



YOUR NORTH FLORIDA YARD & GARDEN

Flagler County Extension Service & UF/IFAS Florida
Master Gardeners

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From the MG Desk...

*Ruth Micieli, HPA,II and
Master Gardener Coordinator*



How do you know it's summertime in Florida?
It's hot, rainy and windy!

This is the time to prepare your landscape as well as your family for hurricanes. Make an evacuation plan, pack a hurricane kit, and make sure you include and prepare for your pets, companion and/or livestock animals, as well. For information on how to make a plan visit the Flagler Emergency Services at <http://www.flagleremergency.com/> or the Florida Division of Emergency Management at <http://www.floridadisaster.org/family/> to make your family plan.

Q: My citrus trees are dropping small fruit right now. Why is this happening?

A: This is commonly caused by environmental stresses, age, variety and some fungal diseases. We've also seen many citrus trees with more fruit than they can bear, so they will drop the excess. There is nothing that can be done to stop the fruit from dropping at this point in time. The plants need to be properly cared for and kept as healthy as possible for good fruit production.

The Foundation for The Gator Nation
An Equal Opportunity Institution

(Continued on page 16)



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WWW.FLAGLERCOUNTY.ORG

OR

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Flagler County Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program

Do you:

Enjoy working with people and plants? Have a passion for gardening? Love to learn and share your knowledge? Want to be a part of a GREAT volunteer team?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, we want to meet with you!

The Flagler County Master Gardener Program is accepting applications for the Fall 2012 training program. To request a packet contact the Flagler County Extension office by July 27, 2012, 4 pm.

“Starting a Successful Cottage Food Business” -Hosted by University of Florida Extension July 23rd, 10:00 am- 11:30 am at First Coast Technical College, Building C Demonstration Kitchen, located at 2980 Collins Ave., St. Augustine, FL.

This program will cover Florida’s new cottage food regulations, food safety, and labeling. Cottage foods by definition are foods made in the home for resale that do not require refrigeration. These include but are not limited to jams, jellies, preserves, honey, cakes and pies.

Program cost- \$10 per person, covers materials and lunch prepared by Chef David Bearl, First Coast Technical College.

Pre-registration is required by July 17th. To register contact the UF Partnership for Water, Agriculture and Community Sustainability in Hastings at 904- 692-4944.



The Good...

Drift® Roses

http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/giam/plants_and_grasses/flowering_plants/roses_drift.html

If you keep up with plant trends, you're probably familiar with the Knockout® roses that are touted as being tough, easy-care shrub roses. But what if you're looking for a smaller rose to tuck into a container garden or a tiny corner of your landscape?

Well, you're in luck. The company that launched the Knockout® series also has a series of smaller roses called Drift® roses. Like Knockout® roses, the roses in the Drift® series bloom almost continuously and offer flower colors that include apricot, peach, pink, coral, red, and pale yellow that turns to white.

Drift® roses are the result of a cross between groundcover roses and miniature roses, and the result is a compact rose that's perfect for growing in containers, at the front of landscape beds, or as a groundcover. Individual plants will grow two to three feet wide and just one and a half feet tall.

Drift® roses generally have good disease resistance and require less spraying than hybrid tea roses. They are best suited for planting in USDA Hardiness Zones 4-10.

Planting and Care

Choose a spot that receives at least six hours of sunlight. Plant the rose in a hole that's about twice as wide as the root ball and no deeper. Fill in the hole with soil, and apply mulch around the plant but not on top of the root ball. As with other roses, it is always best to amend the soil with plenty of organic matter.

If you're planting your rose in a container, choose a pot with good drainage holes and use a high-quality potting mix.

No matter where you're planting, water your rose thoroughly at the time of planting and then regularly until it's established.

Most roses benefit from periodic applications of fertilizer during the growing season. Shop for a product containing all or some of the nutrients in a slow-release form.

Drift® roses are relatively problem free in many areas and have excellent disease resistance to rust, powdery mildew, and black spot. However, they can be susceptible to chili thrips and cercospora leaf spot.



Coral Drift® —Conard-Pyle Co.

Deadheading isn't required, but it will encourage reblooming and give the roses a nicer appearance. Here are the most current varieties which should be available at your local nurseries and garden centers.

Want to see what they look like? Stop by the Flagler County Extension office. We have the Red Drift® planted in our Memorial Garden and Peach Drift® in our Rose Garden.

