

LNLA Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 72 | October/ November / December 2020





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ag94@cox.net 225-963-0139

# Director of Research & Education - Jeb Fields

<u>ifields@agcenter.lsu.edu</u> 985-543-4125

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With our mobile horticulture application, it's simple to verify individuals claiming to be horticulture professionals.

Did you know? Work such as plant bed preparation, bedding plant installation, landscape design, lawn irrigation system installation, tree trimming and fertilizer application all must be conducted by someone licensed through the LDAF. Be sure an individual is licensed before you hire them.

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# A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

This will be the last letter I will be writing to you as president of the LNLA. It has truly been my privilege to be able to serve over the last two years. In my opinion, not only has a lot happened in this year, but we were also able to accomplish many great things in that same time. Through this pandemic, and an unprecedented hurricane season it was certainly a trying time. Always looking on the bright side we have been able to learn so much through these adversities. I am very proud of our awesome Commissioner Mike Strain, and the working relationship we have with Lt Governor Billy Nungesser. With their help we were able to be deemed an essential business and able to remain open amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Many areas were impacted with hurricanes. Our industry and association now have a better understanding of our member's needs and concerns,, and how best to react given future storms.

I will be turning over the role of President to Kurt Docote, and I know he has an understanding of the

direction of our association. I am confident he will be able to expand the presence and role of our green industry. I would not be able to bring this to a close without thanking the entire board. Without their leadership and great ideas we would not be nearly as successful as what we are today. A large contributor to our success is our executive secretary, Cari Jane Murray. With so much determination and drive she has proven to be the heart and soul of our green family. As I told the board on the last zoom call, I will not be far away, and intend to be the Past President and help in any capacity that I can. Thanks again as it has been my privilege.

May God Bless us all!

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# IN MEMORIUM

# Jeffrey Edward Jenkins (1958-2020)



Jeffrey Edward Jenkins died on Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at age sixty-two. He was born on July 20, 1958, fourth of the five children of Bryant Edward Jenkins and Mrs. Margie Louise Yates Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins grew up on the Jenkins Farm and Nursery in eastern Tangipahoa Parish and upon graduating from Bowling Green High School, resisted the frequently prevailing urge to leave behind all things rural and agrarian, and instead he found contentment and an outlet for his energies and talents upon the site and soil of his birth. He stayed on the farm. His entire life was spent there, on a ridge overlooking the Little Tchefuncte valley, where he shared the chores and toil, the dawning of each day and its sunset, all the things that shape the farmer's journey.

"The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,
The plowman homeward plods his weary way..."

Jeffrey was a latter-day disciple of the way of life that inspired the above couplet from English poet Thomas Gray. It was Jeff's reality, his existence.

Mr. Jenkins is survived by his sister, Margie Ann Jenkins; his brother, Mark Yates Jenkins; an aunt, Mrs. Doris Yates Magee; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; and was preceded in death by his parents, and by his brothers, Frederick Bryant Jenkins and Timothy Allen Jenkins.

In lieu of flowers or other tangible amenities, the family asks that friends consider making a comparable donation to the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation, Margie Jenkins Scholarship Fund, which may be mailed to LNFSR, P. O. Box 1447, Mandeville LA 70470, and identified as being in memory of Jeffrey Jenkins.

# **Doris Stokes (1926-2020)**



Doris Stokes, 94, of Forest Hill, passed away on November 13, 2020 at Lexington House in Alexandria. Doris was preceded in death by her husband of 71 years, Rodney Stokes, her parents, James Gordon and Louise Hudnall Pringle, and siblings, Marjorie Gerzema, Charles E. Pringle, Louise VanMol, Eloise Younger. Doris was a loving wife and mother, but her favorite role was that of MawMaw to her granddaughters and great-granddaughters. She and her husband Rodney owned and operated Rodney's Greenhouse in Forest Hill for over 30 years. Doris is survived by her sons, Sam and wife, Donna of Forest Hill, and Keith and wife, Gail of Pensacola, Florida; grandchildren, Lauren Laborde and husband, David of Alexandria, Dana Lyles and husband, Michael of Forest Hill, and Beth Stokes of Pensacola; and her "n'angels," great-granddaughters, Hannah Jane and Camille Anne Laborde and Samantha Paige Lyles; and brother, Douglas Pringle.

The family thanks the caring staff of Lexington House and Guardian Hospice for their loving care. There will be no service at this time. The best way to remember Doris is to plant flowers, make something beautiful, or spend time with a loved one, as those were the most important things to her. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Alexandria Country Day School, 5603 Bayou Rapides Road, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303, where all of her great-granddaughters attend school.



CANCELED FOR 2021



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# Notes From the Secretary.....

# Gulf States Hort Expo Canceled for 2021

Hello Everyone,

As I'm sure you all know by now, GSHE has been canceled for 2021. We will miss getting together this year for our usual receptions, business and fun! Covid-19 has really put a damper on almost everything but health and safety was the main concern in making this decision. GSHE canceling also means that we will not be able to meet in person at our annual LNLA breakfast membership meeting and awards banquet. In an effort to keep business going as usual in these days of change, LNLA will be hosting the Annual LNLA Membership Meeting and Awards Presentation VIRTUALLY Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:30AM. I will be emailing the zoom link for the meeting in the coming weeks. Join us as we ratify the new boards for LNLA and LNLFSR. The Foundation will announce the six scholarship winners and we will also have a drawing for raffle. You can find more information about the raffle and purchase tickets at lnla.org. It is vital that we all stay connected in these ever-changing days. LNLA dues renewals for 2021 have been mailed and emailed out. We will send a reminder in the coming weeks and membership certificates as well. The LNLA membership is well worth LNLA will be hosting CNLP manual review of "The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry" February 9-10, 2021. This review is scheduled to be at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station but may be virtual if social distancing restrictions are still in place at that time. I will send emails letting everyone know for sure as we get closer. It has been great to see the LNLA members coming together this year in so many ways. The LNLA board of directors has done a great job as always addressing concerns and making decisions to support the betterment of the green industry in our state. Our President, Mr. Ricky Becnel has lead the association for the past two years with passion and positivity. Thank you for your leadership and friendship to all!

2021 will bring it's own challenges, I'm sure! But LNLA is strong and we are ready for whatever comes our way!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Cari Jane Murray LNLA and LNLFSR Executive Secretary

# FROM THE COVER

Clegg's Nursery has been operating in Baton Rouge since its opening in 1955 by Mr. Sam Clegg. The first store consisted of only plants on an empty lot and a cash box in the trunk of Mr. Sam's car. In 1968, Mr. Sam and his wife bought a lot on what was then the outskirts of Baton Rouge and opened a new store. In 1981, Mr. Sam's son, Marshall Clegg, purchased the business from his parents. One year later he opened a second location, followed by a third location in 1983. In January of 1999, we purchased the business from Marshall after working with him since 1983. We then opened a fourth location in 2000. Recognizing the increasing consumer demand for seasonal color, in 2003, we opened Color Division, our greenhouse growing operation that now spans more than 55,000 square feet of production, and promises the best for Baton Rouge's locally grown color and seasonal favorites. In 2016, we partnered with Naylor's Hardware and Garden Center. Their store and nursery was devastated in the flood forcing them to close. Through this partnership, we joined True Value Hardware, diversifying our product lines. With Johnny Naylor's experience and expertise, we have expanded our vegetable seed selection. Johnny Naylor's Seed has become a very popular category with our home gardeners. Our



Color Division growers, Ron and Elena Fennell, have over 35 years of experience in the industry, and are rooted in producing top notch annuals, perennials and vegetables. They are often assisted by their daughters, Adriana and Gianna, who are pictured in the cover photo. Christmas at Color Division yields an infinite sea of crimson, white, pink, and speckled poinsettias. Poinsettias are our specialty crop. We grow over 45 different varieties, trying a few new varieties each year. We host an open house at the greenhouse each year for our customers. With over 10,000 poinsettias in the greenhouse, it is truly a spectacular sight! While there is always a positive response to the new and exciting varieties available each year, traditional red continues to be the consumer favorite. While this has been a year filled with challenges, we are optimistic about the future of the green industry as we move into 2021. We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Tom Fennell and Scott Ricca

# #GIVEBACK



We loved teaming up with @suntoryflowers.na in order to give back to a great cause, @covenanthousenola!

