

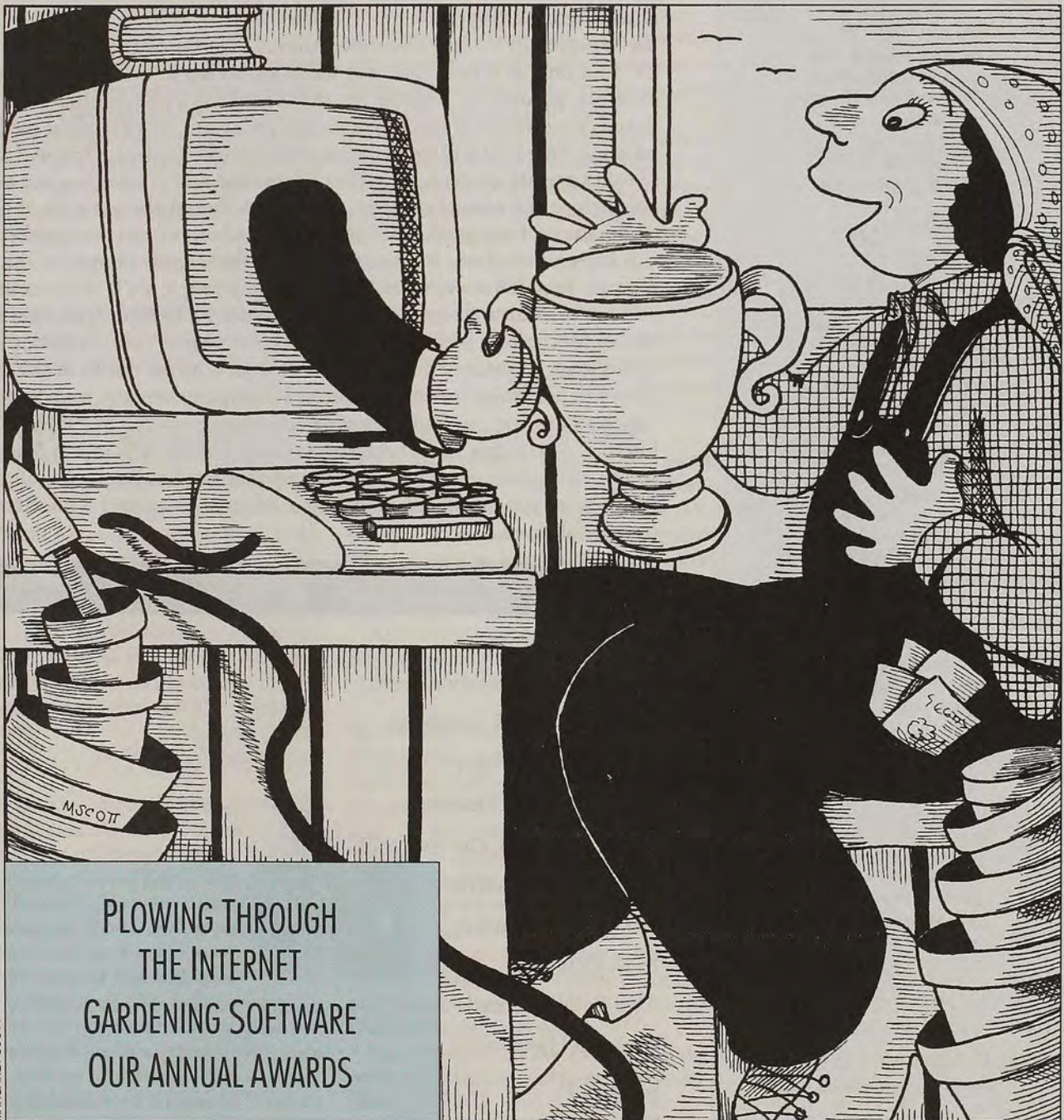
NEWS EDITION

# American Horticulturist

May 1995

A Publication of the American Horticultural Society

\$2.00



PLOWING THROUGH  
THE INTERNET  
GARDENING SOFTWARE  
OUR ANNUAL AWARDS

MARGARET SCOTT



## American Horticultural Society

*The American Horticultural Society seeks to promote and recognize excellence in horticulture across America.*

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# American Horticulturist

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May 1995

## ARTICLES

### Kudos and Kilobytes

We're especially excited about our Annual Meeting next month, June 22-24. Not only is it our 50th, but we're gathering in one of the most incredible gardening regions in the country—Philadelphia and the Brandywine Valley of Pennsylvania and Delaware. As part of the meeting package, members will tour two inspiring private gardens. Optional tours of other private gardens, as well as Longwood and Winterthur, are available before and after the meeting. Members should also get a lot of practical ideas on both garden design and plant choices from our speakers.

A high point of our meetings is always the awards dinner on the last night, and in this issue, we tell you about the people we'll be honoring.

If you can't arrange to join other members in Philadelphia, another possibility for chatting with fellow gardeners is as near as your computer. Also in this issue, Assistant Editor Terri Huck reports on the results of our mini-survey to determine members' interest in computer services, and describes various ways you can find gardening information on-line by "surfing" the Internet. Also in this issue, Editorial Assistant Nikole Williamson describes some of the computer software packages that serve as horticultural references or let you landscape your home, often in color and with three dimensional views.

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# MEMBERS' FORUM

## A Call for Cooperation

I was encouraged by your recent issue discussing the exotic species problem—not by the problem itself, which grows worse by the minute, but by your recognition of its severity and your willingness to devote a whole issue to its discussion.

The obvious conclusion for your readers should be that responsible horticulturists, natural area managers, APHIS [the federal Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service], and the nursery industry should begin to work together (for a change!). I hope readers will carry this message to the leaders of those entities.

Guy Sternberg  
Petersburg, Illinois

*Sternberg is on the board of directors of the Illinois Native Plant Society and a member of the Illinois Nurserymen's Association.*

## Request for a List

I was very interested in your issue about invasive plants. What would be most helpful to amateur gardeners such as myself is a printed list specifying for each quadrant of the United States the invasive plants, trees, vines, or shrubs that have become a problem in those areas. Your magazine stated that many garden centers sell, and even landscape architects purchase, plants that shouldn't be used. How are we, the non-professionals, to know about them if some magazine doesn't alert us to the problem as you have?

Lucy L. Fowler  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

*At the time we wrote the articles, the only national, state-by-state list we knew of was still being compiled by the newly formed Exotic Pest Plant Council. They have since done more work on it and agreed to let us distribute it to our members. We estimate that with some reformatting it will be six pages long, so printing it in our News Edition would be impractical. We will be happy to reproduce it for members who send \$2 plus a self-addressed stamped envelope to us at 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308.*



## Our Impact on the Planet

In response to Ronald J. Beavers Jr.'s letter, "Environment Not a Luxury," in the March issue, I agree with his remarks one hundred percent. It behooves every person on this planet, whether she/he is or is not a gardener, to give serious thought to her/his impact on it, not when it is convenient or politically expedient for a few hours, or on Earth Day, but on a daily basis.

I believe that for organizations such as the American Horticultural Society to bring environmental concerns to the attention of the membership is an important and necessary function. None of us can afford to sit back and ignore the fact that all of our activities, including gardening, have an impact, positive or negative, on the environment, in both the short term and the long term.

Suzanne Reed  
Silver Spring, Maryland

## Disappointment and Shame

Bravo for Ronald J. Beavers Jr.! I agree with him in every way. I too felt disappointment and shame that fellow gardeners should assume such a negative stance about *American Horticulturist's* focus on gardening that is healthy for people, wildlife, and the natural world.

A wonderful publication for a wonderful organization!  
Ann Kratzer  
St. Clair Shores, Michigan

## Spreading the Word

To the people who have OD'd on "environmental stuff"—we truly need more, not less, or we will OD on environmental stuff!

As a garden designer, horticultural consultant, lecturer, and teacher, I spread the word constantly on chemical-free gardening. I am proud to say that I have reached many people—and many have changed! They call me to say "Thanks—my gardens are more beautiful and alive than ever before!"

I am thrilled with the AHS encouragement of environmentally responsible gardening.

Colleen Traylor  
Holly, Michigan

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# GARDENERS' INFORMATION SERVICE

**Q:** A plant presented as a clue in a PBS television mystery series was called "gromwell." What can you tell us about this plant? —E.A., Bethesda, Maryland

**A:** According to *Hortus Third* and the New York Botanical Garden *Encyclopedia of Horticulture*, gromwell is the common name for plants in the genus *Lithospermum*. The genus consists of 44 species of hairy perennial herbs found on all continents except Australia. The roots are used to produce a red or purple dye, and the profuse flowers vary from orange to white to shades of blue. Some species are cultivated in rock gardens and in borders. Several dwarf shrubs once included in this genus are now classified as *Lithodora*. One source of *Lithospermum* is Prairie Seed Source, P.O. Box 83, North Lake, WI 53064.

**Q:** I can't find information on the handkerchief tree. What can you tell me about it?

—B.J., Hilton Head, South Carolina

**A:** The handkerchief tree, *Davidia involucrata*, is rare. A native of China, it is also known as the dove tree. Its common names are derived from its flowering habit. The flowers have white bracts of unequal size, the lower bract being about seven by four inches and the upper bract about four by two inches. It is usually grown as a specimen tree and can attain a height of 20 by 40 feet. In Michael Dirr's *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, he compares its shape to a linden's. The oval leaves are two to five inches long, and the oval fruits, which are one to two inches in diameter, become red in fall. It apparently has no serious pests and is hardy in USDA Zones 6 to 8. About its only fault is that it doesn't bloom until it is more than 10 years old.

Many public gardens have specimens of the dove tree. The one in the Asian area of the U.S. National Arboretum will be blooming this month.

There are a number of mail-order

sources, including: Fairweather Gardens, P.O. Box 330, Greenwich, NJ 08323, (609) 451-6261 (catalog \$3); Forestfarm, 990 Tetherow Road, Williams, OR 97544, (503) 846-6963 (catalog \$3); Gossler Farms Nursery, 1200 Weaver Road, Springfield, OR 97478, (503) 746-3922 (catalog \$2); and Greer Gardens, 1280 Goodpasture Island Road, Eugene, OR 97401, (503) 686-8266 (catalog \$3).

