

NURSERY NOTES

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LAN RESEARCH FUND REPORT

Dr. Severn Doughty

The LAN Research Committee met during the 1991 LAN-MNA Short Course and Trade Show in Baton Rouge to hammer out details of exactly how grant funds will be awarded to qualified researchers. As a result of that meeting the following policy has been established.

An application procedure for research grant funding was devised which will enable qualified individuals to submit proposals for possible funding through LAN.

Letters will be sent to state colleges and universities i.e., USL, LSU, SLU, Nichols State, LA Tech, deans and researchers of various state school's Department of Horticulture, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Ag. Economics, Ag. Engineering, Agronomy, etc., Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Stations, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service specialists and qualified and research oriented industry personnel. Also the

application proposal procedure will be advertised in the "LAN Magazine", "Nursery Notes" and "The Bush".

An expansion of the Research Committee, now called the Education & Research Committee (E&RC), was established for the purpose of reviewing and selecting proposals, determining whether the accepted proposal results are worthy of publication and or presentation at the LAN-MNA Short Course and Trade Show or any other business related to research and education. Committee members include Drs. Severn C. Doughty-Chairman, Warren Meadows, Bill Young and Robbie Dupont of Dupont Nursery.

The deadline for submitting proposals this year is July 1, 1991 for a research grant of up to \$3,000. Grants will be awarded in August 1991. The Committee annually will assess and advertise the total amount of funding for that year and send letters to appropriate potential researchers requesting proposals for research.



**PLANTS
FOR
LIFE**

CAREER DAY

LAN co-sponsored a booth with LSU's Horticulture Department during the Louisiana Education Expo/Youth Festival Career Day held April 26 at the Centroplex in Baton Rouge. The purpose of the Career Day was to inform high school juniors of the different career opportunities Louisiana has to offer its high school graduates.

Over 3,000 high school juniors from East and West Baton Rouge Parish, Ascension, and Livingston Parish attended the Career Day. LAN's interaction with the young people helped expose the students to the vast job realm within the Green Industry and to point out the different educational/job training avenues that may be taken to prepare them for employment.

BENLATE RECALL!

SNA Announcement

Du Pont has initiated an immediate stop sale and recall of its "Benlate 50DF", "Benlate 1991 DF" and "Tersan 1991 DF" fungicides in the United States. All dealers and distributors should stop sale of these products immediately and notify any Benlate and Tersan customers of the recall. Any grower, nurseryman, golf course superintendent, horticulturist, university tester or applicator possessing any of these Benlate or Tersan products should

return it to the point of purchase for a full credit.

Du Pont has initiated the stop sale and recall because the products may contain atrazine herbicide. Because atrazine is a highly effective herbicide, spraying the affected Benlate and Tersan on plants could result in injury to the plants. However, the level of atrazine that may be contained in Benlate and Tersan poses no human health or food safety problems.

Du Pont will keep the stop sale in effect until quality assurance and analytical pro-

cedures can verify the purity of the product. Du Pont apologizes for any inconvenience the stop sale and recall may cause to its customers.

If you would like additional information on this stop sale and recall, please call Du Pont at 1-800-441-7515.

Please . . .

**Send in your 1991
DUES**

NEW 1991 LAN MEMBERS

• **Oran H. Nunley**

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• **Charlene A. Oliver**

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Washington, LA 70589
(318)363-7199

• **Phillip Starr**

LA Organic Garden Center
So. Stadium Dr.
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(504)388-4797

• **Camille B. Werther**

Banting Nursery
3600 Houma Blvd
Metairie, LA 70006
(504)436-4343

• **Susan Schledt**

Rainbow Landscape
8414 Cypress Point Ct.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(504)926-3614

• **Greg Conner**

Conner Landscapes
726 Louque Place
New Orleans, LA 70124
(504)488-0427

• **Susuan Hope Hanchey**

Beauregard Nursery
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(318)463-5509

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• **Jan Heymann**

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• **Harlan E. McGee**

Sunshine Acres Nursery
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(813)385-2328

• **Tony Templet**

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Baton Rouge, LA 33872
(504) 926-3614

• **Benay Leslie Bernstein**

Plant Care, Inc.
1815A Metairie Ave.
Metairie, LA 70003
(504)833-1492

1991 LANDSCAPE SCHOOL OF THE SOUTH

LSU and the School of Landscape Architecture in association with Continuing Education and with the support of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects is offering for the second year the **LANDSCAPE SCHOOL OF THE SOUTH**. The week-long series of lectures, field studies and studio exercises will focus on small scale landscape design.