This year, 5% of sales from the Soirée Kawaii Vinca was matched by the international plant breeding company, Suntory Flowers, enabling us to donate \$6500 to Covenant House New Orleans!

If you don't already know, Covenant House opens its doors every year to more than 900 youth and children with nowhere else to turn. They offer young people protection from the streets and their past, and now, more than ever, they could use our donations.

Thank you to Suntory Flowers and ALL of our amazing customers that helped us reach our goal and give back to our amazing community.

#giveback



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# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

LNLA Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Ceremony 2021 - Virtual Thursday, January 21, 2021 - 8:30am

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Join us, your fellow members and the LNLA Board of Directors as we usher in the new year with presentations of our Foundation Scholarship winners, LNLA's new award winners, a look at this past year and ratification of our 2021 board of directors and officers. We will also be drawing the winning ticket for the great prizes below.

# PLUS there will be a third drawing for a YETI 105qt cooler!!

We are very excited about all LNLA has accomplished for the Green Industry in Louisiana!

# WE ARE ESSENTIAL!

We have so many goals to do even more good to benefit everyone! If you are interested in becoming part of LNLA join us at the LNLA Annual Membership Meeting in January!

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87187092378?pwd=cjhDdjJIK0hTMHJjczhFTElNTU41QT09 Meeting ID: 871 8709 2378 Passcode: 305005

THE LNLA ANNUAL MEETING AND RAFFLE ARE SPONSERED BY THE FOLLOWING:























# **CONGRATULATIONS RAJ SING**



Congratulations to Raj Singh on receiving the 2020 IPM Educator Award from Southern IPM Center. Singh is the Director of the LSU AgCenter Plant Diagnostic Center and responsible for a statewide horticulture pathology extension programs. Since 2007, he has diagnosed over 12,000 plant problems and provided integrated pest or disease management solutions to the resident of Louisiana.

Each year, the Southern IPM Center recognizes those with extraordinary potential to contribute to the development and implementation of research, extension, or implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the Southern Region of the United States.

# Named Scholarship or Research Grant Funding are great ways to honor your loved ones.

While the express purpose of the Foundation is to provide funding for scholarships and research, there are also naming opportunities that exist for businesses or individuals that may desire to name a Scholarship/Research in honor of someone or some other entity.

LNLFSR requires a minimum investment of \$10,000.00 to have a named Scholarship/Research. The investment may be accomplished in four different time frames:

\$10,000.00 in a lump sum payment

\$5,000.00 over a two year period

\$2,500.00 over a four year period

Once the named Scholarship/Research is fully funded, the donor has some discretion working with the Foundation, to decide the dollar amount of the Scholarship/Research and thus the length of the time their naming funds would last.

Options for dispersal of funds towards scholarships or research grants could be:

\$1,000.00 each over ten years

\$2.000.00 each over five years

\$2,500.00 each over four years

Donors would have the opportunity to add to their original investment if they decided to continue their named Scholarship/Research longer. Contact Cari Jane Murray, LNLFSR Executive Secretary for more information.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

# Gala XI

with proceeds benefitting the

# **Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation**

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Funds generated will be used to provide scholarships for university students and nursery / landscape research in Louisiana.

For federal income tax purposes, only the excess paid over the value of dinner(s) received is deductible. The fair market value of each dinner is estimated at \$90.



# The Foundation sends a heartfelt thanks to our donors this year!

Gold - Perino's Home and Garden Center

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**Bronze** - Cleggs Nursery Gerald Foret Wh

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# DR. ANSELRANKINS NAMED NEW AES ASSISTANT COMMISIONER





Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) Commissioner Mike Strain, D.V.M. recently tapped Ansel Rankins, Sr., Ph.D., to serve as the Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Assistant Commissioner. The Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences is comprised of four divisions: Agricultural Chemistry Programs, Horticulture and Quarantine Programs, Pesticide and Environmental Programs and Seed Programs.

Rankins has been with the department since 2006, beginning his career as an agricultural environmental specialist in Baton Rouge. In 2015, Rankins was promoted to director of the Horticulture and Quarantine Programs Division. He served as the state plant regulatory official for the National Plant Board and as state liaison for all federal plant pest issues. Rankins is currently Vice President of the Southern Plant Board, and member of the National Plant Board of Directors. Rankins, a Greenville, Miss. native, graduated from Greenville High School in



1994, received an undergraduate degree in agronomy from Alcorn State University and earned his doctorate from Southern University and A&M College in Urban Forestry and Natural Resources.

# TINA PELTIER NAMED HORTICULTURE AND QUARANTINE PROGRAMS DIRECTOR





Additionally, Strain also announced that Tina Peltier has been selected to serve as director of the Horticulture and Quarantine Programs Division, the position previously held by Rankins. The division is responsible for the prevention, control and eradication of exotic crop pests or diseases endangering Louisiana's agricultural, horticultural, and apiary industries. The division also oversees the qualifications and practices of persons

engaged in the green industry. Peltier, a native of Labadieville, La., began her career at the LDAF in 1997 as a field unit supervisor within the Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Program and moved up through the ranks over the years. Most recently, Peltier served as the assistant director of the Horticulture and Quarantine Programs Division which she held since 2015.



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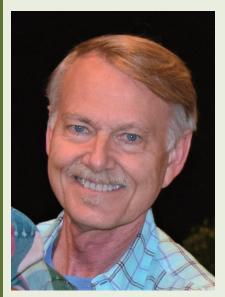
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# CONGRATULATIONS TO TAD HARDY ON HIS RETIREMENT



Tad Hardy, State Plant Health Director for USDA-APHIS-PPQ Louisiana, retired from federal service effective December 31, 2020. Tad began his Louisiana career in 1982 with the Department of Entomology, Louisiana State University, serving as a Research Associate until 1989. He then joined the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) as Administrative Coordinator of Quarantine Programs, responsible for planning, implementing, and administering state and federal plant regulatory programs and agricultural biotechnology statewide. In 2008 he was appointed LDAF State Entomologist and in January 2012 he accepted additional duties as Director of Horticulture & Quarantine Programs, overseeing all licensing, permitting and plant pest programs. Upon retirement from LDAF in late 2015, Tad accepted the position of State Plant Health Director with USDA-APHIS-PPQ, overseeing all federal plant pest safeguarding and product certification activities in Louisiana, including export certification, compliance agreements, cooperative agreements,

permits, and trapping and survey for pests of concern.

Tad received a bachelor's degree in biology from Fort Hays State University and a master's degree in both entomology and zoology from Iowa State University before coming to Louisiana. He has served on numerous state and federal committees and panels over the years and represented LDAF for many years at LNLA Board meetings. After joining APHIS-PPQ, he continued his affiliation with LNLA through government membership and attendance at select LNLA Board meetings to provide reports on federal pest issues of interest to the green industries.

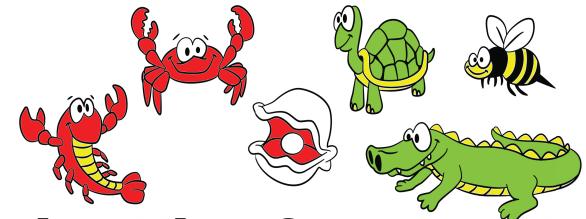
"APHIS-PPQ did not have an established relationship or presence with LNLA. My time with LDAF helped me realize how important the Association is to the overall agricultural community in Louisiana and I wanted to continue my affiliation with LNLA. Involving APHIS-PPQ as an active partner with LNLA was one way to offer a service to the industry while enjoying the personal benefits of being part of what feels like real a family of growers throughout the state." "It has been my distinct privilege and pleasure the past five years to serve alongside LNLA as a federal cooperator; and for many more years as a state cooperator. Through good times and challenges this industry has held together and grown stronger and it has been an honor to serve LNLA as a crucial stakeholder. Thank you, LNLA, for your continuing contributions to Louisiana agriculture!"

# LNLA LABOR COMMITTEE

LNLA continues to play a part in the H-2B labor issues confronting many of our landscape professionals. As such, we are a signatory on a letter from the H2B Workforce Coalition to the new administration asking for H-2B cap relief.