**Q:** I know I am supposed to rotate my vegetable crops, especially heavy feeders and lighter feeders. But I'm not sure which plants are heavy feeders and which are not. —T.B., East Lansing, Michigan

**A:** Heavy feeders are those plants that need substantial nutrient uptake for normal healthy growth and maximum crop yields. They include asparagus, broccoli, cabbages, cauliflower, celery, collards, corn, cucumbers, eggplants, kale, lettuce, okra, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, rhubarb, spinach, squash, and tomatoes. Lighter feeders include carrots, garlic, mustard, onions, shallots, and turnips. All of these crops should be rotated with leguminous crops that give back nutrients, especially nitrogen, to the soil. Soil-restoring legumes include alfalfa, clover, beans, peanuts, peas, and soybeans.

Many people make crop rotation more complicated than necessary. When rotating heavy-feeding, light-feeding, and nitrogen-providing plants, try the following plan: Grow a nitrogen crop the first season and plow it under in the fall or early spring; follow it with a light feeder and add compost to the area in the fall or early spring; follow this with a heavy feeder crop. After harvesting the heavy feeder, sow a green cover crop and repeat the cycle.

You can also plan your crop rotation by plant families. In fact, the most important rotation practice you should follow is to never plant the same family of plants in the same space each year. This is especially crucial for families susceptible to disease and insect problems, such as Solanaceae or nightshade family,



## CLUELESS

Sometimes—just sometimes—GIS is stumped. This seems to be our season for solving television mysteries. We received a call from CBS regarding a script for a murder mystery with Bill Cosby in the role of a detective and a plant called "Chinese petunia" in the role of a clue. But we have been unable to verify that such a plant exists. Do any of our readers have a clue, or is the Chinese petunia just a figment of a TV scriptwriter's feverish imagination?

If you have information on this plant, please call our Gardeners' Information Service at (800) 777-7931 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, or write us at 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308-1300.

which includes eggplants, potatoes, peppers, and tomatoes; Cruciferae, which includes broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, mustard, and kale; and Cucurbitaceae, which includes pumpkins, squash, cucumbers, and melons.

**Q:** I bought some tuberous begonias this year, and I'm already worried. How easy is it to overwinter them?

—T.V., Sunman, Indiana

**A:** The New York Botanical Garden *Encyclopedia of Horticulture* suggests that bedded or potted begonias be brought indoors just after the first frost. Put the plants in a dry, shady place where there is some air circulation and permit their tops to die. Then remove the tops and store the tubers in shallow trays or in net bags, suspended to protect them from rodents. The storage temperature should be about 50 degrees. Some types of tubers seem to make it easily through this process, while others fare poorly.

—Neil Pelletier, Director  
Gardeners' Information Service





# CONSERVATIONIST'S NOTEBOOK

## Crossed Palms

In 1941, botanist Robert Vines of Houston found an unusual grouping of palmettos, including one 18 feet tall, in a thick wood along the Gulf Coast in Brazoria County, Texas, about 50 miles south of Houston. Since no native tree-size palms were then known north of the lower Rio Grande Valley, about 240 miles to the southwest, Vines theorized the palms might be mature specimens of small, trunked palms found in Louisiana and southeast Texas, *Sabal louisiana*. In 1944, however, Cornell botanist Liberty Hyde Bailey declared *S. louisiana* to be a caulescent, or trunked, form of *S. minor*, a dwarf palmetto native from North Carolina south and west to Florida, Missouri, and Texas. Typical dwarf palmettos exhibit little or no above-ground trunk, the leaves emerging almost directly from the ground.

Intrigued by Vines' description of the Brazoria palms, Austin resident Landon Lockett, an accomplished linguist with a strong interest in ecology and conservation, visited the site in the mid '60s. Sidetracked for several years teaching in Mexico and Brazil, Lockett and his wife, Carol, returned in 1989 to take another look at the palms and were dismayed to learn the land on which they were growing was for sale. He immediately contacted both The Nature Conservancy of Texas and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to urge conservation of the trees. "I just made up my mind this was something unusual that needed to be saved," says Lockett.

Lockett enlisted the aid of Robert W. Read, a palm specialist about to retire from his position as a botanist at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. Based on photographs and specimens sent by Lockett, Read suspected the palms might be a form of the Texas palmetto (*S. mexicana*), a tall palm native to Central America and Mexico but not known to occur naturally north of the southernmost tip of Texas. Read found reference in a 1908 U.S.

Department of Agriculture publication to tall palm trees seen in the wild not far south of the Brazoria site as late as 1876.

Seeking to prove that the northern range of *S. mexicana* had once been much greater than was believed, Lockett began looking for a wild population of the palms in the Brazoria region. Almost immediately, he found a small cluster of *S. mexicana*, some more than 20 feet tall, growing a short distance south of Brazoria. Scouring journals and records of the Spanish explorers who first colonized the area, he discovered several references to tall palm trees along the central Gulf Coast of Texas. The palms' disappearance from the coast in the late 19th century apparently resulted from their use as pilings for wharves and as landscape transplants. Lockett and Read suspect the palm once ranged along the rivers of the central Gulf Coast of Texas as far north as the San Bernard River in Brazoria County.

After examining the Brazoria palms on site, Read concluded they were likely a hybrid of *S. mexicana* and *S. minor*. According to Read, the palms show characteristics of leaf structure that are intermediate between the two species and more variation between individual specimens than is usually seen in nonhybrid species at one location. Read plans to publish a detailed evaluation of the palms. If confirmed as a hybrid species, the Brazoria palms would be the only naturally occurring and reproducing hybrid palms known in the United States. Read and Lockett are proposing to name the Brazoria palms *S. ×texensis*.

Armed with the conclusions of his and Read's research, Lockett resumed his campaign to secure conservation of the palms, pointing out that the site constitutes a natural genetic laboratory where researchers could study an ongoing evolutionary process in its ecological context. Lockett and others interested in the conservation of the palms raised \$43,000 and finally convinced The Nature Conservancy to purchase the Brazoria property. After more than two years of ne-



INTERNATIONAL PALM SOCIETY

gotiations with the property owners, in March 1994 the conservancy purchased 23 acres of the approximately 90-acre tract on which the trunked palms are scattered. Robert Potts, director of conservation programs for the conservancy's Texas office, says the purchased portion contains the majority of the trunked palms, but Lockett is hoping the remainder of the property can be purchased to keep the palms' habitat intact. The Nature Conservancy is planning to transfer the land to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sometime this year. According to Mike Lange, a wildlife biologist with the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), the site will fall under the jurisdiction of the Brazoria NWR complex, a collection of preserves in the Brazoria County region totaling about 70,000 acres. Lange praised Lockett's role in calling attention to the palms. "If it wasn't for Landon's interest and persistence, it's unlikely the palms would have been protected."

Apparently a lot of other people feel the same way, because the Native Plant Society of Texas presented Lockett with the Nancy Benedict Memorial Award last October, "for an act of conservation and public service in the field of Texas native plants."

—David J. Ellis  
Assistant Editor







# MAIL-ORDER EXPLORER

## Championing the Southeast

When it comes to sources for unusual plants, especially southeastern natives, Woodlanders, Inc., in Aiken, South Carolina, is high on the lists of most avid horticulturists. "I view them as a national treasure. They've been remarkable in introducing and growing things no one has tried before," says J. C. Raulston, director of North Carolina State University Arboretum in Raleigh.

Garden writer and photographer Pamela Harper, author of *Color Echoes* and *Designing with Perennials*, says the nursery "offers an enormous range of plants that are not available at other nurseries. There's a great spirit of adventure there. In the current climate, when everybody is talking about natural gardens, they were one of the first nurseries to introduce a lot of southeastern natives."

Bringing the little-known native plants of the Southeast to the attention of gardeners was one of the reasons Robert and Julia Mackintosh founded Woodlanders in 1980. Originally a landscape architect, Robert says he "got tired of dealing with people, but loved working with plants." Before moving to Aiken in 1975, the couple worked in New England and on the Caribbean island of Grenada, where Julia, who has degrees in architecture and biology, worked as a teacher. Shortly after starting the nursery, the couple met Robert McCartney, who at the time was the horticulturist for Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, and convinced him to become a partner. McCartney's background in conservation and wildlife management had familiarized him with southeastern native plants. His seed-collecting forays in the United States and overseas—including a recent trip to Argentina—have produced many of Woodlanders' plant introductions.

George Mitchell, who worked with the Mackintoshes in Grenada, handles most of the propagation duties. Four other employees round out the staff of the surprisingly

compact—less than two-acre—nursery.

Among Woodlanders' clients are many East Coast arboreta, some of which permit the nursery to propagate their new plant species. Sylvester March, head of Education and Visitor Services at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., says Woodlanders is one of the nurseries it provides with an initial stock of seeds or cuttings from new plants. "We see them as a key source of rare and unusual plants for the American public," says March.

Joan Feely, curator of the arboretum's native plant collection, says Woodlanders has "a pretty remarkable selection of magnolias, including anise magnolia (*Magnolia salicifolia*), and a number of osmanthus you don't often see elsewhere." The arboretum has also used the nursery as a source for *Conradina*, a low-growing shrub with gray needlelike leaves, and for uncommon evergreen gingers such as *Hexastylis speciosum* and *H. arifolia*.

Woodlanders' plants are also integrated into animal habitat reconstructions at the North Carolina Zoological Park in Asheville, North Carolina. Virginia Wall, the zoo's curator of horticulture, says McCartney visited the park and suggested plants for various habitats, including an African savanna exhibit and a swamp area. "What's so good about them is that we know the plants are nursery-propagated. I also like their encouragement of natives—they are prime movers in that area."

Cheryl Lowe, managing horticulturist for the New England Wild Flower Society's Garden in the Woods in Framingham,



Massachusetts, says the society has been purchasing from Woodlanders since 1981. "A lot of southeastern natives have proven hardy here," says Lowe, listing native wisterias, osmanthus, *Styrax americanus*, and *Magnolia ashei*. A hardier selection of the Carolina jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*), however, succumbed to the hard winter of 1994.