Name Flower	Color	Flower Form	Size
Apricot Drift® (Rosa 'Meimirrote')	Apricot	Double;	1 1/2"
Coral Drift® (Rosa 'Meidrifora')	Bright coral orange	Cuplike;	1 1/2"
Peach Drift® (Rosa 'Meiggili')	Soft peach	Cuplike/ small	1 1/2"
Pink Drift® (Rosa 'Meijocos')	Pink with a white center	Semi-double;	1 1/2"
Red Drift® (Rosa 'Meigalpio')	Medium red	Cuplike/ very small;	3/4"
Sweet Drift® (Rosa 'Meiswedom')	Medium pink/light pink	Double;	1 1/2"
Popcorn Drift® (Rosa 'Novarospop')	Yellow, fading to creamy white	Cup shaped;	1 1/2"



Apricot Drift®- from plant breeder Conard-Pyle Co. <http://www.conard-pyle.com>.



Popcorn Drift®- from plant breeder Conard-Pyle Co. <http://www.conard-pyle.com>.



Sweet Drift®- from plant breeder Conard-Pyle Co. <http://www.conard-pyle.com>.



The Bad...

Sedges

There are several types of sedges, yellow nutsedge, globe sedge, purple nutsedge, green kyllinga and Texas sedge, to name a few. All are found in Florida and are, like dollarweed, one of Flagler County's biggest turf problems. They are rapidly growing perennials, although some are annuals.

Purple nutsedge is a tufted large coarse perennial, with waxy-white to purple in color, with a hard base and triangular stems. Leaf blades are waxy, thick, stiff and with sharp finely toothed margins and mid-veins. Seedheads have 5 to 12 leaf-like rays and several dense, head-like, usually lobed, oblong spikes. They reproduce by seed. They are found in disturbed areas, pinelands, coastal hammocks and swamps in central and southern Florida.

Texas sedge is an annual with stems of varying heights. Leaf blades are reddish-brown to greenish-brown. Seedhead branches are tightly clustered to open and diffusely for spreading. Seeds are in long, very narrow, flattened, reddish-brown spikes. Reproduces by seed. Growth is in occasionally moist to wet sandy soils.

Globe sedge is a perennial with densely tufted leaves. The seedhead branches out at the top of the stem. Seeds are in a loose globe-like cluster. Reproduction is by seed. This sedge grows in moist to dry sandy habitats.

Green kyllinga is a mat-forming perennial to 6 inches tall from reddish-purple rhizomes. Leaves and stems, dark green. Seedhead simple. Nearly round or oblong with 3 short leaves just below. Found in low areas or where moisture is in excess. Reproduces by seed and rhizome.

Sedges are not affected by atrazine, the active weed-killing ingredient in weed-n-feed products. And, we are seeing increasing infestations of lawns by sedgegrasses because weed-n-feed products suppress competing weeds but feed kyllinga and the sedgegrasses.

To control purple nut sedge use Image. Basagran is used for yellow nutsedge. It is not recommended to use Round-Up in the lawn as this will kill everything else around it.



Purple Nutsedge -UF/IFAS



Texas Sedge -UF/IFAS



Globe Sedge -UF/IFAS



Green Kyllinga -UF/IFAS



and the Bugglies

E. A. Buss, Assistant Professor, Entomology and Nematology Department, UF/IFAS

Whiteflies

Whiteflies are common pests on many ornamental plants. Some plants most frequently attacked include allamanda, chinaberry, citrus, fringe tree, gardenia, ligustrum, viburnum, persimmon, and many annuals.

Adult whiteflies ([Figure 1](#)) look like tiny white moths, but are more closely related to scale insects. They are only about 1/16 inch long and have four wings. The wings and body are covered with a fine white powdery wax. The immature stages (nymphs) which are found on the underside of leaves are flat, oval in outline, and slightly smaller than a pin head. They are light green to whitish and somewhat transparent ([Figure 2](#)).



Figure 1. Spiraling whitefly adult.



Figure 2. Giant whitefly adult and nymphs.

A generalized life cycle of the whitefly is as follows: The eggs are laid on the undersides of the leaves and hatch in 4 to 12 days into active, six legged nymphs (crawlers). The crawlers move about for several hours, then insert their mouthparts into the leaves and remain in one place for the rest of their immature stages. After molting three times they pupate (resting stage) and are transformed into the adult. The length of the life cycle from egg to adult varies considerably, requiring from 6 weeks to 6 months (winter generation). There are three generations of whiteflies in Florida. In the Gainesville area, these occur in late March, mid June, and late August. They will be approximately 2 to 3 weeks earlier in south Florida and about 1 week later in north Florida.