In the coming months, we plan to reach out to employers of seasonal workers asking about your success/lack of success in obtaining seasonal employees. LNLA can utilize this information to show Louisiana's Congressional Delegation the difficulty that landscape professionals have in obtaining seasonal employees. This is just one more step in working through the process of hopefully accomplishing change.

Need seasonal workers? Your company may qualify for the H2A or H2B programs. Call us today to find out more!



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# LNLA Scholarship Winners From the Past WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



# **ANNA RIBBECK**

Anna received the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Scholarship in 2014 and 2016 as an undergraduate horticulture major at Louisiana State University. Her love of plants was cultivated early by her grandmother who was a St. Tammany Master Gardener. She had the honor of working as the marketing director for Windmill Nursery and Banting's Nursery from 2018 to 2019. She was hired as the first-ever social media strategist for the LSU AgCenter in January of 2020. Her favorite part of the job is creating agricultural and horticultural content for the public. One of her goals is to help connect her audience to agriculture in a meaningful way. She will be pursuing her master's degree at LSU in 2021 with a project involving the public perception of aquatic invasive species and horticulture invasive species. Anna says, "A huge thank you to LNLA for the scholarships as it helped me pursue my dreams." Anna is also an avid outdoorsman and enjoys cooking with locally grown flavors like turnip greens, muscadines and venison!

# KATHRYN (KIKI) KARSH FONTENOT

Kiki received a Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Scholarship award 12 years ago while working towards her M.S. degree in horticulture at Louisiana State University. Kiki said "the LNLA scholarship was very important to me, as I was on assistantship and working side landscape jobs to help cover the costs of grad school and living." Kiki is now a Ph.D. (2009, LSU) horticulturist serving as an associate professor (state vegetable extension specialist) at the LSU AgCenter in Baton Rouge. She recommends all of her graduate students apply for this scholarship and participate as much as possible with the nursery and landscape industry. It is really important that students have a better understanding and relationship with the Industry they are studying. Dr. Fontenot is married to Dexter who works in the sugar cane industry and has a son and daughter.





# RUSSELL S. HARRIS, III

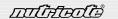
Russell received a Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Scholarship award in the early 2000s as a graduate student at Louisiana State University. His thesis research focused on the fate of bifenthrin and fipronil in pine bark nursery media. Russell said, "The LNLA scholarship came in a time of financial need helping me focus more on my studies and I'm very thankful for that. At LSU, I got a great education and developed personal and professional relationships that have been invaluable throughout my career". Since graduating in 2004, Russell worked in the residential and commercial landscaping industry, oil and gas industry and is now the County Agent in East Baton Rouge Parish. In his free time, Russell is a father, an avid collector of rare fig varieties and enjoys reptile husbandry.



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# **CURRENT SELECTIONS**

# WARM-SEASON BEDDING PLANTS

Angelonia – Serena series Angelonia – 'Seronita Raspberry' Begonia – BabyWing series

Cleome 'Senorita Rosalita'

Pentas – Butterfly series

Alternanthera (Joseph Coat) 'Little Ruby'

Lantana – Bandana series

Buddleia 'Flutterby Tutti Frutti'

Hibiscus - Luna series

Torenia - Kauai series

Gaillardia – Mesa series

Coleus 'Henna'

Pennisetum 'Fireworks' Salvia farinacea 'Evolution Violet' Salvia farinacea 'Evolution White' Verbena 'Homestead Purple'

SunPatiens (compact varieties)

Celosia 'Intenz Classic'

Lemon Sedum

# **COOL-SEASON BEDDING PLANTS**

Columbine - Swan series

Dianthus - Amazon series

Dianthus - Jolt series

Foxglove - Camelot series

Kale 'Redbor'

Viola – Sorbet series

Delphinium 'Diamonds Blue'

Petunia 'Supertunia Vista Bubblegum'

# **SHRUBS**

Camellia 'Shishi Gashira' Camellia 'Leslie Ann'

Azalea 'Conversation Piece'

Gardenia 'Frostproof'

Hydrangea 'Penny Mac'

Rose 'Belinda's Dream'

Althea (Rose of Sharon) 'Aphrodite'

Rose – Drift series

Viburnum 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight'

Blueberries – Rabbiteye Varieties

Virginia Willow 'Henry's Garnet'

Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight'

Lime Sizzler Firebush

## **TREES**

Evergreen Sweetbay Magnolia Southern Sugar Maple

Willow Oak

Vitex (Chaste Tree) 'Shoal Creek'

Southern Magnolia 'Little Gem'



# **2020 SELECTIONS**

- Lucky Star Pentas
- FlameThrower Coleus
- American Beautyberry
- Bald Cypress





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# ANNOUNCING THE 2021 LOUISIANA SUPER PLANTS

Submitted By: Jeb S. Fields, PhD

The Louisiana Super Plant program is an education campaign of the LSU AgCenter that identifies superior plant material for Louisiana Landscapes. Louisiana Super Plants have gone through rigorous trials at multiple AgCenter locations across the state of Louisiana, as well as being approved by the Louisiana Green Industry. As such, Louisiana Super Plants are considered to be "University tested, industry approved."

The Louisiana Super Plant team has completed voting and selected the winners of the 2021 Louisiana Super Plants. While it was a very competitive year, we have four amazing plants that we can say with confidence are at home in every Louisiana landscape.



Starting the year off, we have Beacon Impatiens. One of the top performers in the Hammond Trials over the last few years, Beacon offers amazing warmseason color in shade gardens. Impatiens have long been a staple crop for shady Louisiana landscapes; however, with our high heat and humidity that extends throughout the night, some impatiens can develop mildew issues. Not the Beacons. We have mounds of color and pop in the shade without the negative disease issues. They come in a wide variety of flower colors that look great against their deep green foliage.

The second 2021 Louisiana Super Plant is Suncredible Yellow Sunflower. Another of our top performers for the last few years in the Hammond Trials, Suncredible provides non-stop flower power. Quite the opposite from Beacon, Suncredible Yellow Sunflowers thrive in full sun and take the heat as good as any flower out there. Excellent for pollinators, these indeterminate sunflowers steal the show with a mound of color. Unlike most other sunflowers, Suncredible keeps blooming and branching providing color into fall. These will not only make a statement in the landscape, but they will make your neighbors will be jealous as well.





Our third Louisiana Super Plant for 2021 is a long-time landscape favorite and native grass – Muhlenbergia capillaris – commonly known as Muhly grass. We wanted to build upon the native plant trend and we just love native grasses. This is a workhorse in the landscape, thriving in many conditions and resisting almost anything it encounters. One of the few ornamental grasses grown for its flowers, Muhley grass blooms with lacy pink flowers put in the fall when most other grasses are turning down for the year. Muhly grass does well in sun or part shade, handles wet and dry soils, and is just plain adaptable. Hardy throughout the state, muhly grass can grow 3-4 ft tall and spread 3-4 ft wide, which can be enjoyed as a single specimen or planted in bunches. Muhley grass is very low maintenance, has year-round landscape appeal, and is one of the most drought tolerant grass species available.

(continued on next page)

### (continued from previous page)

The fourth and final 2021 Louisiana Super Plant was one of the toughest choices we have ever made, as there were quite a few excellent contenders. That being said, we absolutely love our cool-season color and Petunias are some of our absolute favorite. That's why we are naming Supertunia Mini Vista Indigo our fourth 2021 Louisiana Super Plant. Supertunia Vista Bubbelgum is still one of our favorite Louisiana Super Plants, and one of the best landscape petunias for Louisiana Landscapes. The Supertunia Mini Vistas bring some added excitement. The Mini part of the name indicates smaller flowers, which really bring some wonderful texture to the landscape and have a unique look that is just amazing. While we really like all the Supertunia Mini Vista varieties, Indigo brings a unique color, extreme flower density and excellent vigor to the landscape. Grown in full sun, these make an excellent addition for the cool season, providing color, texture, and appeal from November through April.





Look for more information to be released on the 2021 Louisiana Super Plants as we close out 2020. For more information on the Louisiana Super Plants Program, please visit www.LSUAgCenter.com/SuperPlants or contact Jeb Fields: JFields@agcenter.lsu.edu





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# Year Round Color in the Green

### Gardens in Losuisiana

Gardens in Louisiana are special in many ways. But most importantly, gardens are appreciated for the unique and interesting plants and the seasonal color they provide. Yes, color is critical for all gardens each season of the year.