Woodlanders is one of the few nurseries that propagates and sells several plants on the federally endangered list. Because fed-

eral law restricts interstate commerce in endangered species, however, these plants can only be mailed within South Carolina or purchased at the nursery. McCartney feels strongly that the restrictions on interstate commerce are actually counterproductive to conservation. "Without a legitimate source for these plants, the only way for determined people to get their hands on them is to take them from the wild," he says. He would like to see a process by which nurseries could become certified to propagate and sell endangered species. Some botanists argue that allowing endangered species to grow out of their native range risks corruption of the gene pool, but McCartney's philosophy is that species spread naturally over time and many common ornamentals are the product of merged genotypes.

Harry Elkins, a retired school teacher living in Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan, grows several endangered species—including Virginia round-leaf birch (*Betula uber*), Florida stinking cedar (*Torreya taxifolia*), and dwarf fringetree (*Chionanthus pygmaeus*)—that he picked up during visits to Woodlanders. "It's a lot of fun knowing that there is a place that handles these plants," he says. Elkins has also been impressed that Woodlanders has kept the price of its plants down. "I've seen the same plants sold at other nurseries where the size and quality don't measure up, and sometimes the prices are up to three times as much."

Norman Beal, a retired county Extension agent living in Raleigh, North Carolina, concurs. "They have such high-quality, good-size plants at a very competitive price, and they are constantly bringing in new plants that are not available anywhere else. All the progressive nurseries seem to be following those guidelines." —D.E.

Woodlanders does not accept orders or ship plants between April 1 and September 30, but you can get on the mailing list for the 1995-96 catalog, published in September, by sending \$2 to Woodlanders, Inc., 1128 Colleton Avenue, Aiken, SC 29801.



# PLANTS AND YOUR HEALTH

## Devil in Angel's Petals

A spate of poisoning incidents involving teenagers in several states has been linked to intentional ingestion of *Datura* and related *Brugmansia* species. Particularly abused is *Datura stramonium*, a weedy North American native known as jimsonweed, thorn apple, stink weed, or angel's trumpet. Unaware of the deadly nature of these plants, but intrigued by their reputed hallucinogenic qualities, adolescents are sometimes tempted to eat or make a tea out of various plant parts.

Ornamental daturas and brugmansias are also coming under close scrutiny, particularly in southern states where these mainly subtropical species flourish. In January, following an incident in which several youths became ill, the city council in the central Florida city of Maitland passed an ordinance banning the planting of certain *Datura* and *Brugmansia* species. And officials with the Orange County, Florida, sheriff's department, hampered by an inability to regulate misuse of the plants, are putting together a proposal for legislation that would add the combination of active chemicals found in *Datura* and *Brugmansia* species to the state list of controlled substances. Possession of parts of the plants in an altered form would then be illegal.

All members of the *Datura* and *Brugmansia* genera contain the toxic alkaloids atropine, hyoscyamine, and scopolamine. Certain species have traditionally been used by native cultures around the world for medicinal or ceremonial purposes. Atropine was at one time used in the treatment of asthma, and ophthalmologists have used it to induce pupil dilation.

Steven Foster, author of numerous books on poisonous and medicinal plants, says members of the *Datura* genus are especially hazardous because the concentration of toxic alkaloids varies from plant to plant, from one part of a plant to another, and from season to season. "The problem with belladonna-type alkaloids is that even when



*Jimsonweed (Datura stramonium)*

used therapeutically the toxic dose and the therapeutic dose are so close it has to be highly controlled," says Foster. "There's no way of gauging the dosage in crude plant material. In other words, it's an extremely dangerous practice."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, based in Atlanta, Georgia, published a report about the dangers of jimsonweed, which is blamed for the deaths of two teenagers in Texas last June, in the January 27 issue of its publication *Morbidity and Mortality*. According to the report, incidents of jimsonweed poisoning are usually sporadic, but a "clustering of cases may follow press and broadcast reports that . . . do not emphasize the adverse effects" of jimsonweed ingestion.



In 1993, the American Association of Poison Control Centers received 318 reports of jimsonweed exposure. Jimsonweed did not rank among the top 20 plants named in poison control center calls. But some of those plants, such as the poinsettia, are erroneously reputed to be poisonous, while the incidents regarding jimsonweed consumption are more likely to require medical care.

Believed native to North America but

widely naturalized around the world, jimsonweed is an annual that grows two to five feet tall with coarsely toothed, dark green leaves and trumpet-shaped white to purple flowers that can reach five inches in length. The name "stink weed" derives from the unpleasant smell of the plant, while "thorn apple" refers to the spine-covered capsular fruit it bears. Symptoms of jimsonweed poisoning occur within 30 to 60 minutes after ingestion and, depending on how much is eaten and the concentration of the alkaloids, may include thirst, blurred vision, rapid heartbeat, agitation, hallucinations, seizures, coma, and death. Because the alkaloids slow the digestive process, symptoms may continue for as long as 48 hours.

Inconsistency in the taxonomy and common names of *Datura* and *Brugmansia* species has led to confusion both in poisoning incidents and in gardening circles. The genera were at one time united in the *Datura* genus, but taxonomists now seem to accept a division between the shrubby herbaceous daturas, which are often grown as annuals and have upward-pointing flowers, and the taller woody brugmansias, which are more commonly grown as tree-like shrubs and have drooping flowers. Both genera have been known by the common name of angel's trumpet, but garden writers seem to be leaning toward reserving that name for brugmansias and using variations on the name thorn apple for daturas.

Despite the toxicity associated with both genera, many gardeners find the exotic foliage and large, fragrant, evening-blooming flowers of the ornamental species too irresistible to exclude from their gardens. Those who do choose to grow them are advised to take some precautions to prevent ingestion by children. Such precautions could include planting them in the back of flower beds and out of sight or reach of passersby, and deadheading the flowers to prevent production of seed pods. Gardeners are also advised to take care when handling the plants. The juice from bruised flowers or stems can cause ill effects if transferred to the mouth or eyes—for instance, when inserting contact lenses. —D.E.



# Taking Root in Cyberspace

In recent months, there has been an explosion of interest in the Internet, the worldwide network of computers. Everyone is experimenting with this new technology that promises to revolutionize the way we share information. Gardeners are no exception.

Those who haven't been bitten by the bug may not understand the tremendous appeal of gardening on the Internet, where, at the touch of a button, you can converse with gardeners nationwide or explore resources far beyond your own bookshelves.

Only on the Internet can you take an informational tour of the trees on the Idaho State University campus, sneak a peek at the Missouri Botanical Garden, and check out the latest discussion of deer-proof evergreens in the "rec.gardens" newsgroup—all in a matter of minutes.

The Internet wasn't always humming with talk of mail-order nurseries, requests for hard-to-find seeds, and discussions of composting techniques. Developed in the 1960s to aid military defense research and development, the Internet has since evolved into a massive system connecting approximately 20,000 computer networks run by universities, businesses, and the government. Experts believe as many as 40 million computers worldwide are linked through the Internet.

Judging from the results of the American Horticultural Society's recent computer survey, many members have already realized the potential of the computer as a gardening tool. We heard from more than 200 of you who are enthusiastic about having access to computerized gardening information. Although responses continue to trickle in, we wanted to update you on the results and on AHS plans to join the cyberspace gardening community.

Among AHS members who responded, IBM-compatible users outnumber Macintosh users four to one. More members have Internet access than have CD-ROM drives (90 percent versus 59 percent), which explains the strong interest in on-line access to gardening and AHS information. A whopping 95 percent of respondents rated



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on-line answers to personal gardening questions and gardening tips as "useful" to "very useful," with 90 percent finding access to AHS publications useful. Many members also asked for critiques of computer gardening software; see page 10 for our first foray into this new area.

In light of our members' interest and the opportunity to reach a large gardening audience, we are pleased to announce plans to join the Time Life, Inc., Virtual Garden site on the World Wide Web.

Since last October, Time Life has been establishing the Virtual Garden as a gathering spot for gardening enthusiasts to interact with horticultural experts. Offerings are currently divided among a Magazine Rack, Time Life Gardening Library, and Garden Bookshelf. The publications

*Southern Living*, *Sunset*, and Allen Lacy's *Homeground* newsletter are already on-line and will soon be joined by plant society magazines as well as *American Horticulturist*. The Virtual Garden also offers a searchable data base of plants with pictures and instructions for growing more than 1,400 genera; descriptions of 200 popular house plant species; and instructions for specific gardening projects.

Once a user reaches the Virtual Garden, they will be able to find the "home page" for AHS information. In addition to offering excerpts from *American Horticulturist* magazine and News Edition, AHS will post fact sheets from our Gardeners' Information Service and recent question-and-answer columns. We also plan to give gardeners the opportunity to ask for guidance from our horticultural experts. The AHS book service will be on-line, complete with reviews, a listing of available books, and an order form.

Also included will be a directory of horticultural professionals. (If you offer professional horticultural services and would like to be in our listing, please see the April 1995 *American Horticulturist* for a sign-up form, or call (800) 777-7931 for more information. This service is free and available only to AHS members.)

The information we offer on the Internet will no doubt evolve and change as we explore this new technology and receive feedback from our members and other users.

## CYBERSPACE GARDENING TOOLS

To dig around in the Time Life, Inc., Virtual Garden and AHS's plot there (beginning this summer), you'll need a few simple tools:

- IBM-compatible computer with Windows or a Macintosh computer.
- Full Internet access to the World Wide Web — only available now through one major commercial service (Prodigy), but the others (CompuServe, America Online, etc.) expect to give World Wide Web browsers to their subscribers by the end of 1995. Otherwise, you need to subscribe through a regional "gateway."
- A Web browser — software that enables you to maneuver through sites and view graphics. The most popular ones are Mosaic, Netscape, and Cello. As with any software, make sure the browser is compatible with your system capabilities.



## GARDENS ON THE INTERNET

The following is a list of gardening sites on the Internet. We reached all of them through the Web browser Netscape 1.0. This is by no means a comprehensive list—services are being added and expanded all the time—but it should help you get started. Sites are maintained by a broad range of organizations and individuals, and vary widely in their offerings.

### General Gardening

<http://www.pathfinder.com/vg/> — The Virtual Garden from Time Life, Inc. Look for AHS publications and information this summer.

<http://www.olympus.net/gardens/welcome.html> — Garden-Net, which bills itself as “An Internet Information Center for Garden and Gardening Enthusiasts.” Offers limited information as of press time, but expects to expand offerings in the near future.