The course will cover residential and small commercial design, small landscape structures, drafting and drawing techniques, plant identification, design, history and theory. Anyone interested in landscape design is invited to participate in one of the two beginning sessions. No previous training in landscape design is required.

There are 3 optional dates available for enrollment. June 10-14, and June 24-26 are sessions open to first time students. Each of these two courses will be held in the College of Design building on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge. An advanced course, a follow-up to last

years highly popular session June 17-21 and will be held at Longue Vue Gardens in New Orleans. It is open to students who have either completed Course I, or by consent of the instructors for individuals who have had some training/education in landscape design. Planting

LANDSCAPE SCHOOL OF THE SOUTH

design will be the special emphasis for this session along with small landscape structures for slightly larger scale projects than those studied in Course I. Daily transportation is provided between the Ramada Hotel on St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans and Longue Vue Gardens.

Each participant will receive a plant materials reference, Plants of the South, and all supplies needed for lectures and working with the students in the studios. This year's staff include Professor Edward C. Martin, Mississippi State University, and LSU faculty Van Cox, Sadik Artunc, and Neil Odenwald. In addition there will be guest lecturers.

Classes begin promptly at 8 am and end in the late afternoon Monday through Friday for each week's course. Enrichment lectures will be offered during the days and some evenings. Several social gatherings are scheduled during the week. There is a tuition fee of \$390 for the course. Early registration is necessary to acquire housing at Pleasant Hall on the LSU campus. Special arrangements have been made with Ramada Inn in New Orleans for the Longue Vue advanced course.

For more information, contact Dr. Neil G. Odenwald, Director of the program, (504) 388-1434 day, or (504) 343-8504 evenings. To register or request a complete brochure contact LSU Short Courses at (504) 388-6621 or 1-800-265-6948.

Calendar of Events

*July 11-15, AAN Annual Convention & Trade Show, Orlando, FL
For more information, contact American Association of Nurserymen (202)789-2900

*Aug. 2-4, SNA Convention & Trade Show, Oklahoma City, OK
For more information, contact Oklahoma State Nurserymen's Association (404)973-9026

*Aug 16-18, TAN-MISSLARK Trade Show, Dallas, TX
For more information, contact Texas Association of Nurserymen (512) 280-5182

DEVELOPING NEW AZALEA VARIETIES

Dr. Richard Stadtherr
Professor Emeritus
Department of Horticulture
LSU Agricultural Center

A breeding program should start with a collection of varieties which contain superior and unusual characteristics which a breeder would like to occur in selections from crosses he makes. In developing the Carla (Carolina-Louisiana) hybrids over 300 varieties were collected starting in the spring of 1964. Crosses were made in the greenhouse in the winter of 1964-1965 by Howard Singletary and Dr. Richard Stadtherr at North Carolina State University.

Seeds were planted in the spring of 1966 and first flowering occurred in many seedlings in the spring of 1968. Dr. Stadtherr moved to Louisiana State University in October of 1967 and Dr. Fred Cochran and Howard Singletary made the selections at North Carolina State University and continued the project. Rooted cuttings were obtained by Dr. Stadtherr in the spring of 1969 for trials in Louisiana.

About 25 different nurseries located throughout North Carolina and 6 in Louisiana were given the advanced selections for testing in their areas for hardiness and other characteristics such as adaptability, superior flowering, disease resis-

tance, plant habit, leaf retention, and uniqueness.