In **Shreveport** the rose is celebrated at the American Rose Center where over 20000 rose plants exist. Many people plant the latest versions of these champion roses. People in this area support recognize roses since they present a palette of color in amazing ways in spring.

Gardens in **New Iberia** take on a Cajun ambiance. Live Oaks draped with Spanish moss and resurrection fern abound along Bayou Teche and in the Rip Van Winkle Gardens. Near this garden is found **Live Oak Gardens** landscape nursery. They grow the celebrated "Orange Island Live Oak." Near by is sourced the famed "Cajun Live Oak" featured at **Gerald Foret's Nursery**. Both nurseries produce live oaks which express Southern character in early summer.

Baton Rouge gardens pay homage to nature in the city. Here you find the finest examples of designed contemporary landscapes in the state. Color is expressed profoundly with a full array of crape myrtle color that includes white, red, pink, lavender, purple and mixed color in midsummer. The Gardens at the Botanical Garden at Independence Park feature some of the most current Southern Living Plants produced by Plant Development Services, Inc in cooperation with Southern Living Magazine. Perennials and annual color peak here in late summer in the Parterre Garden. Mandeville gardens are coastal and they sparkle in late summer. Mandeville's historic district is noted for its many colorful 'street gardens' displayed in front of small raised cottages. These cottages were built in the mid 1800's when Mandeville was founded as a resort town on the Gulf Coast. Color is profuse next to the sea.

New Orleans gardens are eclectic! New Orleans adds character and liveliness to the gardening world through its noted French Quarter gardens, its uptown private residences or its well designed properties such as the Audubon Zoo, Jackson Square and Long Vue Gardens. What is truly special about New Orleans gardens however is the use of tropical palms, fragrant citrus and colorful flowering plants. These make life enjoyable in the early winter months. Few people realize that 14 genera, comprising 21 species, of palms can be found growing in the City. Some of the best include Canary Island date palm, saw palmetto, and Mexican fan palm.

### Color in the Garden

But for all gardens, there is one important design element that cannot be over looked. It is all about color. The theme of color is such an important feature of Louisiana garden design it must be expressed in all seasons of the year. Not just spring, but summer, fall and winter. Good gardens should feature the full range of color and be designed where colors harmonize. Display blue against aquagreen. Contrast red, white and pink. Use purple with

blue or yellow and gold or brown against light orange. There is no reason every garden in the state does not emphasize color year round.

**Spring** gardens should feature red maple, oriental magnolias, silver bell, Louisiana iris, daylily, and the many tribes of azalea.

In **summer** we bring color to the garden with southern magnolias and many sizes and multiple colors of crape myrtle along with clerodendrum, oleander, and althea.

This season is the best for perennial and annual flowers too. Think about using cone flowers, cladiums, agapanthus, butterfly bush, plumbago and gardenia.

Fall is the time of the year to utilize the color of tropical plants, ornamental grasses and native wildflowers. To make gardens sizzle consider the use of Chinese hibiscus, cassia, bougainvillea, variegated ginger, and orange bird of paradise. Fall is also the time for wildflowers such as asters, goldenrod, mist flower, evening primrose, swamp sunflower and ironweed. But don't forget colorful fruiting plants such as the hollies, pyracanthas, skyflower, kumquats and golden rain tree.

Louisiana's most important late season plants to grace winter gardens from Shreveport to New Orleans is the camellia. Sun loving Camellia sasanqua in the early winter and shade loving Camellia japonica in mid-winter. Some of the best camellias are grown by Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery in Folsom. Of the fall blooming sasanqua's consider the use of 'Winters Snowman', 'Aston's Pride', 'Leslie Ann', 'Pink Snow' or 'Tri-color Superba'.

The shade loving japonicas bring multiple color to the winter garden. Many prefer the old camellias. These were once sold by the well known G.G. Gerbing. Consider using Lady Van Sittart Variegated, Sarah Frost, Mathotiana Rubra or Blood of China. But on the other hand, you may prefer for winter color some of the modern camellias sold by Mizell's. These include Kramer's Supreme, Marie Bracey, Don Mac, and La Peppermint.

The crape myrtle is the legendary color tree of Louisiana. The camellia is the famed color shrub of Louisiana gardens. Use more color and use it year round.

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Abbey Associates Landscape Architects at: 504-654-9952



# WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER

By: Dr. Ron Strahan, Assistant Professor in Wed Science, LSU AgCenter Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-2392 or (e) rstrahan@agcenter.lsu.edu

# Establishing Bermudagrass from Seeds

I know we are in the dead of winter, but I was thinking about the unusually high number of requests that I had for information about establishing bermudagrass from seed last spring and summer. The purpose of this article is to clear up the process of seeding and establishment. Hopefully, when it is time to plant bermudagrass next growing season, this pandemic will be behind us.

I know many of you hate bermudagrass because it infests flower beds and other lawn grasses, but bermudagrass is really undervalued as a turfgrass. Seeding common or an improved common bermudagrass is the least expensive way to establish the turf over a large area. It is also covers territory very quickly from seed when there is adequate irrigation and fertilizer. For example, I have seen a high school football field that was planted in early May established well-enough for its first game by late August. The field was certainly not perfect. It was thin and did not have great wear tolerance the first year. However, it was a really good field by the second growing season.

Bermudagrass (Cynodon dactylon) is a warm season grass originating in Africa that performs well in Louisiana. The grass is widely used for lawns, roadsides, athletic fields, and golf courses. It is characterized by its dark green color, fine texture and the production of rhizomes (below ground stems) and stolons (above ground stems) that allow the plant to establish quickly in good growing conditions. Bermudagrass thrives in hot weather and goes dormant in cold weather. Growth stops and the grass will not maintain its chlorophyll (turn brown in color) when temperatures fall below 50 degrees. Growth and establishment slows considerably when night temperatures are below 60. Well maintained common bermudagrass has good drought tolerance. However, adequate rainfall or irrigation is necessary for establishment and is important to maintain a high quality turf. Established bermudagrass needs to be fertilized often throughout the growing season. The growing season for bermudagrass in Louisiana is mid-March to October. Keep in mind where you plant bermudagrass. It will not tolerate shade. Only plant bermudagrass in sunny areas.

Seeding rate for common or improved common bermudagrass - Hulled bermudagrass is seed that has had the outer coat removed. It is typically planted during the spring/summer growing season at 1 to 2 lbs per 1000 ft2 or 44 to 88 lbs/acre. Whereas unhulled bermudagrass seed can be planted in the fall/winter at a rate of 3 to 5 lbs

per 1000 sq feet or about 130 to 220 lbs/acre. Unhulled bermudagrass seed is often planted in combination with ryegrass. I have had a lot more success establishing hulled bermudagrass planted during the spring and summer growing season than unhulled seed planted in the winter.

Best Time of the Year for Establishing Seeded Bermudagrass – Establishing bermudagrass from seed is most successful when planted from April to late July using hulled bermudagrass seed. Hulled bermudagrass seeds planted too late in the year (September/October), run the risk of not producing and storing enough food reserves in the roots to last through the winter dormancy period.

Successful planting starts with a well-prepared seedbed for good soil/seed contact. It is also highly important that bermudagrass receives adequate amounts of irrigation and nitrogen during the establishment process. Bermudagrass is fairly drought tolerant once established but adequate rainfall or irrigation is necessary for quick establishment. Bermudagrass grows vigorously with frequent applications of nitrogen.

Bermudagrass Growth Requirements - Bermudagrass will grow in a wide range of soil types but thrives at a pH range of 6.0-7.0. It is not shade tolerant and should be grown only in full sun. Growth and establishment are greatly enhanced by adequate supplies of fertilizer, particularly N. Always soil test the area prior to seeding and every 2 to 3 years or so. Fertilize and adjust pH (lime for low pH soil and elemental sulfur for high pH soil) as directed by the soil report. Bermudagrass has moderate to high fertility requirements once established.

## Establishing bermudagrass from seed

1) In order to determine the fertility and soil pH, collect a soil sample and submit it to your local extension office, participating retail nursery, or directly to the LSU Soil Testing Lab.

https://www.lsuagcenter.com/portals/our\_offices/departments/spess/servicelabs/soil\_testing\_lab

- 2) Apply glyphosate herbicide to kill the weeds or the existing turf. Allow 10 to 14 days for the vegetation to die.
  - 3) Lightly scrape off dead material and till
- 4) If extensive grading will be needed at the location, remove the topsoil and stockpile it for replacement after the rough grade is established.
- 5) Redistribute topsoil or suitable soil back over the

# WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER

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rough grade. Till in soil amendments and fertilizer such as phosphorous, potash, lime or sulfur as recommended by the soil sample results.