<http://192.104.39.4/AABGA/aabga1.html> — Will feature images and text about member gardens of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, the professional association for public gardens in North America. At press time, the Missouri Botanical Garden is the only organization on-line, offering information on its research projects, a photographic tour of the garden, and access to its plant data base.

<http://prairienet.org/ag/garden/homepage.htm> — The Garden Gate, which offers a comprehensive list of Internet resources, with direct connections to many. This site is maintained through Prairienet, a community service of the

Graduate School of Library Science at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

<http://mirror.www.com/mirror/garden/patch.htm> — The Garden Patch, featuring the Garden Exchange of seeds, plants, and information; Garden Tips; and the Spider's Web (see description below).

<http://mirror.www.com/mirror/garden/spdrweb.htm> — The Garden Spider's Web, which offers virtual garden tours; horticultural information resources; lists of magazines, books, and catalogs; and a list of Internet newsgroups.

[http://www.cfn.cs.dal.ca/Recreation/Gardening/G\\_G\\_Home.html](http://www.cfn.cs.dal.ca/Recreation/Gardening/G_G_Home.html) — GARDENS+GARDENING through Chebucto FreeNet, a community network serving metropolitan Halifax in Nova Scotia, Canada. This service offers the opportunity to receive answers from fellow gardeners about gardening issues and maintains a list of resources for gardening on the Internet.

### Specialized Areas

<http://islander.whidbey.net/~kabowers/Meerkerk.html> — A tour of rhododendrons in bloom at Meerkerk Gardens on Whidbey Island in Washington state's Puget Sound region.

<http://seidel.ncsa.uiuc.edu/PBM-FAQ/> — A clearinghouse for information about ordering plants by mail, maintained by an avid gardener.

Many state Extension services have on-line information; check with your local office or explore some of the Internet resources listed above. In addition, the National Gardening Association operates a Gardening Forum on CompuServe, bringing experts together in workshops and bulletin boards.

We'll let you know—through our publications and through the Virtual Garden—as soon as AHS is on-line, which is scheduled to occur this summer.

Obviously, gardening on the Internet can never replace the real thing, and on-line information won't make other methods of communication obsolete. After all, as many members are quick to remind us, you can't lug your computer, modem, and phone line out into the garden for quick reference while you're planting seeds, or read your favorite on-line gardening magazine while relaxing in your hammock. At least, not yet.

—Terri J. Huck  
Assistant Editor



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# Landscapes with Byte

**A**lthough respondents to our survey on “gardening by computer” rated on-line services as the most useful way to get information, many of you also said you’d like to hear more about other computer technology, such as landscape design programs and horticultural data bases.

So far, we’ve obtained three of the leading landscape design programs for home use and taken them for a test drive. We’ve obtained information on a large number of others, for which we offer their manufacturers’ descriptions.

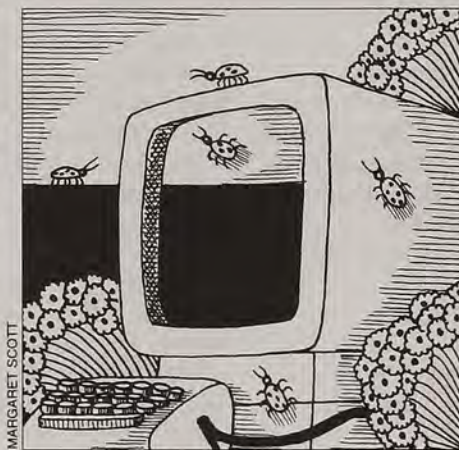
We would love to hear comments, pro and con, from members who’ve used these or other computer programs.

## Expert Landscape Design 3D

This program offers an ideal opportunity for Windows users to transfer their landscape ideas to paper before digging up the whole back yard. It is inexpensive and easy to use. A quick tutorial exercise explains the basic functions and displays the program in detail.

Drawing tools can be used to create permanent features such as fences, patios, walkways, pools, lawns, and buildings, including walls, roof, and floor slabs of any shape or dimension. Plants are introduced into the design by dragging modifiable plant symbols from a library of more than 300 plants. The library consists primarily of trees and shrubs, which are listed by common name. Flowering plants are merely classified as annual, perennial, or vine, and are categorized by flower color. The program does not offer planting suggestions or include descriptions of plants in the library.

One of the most interesting features of this program is its capability of showing the finished design in three dimensions, giving the user true height and perspective on plant placement. The program also includes a budget sheet to list all purchases for the design. The designs can be scaled for any size project and labeled using the text feature.



*System requirements:* 386DX, Windows 3.1, 4 MB RAM, and 7 MB hard disk space. \$14.95. Expert Software, Inc., 800 Douglas Road, Coral Gables, FL 33134.

## LandDesigner

LandDesigner combines book quality photos—more than 1,000 images from White Flower Farm—and a full set of drawing tools to design the year-round garden.

Utilizing CD-ROM capabilities, this program comes with an extensive reference library that can be amended or expanded. It is able to suggest suitable plants based on criteria such as hardiness zone and soil type, estimate the quantity of plants required for the design, and estimate costs of plantings based on current White Flower



*A LandDesigner plan lets the garden designer experiment with plantings before investing time and money on the real thing.*

Farm prices. Each plant in the library is described and pictured both as an illustration and a photograph. And if the computer is equipped with sound, the program will pronounce those tricky botanical names.

LandDesigner comes with a wide range of hardscape symbols for walls and fencing, rocks and other materials for walkways, and single items such as a bird bath or fountain. Tree symbols are classified by height, shape, and leaf retention. For the gardener who is stumped for design ideas, the program includes garden templates such as a Moon Garden and a Shade Border. A push of a button can add the element of time by demonstrating growth through the years. Seasonal changes are also included in the design by layering seasonal plantings over the hardscape plan. And, once the design is finished, the program will even print an order form for plants from White Flower Farm.

*System requirements:* 386SX CPU, Windows 3.1, 4 MB RAM, and CD-ROM drive. \$49.95. Green Thumb Software, Inc., 75 Manhattan Drive, Suite 100, Boulder, CO 80303.

## 3D Landscape

3D Landscape, another CD-ROM program, is ideal for anyone building or buying a new home and planning the landscape. Its strong points are the many hardscape drawing symbols and capabilities and the practical advice for construction projects. While LandDesigner has an extensive herbaceous plant library, 3D Landscape's plant index focuses more on trees, shrubs, and other permanent garden plantings. The program is divided into two sections: the reference how-to guide and the designer.

The how-to guide is laid out like an “on-screen” book with a table of contents, chapters, and a page turner that, unlike fingers, never needs licking. This section contains valuable information on site preparation, building projects, and plant selection and care. It covers some practical applications such as renting equipment, rough grading, improving the soil, pur-



## OTHER COMPUTER GARDENING PROGRAMS

### Design Programs

**Advantage Point Landscape:** Various landscape perspectives in three-dimensions. Pre-drawn plant symbols plus a drawing tool for creating additional symbols. Designs may be manipulated to reflect seasonal changes. DOS. \$40. Synergistic Software, Inc., P.O. Box 186, Issaquah, WA 98027.

**Design Your Own Home Landscape:** Alternate landscape views—top, front, back, and sides. Pre-drawn trees and shrubs from a modifiable plant library; drawing tools can be used to add more symbols to the library. Includes a maturing function. DOS, Macintosh, Apple II, and Apple II GS. \$49.95-\$99.95. Abracadata Ltd., P.O. Box 2440, Eugene, OR 97402.

**Mum's The Word Plus:** A combination drawing and data base program with pre-drawn plant symbols. Able to suggest plantings for users' criteria. Modifiable data base of more than 600 plants. Plants listed by common and botanical names. Macintosh. \$165. Terrace Software, P.O. Box 271, Medford, MA 02155.

**Sprout:** Designed for planning vegetable gardens. Pre-drawn plant symbols are automatically placed with correct spacing on the plan. Includes a garden calendar with planting and harvesting dates, a chart specifying pH requirements of your chosen plants, and yield estimates showing how many people can be fed from your garden. DOS, \$59.95. Macintosh, \$79.95. Abracadata Ltd., P.O. Box 2440, Eugene, OR 97402.

### Data Bases

**Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to Gardening:** Cultural information on specific plants, gardening techniques, and calendar reminders. Includes demonstration gardens with complete plant listings and full-color photographs. Also demonstrates techniques using videos. CD-ROM for Windows and Macintosh. \$49.95. Multicom Publishing, 1100 Olive Way, Suite 1250, Seattle, WA 98101.

**Florafile:** A modifiable data base featuring more than 600 plants. Program selects planting suggestions based on your criteria. Includes capacity for notes on each plant to aid in tracking performance in the garden. Also contains a hardiness map, a bibliography of plant information sources, and a list of commercial sources. Windows. \$49. Terrace Software, P.O. Box 271, Medford, MA 02155.

**Flower, Bulb, and Plant Finder:** Three searchable and modifiable data bases with selection, growing, germination, and propagation information. Includes mail-order sources. DOS. \$89. Infopoint Software, Box 83, Arcola, MO 65603.

**Garden Companion:** A searchable data base with more than 1,000 plant entries. Searches and suggests plantings based on 43 criteria. Includes idea gardens, a monthly planner, an encyclopedia, a pronunciation guide, and a photo gallery. Windows, CD-ROM. \$49.95. Lifestyle Software Group, 63 Orange Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084.

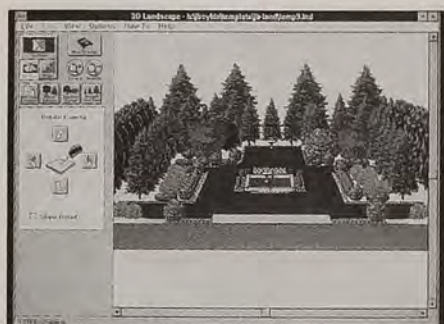
**Garden View:** A data base of trees, plants, shrubs, and flowers with a landscaping fixture graphics library. Used by professional landscapers and nursery operators as a design and sales tool. Features three-dimensional color display. DOS. \$195. Mindsun, Dept. G., RD 2, Box 710, Andover, NJ 07821.