Whiteflies have piercing-sucking mouthparts with which they puncture the leaf and suck the plant juices. Top sides of leaves on infested plants become pale or spotted due to these insects feeding on the undersides of the leaves. Whiteflies as well as soft scales, mealybugs, and aphids excrete large amounts of honeydew which provides an excellent medium for the growth of a black fungus called sooty mold. Besides being unattractive, sooty mold may interfere with photosynthesis, retard the growth of the plant, and cause early leaf drop. Sooty mold usually weathers away following control of the insect infestation. Ants feed on the honeydew and when ants are noticed, plants should be examined closely for these sucking pests.

Citrus whitefly nymphs, ([Figure 3](#)) one of the more common whitefly species attacking ornamental plants other than citrus, are highly parasitized by a small wasp, *Prospaltella lahorensis*. These parasites were first released in Gainesville and Winter Haven in 1972. Citrus is the primary host of the cloudy winged whitefly, a species closely related to the citrus whitefly. The citrus blackfly is also under biological control due to two tiny wasps which have spread throughout the state after being introduced in Fort Lauderdale.

"Bugs are not going to inherit the earth. They own it now. So we might as well make peace with the landlord." ~ Thomas Eisner



Figure 3. Citrus whitefly nymphs.
Credits: Lyle Buss, University of Florida

Carefully examine infested plants for evidence of parasitism. Parasitized whitefly nymphs will contain the larva or pupa of the parasite or an emergence hole may be visible on a nymph. The parasite does not attack the adult whitefly. If parasitism is evident, avoid using insecticides. Chemical control would prevent the increase of the parasite which could control the pest.

During recent years, the silverleaf (sweetpotato) whitefly has replaced the citrus whitefly as the major whitefly species attacking ornamental plants, especially in South Florida. This whitefly is not yet parasitized to any extent and is difficult to control with chemicals. This species is not attacked by *Prospaltella lahorensis*. Some whiteflies may also be naturally attacked by fungi (*Paecilomyces*) (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Infected whiteflies.
Credits: Lyle Buss, University of Florida

Chemical Control

Insecticides that are labeled for (homeowner use) whitefly control in residential areas are listed in [Table 1](#).

If the whitefly species is hard to control with these products, then it may be the silverleaf species, or QBiotype. Soap or oil sprays are the most effective for homeowners to use against this particular whitefly and are safe to people and the environment. Follow label directions. Thorough coverage on the undersides of the leaves to the point of runoff is especially important when using soap or oil sprays. If a commercial soap or oil is not available, a homemade mixture can be made by

mixing 2 tablespoons of dishwashing liquid (do not use those containing a degreaser or an automatic dishwashing soap or detergent) and 2 tablespoons vegetable cooking oil per gallon of water. Repeat at weekly intervals as needed.

Table 1. Insecticides labeled for non-commercial (homeowner) use against whiteflies in Florida.

Active Ingredient	Trade Name	Chemical Class
Bifenthrin	Ortho Bug-B-Gon Max Lawn & Garden Insect Killer	Pyrethroid
Carbaryl	Sevin	Carbamate
Cyfluthrin	Bayer Advanced Rose & Flower Insect Killer, Schultz Lawn & Garden Insect Killer	Pyrethroid
Imidacloprid	Bayer Advanced Lawn Complete Insect Killer Bayer Advanced Tree & Shrub Insect Control	Neonicotinoid
Neem oil	Bonide Safer BioNeem, Green Light Neem Southern Ag Triple Action Neem Oil	Botanical
Paraffinic oil	Sun Spray Horticultural Oil	Biorational
Potassium salts	Safer's Insecticidal Soap	Biorational
Pyrethrins	Bonide Yard & Garden Insect Killer, Spectracide Rose & Flower Insect Spray	Botanical
Permethrin	Hi-Yield Indoor/Outdoor Broad Use Insecticide	Pyrethroid
Lambda-cyhalothrin	Spectracide Triazicide Once & Done Insect Killer	Pyrethroid
Malathion	Green Light Malathion, Ortho Malathion Plus Insect Spray	Organophosphate



Fresh from Florida

Sweet Corn

Submitted by Sharon A. Treen, County Extension Director, FCS Agent



Florida ranks #1 nationally in the production and value of fresh market sweet corn, typically accounting for approximately 20 percent of both national sweet corn production and of U.S. cash receipts for fresh sales. 589 million pounds of fresh sweet corn, valued at \$189 million, was produced on 42,100 acres in Florida during the 2009-10 season (Sources: USDA and the Florida Sweet Corn Crop profile, 2011).

