maturation.” If it says you will be harvesting vegetables in, say, 45 days, do not be misled. Remember: it is talking about planting in April, with the expectation that every day will grow longer, as the sun rises earlier and sets later. The seed package estimates of how quickly the vegetables mature are really focusing on sunlight hours. By June, the sun rises before six a.m. and sets around 8 p.m. That is fourteen hours of sunlight. In October, the sun arises after 7 a.m., and it is dark before 6 p.m. which is less than eleven hours of sunlight, and due to the shifting of the sun towards the southern hemisphere, the sunlight is less direct. So the sunlight’s effect is diminished by about one third. Mathematically, it means you need to add one extra day to the estimated “days until maturation” for every three days suggested on the package. So the “45 days until maturation” means you actually need sixty days, and “60 days to maturation” means you need to plant 80 days out. And remember, in the fall, you have a “dead stop” to your garden. In the summer, lots of vegetable plants slow as the weather gets hotter. But in the fall, much of your garden ends with the first frost. A hard frost equals a truly dead stop for many of the vegetables in your garden.

Also, don’t be fooled by the garden shops for guidance as to when to start your fall garden. About mid-September, you will see lots of beautiful tomato plants for sale. Don’t buy them - it is (excuse the pun) a fruitless endeavor. The tomato will flourish in September, but by mid-October, the growth will cease, due to lessening sunlight. The garden shops know that most gardeners are not going to plant in the August heat, but will hear and follow the siren song of the cooler evenings of September.

So, get out early in the garden, water the soil well, and then plant soon. And in September, you will have fresh squash and cucumbers and tomatoes. Enjoy! And next month, we will discuss the “fall” garden vegetables, like turnip greens and such, which do need to be planted later.

AgriWorld 2016

By Wayne Elliott

AgriWorld is just around the corner. We have put together a solid plan and look forward to sharing with fairgoers what gardening might look like in the future. Last year’s theme at AgriWorld was "Farming 100 Years Ago" It is therefore appropriate to look at the future.

Everything in Texas is bigger, except for house lots. It is even more critical for families that want to do a family garden to maximize utilization of their available space.

We need help with a doll house (borrow), painters to paint and make posters, people for labor to setup. We can begin setup the day after Labor Day.

Our next committee meeting will be at the Extension Office at 1:00 PM on August 11. If you can offer your talented skills and hands we would greatly appreciate it. I am pleased to say that we have filled speaker positions for the gardening demonstrations. We still need teachers for the school tours. We have been asked to make presentations on opening day for the seniors that will be attending.

If you would like to assist in any way or need more information, please call Wayne at 903-707-5411 (cell) or 903-363-9453.

Fruit & Vegetable Conference

At the Overton Research Center on August 19th. 8:00 AM—3:30 PM.

General session in the morning, with breakout sessions in the afternoon for Producers/Homeowners.

Go to <http://overton.tamu.edu/event/east-texas-fruit-and-vegetable-conference-3-ceu-overton/#.V5ZxkGgrKUK>

for more information.

Cost \$30 for individuals or \$50 for couples. Deadline August 1st.

Make checks payable to: East Texas Fruit and Vegetable Conference and mail to Chad Gulley, Smith County Ext. office, 1517 W. Front St., Suite 116, Tyler, TX 75702

Executive Committee

The committee met on July 21 and discussed the following:

- The need to move the financial accounting system online. The Committee approved a motion to move to QuickBooks online beginning January 1, 2017.
- The Committee reviewed and approved a new Investment Policy to clearly define future investment strategies.
- The need to purchase additional insurance to cover Directors and Officers. Susan Stone will present detailed options and costs for consideration at the August committee meeting.
- The Committee gave final approval to the revised Financial Policies and Procedures. The Policies and Procedures will be placed on the Member Page of the SCMG website in the near future.

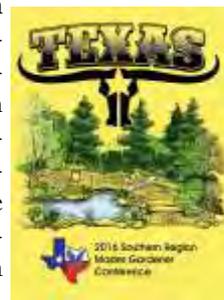
IMGC 2017



Wherever your garden grows on this planet, you will find a wealth of new ideas at the 2017 International Master Gardener Conference in Portland, Oregon, July 10-14, 2017. Early bird registration: October 10, 2016 through January 13, 2017

November 1-4, 2016 The Cowboy Experience

Come to the 2016 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference in Arlington and Fort Worth, hosted by Tarrant County. Master Gardeners from thirteen southern states will come together to learn from gardening specialists, tour local sites and gardens, partake in The Cowboy Experience and be treated to some good old-fashioned Texan hospitality.



Go to <https://2016southernregionmg.com/> for more info.

2017 TMGA Conference Cruise



Come join us aboard the Carnival Liberty™ for four special days of education and fellowship, along with sun, fun and ocean waves!

April 27-May 1, 2017

Prefer to stay on solid ground? Join us in Galveston on Monday, May 1st for the AWARDS LUNCHEON at 12:00pm and an afternoon of tours and experiences.

For more information visit the conference website at: <http://texasmgconference.com/>

Smith County Master Gardener Association
1517 West Front St., Suite 116
Tyler, TX 75702