**The Gardener's Assistant:** A modifiable data base of 50 vegetables and a garden layout tool. An interactive program capable of producing a suggested layout with harvest dates. DOS. \$15. Shannon Software Ltd., 2912 Pine Springs Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.

### Journal

**Hort Man Version 2:** A personalized data base for the home gardener or professional. Keeps a list of tasks and categorizes plants by location, by types of plants, or by the criteria you choose. Easily transfers information to and from diskette and imports from other sources using a specified format. DOS. \$59.95. Sunrise Software, 4821 Clydelle Avenue, San Jose, CA 95124-4209.

**Perpetual Garden Journal and Reminder System:** A simple key-word-searchable journal that can record years of garden activities. Prints calendars and includes a reminder system. DOS. \$29. Double-Pawed Software, 432 Bigelow Hollow Road, Eastford, CT 06242.



*The 3D Landscape computer program allows gardeners to view their design ideas as a finished plan in three dimensions.*

chasing materials, and choosing a lawn grass. This is also where the uninspired will find suggestions in the gallery of ideas.

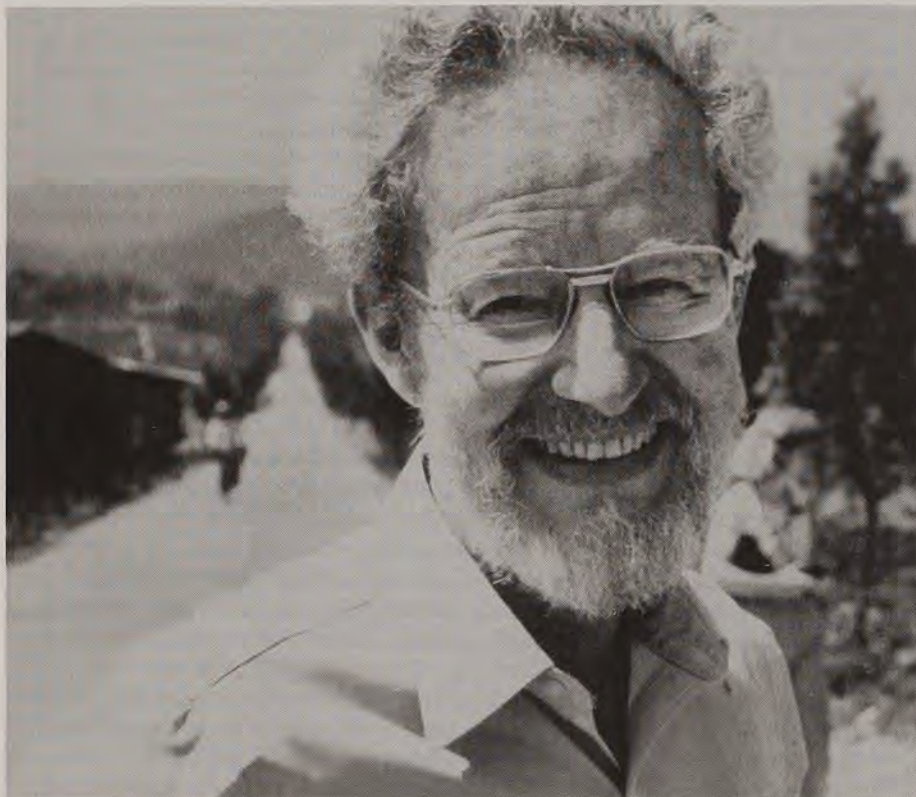
The designer section combines drawing tools with an extensive collection of hard-scape feature symbols to cover every aspect of a design from the kitchen window to the downspout on the tool shed. Utility lines both overhead and buried, sprinkler systems, sidewalks, drains, and lights are also taken into account. Plants are first selected for the design only as symbols based on their size and growth habits, such as a round tree, an arching shrub, or a hedge plant. Later the plant selector can be used to choose from a data base of more than 400 plants, each listed by botanical and common names, to fill in for the symbols. The designer includes a growth-over-time feature, a shadow caster displaying shadow patterns for any time of day or year, and a slope feature to plan landscapes on hills and contoured land. (It takes some practice to master the slope feature, however.) And, of course, as the name implies, the design can be viewed in three dimensions at any point in the design process.

**System requirements:** Windows 3.1, 4 MB RAM, 5 MB hard disk space, and CD-ROM drive. \$50. Books That Work, P.O. Box 10230, 2300 Geng Road, Building 3, Suite 100, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

—Nikole Williamson  
Editorial Assistant



# AHS Award Winners



## Liberty Hyde Bailey Award

The Liberty Hyde Bailey Award is the American Horticultural Society's highest award, bestowed upon an individual who has made significant contributions in at least three of the following areas of horticultural activity: teaching, research, writing, plant exploration, administration, art, business, and leadership. To say that this year's winner excelled in nearly all of these areas would be no exaggeration, and so the Society takes the unusual step of presenting this award posthumously.

In 1960 **Robert Rodale** became editor of *Organic Gardening*, the magazine founded by his father, J.I. Rodale. He followed his father's lead in educating Americans about the healthful effects of organic growing methods and about each individual's responsibility for the environment. Rodale eventually became the head of Rodale Press, a publisher of health- and fitness-oriented books and magazines, using his in-

fluence in the political and international realms as well as in publishing in an effort to create a healthier, solution-oriented world.

Rodale once wrote, "No one, not even J.I. Rodale or myself, can overestimate the importance of the organic method to human survival. As one who knows and understands something about organic methods, you have a responsibility beyond the problems that afflict your own garden. Your obligation is to use your organic understanding to try to stem the tide of environmental degradation."

It was a loss to the entire horticultural community when Rodale died in a car accident in Moscow in 1990. At the time Rodale was working on a joint publishing venture called *Novii Fermer* (*The New Farmer*), a fresh resource for Soviet growers in their efforts toward sustainability. Anthony Rodale, Robert's son, will be accepting the award on his father's behalf.



WINTERTHUR MUSEUM LIBRARY

## Catherine Sweeney Award

This award, given for extraordinary and dedicated efforts in the field of horticulture, goes this year to **Pamela Cunningham Copeland**, whose gardens at Mount Cuba, near Wilmington, Delaware, will be visited during this year's Annual Meeting.

A native of Litchfield, Connecticut, she was encouraged by her mother to develop an interest in wildflowers. Her late husband, Lammot du Pont Copeland, was the great-great-grandson of E.I. du Pont, the founder of the chemical company. For them, as for so many other members of the du Pont family, a beautiful landscape was a priority when they built their home at Mount Cuba.

The grounds near their home were formally landscaped, but the focus of Copeland's gardening changed in the 1960s when her children were grown. Recalling her love of native plants, she immersed herself in the topic. She designed 20 acres featuring plants native to the Piedmont region of the Appalachians and established the Mount Cuba Center for the Study of Piedmont Flora, intended to encourage preservation of areas where these plants still grow naturally. The center also makes selections of these plants more widely available to gardeners. The property is now open to the public on a limited basis and has been endowed to continue its important educational mission after her death.



A winner of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Distinguished Achievement Award, Copeland has served on the boards of the Winterthur Museum in Delaware and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, among many others.



### Luther Burbank Award

The Luther Burbank Award was created to recognize extraordinary achievement in the field of plant breeding. This year's winner is **Currier McEwen** of South Harpswell, Maine, who has demonstrated this excellence in his lifelong work in hybridizing irises and daylilies.

McEwen has introduced 98 Siberian irises, 34 Japanese irises, and 43 daylilies since 1954. He has served as president of both the Society for Siberian Irises and the Society for Japanese Irises, as well as board member and regional vice president of the New York and New England Region chapters of the American Hemerocallis Society. He has published many articles on daylilies, Siberian irises, and Japanese irises as well as two books: *Siberian Irises* and *The Japanese Iris*. Another book on Siberian irises is forthcoming.

McEwen received his bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University in 1923 and a medical degree from New York University School of Medicine in 1926. He has served as a faculty member and dean at the New York University School of Medicine, pres-



ident of the American College of Rheumatology, and chief consultant in medicine, European Theater of Operations, during World War II. McEwen was a founding member of the Arthritis Foundation and has written parts of four books and 51 articles on rheumatic diseases.

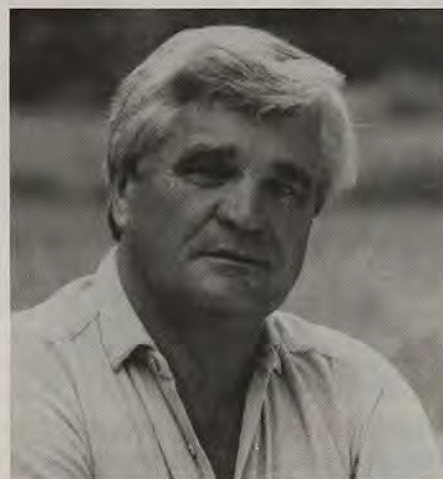


### Frances Jones Poetker Award

This award honors a person who has made significant contributions to the appreciation of creative floral designs. This year's winner, Dutch-born **René van Rems**, has certainly done his part—as a floral designer, workshop instructor, consultant for a number of firms within the industry, owner of a retail flower business, and creative director for a silk flower manufacturer.

Currently leading seminars around the country for the California Cut Flower Commission, van Rems is an innovative floral designer whose work has been featured at San Francisco's De Young Museum of Art and the San Diego Museum of Art. He won the Society of American Florists' Sylvia Cup design competition in 1991.

Van Rems' education began with an apprenticeship with retail florist Abel Verheijen. He later attended the Aalsmeer Floriculture Institute, where he studied the entire spectrum of the floral industry, from propagating and harvesting floral crops to wholesaling and retailing floral products.



### Commercial Award

The winner of this year's Commercial Award, **Kurt Bluemel**, has demonstrated a commitment to the highest standards of commercial horticulture.

He is the founder of Kurt Bluemel, Inc., a landscape design firm and perennial nursery based in Baldwin, Maryland, and has more than 45 years' experience in landscape design and horticulture. Born in Sudetenland, today a part of the Czech Republic, Bluemel began his career with apprenticeships in horticulture and landscape design in West Germany and Switzerland before immigrating to the United States in 1960. He is passionate about the creation of the "four-season landscape" and is considered one of the founding fathers of the



“ornamental grass movement.” He specializes in growing and creating landscapes with ornamental grasses, perennials, ferns, and bamboos.