Characterisitcs Evaluated In Parent Plants and Selections

Certainly no bud damage or bark splitting should occur during the winter. A good compact, spreading habit of growth is desirable. Leaves should be attractive and persist even during the winter months. Glossiness is a plus and some have a reddish-purple coloration in the winter. Small leaves tend to add to compactness of the plant.

Generally, in flowering, a big show at one particular time is desired; however many prefer almost everblooming such as exhibited by Fashion and Pink Camellia this past winter and early spring in Louisiana. Only a few frosts that killed open or opening flower buds prevented flowering for a few days. These varieties tend however, to give a good show in early spring. Baton Rouge which tends to have sporadic blooming also usually has a heavier bloom in late spring.

The Essentials of Making Crosses

Flower bud set in azlaeas occurs in June, or after June for some varieties, in the year preceeding actual blooming. Certain environmental factors such as heat annd drought can extend or delay the period of bud set or even induce erratic flowering

The breeder must know the floral parts and their functions. The female flower part, the pistil, located in the cen-

ter of the flower, made up of the stigma at the apex, (which should be sticky when the pollen is applied) the style and at the base of the style, the rounded ovary, which contains many egg cells, which become the seeds after fertilization. The male flower parts are called anthers which are composed of long thread-like stalks, filaments, with anther sacs (pollen) at the apex of the filaments. Usually there are 5-10 or more stamens in a flower but only one pistil.

Crossing Procedure

The breeder carefully removes the petals and anthers (emasculation) from the female parent when the flower is in the 'balloon' stage just prior to the opening or unfolding of the petals. Usually only one flower bud is emasculated at a flowering point. A label is made listing the female parent first, followed by an 'X' indicating it was crossed with the pollen from the pollen parent's name which is listed last. Usually reciprocal crosses are made by reversing the individual parents' role in the cross. Sometimes this is not feasible since in very double flowers, no stamens are found and/or the pistils are lacking or greatly deformed and non-functional. Often by observing a number of flowers on a bush, functional pistils can be found and pollen sacs located on some petals in the center of the flowers.

Pollen can be collected by cutting off the anthers when

the pollen is mature and placing it in small bottles or bags. Allow the pollen to dry for a day or two and then put it in the freezer section of a refrigerator until it is needed for pollination. Usually properly dried pollen can be stored for a few years and still remain viable.

A small artist's paint brush can be used to place pollen on the receptive stigma of an emasculated flower. This should be done several times on successive days, to assure that fertilization occurs. After applying each different pollen the brush should be washed in alcohol. Allow the brush to dry and continue pollinating.

When the 5-parted seed bearing capsules start to split at the apex, they should be collected and stored. This occurs generally early in the fall. Do not use color of the capsule as a sign of seed maturity because after they turn a dark purplish brown, the seeds often are immature. A capsule can have over 500 seeds.

Seeds which haven't dried can be planted and grown in a greenhouse. If stored dry in a refrigerator, plant the seed, moisten the medium and store the trays at 40 degrees F for about 4 weeks. Check the trays frequently, since germination might occur. Azalea seeds are very small, therefore they must be sown carefully and thinly.

Many different colors occur among the evergreen azalea

flowers; however no really true yellows are found. Flower types include singles, hose-in-hose, semi-doubles and full doubles. Flower size can vary from less than an inch to almost 5 inches across. Petals can be ruffled or crinkled. Sherwood Red has very small flowers while Adelaide Pope and Ruffled Giant have large ruffled flowers. Hexe and Baton Rouge have hose-in-hose flowers. Rosedown and Carla have semi-double flowers. Fully double flowers are found on Delos, Dixie Rose and Pink Camellia. White variegation can be seen in Gloria, a picotee; or in a Williams' hose-in-hose selection called Easter Bonnet with a white blotch on the standard and wings with light green markings. Fragrance can be found in the split-petal Koromo Shikibu, Obtusum and Gulfpride.