- 6) Install irrigation system or drainage if desired.
- 7) Establish final grade.

Plant Doctor

- 8) Hulled bermudagrass seeding rate is 1 to 2 per 1000 ft2 or 44 to 88 lbs. of seed per acre
- 9) Lightly roll field with a roller do not cover seeds with more than 1/8 of an inch of soil
- 10) Maintain a moderately high level of moisture throughout the establishment process
- 11) After emergence, make nitrogen applications every 2 to 3 weeks until turf has 100% coverage

2 weeks after emergence, apply the equivalent of 0.5 to 1 lb. of nitrogen/1000 ft2 (example: for 33-0-0 the rate would be 1.5 to 3 lbs/1000 ft2 or 65 to 130 lbs/acre).

- 12) Mowing helps control weeds during establishment.
- 13) Once established, fertilize often (minimum of 3 to a maximum of 8 times per growing season). Make the first fertilizer application in March and throughout the growing season to maintain healthy turf.



Why are your plants sick? Ask the plant doctor.

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# THE PLANT DOCTOR

By: Dr. Raj Singh, Associate Professor and Director, Plant Diagnostic Center, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-4562 or (e) rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu

# **LICHENS**

Lichens are fascinating creatures. They are composed of two different organisms – a fungal partner and a photosynthetic partner living in a symbiotic relationship.

The photosynthetic partner is either a green alga or a cyanobacterium (blue-green bacterium). Lichens get their nutrients from the food prepared by the photosyn¬thetic partner, and the fungal partner provides the body and shape. Lichens grow successfully in different environments and geographical areas ranging from arctic to desert. They can grow on almost any surface, including roofs and walls of buildings, rocks, trees and even on iron fence posts as epiphytes (Figures 1 and 2).

Lichens have several different growth habits. Some grow flat like a crust (Figure 3) or filamentous like hair (Figure 4) while others are leafy or branched. They come in some of the most vibrant colors, ranging from lime green to bright orange (Figure 5). Lichens grow slowly and may live long. Actively growing lichens are an indication of good air quality, since air pollutants can adversely affect them.

So the question is: Are lichens plant pathogens? And the answer is: No! Lichens are not plant pathogens. They use a tree or another surface as a substrate to grow epiphytically. Lichens are not parasites and do not derive any nutrients from the host they are growing on.

Lichens may grow on healthy as well as stressed trees. They are more noticeable on stressed trees because of the open or thinner canopy. Stressed trees with open canopies allow sunlight to penetrate deep into the canopy, which results in increased growth of lichens. Drought stress, improper fertilization, compact soils, disease or insect pressure or other poor cultural practices may result in poor growth and stressed trees.

Generally, no chemical control is recommended to manage lichens, but residents should avoid any biotic (insects, diseases, nematodes and weeds) or abiotic (nutrients, drought, water logging and compaction) stresses to their trees. Good cultural practices that promote vigorously growing, healthy trees with dense canopies may reduce lichen growth.



Figure 1. Lichens growing on an iron fence post.



Figure 2. Lichens growing on a wooden fence.



Figure 4. Filamentous lichen growing on a blueberry branch.



Figure 3. Lichens growing on a wooden fence.



Figure 5. Bright orange colored lichen.



# PLANTS, PLANTS, and MORE PLANTS

By: Allen Owings, Horticulture Professor Emeritus (LSU AgCenter), Senior Horticulturist (Bracy's Nursery), Horticulturist (Clegg's Nursery)

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### Some Observations on Horticulture Craziness in 2020

Who would have thought how 2020 was going to turn out for our nursery, landscape and garden center industry when we turn back the calendar to mid March. Most of the independent retail garden centers did very well this year. Eventually the transition to curbside delivery and similar services work out well once the bugs were worked out. A number of Louisiana's nursery growers had very good years while other growers saw a reduction in sales. Landscapers stayed busy for the most part although I did hear several say that they struggled in getting new business during the year. 2020 brought 13-19 million new consumers across the US to gardening. Projectors are that 25-33% can be retained with some industry insiders think we can retain 50-60% of these new first time gardeners. Things noted in conversations:

Business is "crazy", "ridiculously good", "incredible"
Excellent sales, huge demand, we need more vegetable plants
We learned that "Horticulture is Essential"
"Every day is like a crazy spring Saturday"
There was an amazing amount of business in July and August
Seed shortages; seed companies limited orders
People bought their fall veggie seed in the spring
Sales of fruit trees and bushes was strong.
In September, people became "pumpkin crazy"
Landscape supplies were routinely on backorder
Shrub sales were strong into the summer and have been good this fall
Sales of media, soil, mulches and related products were "through the roof"

### Gardenia Foliage Issues

Fall and winter are times of the year when gardenia foliage issues arise. Yellow foliage, thin foliage, dropping foliage and interveinal chlorosis are some of the visual symptoms. To minimize gardenia foliage issues the following cultural practices can be considered:

- (1) gardenias are evergreen and shed foliage in the winter as new foliage emerges in the spring;
- (2) gardenias need acid soil (a pH of 5.0-5.5 is preferred). Interveinal chlorosis is exhibited when the soil pH is too high. Correct soil pH by applying aluminum sulfate at the rate of 5 lbs, per 100 square feet of landscape bed. Micronutrient fertilizers containing iron will help overcome the interveinal chlorosis foliage issue but correction of soil pH problems is the longer term solution. Always soil test before taking corrective action;
- (3) gardenias greatly benefit from annual fertilization each spring;
- (4) gardenias need well drained growing medium, soil in landscape beds and containers (they do not perform well in wet areas). Maintain uniformity in soil moisture;
- (5) gardenias have larger foliage, more vigorous foliage, improved plant habit and more flowers when planted in mostly sun locations.
- (6) pine straw and pine bark are the best mulches for gardenias.

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# PLANTS, PLANTS, and MORE PLANTS

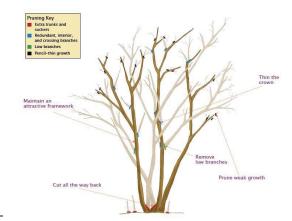
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# **Gardening Trends in 2021**

Here are 9 gardening design trends for 2021 from Garden Design magazine:

- 1. Gardening...period
- 2. Sustainability
- 3. Creating Gardening Getaways
- 4. Growing Food in All Kinds of Spaces
- 5.Getting Creative with Containers
- 6. Choosing One Color and Going for It
- 7. Learning On-Line and Buying On-Line
- 8. Adding More Houseplants
- 9. Getting Kids Involved in Gardening

Read more: https://www.gardendesign.com/trends/2021.html



# Advantages to Thinning Crape Myrtles instead of Topping Crape Myrtles (sidebar)

- \*Stronger Wood \*Fewer Watersprouts \*Fewer Suckers \*More Flowers \*More Sun in the Canopy
- \*Enhanced Bark Features \*More PollinatingInsects \*More Birds Nesting \*Less Fungal Decay in Branches
- \*Less Lichen \*Fewer Insects (Aphids, Whiteflies) \*Less Sooty Mold \*Less Cercospora Leaf Spot
- \*Reduced Powdery Mildew \*Improved Air Circulation in the Canopy \*More Sun in the Canopy
- \*Improved Flower Distribution over Canopy





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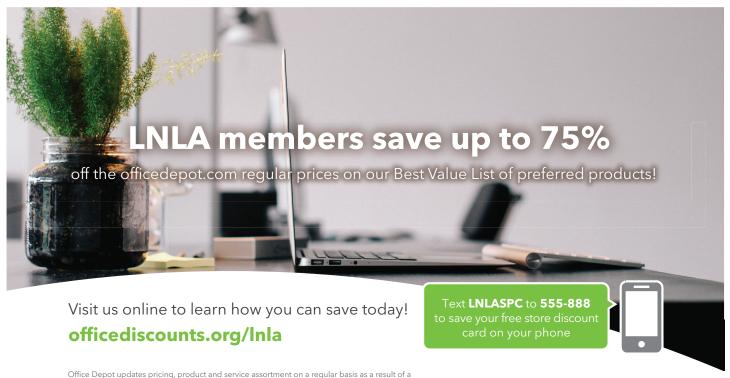


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# MIXED NATIVE WOODY BORDER

I have frequently promoted the usefulness and beauty of a mixed native woody border. I recently took the opportunity to use these ideas in designing and planting my own mixed native woody border.