As a botanical explorer, ever searching for new varieties with ornamental potential, Bluemel tries to make at least one major “plant safari” a year. His expeditions have allowed him to study the flora and fauna of southern Africa, central Asia, Siberia, South America, and most countries of Europe.



### Horticultural Writing Award

The award for excellence in writing goes to **Suzanne Frutig Bales**, who has long demonstrated her commitment to horticulture not only as an author, but also as a volunteer, lecturer, and photographer. Bales is the author of seven books in the Burpee American Gardening Series: *Bulbs*, *Perennials*, *Annals*, *Vegetables*, *Container Gardening*, *Roses*, and *Vines*, as well as *Gifts From Your Garden*, which details preserving the bounty of a summer garden all year long.

A graduate of Michigan State University and Hunter College, Bales took an early interest in horticulture and expanded her knowledge through courses at the New York Botanical Garden and Pratt Institute. Bales' Long Island gardens have been a source of inspiration for her own writing as well as the writings of others during the 16 years that she has designed, planned,

and cared for them. From 1987 to 1990 she was involved in the selection of varieties for the Burpee catalogs and created their line of Designed Gardens, personally designing five of the 18 gardens.

Bales has been a featured speaker at many flower shows including those in Philadelphia, Seattle, San Francisco, Boston, St. Louis, and Atlanta. She serves on several horticultural boards, including the boards of the Hofstra Arboretum and the Garden Conservancy, and she is a distinguished advisor to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Old Westbury Gardens. She is also senior vice chairman of the board of Graham Windham, a New York City agency for abused and neglected children, and a trustee of Hofstra University.



### Meritorious Service Award

This award is given to a member or friend of the Society to recognize exemplary service in support of the Society's goals, services, and activities. **Carolyn Marsh Lindsay**, former president of the American Horticultural Society's Board of Directors, has organized and, with her husband, Bob, led several tours to benefit AHS. She has also served the U. S. National Arboretum Advisory Council, the British Virgin Islands Botanic Garden, the Perennial Plant Association, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the New York Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and the New

England Wild Flower Society.

Lindsay possesses unique horticultural skills based on her years as a professional designer, installer, and maintenance advisor to many private and public clients. Her abilities to extend a garden's plant palette and season of interest have encouraged gardeners everywhere to rethink how they plan and manage gardens. She drew on her many contacts made through AHS travel events to communicate these ideas to people in the United States and around the world.

Lindsay developed an early interest in horticulture through her father's work with the Du Pont company in agricultural chemicals. She graduated from Wellesley College with a degree in botany and combined her interests in horticulture and art history by identifying plants in paintings for the college's art department.

After working for several years as a landscape designer, in 1975 Lindsay started a company to design, install, and maintain gardens. Later she owned and operated an 11-acre nursery and formed a consulting service in Rochester, New York.



### Teaching Award

This award recognizes an individual whose ability to share his knowledge of horticulture with others has contributed to a better public understanding of the plant world and its impact on humanity. **Steven Still** has



exhibited this quality as both an educator and a scholar in the field of horticulture.

A professor in the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science at the Ohio State University, Still has had many achievements as a researcher. His book, *Manual of Herbaceous Ornamental Plants*, is used as a teaching text at approximately 100 universities and junior colleges. He has written two other books, *Taylor's Guide to Perennials* and *Taylor's Guide to Shrubs*, as well as numerous journal articles, papers, and presentations. Still has proven himself an effective administrator as well, working as acting department head for two years.

Since 1983 Still has served as the executive secretary of the Perennial Plant Association. Fellow members of the association credit him with most of the hard work involved in organizing symposia and keeping the organization running smoothly. Still is also involved with the Education and Scholarship Committee of the Ohio Nurserymen's Association and the Plant Selection Committee of the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association.

The most glowing reports, however, are from his industry peers and students who find him a concerned advisor as well as scholar.



#### Local Horticulture Award

This award is given to an individual who has contributed to the improvement or ex-



cellence of horticulture in the host city for the American Horticultural Society's Annual Meeting. Doe Run, the home of Sir John Thouron, is actually almost an hour west of Philadelphia, this year's host city. But there can be no doubt that his gardens, more than 30 years in the making, are an example of fine horticulture for anyone who visits them.

Thouron grew up in his mother's native Scotland where he first developed his natural instinct for gardening. After serving in World War II as an officer of Great Britain's Black Watch Regiment, he came to live where his father had grown up in Pennsylvania. His love of British plant life quickly led him to begin work on the grounds that would become Doe Run, a place that celebrates the traditional garden flowers of the British Isles. Today it covers some 15 acres and constitutes one of the finest collections of rare and unusual perennials in the United States.

Not only is Thouron a fervent plantsman, he is also a gracious host, extending invitations to tour the grounds to garden groups from as far away as California and Texas. Thouron has even added a low-maintenance display of perennials specifically to provide inspiration for those of his guests without four full-time gardeners.

#### Landscape Design Award

This year's Landscape Design Award winner is Isabelle Greene. Over the past 25

years, Greene has designed more than 400 gardens in her native California and elsewhere on the West Coast. Her work has recently gained popularity in the East, particularly since she designed an indoor "Silver Garden" at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania.



Greene's work shows an effortless fascination with natural forms and physical geography, an admiration of Japanese garden design, and an ability to manipulate organic shapes into unexpected ones. A common thread to her work is her ability to take advantage of existing forms, allowing the buildings, garden, and adjacent features to appear as one and as if they had been in place for many years.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in botany from the University of California-Los Angeles in 1956, she completed post-graduate work in studio arts at the University of California-Santa Barbara and in landscape architecture at the University of Oregon and the University of California-Los Angeles. Greene is the granddaughter of Henry Mather Greene, of Greene and Greene Architects, pioneers of the early Craftsman movement in Southern California. Greene's work has been featured in articles in *House & Garden*, *Vogue Decoration*, *Connoisseur*, *Horticulture*, *Garden Design*, *Landscape Architecture*, *Home*, and *House Beautiful*.



Books are chosen for the AHS book program based on perceived reader interest, unusual subject matter, or substantive content. The following are not intended to be critical reviews, but are based on publishers' descriptions. If you'd like to order a book that is not listed here, call Linda Miller, book program director, at (800) 777-7931.

## NEW TITLES

### Native Gardens for Dry Climates

*Sally Wasowski with Andy Wasowski*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$35. AHS price: \$31.50.  
Book code: RAN 601

Here is a beautiful, practical, illustrated guide for spectacular native plant gardens that thrive in the Southwest and Southern California. In the first of the book's two sections, the authors discuss garden types. Part two is an illustrated plant glossary of selected natives. 1995. 175 pages.

### In A Southern Garden

*Carol Bishop Hipps*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$25. AHS price: \$22.50.  
Book code: MAC 602

This book can be read straight through for the pleasure of a year-long amble through Hipps' fragrant garden. While a valuable reference for southern gardeners, it will also be of interest to gardeners throughout the country. 1994. 228 pages.

### The Wild Lawn Handbook

*Stevie Daniels*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$20. AHS price: \$18.  
Book code: MAC 603

This handbook contains hundreds of interesting plant alternatives—both native and non-native—to high-maintenance turf grass. Advice on evaluating your present situation, determining an alternative that will work best, and maintaining your new lawn is included. 1995. 233 pages.

### Herb Garden Design

*Ethne Clarke*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$25. AHS price: \$22.50.  
Book code: MAC 604

Useful and decorative, commonplace yet indispensable, herbs have a place in every garden. They can serve as border perennials, ground covers, foundation plants, or bedded annuals. Their garden value is as varied as their culinary and medicinal virtues. This book shows the myriad ways herbs can be used in the landscape. 1995. 144 pages.

### The Impressionist Garden

*Derek Fell*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$35. AHS price: \$31.50.  
Book code: RAN 605

Using the gardens and paintings of the impressionists as inspiration, Fell shows how to reinterpret the impressionist vision in gardens today. Themes such as color harmonies, light and shade, and the appeal of woodland and wildflower meadows are explored and illustrated, with practical advice on design, planting, and cultivation. 1994. 144 pages.

### Great Gardens, Great Designers

*George Plumptre*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$35. AHS price: \$31.50.  
Book code: STE 606

The essence of good garden design is a certain intangible magic. In this fascinating and beautifully illustrated book, Plumptre helps us to understand how that magic is created. By charting the development of garden design from the late 19th century to the present, certain principles emerge as keys to good garden design. This book will inform and inspire anyone with a love of gardening. 1994. 160 pages.

### Period Gardens

*Patrick Taylor*

Softcover. Retail price: \$24.95. AHS price: \$22.45.  
Book code: TRA 607

*Period Gardens* is not simply about garden restoration, or even conservation. It is about breathing new life, based on historical fact, into old gardens. Taylor has chosen gardens that convey a sense of the horticultural excitement and progress of their time. He includes an excellent chapter on Monticello, the Virginia home of Thomas Jefferson. 1991. 216 pages.

### Culpeper's Color Herbal

*Edited by David Potterton*

Softcover. Retail price: \$17.95. AHS price: \$16.  
Book code: STE 609

This beautifully illustrated book combines the charm of the original 17th century text with a modern presentation and up-to-date, practical information on almost 400 herbs and plants commonly used for herbal remedies. 224 pages.

### The Water Garden

*Peter Robinson*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$19.95. AHS price: \$17.95.  
Book code: STE 615

From the Wayside Gardens Collection, this superbly illustrated and informative guide offers a wealth of inspiration and practical advice for those who want to bring the joy of water to their gardens. Begin by considering your site

options and conditions, then select the features that best suit your needs. Construction and installation are carefully detailed, and a plant glossary is included. 1995. 128 pages.

### Photographing Plants and Gardens

*Clive Nichols*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$34.95. AHS price: \$31.45.  
Book code: STE 608

Here is an indispensable guide for all photographers with an interest in gardens and for gardeners with an interest in photography—from amateurs in search of technical advice to professionals wanting to hone their skills. In this book, illustrated with his own breathtaking work, Nichols divulges the secrets behind his success as a garden photographer. 1994. 160 pages.