Varieties which were named and introduced at North Carolina State University include Carror, Sunglow, Emily, Elaine, Jane Spalding, Adelaide Pope, Pink Cloud, Pink Camellia, Autumn Sun, Cochran's Lavender, Wolfpack Red, Rachel, Jan Cochran and Dr. Fred Cochran. Dr. Fred Cochran has some resistance to phytophthora root rot. Dixie Rose and its variegated leaf mutation Dixie Rhythm, Carla, lone Burden and Rosedown were named at Louisiana State University. Five selections will be named this year. They include Oakley, Ollie Steele, Steele Burden, Parlange, and Windrush. Baton Rouge and

lone Burden were introductions out of crosses made at Louisiana State University.

Red Wing was used as the male or female parent in many crosses which were made; however not a single seed was obtained. Many successful crosses were obtained using Anytime, Delos, Hahn's Red, Massasoit, Morning Glow, Ruby, Ruby Red, Ruffled Giant, Sherwood Red and Stewartsonian.

More recently, crosses made between Baton Rouge and Dixie Rose resulted in a number of excellent selections with large hose-in-hose and single flowers varying from pure white to orange-red or purplish red on a spreading compact, mound-like habit of growth.

Nancy Marie is a mutation that occurred on the variety, Dogwood, which is unique in having a colorful reddish star in the white flower. This opens

Appreciation List Thanks for "Getting 1 In '91"

Richard Maxwell
Amos Savoy
Walter Imahara
Roger Mayes
Roy Adams
Warren Meadows
Karan McLean
Clyde Gehron
Elizabeth Pope
Dr. John Griffin
Gerald Foret
Mike Maher
Steve Bellanger

PERSONAL PROFILE

Andy Hart, Hart's Nursery, Baton Rouge

"I got what I wanted out of life."

Sitting in a casual conversation with Andy Hart, at his retail nursery on Harrell's Ferry Road, it is difficult to picture this man at the controls of a carrier-based navy fighter plane over Southeast Asia during World War II.

This picture also could not have entered the vision of a young Andy Hart growing up in rural Ouachita Parish helping his father, a brother and two sisters make a living on a small farm during the depression years of the late 1930's. Andy's mother passed away when he was five years old. For Andy the vision was "with determination and faith instilled by parents: You can do it-You can make a better life for yourself and those around you, but you have to do it for yourself". He also knew that an important ingredient in the "do it for yourself" philosophy was education. But formal education required a commodity which was in short supply during the depression--money.

Andy heard of a new federal program, The National Youth Administration (NYA), which was a work-study program designed to assist young people in education pursuits. He went to nearby LA Tech in Ruston and entered the program there. Students were required to work three days a

week and go to classes three days a week. Andy was paid twenty nine dollars per month. He, in turn, paid eighteen dollars for room and board and eleven dollars for books, etc. For Andy the net gain was education, not dollars.

After a year at LA Tech,



Andy Hart's nursery is encircled by woodlands which allows customers to shop in a beautiful sur-

World War II was on the horizon and Andy joined the navy and served as a carrier-based fighter pilot. He still looks forward to rather frequent reunions with the navy group he served with during the war.

It was while "seeing the world" with the navy that Andy decided that Landscape Architecture-Horticulture should be his life's pursuit. Travel provided the opportunity to visit Arboreta and Botanical Gardens in far away places as well as to view the beauty of the earth's natural

landscape of mountains and plains from the air.

After severing ties with Uncle Sam, Andy enrolled in the Landscape Architecture curriculum at LSU. At that time Landscape Architecture was a part of the Horticulture Department and the only LA instructor was Dr. Bob Reich. Andy completed both his B.S. and M.S. degrees and in 1951 was ready to enter the business world.

His original business location was the corner of Florida Blvd. and East Airport Drive and the business was almost entirely designing and installing landscape jobs.

Forty years later, Andy enjoys time with his wife of 46 years, 2 children and 4 grandchildren as he continues to run his five faceted business: a retail garden center, landscape installation, florist, gift shop and 5 wholesale

greenhouses.

During our conversation, several issues were addressed pertaining to the Green Industry.

