



As the Garden Grows

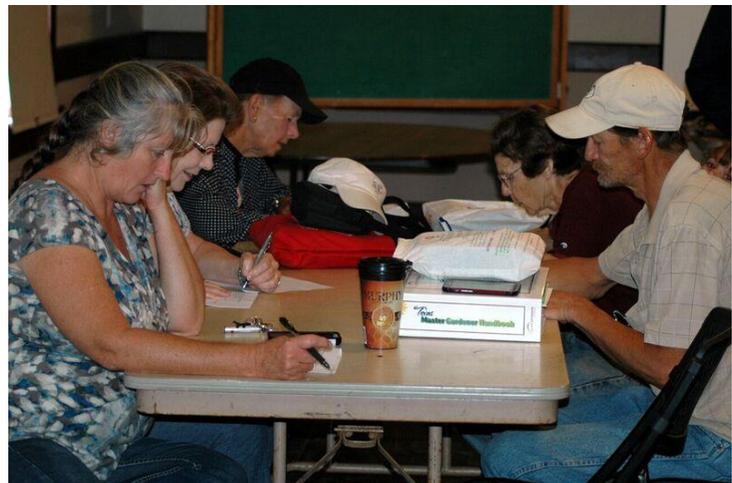
A Publication of the Gonzales Master Gardeners

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Congratulations to GMG Class #6



On May 17, 2016 Class #6 students, Barbara Scott, Carolyn Parratt, Carolyn Wilkerson, Jacky DuCote, and Mike Ohlhavsen graduated as Certified Master Gardeners. Heather Brackens graduated as an Intern Master Gardener. After a trip to the Kitchen Pride Mushroom Farm, the students went back to PACE to complete the year end exam and to receive their badges and certificates. Barbara's granddaughter, Jodie, was awarded GMG Ambassador for her contributions to the Spring Plant Sale. This was followed by a lunch held at the home and gardens of Fran Saliger.



Texas Master Gardener Association

On May 18, 2016, the Texas Master Gardener Association presented the 2015 Awards at the state convention in McKinney, TX. Once again, Gonzales MG came out on top. This is a very special event in that the whole state has a chance at these awards. The awards are given according to the size of the organization of which there are five groups. GMG is in the medium group (25-49 members). We were awarded the following awards:

- Gail Johnson won 2nd place for "Outstanding Individual Master Gardener"
- 1st place in "Outstanding Education Program" for the Second Grade Program (Parts of the Plant) with GISD –Leader Dee Senglemann
- 2nd place for "Outstanding Written Education" for our website enhancements- Jo Swiger/Gail Johnson webmasters.

This is the second time we have submitted applications for the various awards that are offered in the competition. These awards are not possible without the continued work and volunteering that all of you put forth in our various projects. So...give yourselves a “pat on the back” because you deserve it.

(Visit www.txmg.org to see the complete list of awards.)

Emerald Ash Borer Moves into Texas

(From the Texas Forest Service website)



Howard Russell
Michigan State
University Bugwood.org

The emerald ash borer is a destructive, non-native, wood-boring pest of ash trees. EAB is a significant threat to urban, suburban and rural forests. It kills both stressed and healthy ash trees. EAB is very aggressive and ash trees may die within two or three years after they become infested.

Native to Asia, the emerald ash borer beetle was discovered in North America in southeast Michigan in 2002. Since then, infestations of this invasive pest have spread to more than half the states in America - including Texas (2016), killing millions of ash trees.

In April 2016, four adult EAB beetles were caught and confirmed in a monitoring trap in Harrison County just south of Karnack, Texas. It is important to note that there has been no confirmation of ash trees infested with EAB. The adult beetles were caught in a

detection trap but to date, the ash tree on which it was hung does not show symptoms of an EAB attack.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) national EAB laboratory confirmed on May 6, 2016 that the caught beetles are EAB. Texas A&M Forest Service began monitoring for the pest in 2012 by strategically deploying detection traps each spring. The traps are monitored throughout the spring and summer months during peak EAB emergence and movement.

Ash trees with low population densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation.

Symptoms of an infestation may include any or all of the following:

- dead branches near the top of a tree
- leafy shoots sprouting from the trunk
- bark splits exposing larval galleries
- extensive woodpecker activity
- D-shaped exit holes

Preventing EAB spread

Don't Move Firewood! Firewood is a very likely transportation method for the emerald ash borer. The beetle is also known to travel in unprocessed ash logs, ash nursery stock and other ash commodities.