### Contained Gardens: Creative Designs and Projects

*Susan Berry and Steve Bradley*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$25. AHS price: \$22.50.  
Book code: GAR 611

*Contained Gardens* offers advice on choosing containers, creating color themes, combining plant textures and shapes, and handling trellised and trailing plants. Advice on planting, feeding, and pruning is followed by a plant guide. 1995. 160 pages.



### The Complete Guide to Flower Arranging

*Jane Packer*

Hardcover. Retail price: \$29.95. AHS price: \$26.95.  
Book code: HOU 614

Jane Packer outlines the design principles that underpin successful arrangements, showing how to choose flowers and foliage to maximize color and texture, and revealing how to group flowers to bring a fresh, natural look to every arrangement. Her inventive and dramatic use of flowers, foliage, and other materials has put her at the fore-









# AHS BULLETIN BOARD

## A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY!

The 50th Annual Meeting of the American Horticultural Society is only a month away. We would love to have you join us June 22 to 24 in Philadelphia, one of America's premier gardening regions. Scheduled and optional tours will take us to outstanding private and public gardens, and some of the nation's most knowledgeable horticulturists will share their ideas. See your March News Edition for details and a registration form, or call us at (800) 777-7931.

## BOARD NOMINEES

Nominated to join the American Horticultural Society's Board of Directors at the June Annual Meeting are:

**Sherman Adler**, a native of Asheville, North Carolina, and a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Adler has worked in marketing for the NBC and CBS television networks in New York City and for financier John D. MacArthur of south Florida. However, he says he has always been an avid gardener. With resource books to guide him, he pursued this interest in a Manhattan rooftop garden, a weekend "country house" in Garrison, New York, and at his home in East Hampton, Long Island.

Adler now resides in Hobe Sound, Florida, where his current position of executive vice president of the board of the Horticulture Society of South Florida allows him to utilize his interest in gardening as well as his expertise in marketing. He was a founding member of the society and its offshoot, the Palm Beach Tropical Flower Show. Adler says he is currently trying to reestablish his neglected garden on Jupiter Island, which apparently suffered during the planning of



the Palm Beach flower show.

**Jim Corfield**, president of S&G Seeds, Inc., will bring the perspective of the seed industry to AHS, having spent the last 27 years in sales, marketing, and administration for the Ball Seed Company and Vaughn's Seed Company.

Corfield received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State University. He has served on the boards of the Professional Plant Growers Association, the Ohio Florists Association, and the Ohio Floriculture Foundation. In addition, Corfield has written chapters on plant containers in *Tips on Growing Bedding Plants*, *Bedding Plants III*, and *Bedding Plants IV*.

**William R. Marken** joined the staff of *Sunset* magazine as just another member of its garden department more than 30 years ago. Today, he is the publication's vice president and editor, voicing a new garden ethic for West Coast gardeners.

Educated at Occidental College in Los Angeles and the University of California-Berkeley, Marken became the magazine's Southern California garden editor in 1967. He became executive director in 1982 and assumed his current title in 1984.

**William A. Pusey** is a partner in the business practice group of the Hunton & Williams law firm's Washington, D.C., office. His practice focuses on acquisitions and mergers, securities law, natural resources, and international transactions. He has been serving on the AHS Board for the past year in an unexpired term.

He received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University, where he was Phi Beta Kappa, and his law degree from the University of Virginia. From 1963 to 1964, he served as a deputy district attorney in Alameda County, California. Pusey writes and lectures extensively on topics relating to the coal industry. He is vice chairman of the American Bar Association's Coal Committee and was awarded the 1993 Distinguished Lawyer Award by the National Coal Lawyers Conference.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROXY

*Notice of Election in conjunction with the 50th Annual Meeting of the American Horticultural Society.*

I will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Horticultural Society on June 22, 1995. Please assign my proxy to AHS Chairman Sarah S. Boasberg or to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

to cast my ballot in the annual election of the Society's Board of Directors and to cast my ballot in other matters that may be brought before the Annual Meeting with the same effect as though I were personally present.

### Vote for four:

- ☐ Sherman Adler
- ☐ Jim Corfield
- ☐ William R. Marken
- ☐ William A. Pusey

☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in Candidate

☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in Candidate

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cut out proxy and return by June 1 to: Sarah S. Boasberg, AHS, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308-1300.



# MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND...

The American Horticultural Society's 3rd Annual  
National Youth Gardening Symposium

*"Gardens for Youth: Nourishing Mind, Body, and Heart"*

June 27-30, 1995 • Pasadena, California

**D**on't miss this exciting opportunity to learn innovative ways to introduce children and youth to educational plant and gardening programs at school, community, and public garden sites. This event is being planned in conjunction with



The California Arboretum Foundation for THE ARBORETUM of Los Angeles County and will be co-sponsored by over 25 leading national and California-based horticultural organizations including Descanso Gardens and The Huntington.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**George Ball, Jr., President and CEO**  
W. Atlee Burpee & Co.  
Warminster, PA

*"Burpee Goes to School"*

**Brian Holley, Executive Director**  
Cleveland Botanical Garden  
Cleveland, OH

*"A Reality Check — Gardening With Children  
Isn't Just Gardening With Children"*

**Bill Lucas, Director**  
Learning Through Landscapes  
London, England

*"Grounds for Change: The British Example"*

**Dr. Gary Nabhan, MacArthur Fellow and Science Advisor**  
Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
Tucson, AZ

*"Planting the Seeds of Ecological Literacy:  
Children, Gardens, and Biodiversity"*

**Catherine Snead, Director**  
The Garden Project  
San Francisco, CA

*"Creating Community Gardens For Youth"*

**Jane Taylor, Curator**  
4-H Children's Garden  
Adjunct Faculty  
Michigan State University  
Director of Annual Gift Programs  
Michigan 4-H Program, East Lansing, MI

*"The Dirt on Grass Roots Fund-Raising  
Plans for Your Garden"*

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7931 East Blvd. Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22308-1300



*Please send me full registration  
information on the 1995 Symposium:*

Name

Address

City

State  Zip







# REGIONAL HAPPENINGS

## Mid-Atlantic

♦ **May 9-10. Structure and Ornament in Garden Design.** Fourth Annual Gillette Forum. Sponsored by The Lewis Ginter Botanical Foundation. Richmond, Virginia. Information: (804) 262-9887.

♦ **May 13. 67th Annual Georgetown Garden Tour.** Tour of more than 12 private gardens benefiting the Georgetown Children's House. Washington, D.C. Information: (202) 333-4953 or (202) 686-3155.

♦ **May 13-14. Sixth Annual Garden Fair.** Blandy Experimental Farm, The State Arboretum, Boyce, Virginia. Information: (703) 837-1758.

## North Central

♦ **Apr. 15-May 14. Spring Floral Festival: Hearts and Flowers.** Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, Cincinnati, Ohio. Information: (513) 281-4701.

♦ **May 1. Fruit Ripening Seminar.** American Society for Horticultural Sciences. Chicago, Illinois. Information: (703) 836-4606.

♦ **May 5-7. 6th Annual Orchard-in-Bloom Garden Show.** Holliday Park, Indianapolis, Indiana. Information: (317) 290-ROSE.

♦ **May 11-13. International Lilac Society Annual Conference and Plant Auction.** Bickelhaupt Arboretum, Clinton, Iowa. Information: (319) 242-4771.

♦ **May 12. Open House at the Herb Society of America's National Headquarters.** In celebration of National Herb Week. Vineyard House, Kirtland, Ohio. Information: (216) 256-0514.

♦ **May 21-23. Trees, People, and the Law.** National Arbor Day Foundation Conference. Arbor Day Farm's Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, Nebraska. Information: (402) 474-5655.

♦ **June 3-4. Iris Society Iris Show.** Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison, Wisconsin. Information: (608) 246-4550.

♦ **June 17-25. 10th Annual Rose Festival.** Boerner Botanical Gardens, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Information: (414) 529-1870.

## Northeast

♦ **Apr. 1-May 26. Acres of Spring.** Display. Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Information: (610) 388-1000 or (800) 737-5500.

♦ **Apr. 29. Wave Hill's 30th Birthday Celebration.** Public party. Wave Hill, Bronx, New York. Information: (718) 549-3200.

♦ **May 2-26. 25th Annual Decorator's Show House.** Tour of house and grounds. James Michael Curley Mansion, Boston, Massachusetts. Information: (617) 695-8000.

♦ **May 7. Wildflowers That Are Winning Candidates for the Garden.** Slide lecture. The New England Wild Flower Society, Garden in the Woods, Framingham, Massachusetts. Information: (508) 877-7630.

♦ **May 13-14. Annual Wildflower Plant and Seed Sale.** Brandywine Conservancy. Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. Information: (610) 388-2700.

♦ **May 19-21. Northeast Pennsylvania Flower Show.** Montage Mountain Ski Area, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Information: (717) 969-7669.

♦ **May 20. Exciting New Woody Plants.** Lecture by J.C. Raulston. Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, Massachusetts. Information: (508) 869-6111.

♦ **May 20-21. Rock Garden Weekend.** New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. Information: (718) 817-8700.

♦ **June 10-12. Secret Gardens.** Tour of 14 private gardens in the Point Section of Newport, Rhode Island. Information: (401) 847-0514.

♦ **June 11. 39th Annual Long Island Rose Society Rose Show.** Planting Fields Arboretum, Oyster Bay, New York. Information: (516) 922-9200.

♦ **June 20-21. Tree Shelter Conference.** The USDA Forest Service and the Center for Urban Forestry at the Morris Arboretum. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Information: (215) 247-5777 ext. 149 or ext. 132.

♦ **June 23-25. In Praise of the American**

**Garden.** Conference. Mount Holyoke College Botanic Garden, South Hadley, Massachusetts. Information: (413) 538-2653.

♦ **June 24. City Gardens-Country Flowers.** Annual tour of 10 private gardens in Newport's Historic Hill National Register District, Newport, Rhode Island. Information: (401) 846-7495 or (800) 325-6030.

## ANOTHER FREE ADMISSION!

This month members of the American Horticultural Society have yet another chance to take advantage of a new member benefit—free admission to garden extravaganzas around the country.