Susan and I are renovating a 1920s farmhouse, in which four generations of Susan's family have lived, on two acres in southern Tangipahoa parish. A major goal for this property is to screen it from future development on surrounding lots.



You will see from the following descriptions why I selected these plants!

Ilex cassine (Dahoon Holly) I chose two females: 'St. Tammany', which I found near Covington, LA, and 'Tensaw', selected by Tom Dodd III for her rounded habit and wide green leaves. Both selections are covered with bright red berries in winter and adaptable to most conditions from full sun to deep shade. Ilex cassine is evergreen, grows 20' – 30' tall, and makes a very dense screen. Ilex cassine is a butterfly larvae food source, and the birds love the berries. Ilex vomitoria (Native Yaupon) One of the finest wild native plants for a border, Ilex vomitoria is a shearable shrub that grows in every combination of sun/shade or dry/moist.

Grows with little care to produce evergreen foliage and lovely berries. I chose a mixture of males (for pollination and for pollinators) and females (for berries), some red-fruited and some yellow-fruited, for a beautiful diversity. Moderately fast-growing to 20', Ilex vomitoria is an important winter food source for birds and is a host for the Henry's Elfin larvae.

Pinus glabra (Spruce Pine) Ideal as a windbreak, large-scale screen with its short-needle evergreen foliage, this tree was sited to provide taller screening to block highway lighting and busy traffic flow seen through the opening of an old driveway. Cones remain on the branches for several years and provide food for wildlife. Viburnum dentatum (Southern Arrowwood) Southern Arrowwood is a native shrub growing 9-10 feet tall and spreading sometimes up to 12 feet. Two selections from Rick Webb's West Florida parishes placenames series, 'Lee's Landing' and 'Osceola' were chosen. Deciduous large shrubs, the creamy white flowers in the spring/summer and dark blue berries and stunning fall foliage make V. dentatum an attractive landscape plant for borders and screens.

Viburnum nudum (Possumhaw Viburnum) Viburnum nudum gives spring flowers, thick bird-nesting cover and super fall colors. Flowers are creamy white; leaves turn red/reddish purple in the fall. Fruits go through interesting color changes, starting out pale yellow, then turning pink, and finally becoming a waxy blue-black. At certain times of the year all colors can be found on the same plant.

The trees and shrubs were planted in clusters of odd numbers, mixing evergreens with deciduous species. This created a natural habitat for wildlife while meeting our goal of screening the property from others looking in or us looking out.

I planted in late November, so the ground was easy to dig and nothing has yet required watering. You might also consider giving space in the landscape for borders to establish diverse selections of thicket-forming native woody

shrubs and small trees. It's a good thing to do.

Diversity Rules!

Rick Webb, Louisiana Growers





# LOUISIANA IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Chuck Davis, LIA Executive Director

Dear LNLA Members,

I'd like to introduce myself to everyone. My name is Chuck Davis and I'm the new executive director for the Louisiana Irrigation Association since August of this year. I'm new to the irrigation industry, having spent the last 35 plus years in the electric utility field as an engineer, supervisor, and manager. Yes, it's true, I'm a "sparky". I have an electrical degree and was heavily involved in electric substation design and construction. I retired in 2015 from a large utility in the northeast and then moved south to work as a consultant on the Northshore of New Orleans until May of this year. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions this year, the LIA has entered successfully into the virtual training class arena for the first time. I don't look at this year as having been a problem, but an opportunity and challenge for me to be just as productive in spite of the obstacles.

Best Regards,

Chuck Davis LIA Executive Director (318) 588-3778 geauxLIA@gmail.com

# SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA NURSERY ASSOCIATION

The 2020 Folsom Fall Festival was held outside under the pine trees on October 24, 2020 at Midway Church Park in Folsom, LA. A total of 14 venders participated in the day-long event. The folks at Midway Church sold snacks and plate lunches as a fundraiser. Many people attended the event and venders were happy with the results.

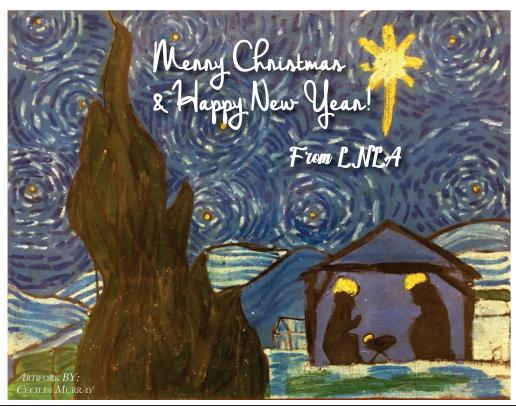
The SELNA Trade Show was slightly different this year than in previous years. In lieu of holding a traditional trade show event, member nurseries decided to host the 2020 SELNA Open House Series. On Friday November 6, Norris Nursery, Westfarms Nursery, and Windmill Nursery held open house events. Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery and Bamboo Nursery held two-day house events on

November 6-7. Louisiana Growers and Dub's Nursery held two-day open house events later on November 19-20.

Congratulations to all participating nurseries and their innovative ways to keep a healthy producer/consumer relationship during these crazy times.

The original Southeast Louisiana Wholesale Plant Locator List is available online at www.selna.org. SELNA Plant Locator Maps are available by request.

Contact SELNA Secretary, Will Afton, by email at WAfton@agcenter.lsu.edu or by telephone at 225.205.0132







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# DAVID CREECH NAMED IPPS-SR FELLOW



**Dr. David Creech** is a Stephen F. Austin State University professor emeritus of agriculture and director of SFA Gardens, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Dr. Creech is a longtime member of IPPS-SR and served as president in 2017-18. In 2009 he was given the Sidney B. Meadows Award of Merit. He is dedicated to educating the next generation of horticulturists and often brings a van full of students to the Southern Region conference.

David is currently the director of the Stephen F. Austin State University Garden, the 60-acre campus garden. He was instrumental in the development of the Pineywoods Native Plant Center, SFA's Mast Arboretum and the Ruby and Gayla Mize Azalea Gardens, as well as Jimmy Hinds Park. He has spent more than 30 years promoting the use of native plants to his students, growers, and landscape professionals.

# GARY KNOX NAMED SIDNEY MEADOWS AWARD WINNER

**Dr. Gary Knox** is a professor of environmental horticulture and nursery crops extension specialist at the University of Florida/IFAS at the North Florida Research and Education Center (NFREC) in Quincy, FL.

Dr. Knox is heavily involved in research and extension on nursery/landscape problems like Rose Rosette Disease, Crape Myrtle Bark Scale, and invasive plants. He also evaluates perennials for their attractiveness to pollinators, and new woody plants for their ornamental qualities and usefulness in Florida landscapes.

Gary's current plant passions include magnolia, crape myrtle, camellia, hydrangea, Southern bulbs, succulents, and palms. It is no secret that he is particularly fond of magnolias, going so far as to serve four years as president of Magnolia Society International (MSI), the organization supporting magnolia conservation and research.





Southern Nursery Association, Inc.

# PRESS RELEASE

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE...

For more information contact: Karen Summers, 678.809.9992, ksummers@sna.org

# SNA 2021 Virtual Conference Canceled

**Atlanta, Ga., December 17, 2020** – The Southern Nursery Association (SNA) has announced The SNA Virtual Conference scheduled for February 2021 has been canceled. The SNA board made this decision based on current industry and public constraints brought on by COVID-19. The SNA Plant Conference, the SNA Research Conference and the 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual SNA Business Meeting, to be held in conjunction with The SNA Conference, has also been canceled.

"The past year has created disruption and significant challenges for many associations and industry events, including the SNA. We would like to thank our members and state and national associations, as well as sponsors, speakers, and researchers for their support during these uncertain times," said Karen Summers, SNA Executive Vice President. "In the coming weeks the SNA board will be analyzing current programs and events to determine the future direction of the association. As we navigate uncharted waters and develop strategies for what's next, we ask for your patience and continued support," she added.