An EAB quarantine prohibits the movement of firewood, ash nursery stock, ash timber and other material that can spread EAB. It is important to know where the emerald ash borer quarantines are if you are traveling between infested states or between counties that are known to be infested.

Authorities are asking people follow these simple rules:

- Leave firewood at home.
- Don't transport firewood, even within the state.
- Use firewood from local sources near where you're going to burn it, or purchase firewood that is certified to be free of pests (it will say so on the label included with the packaging).
- If you have moved firewood, burn all of it before leaving your campsite.

Emerald Ash Borer Fact Sheet:

The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a destructive non-native wood-boring pest of ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.). Native to Asia, the emerald ash borer beetle (EAB) was unknown in North America until its discovery in southeast Michigan in 2002. Since then, the invasive pest has spread to 26 states including Texas where the beetle was detected in Harrison County located in Northeast Texas. EAB has been responsible for killing millions of ash trees across much of the country. Ash trees are widespread in the United States and all 16 native ash species are susceptible to attack. Ash trees with low population densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation. Symptoms of an infestation may include any or all of the following: dead branches near the top of a tree, leafy shoots sprouting from the trunk, bark splits exposing larval galleries, extensive woodpecker activity, and D-shaped exit holes. EAB is a significant threat to urban, suburban, and rural forests as it kills both stressed and healthy ash trees. EAB is very aggressive and ash trees may die within two or three years after they become infested.

What to Look For

Host: Ash (all species)

Signs/Symptoms: ash trees with dying or dead branches in upper crown, shoots or suckering along the trunk, bark splits with winding galleries and white larvae beneath the bark; heavy feeding by woodpeckers and “D”-shaped exit holes in bark.

Range: Detected in 26 states including Texas (Harrison County located in Northeast Texas).

Management:

Preventative: If EAB activity is confirmed within the area, treatment of high value ash trees with systemic insecticide is recommended to prevent an attack

Therapeutic: If more than 50% of crown remains, treat with systemic insecticide (may slow attack) or remove tree; If less than 50% of crown remains remove tree



To learn more about EAB, visit www.emeraldashborer.info and <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/eab/>.

Just Rub Beauty Berry Leaves All Over Yourself?

(Submitted by Gail Johnson)



horticulture.tamu.edu

Here's some good news for those of us who are being carried off by mosquitoes and overcome by beauty berries popping up all over the place from all the rain. There's an old wives tale that beauty berry leaves make effective mosquito repellent. You could just cut some beauty berry branches, crush the leaves and, well, wear them! Also, it's supposed to work well on horse harnesses to keep flies off the horses. Turns out the old girls were right!

A new study from the United States Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service, housed at the University of Mississippi, showed that beauty berry leaves contain callicarpinal, intermedeol and spathulenol—all three of which repel mosquitoes! In fact, beauty berry extract repels ticks and ants, too. So the next time you're caught in the woods with no DEET, just suit up with some beauty berry leaves and rub them all over yourself! You know, I love it when old wives turn out to be right!

Register Now for GMG Class #7

Class #7 is now taking applications for the 7th GMG Class which starts September 13, 2016 and runs through May 16, 2017. Applications are available on our website at www.gonzalesmastergardeners.org or at the Agrilife Extension office at 1709 E. Sarah DeWitt, Gonzales, TX.

Business cards are now available at the PACE building for members to hand out to prospective students with the basic contact information. Everyone is challenged to recruit at least one new student!!

WWW.GONZALESMASTERGARDENERS.ORG



Check out “The Buzz” on our website.

Cooking What We Grow

(submitted by Fran Saliger)

Two Cheese Squash Casserole

(from Southern Living, May 2004)

Yield: 8-10 servings

Ingredients:

- 4 pounds yellow squash, sliced
- 4 Tablespoons butter or margarine, divided
- 1 large sweet onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 ½ cups soft breadcrumbs, divided
- 1 ¼ cup shredded Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 cup (4 oz.) shredded Cheddar cheese
- ½ cup chopped fresh chives
- ½ cup minced fresh parsley
- 1 (8 oz.) container of sour cream
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground pepper
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- ¼ teaspoon garlic salt

Preparation:

Cook squash in boiling water to cover in large skillet 8-10 minutes or just until tender. Drain well; gently press between paper towels.