The former Miami/Fort Lauderdale Show has expanded this year to become the Miami International Home and Garden Show. Scheduled for the Miami Beach Convention Center May 27 to June 4, it is billing itself as the nation's largest home show. For the first time, it will extend outside the convention center in a clear span structure spotlighting an International Garden Pavilion. This area will feature theme gardens and floral displays developed by landscape architects, garden designers, and nurseries; exhibits showcasing the activities of botanical gardens, plant societies, and horticultural organizations; a large atrium displaying interior plantscapes; and, of course, a marketplace of gardening products and accessories.

For more information about the Miami International Home and Garden Show, contact Southex Exhibitions' U.S. headquarters in Coral Gables, Florida, at (305) 666-5944.

Eighteen garden shows held earlier this year around the country gave AHS members free or discounted admission.





## Northwest

♦ **May 20-June 7. Azaleas as Bonsai.** Exhibit. Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection. Weyerhaeuser's corporate campus, Federal Way, Washington. Information: (206) 924-3153.

♦ **June 2-4. The 1995 Van Dusen Garden Show.** Van Dusen Botanical Garden, Vancouver, British Columbia. Information: (604) 257-8670.

♦ **July 23-26. The Fourth North American Agroforestry Conference.** Red Lion Inn-Riverside, Boise, Idaho. Information: (208) 885-7600.

## South Central

♦ **May 2-3. Florescence: Art in Bloom.** Biannual flower and horticulture show. The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas. Information: (713) 639-7518.

♦ **May 26-June 4. Garden Glory Days.** Tours, herbal teas, and herbal demonstrations. Heritage Herb Gardens, The Ozark Folk Center, Mountain View, Arkansas. Information: (501) 269-3851.

♦ **June 17-18. Greater North Texas Orchid Society Exhibit.** The Dallas Arboretum, Dallas, Texas. Information: (214) 327-8263.

## Southeast

♦ **Apr. 28-June 4. Epcot '95 International Flower and Garden Show.** Presented by Better Homes and Gardens. Walt Disney World Epcot '95, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Information: (407) 824-4321.

♦ **May 6. 1995 Spring Plant Sale: Celebrate Spring.** Lecture and book signing with Jim Wilson. Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, Belmont, North Carolina. Information: (704) 825-4490.

♦ **May 7. Spring Garden Tour.** Mobile Botanical Gardens, Mobile, Alabama. Information: (334) 342-0555.

♦ **May 11. Garden Symposium.** Featuring Penelope Hobhouse and tours of 10 private gardens. Benefiting Capital Area Preservation. The Women's Club, Raleigh, North Carolina. Information: (919) 834-4844.

♦ **May 13. Spring "Behind-the-Scenes" Tour.** Selby Gardens, Sarasota, Florida. Information: (813) 366-5731.

♦ **May 13-14. Gardens for Connoisseurs Tour.** Tour of eight private gardens in the Atlanta metro area sponsored by the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Atlanta, Georgia. Information: (404) 876-7472.

♦ **May 18. Contrasts and Textures in the Garden.** Lecture by Ann Armstrong. Center for Documentary Studies, Duke Gardens, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Information: (919) 684-3698.

♦ **June 10. Herbs, Birds, and Butterflies: The Kentucky Herb Festival.** Kentucky Herb Growers and Marketers Association. Carter House and Pavilion, Frankfort, Kentucky. Information: KHGMA, P.O. Box 123, Washington, KY 41096.

♦ **Sept. 27-28. The Southern Garden: A Retrospective.** Botanical Symposium to benefit Wing Haven Garden and Bird Sanctuary and Charlotte Nature Museum. Charlotte, North Carolina. Information: (704) 366-4072.

## Southwest

♦ **June 10-11. Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs Flower Show.** Albuquerque Garden Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Information: (505) 296-6020.

## West Coast

♦ **Apr. 16-May 14. Pasadena Showcase House of Design.** House and garden tour. Pasadena, California. Information: (818) 792-4661.

♦ **May 12-13. Annual Gift and Garden Sale.** The Junior League of Olympia. Olympia, Washington. Information: (360) 357-6024.

♦ **May 13-14. Geranium Show.** Sponsored by the International Geranium Society, Los Angeles Chapter. Van de Kamp Hall, Descanso Gardens, La Cañada Flintridge, California. Information: (818) 952-4401.

♦ **May 21. Plant a Rainbow in Your Garden: 21st Annual Benefit Plant Sale.** The Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California. Information: (818) 405-2141.

♦ **June 30-July 1. Tropical Forest Exhibit Opening.** The Arboretum of Los Angeles County, Arcadia, California. Information: (818) 821-3222.

♦ **Oct. 15-19. Land Trust Alliance Rally '95.** Land conservation conference. Registration beginning in May. Asilomar Conference Center, Monterey Peninsula, California. Information: (202) 638-4725.

## SCOTT ARBORETUM PLANT SALE

The Scott Arboretum is offering an advance order catalog for their semi-annual plant sale September 15-16. Rock gardening is the highlighted form of horticulture this year, featuring select plants from the Delaware Valley Rock Garden Society. To receive a catalog, write to: The Scott Arboretum, 500 College Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081, or call (610) 328-8025. All orders must be received with full payment by May 15, and plants must be picked up from the arboretum.

## SOUTH CAROLINA ZOO PARK EXPANDS

The residents of Riverbanks Zoological Park in Columbia, South Carolina, will have one more thing to crow, growl, snort, and squawk about when the newest addition to the park, a seven-acre botanical garden, opens in June. The new garden has been under construction since 1987. Located on the west bank of the Saluda River across from Riverbanks Zoo, the garden site has significant historical value as the location of South Carolina's first textile mill and as the launching point of Sherman's march on Columbia during the Civil War.

As a natural extension of the zoo site, the garden features three distinct topographic land masses: the flood plain valley, the valley slopes, and the uplands. In addition to giving visitors scenic river views and valley overlooks, these areas will provide opportunities for botanical displays and educational programs.

Much of the land in the flood plain and valley areas will be left nearly untouched. A woodland trail will allow visitors to experience the sights and sounds of lush hardwood forest reminiscent of those found on mountainsides farther northwest in South Carolina. The 12-acre upland tract will be home to a visitors center, a formal walled garden, and an amphitheater.

The park opened as Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in April 1974. More than 2,000 animals are housed in natural habitat exhibits that use barriers such as moats, water, and light to create an environment free of bars and cages for animals. Horticulture has been important at Riverbanks from the start. Gardens throughout the zoo grounds help visitors learn about various indigenous and exotic plants and their roles in the environment. Other horticultural features include the Woodlands Walk, the Lily Pond Garden, and a Backyard Garden that highlights environmentally sound gardening techniques.

For more information about Riverbanks, call (803) 779-8730 or (803) 779-8717.





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## COMPOSTING GOES HIGH-TECH

Prince Charles and the Pentagon are finally figuring out what gardeners have known for years: Composting is good for the environment. That's why they've turned to Will Brinton, president of Woods End Research Laboratory in Mount Vernon, Maine, for a novel approach to dealing with large-scale hazardous waste.

In a nutshell, "we formulate compost mixes tailored to the hazardous waste that needs to be broken down," says Brinton, who founded Woods End 20 years ago after studying organic farming in Europe. The idea is to create enough heat and microbial activity to biodegrade waste quickly and with little odor.

Such a seemingly straightforward approach works with surprisingly diverse and stubborn industrial byproducts. "We're working with anything from plastic explosives to diesel fuels and pesticides," says Jonathan Collinson, senior project director.

Woods End seeks to convert residues into useful products, or "quality" compost. Though a lot of compost is being produced worldwide, Brinton points out, there is little regard for its technical merit and potential effect on plant growth. Woods End researchers have used highly sophisticated evaluation techniques to discover, among other things, that some composted material applied to agricultural crop land suppresses plant disease. They also continually devise and test methods of ensuring that pathogens don't survive the composting process.

Brinton and his staff help set up large-scale projects at their customers' locations. Their clients range from farmers to municipalities, environmental consultants, state agencies, and commercial solid waste managers throughout North America. Their waste products include animal carcasses, diseased crops, fishing industry scraps, paper industry sludges, and textile fibers, not to mention food scraps and yard debris.

Many clients, such as Walt Disney World, want to convert waste for an alternative to chemical fertilizers, or they simply want to avoid high fees for landfill disposal or not complying with environmental regulations. In a noteworthy pilot project in Oregon, Woods End scientists found a way to dispose of toxic wastes on military bases by coming up with a recipe for breaking down TNT. The key ingredients turned out to be buffalo manure and waste from a vegetable-processing plant.

Another dilemma posed to Woods End researchers involved petroleum-based hydrocarbons such as gasoline. The conventional approach is to dispose of such waste in a landfill, which

is not a cost-effective or environmentally sound option. So Brinton and his team devised a recipe that includes mixing contaminated soil with carbon and nitrogen materials in exacting ratios. To determine the proper mixture of materials, they use one proprietary algorithm, which has proven remarkably successful in developing hundreds of recipes.

Through lectures and the success of Woods End, Brinton has earned an international reputation. He has served as a composting advisor to the European Economic Community and to Great Britain's Prince Charles, whose personal interest in composting extends to using organic methods to recycle wastes on his estate farm.

*For more information, contact Woods End Research Laboratory, Old Rome Road, Route #2, Box 1850, Mount Vernon, ME 04352, (207) 293-2457.*

## PLANT A ROW FOR THE HUNGRY

The Garden Writers Association of America (GWAA) is launching a campaign to encourage vegetable gardeners to plant an extra row this season to help less fortunate members of their community. GWAA's goal is to eventually double—even triple—the amount of fresh food made available to the hungry through donations to food banks, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters.

Community advocates estimate that 30 million Americans are in danger of going hungry, and fresh produce is often expensive. The extra fruit from a gardener's apple trees can go far.

If garden space is limited, GWAA leaders suggest increasing productivity by planting more closely and by intercropping. They also point out that food kitchens will especially appreciate produce that travels and keeps well, such as broccoli, cabbage, carrots, green beans, squash, onions, and beets.

A gardener's contribution can be as easy as planting an extra window box of favorite herbs, according to the GWAA. Fresh herbs contain valuable minerals and are indispensable for enhancing the flavor of foods.

In addition to cleaning produce carefully, gardeners should call ahead to make sure that their chosen organization can accept fresh food donations.

*To find a local food distribution source, contact a religious organization in your neighborhood or call Second Harvest at (312) 263-2303.*



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