Nutrition Information

Sweet corn is a good source of many nutrients. A medium-sized ear of corn has about 75 calories and one gram of fat. It supplies carbohydrates, protein, and potassium, and is a good source of dietary fiber. Other nutrients include thiamin (vitamin B1), pantothenic acid (vitamin B5), folate, dietary fiber, vitamin C, phosphorous, and manganese. Corn also contains beta-carotene, and is a useful source of protein.

Selection

Freshness and cool storage after harvest are the secrets to getting good quality corn when shopping. When held in warm temperatures, the sugar in the corn changes to starch. Corn will taste less sweet. Super-sweet varieties hold the sugar content longer than regular corn varieties. When buying corn, look for ears stored in cooler produce sections at local stores or held in the shade or on ice at farmers' markets or roadside stands. Look for husks that are tight, green, and fresh-looking. The stalk should be green and moist and the silk still moist, soft, and light in color.

Storage

Corn is best if you leave it in the husk until you are ready to cook it. It is best to cook corn soon after you buy it or pick it from your garden, so try not to store it too long. If you do have to store it, placing corn in a perforated plastic bag in the crisper of your refrigerator is best.

Preparation

When it comes to cooking, corn is very versatile. Sweet corn can be prepared in or out of the husk using a variety of methods.

Boiling or Steaming: After husking, cook corn by placing ears upright in a stockpot with 1 to 1 1/2 inches of water. Cover the pot and let it steam for about seven minutes after boiling begins. Or lay ears in a pan, with two to three quarts of water. Adding salt to the water can make the corn firmer. Do not overcook.

Microwaving: Corn can also be microwaved in or out of its husk. For the best flavor, remove the outer husks, letting the inner husks remain. After microwaving, pull the husks downward to remove them along with the silk. Or husk and clean each ear, wrap it in waxed paper or plastic wrap or place in a glass dish with a cover, and cook for about two minutes per ear.

Roasting/Grilling: You can grill sweet corn in the husk or out of it. For a milder flavor, soak the corn in husks in cold water, then place them on a hot grill and cook until they're evenly heated on all sides — from 10 to 15 minutes. Husking first gives a much more intense grilled-corn flavor, and will only take five to seven minutes. Turn occasionally to expose all surfaces to the heat. Baste with your favorite herb butter.

Growing Sweet Corn in North Florida

- **Planting time-** Mar-Apr, Aug
- **Days to Harvest-** 60-95
- **Seeds/plants Per 100'-** 2 oz.
- **Spacing (inches)**
Rows- 24-36,
Plants- 12-18

Varieties- Silver Queen (white), How Sweet It Is (white), Sweet Ice (white), Sweet Riser (yellow), Early Sunglow (yellow)

Notes/Comments- Separate super-sweets from standard varieties by time and distance to avoid cross-pollination. Sucker removal not beneficial. Plant in blocks of 2-3 rows. For more information on growing sweet corn, go to <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021> or contact your County Extension office and request a copy of the Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide SP 103.

Source: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, www.Florida-Agriculture.com

Roasted Corn Relish

Yield: 4 servings

3 ears Florida sweet corn, shucked and silk removed or 2 ½ cups whole kernel corn
 ½ cup Florida grape tomatoes cut in half
 ½ cup chopped cilantro
 ¼ cup chopped red onion
 1 teaspoon ground cumin
 Grated peel and juice from one lime
 Salt and pepper to taste.

Grill corn or roast in oven at 350° until kernels begin to brown. Cut off the cob and place in bowl. If using frozen or canned corn, roast in frying pan with small amount of olive oil until kernels begin to brown). Add remaining ingredients and mix well.

Serve as a garnish or side dish.