Melt 2 T. butter in skillet over medium-high heat; add onion, garlic, and sauté 5 to 6 minutes or until tender. Remove skillet from heat; stir in squash, 1-cup breadcrumbs, $\frac{3}{4}$ -cup Parmesan cheese, and next seven ingredients. Spoon into a slightly greased 9 x 13 inch baking pan.

Melt remaining 2 T. butter. Stir together melted butter, remaining 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups soft breadcrumbs, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Parmesan cheese, and garlic salt. Sprinkle mixture evenly over top of casserole.

Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes or until set.

Note: to make **Gluten free** substitute Quaker Popped Rice Crisps-cheddar cheese flavor for breadcrumbs.

Cinnamon Zucchini Pancakes

(Submitted by Carolyn Wilkerson)

Ingredients:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup white whole-wheat flour (can substitute all-purpose flour)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup cornmeal
1 Tbsp. sugar
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. ground cloves
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
1 egg
1 Tbsp. butter, melted
1 cup 2% reduced-fat milk
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup grated zucchini, excess liquid squeezed out
Cooking spray

Preparation:

1. Combine flour and next 6 ingredients (flour through salt)
2. In a separate bowl, whisk together egg, butter, and milk. Add to flour mixture, and whisk to combine. Stir in Zucchini.
3. Spray griddle with cooking spray and heat over medium heat. Spoon batter onto griddle (1/4 cup per pancake) and cook until tiny bubbles appear in the pancake. Flip and continue cooking until golden on both sides. Serve with maple syrup and blueberries.

Makes about 10 pancakes.

Per pancake: 87 cal, 2g fat, 26 mg chol, 3 g protein, 13 g carbs, 1 g fiber, 168 mg sodium



Member's Monthly Meeting

Our next monthly lunch meeting will be on July 7. We need someone to volunteer to bring the lunch. Give Fran a call. Thanks

Plant of the Month

(Submitted by Brenda Thompson)

Plumeria

Plumeria rubra or frangipani is one of the most desirable of fragrant plants around. The garden will be filled with a rich, heady, exotic perfume. The aroma lingers deep within each flower in each cluster. They bloom in fragrant clusters of flowers from May to September and sometimes longer. They come in a variety of colors – white, yellow, pinks, red and even some multiple color hybrid varieties. The plumeria is a fast growing, vigorous small tree or large shrub and is easy to grow and bring into bloom, provided its basic needs are met, including regular feeding with a fertilizer high in



phosphorous, generous watering when the soil is dry, and a half day or more of sun. The few pests that may bother the plumeria can usually be washed off with a stiff spray of water from the garden hose. Like the clematis, the plumeria likes its roots in shade or partial shade and its head in the sun. The plumeria is a good container plant on decks or patios built from wood. The plumeria does not like heat from block or concrete. The plumeria is very cold sensitive and must be protected in cold weather, therefore making it an excellent choice for container planting. The plumeria grows best in zones nine to eleven which includes the Houston and Galveston area. The plumeria can be transplanted very successful even when quite large with comparatively small balls of roots. The plumeria does not like to be root bound, and it is recommended that the plumeria be repotted each year. Spring is a very good time to repot. Some gardeners even take them out of their pots in November as they are becoming dormant and store them bare root in a warm place. Then in the spring they repot them up with fresh potting mix. Potting mixes for plumeria should contain organic matter and good drainage materials. Plumeria can be propagated very easily by cuttings from mature wood, not green, but having a grayish sheen to it. Cuttings for propagation can be taken pretty much any time of the year, but most successful and easily when cuttings are taken during late winter while the plumeria is dormant. The cuttings can be stored for months before planting. However, there must be sufficient warm weather remaining to allow the cutting to establish a healthy root system outdoors. In Texas, May through July would be the most ideal time to start plumeria from cuttings. To take new cuttings a very sharp knife, clippers, or large tooth pruning saw should be used. The cut should be diagonal and clean without damage to the cutting or donor.

If the cutting has leaves, they should be removed. Some gardeners prefer to allow the cuttings to air dry for a few days to allow the cuts to heal before planting. Before planting the cuttings, dip the cut end in water or root stimulator, then into a rooting powder that contains a fungicide such as rootone. Select a container appropriately sized for the cutting. Of course, a very large cutting will require a larger container for stability. Select a well-balanced planting mix with good drainage. During the root development stage water usage should be minimal. However, the soil should not be allowed to completely dry out. The rooting process will generally take 45 to 75 days after planting. The new root system is very fragile therefore, it's very important to keep the plant as stable in the pot as possible. The rooting process should be done in a somewhat dry, warm to hot, and lull sun environment. Generally, a lush healthy growth of leaves will indicate an equally healthy root system.