Founded in 1899, the Southern Nursery Association is a non-profit trade association representing the horticultural industry in the southeastern U.S. The SNA strives to unite and advance the horticulture industry through educational, research and marketing efforts.

For more information on SNA contact the Southern Nursery Association, Inc., PO Box 801454, Acworth, GA 30101, 678.809.9992, mail@sna.org, or visit the SNA website at www.sna.org.

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985.237.2939 carijanelnla@gmail.com www.lnla.org

To: Louisiana Green Industry Professionals

Re: Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Exams (CNLP) – 2021

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association has scheduled the certified nursery and landscape professional manual review and exams for 2021. The schedule is as follows:

February 9-10 LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station or VIRTUAL depending on

restrictive conditions.

Summer 2021 (TBD) Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, 2206 Johnson St, Lafayette, LA 70503

Manual reviews will be held on the first day from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and second day from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The exam will be given *(if held in person)* at about 1:00 p.m. on the second day; 3 hours are allowed for the full exam. There are five sections to the exam:

Section 1 - Plant Classification, Growth and Development

Section 2 - Understanding Pests and Their Control

Section 3 - Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards

Section 4 - Landscape Contracting, Tree and Turf Management

Section 5 - Plant Identification

Primarily, persons in the retail garden center and landscape contracting/maintenance areas of the 'Green Industry' participate; however the course is also recommended for wholesale growers, irrigation contractors and Master Gardeners. The CNLP was established to provide a professional educational opportunity for 'Green Industry' professionals. The manual review is also excellent preparation for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's landscape horticulturist license exam. An LDAF license or permit is required to be in various landscape & nursery related businesses in Louisiana; the CNLP is not required. **This certification is not a license.** Call LDAF Horticulture Commission at 225-952-8102 or your nearest LDAF regional office to schedule the license exam.

Dr. Jeb Fields, LSU AgCenter's Commercial Horticulturist, is the primary instructor for the manual review/training session. It is recommended that participants acquire and read the manual, <u>The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticultural Industry</u>, before attending the CNLP review. Participants can then ask questions on the content of the manual during the review. A highlighter and pen, as well as the manual, are highly recommended to be brought to the review with each participant; this allows marking of items which will be included on the exam. The manual is not included in the fee for the review &/or exam.

Please contact me, by phone (985)237-2939, or email <u>carijanelnla@gmail.com</u>, if you have any questions in regard to this year's certified nursery and landscape professional programs.

Sincerely, Cari Jane Murray

Serving Louisiana Since 1954



# Landscape Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Manual Review and Exam - 2021

☐ **February 9-10, 2021**LSU AgCenter
Hammond Research Station
21549 Old Hammond Hwy.

Begins at 9am daily

☐ Summer 2021, TBD

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
University of LA at Lafayette
2206 Johnson St.
Lafayette, LA 70503

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Hammond, LA 70403

# COULD BE VIRTUAL DEPENDING ON COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

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Registration & N	Manual Fees:	Participant Name(s) & Section(s):	Fees
\$175 per person for rev	iew and full exam.		
* Please specify re-take * Please specify re-take Sec #1- Plant Classification, Development Sec #2- Understanding Pest Sec #3- Culture of Nursery Sec #4- Landscape Contrac Sec #5- Plant Identification	section(s) if known. Growth & s and Their Control Stock in Retail Yards ting, Tree & Turf Mgt.		
\$75 per person for man (no exam) in preparation license test or profession	for the LDAF	\$60 x@ Manual = \$ _	
\$60 per copy for "Louis the Environmental Horn the suggested manual for already included in regis	r this course (not	<del></del> -	
Make check or money of	Louisiana Nursery  Louisiana Nursery	/ & Landscape Association	
PO Box 1447 Mandeville, LA 70470		0470	

For further information contact:

Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (C) 985-237-2939, (E) <a href="mailto:carijanelnla@gmail.com">carijanelnla@gmail.com</a>

REGISTRATION AND MANUAL PURCHACES MAY ALSO BE DONE ONLINE AT LNLA.ORG

Serving Louisiana Since 1954

# **LNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Wednesday, October 7, 2020 – 10:00 am**

The Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association Board met on Wednesday October 7, 2020 at Mike Anderson's in Baton Rouge LA. Total attendance were 22 people.

Attending Board Members: Ricky Becnel, Kurt Ducote, Lisa Loup, Brian Bridges, Tony Carter, Michael Roe, Brandon Adams, Jeff Reid, Juan Garcia, Candria Powers (via Zoom), Angelo Quaglino (via Zoom) Matt Fennell and Craig Roussel

Absent: Chris Herrmann

Quorum is 7 voting members; 14 present, quorum established.

Guest/Staff: Cari Jane Murray, Dr. Jeb Fields, Buddy Perino, Dr. Allen Owens, Michel Andre, Brian Breaux, Dr. Ansel Rankins, Tina Peltier & Tad Hardy (via Zoom).

10:10 President Ricky Becnel brought the meeting to start. Welcomed everyone in person. Nice to see The Foundation, LDAF, Farm Bureau, AgCenter and all. All stood to say the pledge to the flag.

Ricky called for everyone to look at minutes from last meeting. Kurt Ducote motions to accept minutes. Tony Carter second. All were in favor.

**LNLFSR UPDATE:** Allen Owings gave a brief Foundation report/update. Finances at the end of July \$190K Estimate. Lost revenue from the gala not happening this year. We sent out a letter to solicit donations and have received \$11k so far. We should have made \$29k from gala so we are trying to regenerate that revenue. Gala is scheduled for next year at City Park again Friday, June 25, 2021. Farm Bureau Convention is the same weekend. Margie Jenkins Scholarship Fund has raised \$6K would like to get to \$10K for 10 years of scholarships. 2021 Scholarship applications going out soon with awards to be given at GSHE. Putting past scholarship winners "where are they" in the LNLA newsletter. We will be re-electing new board directors in January. Grants were funded this summer to support some new research. Funded 4 grants \$15,500 total.

Mr. Ricky reiterated that the foundation and the LNLA boards have a common goal and thanked them for coming, sharing and being a part.

LDAF Report: First meeting out for lots of us. Office has been busy catching up. Tina Peltier participated in the June/July virtual manual review LNLA hosted. She heard lots of good things form the people that came to take the landscape horticulture licensing test. Landscape Architect test online is going very well. Oct 29 is the next horticulture commission meeting.

Dr. Ansel Rankins reported to the board about 2 incidences going on right now. In August, Phytophthora ramorum, the organism responsible for Sudden Oak Death disease, was confirmed on foliage from one camellia plant at a Forest Hill Nursery. The positive detection triggered the federal confirmed nursery protocol, which requires the destruction of Pr+ plant material and plants surrounding the positive plant. The nursery must enter into a compliance agreement with USDA APHIS to retain interstate shipping status for any regulated and associated articles for P. ramourum. The nursery worked with LDAF and USDA immediately to determine what other plants may be infected by this pathogen. LDAF and USDA performed an extensive delimiting survey of the nursery, collecting approximately 600 samples. To date, no other Pr+ plants have been detected at the nursery. In September, citrus canker was confirmed on eight citrus plants in three separate APHIS-approved greenhouse structures of one citrus producer located in Plaquemines Parish. For an APHIS-approved structure, a CC+ find triggers the requirements of the federal confirmed nursery stock protocol. None of the nursery stock in the greenhouse structures where CC+ plants were found can move across state lines. Although the greenhouses' nursery stock is not allowed to move across state lines, LDAF will allow the disease-free citrus plants to be sold within the Louisiana citrus canker quarantine areas.

LSU AgCenter Hammond Station Update: Dr. Jeb Fields with the LSU AgCenter gave us an update on the Hammond Research Station. AgCenter is sending out surveys on damage from the storms this summer. Station is still not open to the public for the foreseeable future. Good responses from virtual field day. New website for the station should be up by the end of the year. Lunch and learn podcast style series will be kicked off in the New Year, exciting. LA Super Plants for 2021 were announced in the LNLA newsletter. Acquired funding for long term magnolia evaluations. Dr. Fields will be leading team on major grant for soil substrate science. Partnership with the Moreau Foundation and AgCenter new citrus facility to study. Citrus symposium Feb 15, 2021. Advisory board for the Hammond research station, would like a seat for LNLA on this board. Would like input on station position to support our industry.

**LFBF Update:** Brian Beaux updated the board about deadline for signing up for whip+ is December. Foundation of Farm Bureau will be helping out those. Tree assistance program. Pesticide applicator license being altered in a rule - dicamba has to be licensed — worker can take test again in a sooner period of time if they fail. Nursery Stock is CFap two eligible. There is some talk about having

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another PPP round. Be very careful extending visas. Brian is always a world of knowledge and we are lucky to have him always be a part of our meetings.

Labor Committee Report: Craig Roussel reported for the labor committee. Jeff Reid is part of a group to push for Landscapers to receive H2A workers instead of H2B workers. Looking for support for this from LNLA. Letter and possibly suggesting a meeting with legislation to let them to know what struggles really are for the landscape industry. Landscaping is a service industry but so tightly aligned with agriculture. The board discussed the subject in length. The committee would like LNLA to formally request a meeting with Commission or LT. Gov. to have a meeting and greet with a senator that this is a serious issue. SEA or congressional delegation. We need to have a serious discussion. The labor committee will let us know when we need to act.

**CNLP Update and Plant Conference:** Cari Jane gave CNLP, plant conference and newsletter updates. We have hosted 2 virtual manual reviews via zoom. This has worked out well but we have not been able to offer the certification test. Full CNLP manual review and exam is scheduled in person at Hammond Research Station February 9-10, 2021. Louisiana Plant Materials conference hosted by LNLA and LSU AgCenter usually scheduled in November has been cancelled for this year (2020). LNLA's 4th quarter newsletter deadline for article submission is December 1st and that issue should be in mailboxes toward the very end of the year.

**GSHE Report:** Cari Jane reported that as of now, GSHE is a go in January 2021. Make your room reservations now. We will keep everyone posted as to any changes that may occur for this event.

**Financial Report:** Brian Bridges, our LNLA treasurer, reported to the board as of Sept 30, 2020 total assets \$212K. An increase in manual sales by 17%, over last year. Labor is flat. Membership expenses are up due to American Hort. In September 2018 - \$31K in checking, in September 2019 - \$68K and September 2020 - \$98K. Michael Roe motioned to move \$12,308 to foundation, Lisa Loup second all were in favor. Motioned to accept financial report by Lisa Loup, Michael Roe second, all were in favor.

Marketing Committee: Tony Carter reported: Last year we did well raffling off hunting raffle. Lt. Governor also gave us a few nights stay at LA state parks. This year we will raffle off 2 guns and 1 cooler ... 3 chances for 1 ticket to win. So far we have \$5700 in sponsorship money. We would like everyone on the board to have 2 of their top vendors be a sponsor. This raffle has done well for us and the sponsorships are where we gain the most money. We would like to see the Foundation board bring their top vendors to the sponsorship as well. Everyone voted yes to move the raffle to GSHE instead of Dec. 9th. Ricky would like to give a quarter page ad for the raffle sponsors in the LNLA December newsletter. Ricky motions to refigure and re-tier our ads a full page \$1000, half page \$600, and quarter page \$400. This will go to committee to be researched more and bring back in December.

Membership Committee: Kurt Ducote reported: It is time for dues renewals. First page letter is what we have done for you, back is benefits and next page is invoice for renewals and new prospects. In all these trying times we have included everyone like they are part of this organization and now it's time to become a part. We can't afford to keep going to bat for you if you aren't a part of LNLA, if you aren't worried about your own livelihood. Only way to gain them is to send an invoice. We are for the betterment of the nursery and landscape industry as a whole. The board voted on sending out a nice letter with all the bullet points and invoice. All were in favor. Kurt also brought up making a short video pertaining to promoting the association. Cari Jane will send some questions to board members to get this ball rolling.

Funding Committee: Michael reported no funding requests at this time.

Nominating Committee: Lisa Loup gave a short nomination report and will have more information at the December meeting.

IT Committee Update: Brandon Adams has no new news for the IT committee. We will have more at the next meeting.

**Awards Committee:** An email was sent to membership for nominations for 2021 award nominations. A few nominations have come in. A ballot will be put together for the next meeting. Juan brought up that someone had asked if we could have awards for all categories of membership. The board decided to leave the awards as the forefathers of the association designed it. Golden Trial award? ask Lisa for more details.

Next board meeting is December 9th at Mike Anderson's in Baton Rouge. Brian Bridges motioned to adjourn, Tony Carter second all were in favor ... meet

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MEMBERS	HIP CATEGORIES (select one) and Business Types (sele	ect all that apply – up to 5)				
A licensed or more of the lines	MBER (Voting) - \$ Based on gross sales per year (below) repermitted business or person (in Louisiana only) engaged in one or business types listed in box at right Please select no more than 5.  Annual Gross Sales \$0 - \$249,999 \$250,000 or more  EMBER (Non-Voting) - \$150.00 - includes out-of-state businesses a - Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS) A business/person selling any nonch as chemicals, containers, equipment, fertilizer, garden décor or urance, mulch, soil, stones, etc. Product(s) sold:  te State: Please select no more than 5.  MBER (Non-Voting) - \$25.00 To fany horticulture business with a paid regular membership To to more than 5.  T/EDUCATION MEMBER (Non-Voting) - \$25.00 To fa government or non-profit entity, having a job responsibility in or closely related field University Education/Extension/Research (U) Tal/Regulatory Government Agency (GV) To dens or Parks (PG)	The *Business Type designation is used in LNLA's membership directory and website. Check each   that applies - up to 5.    Arborist/Urban Forester (A)     Interior Plant Maintenance (IM)     Irrigation Contractor (IR)     Landscape Horticulture (LH)     Landscape Design/Architect (LA)     Landscape/Lawn Maintenance (LM)     Plant Broker (BR)     Retail Nursery / Garden Center (GC)     Small Greenhouse/Field Grower (SG) -grow/sell direct to consumers     Sod/Turf Producer (T)     Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS)     Wholesale Field Grower (WF) -balled/container woody plants, perennials				
RETIREE MEMI	<b>BER</b> ( $Non-Voting$ ) ( <b>R</b> ) – \$25.00 - Any person formerly actively employ before retirement from that employment.	ed in horticulture or closely related field and having been a paid				
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Make check payable to: Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association  Mail check and entire form to: LNLA, PO Box 1447, Mandeville, LA 70470						
SEND DUES	& APPLICATION BY MARCH 1 TO BE IN ANNUAL MEM	BER DIRECTORY TOTAL Amount: \$				

# The LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station LSUAgCenter.com/hammond Home of the Louisiana's Ornamental Plant Trials and Louisiana Super Plants The Hammond Research Station is the LSU AgCenter's official destination for Ornamental Horticulture research and extension in support of the Nursery and Landscape Industry. Our mission is to strengthen the green industry through improving nursery production, promoting sustainable landscape practices, and evaluating emerging specialty crops.



# Support Louisiana's green industry by joining your regional association. Contact the following:

BRLA: Elena Fennell, Secretary, (e) ecfennell@cox.net, (p) 225-921-4095
CLNA: Myra Poole Maloney, President, 75 Nick Strange Road, LeCompte, LA 71346, (p) 318-321-6046,
(e) myramaloney41@gmail.com
LIA: Severn C. Doughty, Sr., Executive Secretary/Treasuer, (e) scd357@gmail.com

LIA: Severn C. Doughty, Sr., Executive Secretary/Treasuer, (e) scd35/@gmail.com NOHS: Shaun Hebert (e) nohs1885@gmail.com

SELNA: William Afton, LSU AgCenter County Agent, St. Tammany Parish, Secretary, SE LA Nursery Association, 1301 N. Florida St., Covington, LA 70433 (p) 985.875.2635, (f)985.875.2639, www.selna.org

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Business card Color	3-1/2" X 2"	\$110	\$420	\$270

Ad Specifications: Ads should be saved in a jpeg or tiff format, with fonts converted to curves. Deadline: Ads are due the first of the month each quarter (March, June, September, December). For Questions and Ad Submissions Contact: Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (E) <a href="mailto:carijanelnla@gmail.com">carijanelnla@gmail.com</a> (P) 985-237-2939.



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