Nutritional information per serving: Calories 61, Fat 0.8g, Fiber 2.4 g, Protein 2.2 g, Sodium 11 mg

Source: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Fresh from Florida



Firecracker Salad

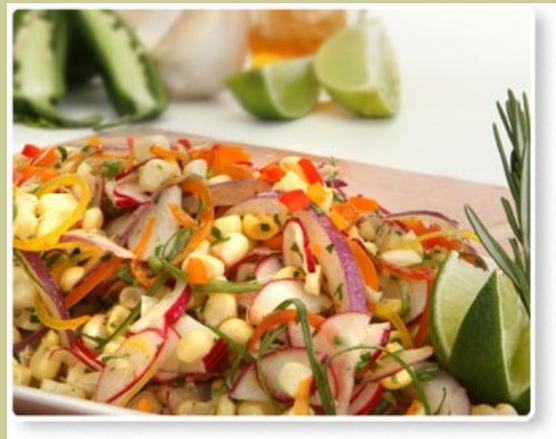
Yield 4 servings

2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
 1 small jalapeno, seeded and coarsely chopped
 1 ½ teaspoons Florida honey
 ¼ teaspoon cumin
 ¼ cup vegetable oil
 Coarse salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
 4 cups fresh Florida corn kernels
 6 medium radishes, halved and thinly sliced crosswise
 ½ cup coarsely chopped Florida flat-leaf parsley
 ¼ small red onion, thinly sliced

To make the dressing, puree the lime juice, jalapeno, honey and cumin in a blender. With the machine on, add the oil. Season with salt and pepper to taste; set aside.

In a large bowl, toss the corn with the radishes, parsley, red onion and dressing. Season the salad with salt and pepper, serve.

Nutritional information per serving: Calories 231; Fat 14g; Cholesterol 0mg; Sodium 126mg; Carbohydrates 28g; Protein 4g. High in Vitamin C





The Urban Forest

The Tulip Tree

Edward F. Gilman and Dennis G. Watson²

Introduction

Tuliptree grows 80 to 100 feet tall and maintains a fairly narrow oval crown, even as it grows older. Trunks become massive in old age, becoming deeply furrowed with thick bark. The tree maintains a straight trunk and generally does not form double or multiple leaders. Older trees have several large-diameter major limbs in the top half of the crown. Tuliptree has a moderate to rapid (on good sites) growth rate at first but slows down with age. The soft wood reportedly is subject to storm damage but the trees held up remarkably well in the south during hurricane 'Hugo'. It is probably stronger than given credit for. The largest trees in the east are in the Joyce Kilmer Forest in NC, some reaching more than 150 feet with seven-foot diameter trunks. The fall color is gold to yellow being more pronounced in the northern part of its range. The scented, tulip-like, greenish-yellow flowers appear in mid-spring but are not as ornamental as those of other flowering trees because they are far from view.



Tulip Poplar fall foliage

General Information

Scientific name: *Liriodendron tulipifera*

Common name(s): Tuliptree, Tulip-Poplar, Yellow-Poplar **Family:** *Magnoliaceae*

USDA hardiness zones: 5A through 9A (Fig. 2) **Origin:** native to North America

Invasive potential: little invasive potential **Uses:** shade

Light requirement: full sun

Trunk/bark/branches: branches don't droop; showy; typically one trunk; thorns

Height: 80 to 100 feet **Flower color:** green, yellow

Spread: 30 to 50 feet **Fruit shape:** elongated

Crown uniformity: symmetrical **Fruit length:** 1 to 3 inches

Crown shape: oval **Fruit covering:** dry or hard

Crown density: moderate **Fruit color:** brown

Growth rate: moderate **Fruit characteristics:** attracts birds; not showy; fruit/leaves a litter problem

Texture: coarse **Soil tolerances:** clay; sand; loam; acidic; well-drained; occasionally wet

(Continued from page 10)

Drought tolerance: moderate

Aerosol salt tolerance: none

Roots: not a problem

Verticillium wilt susceptibility: susceptible

Pest resistance: resistant to pests/diseases

Use and Management

Although a rather large tree, Tulip-Poplar could be used along residential streets with very large lots and plenty of soil for root growth if set back 10 or 15 feet. Not generally planted in large numbers and probably best for a specimen or for lining commercial entrances with lots of soil space. Trees can be planted from containers at any time in the south but transplanting from a field nursery should be done in spring, followed by faithful watering. Plants prefer well-drained, acid soil. Drought conditions in summer can cause premature defoliation of interior leaves which turn bright yellow and fall to the ground, especially on newly-transplanted trees. The tree may be short-lived in parts of USDA hardiness zone 9, although there are a number of young specimens about two feet in diameter in the southern part of USDA hardiness zone 8b.