(Information originally presented by Trudy Menke, Smith County MG and Galveston County MG)



Note from Brenda: I grow my plumeria in a large container and kept it outside all last winter on the south side of my garage. The container is mostly in the shade but the top of the plant is in the sun. I've been rewarded with lots of blooms on it this year. From personal experience, if you have your potted plant in an area where the wind blows, you'll need to weight down the pot if the plant is of a good size; otherwise, the wind will knock it over and break off branches. This could be a good thing though since you can start new plants with the branches. In my case, the loss of a branch on the mother plant caused it to branch out more.

Area Events

(Submitted by Brenda Thompson)

Blanco: Friday, June 10 through Sunday, June 12, 2016 -- 11th annual Blanco Lavender Festival, Old Blanco County Courthouse Square, Main Street, Blanco, TX . A Lavender Market will be held on the grounds of the Old Blanco County Courthouse featuring arts and crafts from the finest local artisans and local lavender products. The Speakers' Pavilion will feature Lavender Information and Cooking Demonstrations in the Courthouse. Tour local lavender farms where you will experience the beauty of lavender in the fields and share the unique vision of each farmer. Visit www.blancolavenderfestival.com for festival schedule and directions. For more information, call (830) 833-5101 or go to <http://www.blancochamber.com/event-843935>.

La Marque: June 11 from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m., "T-bud Grafting of Citrus and Fruit Trees" with GC Master Gardener Sue Jeffco at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension in Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St., La Marque. Fee/Free. Participants must pre-register: Ph 281-534-3413. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Further details <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/>. Pre-registration required. Class size limited to 24, others welcome to observe.

La Marque: June 11 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm "Planning for Your Successful Fruit Tree Orchard" with GC Master Gardener Herman Auer presenting at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension in Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St., La Marque. Fee/Free. Participants must pre-register: Ph 281-534-3413. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Further details <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/>.

La Grange: Boone Holiday will present "Backyard Greenhouse Building" from 12:05 p.m. to 12:50 p.m., **June 14**, at Fayette County AgriLife Extension Service, 255 Svoboda Lane, La Grange. Meetings are free and open to the public. For more information call 979-968-5831.

La Marque: "Design Principles for Landscapes" with GC Master Gardener Karen Lehr, Masters in Landscape Architecture, presenting, 9:00-11:00 a.m., **June 18**, at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension in Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St., La Marque. Fee/Free. Participants must pre-register: Ph 281-534-3413. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Further details <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/>.

La Marque: "Growing Cucurbits (summer and winter squash, cucumbers and cantaloupes)": GC Master Gardener Herman Auer, Texas Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist, presenting, 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m., **June 21**, at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension in Carbide Park, 4102-B Main St., La Marque. Fee/Free. Participants must pre-register: Ph 281-534-3413. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Further details <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/>.

San Angelo: The Concho Valley Master Gardeners will be hosting their annual Water Conservation Seminar, Saturday, **June 25**, from 9 a.m. until noon. It will be held at the 4-H Building, 3168 N. US Hwy 67, San Angelo. The featured speaker is Dr. Dotty Woodson, Program Specialist-Water Resources, Biological & Agricultural Engineering Dept. Texas A& M Extension Service in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Woodson will be talking about rainwater harvesting, plant selection and irrigation efficiency. There will be vendors available to answer questions and display their product information. This seminar is open to the public and has no admission fee. Call 325-659-6522 to register and assure materials.

Richmond/Roseburg: July 23, 2016 @ 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
The Plumeria Society of America Plant Show & Sale @ the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds.

Guadalupe County MG- check out their website at www.guadalupecountymastergardens.org for more great educational opportunities.

Austin Area Events-for more events in the Austin Area, go to <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/travis/>

San Antonio, Texas- for events in the San Antonio area go to <http://www.bexarcountymastergardeners.org>



DATES TO REMEMBER: (Check elsewhere in newsletter for details)

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings/classes are at

623 N. Fair Street (Plantatarium: A Center for Exploration-(aka PACE)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Board Mtg. 9:30	JULY 1	2
3		5	6	7 Noon MG Member Lunch Meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Board Mtg. 9:30	29	30

PACE: 623 N. Fair Street-next to Gonzales Elementary School

Children's Garden: Corner of Moore and St. Louis St.-next to Eggleston House



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