Q. How do you view mass merchandisers' relationship to retail garden centers?

A. "The mass marketing companies such as Home Depot and K-Mart are the kind of competitors retail nurseries have to meet today. We have to accept them as partners in the whole endeavor. Because they can bring plants to the

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN WHY JOIN LAN?

LAN expresses the collective voice of the Green Industry in Louisiana. LAN members sit on the Horticulture Commission and lobby for legislation that affects nurserymen.

LAN promotes professionalism through a Certified Nurseryman training manual and testing program.

LAN sponsors scholarships for horticulture students in universities across Louisiana.

LAN supports research on topics important to nurserymen. One LAN grant supported a comprehensive study of Landscape Ordinances. This study will assist Louisiana communities in developing their own Landscape Ordinances.

LAN holds an annual Short Course and Trade Show jointly with the Mississippi Association of Nurserymen. This event draws more than 900 participants and more than 100 exhibitors. The Trade Show meets alternately in Jackson, MS and Baton Rouge, in January. An exhibitor discount of \$25 is given to LAN members.

LAN is subdivided into nursery regions (e.g., the Central Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, Northwest Louisiana Association of Nurserymen). Through these groups and through the annual Trade Show, you'll meet others in the Green Industry. You'll get ideas, find suppliers and buyers, and meet a lot of enjoyable, dedicated people.

LAN is participating member of the huge TAN-MISSLARK (Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas) Trade Show, which meets each summer in Texas. It is the world's largest nursery show, and provides you with access to almost any nursery product imaginable. An exhibitor discount of \$50 is given to LAN members.

LAN members receive Louisiana Nurseryman Magazine and the bimonthly Nursery Notes which keeps you updated on timely topics and events.

LAN offers members special services, such as training tapes, research findings, and national legislative updates from AAN and SNA.

To: Officers and Members, Louisiana Association of Nurserymen

I hereby apply for membership in the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, subject to the approval of your membership committee. I agree that the decision of the membership committee is final.

any time in the future, I agree that I must do so in writing to the secretary no later than the last day of December of the current fiscal year. Failing to do this, I acknowledge my liability to LAN for the current year's dues.

Should I wish to cancel my membership at

Membership in the Name of: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____ Date _____

Applicant's Signature _____ Type of business _____

Regular Membership

(growers, retailers, landscapers, etc. Dues are based on gross sales: < \$100,000 = \$35; \$100,000-\$250,000 = \$50; > \$250,000 = \$100)

Associate Membership

(\$50 = out-of-state nurseries, chemical and hard goods suppliers)

Make check payable to the Louisiana Association of Nurserymen and mail to:

Dr. Warren Meadows
4560 Essen Lane
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Hart continued

public more economically than we can, we must continue to offer services mass marketers are not yet equipped to provide. We provide the type and extent of horticultural advice to customers that makes the difference".

Q. What has contributed most to the Green Industry's growth?

A. "I attribute most of its growth to open mindedness which was brought on by education. There was a time if a man across the way thought he had a secret to growing something better, he wouldn't tell his neighbor for anything. But for those who took the time to get an education they began to

share their knowledge. Education not only opened our own minds but it opened our minds toward each other. Realizing that we really did not have any secrets, we found the more we share with our neighbors the better off all of us were".

Q. What advice do you have for someone starting out in the landscaping/nursery business?

A. "I would recommend the business for anybody; it is a good life. There are a lot of opportunities out there yet. Build yourself an educational background and gain experience in dealing with plants and people. Enter the business without selfishness. If you do anything that is not turned toward helping

the public, then you are making a mistake".

As our visit came to a close, we walked through the nursery. Mr. Hart paused, looked around the nursery and said, "Forty years ago, I had in my mind what I eventually wanted to achieve and this is it. A beautiful facility, sitting in the woods with a wonderful group of employees, and superb clientele. Friend ships have been the real meat of the thing and I got what I wanted out of life.

Please. . .

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Louisiana Association of Nurserymen, Inc.

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