There are several cultivars: 'Aureo-maculatum' -- leaves with yellow blotches, 'Aureo-marginatum' -- leaves edged with yellow, 'Fastigiatum' -- columnar growth, 'Pyramidale' -- narrow growth habit. None are commonly available.

Pests

Aphids, particularly Tuliptree aphid, can build up to large numbers, leaving heavy deposits of honeydew on lower leaves, cars, and other hard surfaces below. A black, sooty mold may grow on the honeydew. Although this does little permanent damage to the tree, the honeydew and sooty mold can be annoying.

Tuliptree scales are brown, oval and may be first seen on lower branches. Scales deposit honeydew which supports the growth of sooty mold. Use horticultural oil sprays in spring before plant growth begins.

Diseases

Tuliptree is attacked by several cankers. Infected, girdled branches dieback from the tip to the point of infection. Keep trees healthy and prune out infected branches.

Leaf spots are usually not serious enough to warrant chemical controls. Once leaves are heavily infected the opportunity for chemical control is lost. Rake up and dispose of infected leaves. Leaves often fall during summer and litter the ground with yellow, spotted leaves.

Powdery mildew causes a white coating on the leaves and is not usually harmful.

Sooty mold makes a black coating on leaves and stems. The fungus grows on the honeydew left by insects, particularly aphids. Control sooty mold by preventing the build up of insects populations.

Verticillium wilt causes wilting and death of leaves on infected branches. Severe infections kill trees. Keep trees vigorous with a regular maintenance program, including fertilizer.

During hot, dry weather interior leaves turn yellow and fall off. This condition is due to the weather and is not a disease. The problem is most common on newly transplanted trees, but also develops frequently on established trees. Yellowing may be preceded by small, angular, brown spots on the leaves.

Garden Calendar

Flagler County Master Gardeners

July

- General** If it does not rain, water no more than twice a week, putting down 1/2—3/4 inch of water each time.
- If sedges are causing a weed problem, spray with labeled products for control.
- Lawn** If mole crickets are damaging the lawn, begin applying mole cricket bait to control them. Follow the label instructions.
- Food Garden** Pumpkins can still be planted.
- Fruit** Guava should be checked for ripeness this month.
- Fertilize citrus trees with a citrus fertilizer.
- Landscape** Fertilize palm trees with a palm fertilizer containing three to four percent magnesium sulfate.
- Check mulch around all flower beds. If dry and stuck together, break apart with a rake. If mulch is less than two inches thick, add more. Do not mulch over two inches. Be sure mulch is pulled back from shrub and tree trunks to protect against moisture-caused diseases.
- Remove seed heads and old flowers from crape myrtles. Deadheading spent flowers will encourage more blooming.
- Plants that have become too leggy due to summer rains should be cut back. Trim no more than a third of the plant.
- Watch pyracantha and junipers for spider mite damage. Spray with horticultural oil sprays weekly for at least 3 weeks or apply a miticide to control them.
- Annuals that can be planted now are celosia, coleus, crossandras, impatiens, kalanchoe, moss rose, nicotianas, ornamental peppers, periwinkles, Persian violet, salvia, torenia, creeping zinnias, globe amaranth, purslane, and wax begonia.
- Check trees for weak limbs and have them trimmed or removed. Hurricane season started in June. Be prepared.



Hibiscus - *J Resser*

August

General

If it does not rain, water up to twice a week putting down 1/2—3/4 inch of water each time.

Lawn

Mow weekly, but be sure to follow mowing height guidelines for your grass. Use upper height of guidelines to protect lawn during summer heat.

Yellowish or brown patches in St. Augustinegrass along sidewalks and driveways and other water stressed areas where the grass is in full sun may be caused by chinch bugs. Check for chinch bugs by filling a one gallon jug with water. Add 2 tablespoons of liquid dish soap, shake until sudsy and pour on area at the edge of the dead spot (s). After a minute or two, check for small bugs in the soap bubbles. Spot treat for chinch bugs with an approved insecticide. Rotate the type of insecticide to prevent chinch bugs from developing an immunity to one insecticide. If in doubt, bring a sample of the complete plant to the Extension Service. For mole crickets apply a mole cricket bait. Follow the label instructions for application rates and frequency.

Food Garden

Crops that can be planted: pole beans, sweet corn, eggplant, okra, southern peas, peppers, pumpkin, summer squash, winter squash, watermelon, tomatoes, and cucumbers.

Fruit

Pineapple should be checked for ripeness this month.

Landscape

This is the last month to “shape” poinsettias by cutting back. Do not pinch or prune after August 31st.

Spray roses weekly with a fungicide labeled for black spot fungus.

Annuals and perennials to plant this month include coleus, marigolds, salvia, verbena, ornamental peppers, nicotiana, and sunflowers.

If you cut back summer annuals, you can get new growth, bushier plants, and more flowers. Wax begonias, coleus, and impatiens respond well to being cut back.

Hand pull weeds rather than cultivating with a rake to protect the roots of your plants.

Yes it's hot! It's a good month to sit back and enjoy your earlier efforts from the pool!



Princess Flower - *J Resser*

September

General If it does not rain, water up to twice per week putting down 1/2—3/4 inch of water each time.

Lawn Fertilize with a 15-0-15, 8-2-12, 10-4-10 or similar formula slow release fertilizer.

Check for webworms and armyworms. If present and causing damage to the lawn, apply a Bt product in accordance with the label instructions, as needed.

Fill in dead areas with plugs or sod. Water them regularly after planting.

Food Garden Thanks to our Florida weather, this is a great month to plant a cool season vegetable garden.

Cool season crops that can be planted are beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, mustard, parsley, radish, summer squash.

Fruit Check peach trees for scale. If present, spray with horticultural oil as needed.

Fertilize pears, grapes, and figs with a complete slow release fertilizer.

Fertilize citrus with a citrus fertilizer containing at least two percent magnesium.

Grape vines that are long and lacking leaves can be pruned back.

Landscape Fertilize azaleas, bougainvilleas and poinsettias with a slow release fertilizer.

Fertilize palm trees with palm tree fertilizer.

Inspect roses weekly for black spot fungus. If necessary, apply a fungicide labeled for black spot fungus.

A nice fall planting is digitalis (Foxglove). You can also plant wax begonias, Shasta daisy, marigolds, pansy, petunia, snap dragon and verbena.



Snapdragon - UF/IFAS

KIDZ
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10 Years of Summer Camps!

Ruth A. Micieli, HPA,II and Master Gardener Coordinator

Every summer for the past 10 years, the Flagler County Extension Service 4-H Youth Program offers “Summer Fun Day Camp” programs to all Flagler County youth ages 8-12 years old.



Over the years, our programs have evolved and changed to meet the needs and requests of our “campers”.

This summer we are offering 5 different camps including Sewing, Fishing, Coastal Exploration, Cooking and Gardening. Camps are filled to capacity, with waiting lists for any vacancies.

All of these programs are planned and conducted by our staff and volunteers who donate their time to provide quality, one-on-one attention and supervision to the children. We are very thankful to the Flagler County Master Gardeners and Memory Makers Quilting Guild for their time, talent and support! We could not do these camps without them!!

The adults gain just as much from these programs as the children! One Master Gardener volunteered to help with the sewing camp and said she learned something new form the program, too! She also brought in her antique sewing machine to show the group.

This program is all about learning, sharing, caring and giving to our community and youth.



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Q: With all this rain we've been getting lately, how is it going to affect my lawn?

A: Excessive amounts of standing water can cause damage and encourage fungal diseases in the landscape. If your property is poorly drained or holds water for a long period of time, you may see problems such as gray leaf spot fungus, pythium root rot or take-all root rot in the turfgrasses.

Make sure you shut off your irrigation system during heavy rainfall periods. If you are going to be away, check your rain shut-off device to make sure it is working properly, before you leave. There's nothing more frustrating than coming home to a rotted yard!



C - cut with sharp blade;
D - torn with dull blade



Gray Leaf Spot– UF/IFAS



Sharpening the Mower Blade

It may seem like a dull chore, but sharpening your lawnmower's blade is actually one of the best things you can do for your lawn.

No matter what kind of mower you have, it works by cutting the grass with a blade. But when the cutting edge is dull, it actually tears the grass instead of slicing it. Torn grass blades make the plants more vulnerable to disease, sun damage, and insects.

Generally, your mower blade should be sharpened at least twice a year. It may need more frequent sharpening depending on the size of your lawn, grass type, and how often you mow.

Rotary mower blades should be sharpened and also balanced, to prevent damage to the mower. Reel mower blades are best sharpened by a professional mower repair service.

For more information on sharpening your mower blade contact your county Extension office or visit GardeninginaMinute.com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Environmental Horticulture Department, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM