



Master Gardener Thymes

www.lakelandsmastergardener.org



October 2008



ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, unless otherwise noted. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!!!

October 9th meeting: Linda McHam from Spartanburg will present "garden rooms"...what they are, where they began, how to create them...also includes a slide presentation of "rooms" from around the world

DUES ARE DUE

Submitted by Sandy Stachurski

Yes, we know it is early. Yes, this is a change. But, **all dues for 2009 will need to be paid in full before December 31, 2008.** The change has come so we will be able to have the directory completed and distributed by January 31, 2009. In the past, we haven't been able to have all dues paid and complete the directory until the first quarter is over which gives us limited time to actually use the information. **Dues can be paid to Louise Powell at the general meeting or mail your dues to her at: 107 Crestview Drive, Greenwood, SC 29649.**

If you are in the new class, your tuition covers dues for 2008, but you will be responsible to pay the 2009 dues.

Please keep in mind, if your dues are not paid by the **December 31, 2008 deadline** your name will not

appear in the directory, nor will you receive any newsletters. We thank you in advance for adapting to this change.

59 years old and under	\$15.00
60+ years old	\$10.00
married couples 59 and under	\$20.00
married couples 60+	\$15.00
Lifetime Membership	\$125.00

NEW COMMITTEE FOR 2009

In the comfort of your own home you can earn those valuable volunteer hours for 2009. We are developing a phone tree committee. Our newsletter and email are great ways to communicate, but we are sometimes failing to communicate important dates and programs to everyone. We would like to have a committee that is willing to give reminder calls to our members. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Sandy Stachurski at drglenn7@embargmail.com or give her a call at 227-2769 home, 229-7444 office. Please leave a message if you get a recording.

LANDER UNIVERSITY The Arboretum Committee

TO: Greenwood Area Gardening Leaders
FROM: DeWitt Stone, Chair - Lander Arboretum Committee
DATE: 10 September 2008
RE: Fourth Annual Lander Arboretum Lecture – October 30 at 7 pm
The Lander Arboretum Committee is pleased to announce that Japanese gardener Masashi 'Mike' Oshita

of Asheville, NC, will give our Fourth Annual Lander Arboretum Lecture:

“Introduction to the Japanese garden”

Mr. Oshita has built numerous public and private gardens in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia since immigrating to the United States in 1982. He is one of only 65 Japanese gardeners in the United States listed by the Japanese Garden Research Network and the only classically trained Japanese gardener in North Carolina. He was also part of the team that designed the Zen rock garden at the Mint Museum of Art in Charlotte and the new Bonsai Exhibit Garden at the N.C. Arboretum near Asheville.

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door of the Lander Cultural Center. There will be a silent auction of plants and garden items beginning at 6:30 pm. A reception will be held after the lecture so that attendees may meet the speaker.

We invite garden clubs, businesses, and individuals to become co-sponsors of the lecture for a donation of \$100 or more in cash or in plants for the silent auction. Each sponsor will receive four tickets, a listing in the program, and recognition at the event. Proceeds from the annual arboretum lectures support projects that increase the variety of trees on the Lander campus for educational uses and for community enjoyment.

NEW THIS YEAR: Mr. Oshita will conduct a workshop on “The Secret Technique of Japanese Gardening” at Lander from 9-12 am on Friday, October 31. He will discuss and demonstrate garden styles, stone lanterns, water features, bamboo fencing, and the uses of stone for walks, walls, and as special features. The cost is \$30 per person and **only 20 places are available**. Please call the Lander Continuing Education Office at 864-388-8426 for additional information.

You may call me at 864-993-7866 or contact any of these members of the Lander Arboretum Committee for additional information:

Peggy Adams Marge Ball Richard Greene
James Hodges Vivian ‘Bibbi’ Lee Robbie Martin
Todd Minter Jane Price Mike Runyan
Frank Sells Jimmy Walters

Thank you for all that you do to beautify our community.



Sunscald

Submitted by Vincent Plotczyk

Sunscald is a non-pathogenic disease that occurs when fruit are exposed to a lot of sunlight and high temperatures. Exposure can be due to pruning, loss of foliage cover due to leaf diseases or prolonged wilting. Damaged areas are vulnerable to attack by insects, fungi, and bacteria.

In fruit with sunscald, the affected area becomes dry and sunken with a papery tan to white color.

Later a black mold can develop in the damaged area and cause the fruit to rot. Do not consume the tomato. When sunscald is first noticed, it is best to get rid of the affected fruit and allow the plant to set more fruit.

What can you do to control sunscald?

Several things to try are:

- 1) Keep your plants healthy and maintain foliage.
- 2) Watch for leaf diseases.
- 3) Select tomato varieties that are not prone to sunscald.
- 4) You can cover your tomatoes with a lightweight material such as a shade cloth.

References

Clemson Extension

University of Illinois Extension

AVRDC- The World Vegetable Center

Missouri Botanical Garden - Kemper Center for Home Gardening

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Biltmore Rose Garden

My husband and I went to the Biltmore Estate for our anniversary last month. If you have never been there, it is worth going just to see the beautiful gardens. Looking at the gardens my mind wondered how the gardeners kept up with all of the work for those plants. One of my concerns was how they watered all of the roses. I asked one of the gardeners in the rose gardens, how many roses did the Biltmore properties have? She stated “that

they had around 1900". I observed the drip irrigation around the rose plants. With the heat spell we endured over the summer, the estate would have lost many roses if not irrigated in that fashion. As my husband and I traveled around the estate, we observed almost all of the trees had brown leaves on them already. Around the buildings, the trees showed no sign of this. The Biltmore Estate is comprised of over 265,000 acres. It was impossible to water and protect all of the plants from the extreme temperatures.

Let me just reiterate that the Biltmore Estates' gardens are one of the most beautiful gardens that I have seen.

Don't miss the opportunity to go and see them.

From your fellow master gardener,

Lisa Jones

Below is a picture of only part of the rose garden at the estate.



87 Plants That Deer Won't Devour

Text and photos by Dr. Mark Bridgen

Part 2

Deer species and habits

That said, I will concede that the species of deer differ. Here in the eastern US, we have the white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), and in the western US, there are the mule deer (*O. hemionus*) and the black-tailed deer (*O. hemionus*). The plants on this list have been tested with the white-tailed deer. I do not know if the mule deer or the black-tailed deer will avoid these plants.

Another situation which makes plant lists confusing is that during the winter months, hungry deer will consume plants that they would not eat during the summer months when tastier alternatives are available. *Rhododendron* and *Taxus* are good examples; these plants may seem deer-resistant in the summer, but are not during the winter.

The deer population in the US has increased dramatically during the past 15 years, and so has the number of deer-related automobile accidents. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co., Bloomington, IL, estimates that 1 1/2 million vehicles collide with deer every year, resulting in 150 fatalities and \$1.1 billion in vehicle damages (2006). Deer are the No. 1 problem for farmers and nurserymen on Long Island, and the economic damage caused by deer is immeasurable.

When deer do not eat plants, they can trample them or kill trees by girdling them when they rub their antlers against the trunk. In addition to causing automobile accidents and damaging landscapes, deer also increase the incidence of diseases, like Lyme disease.

Plant selection is only one way to protect the garden from deer. The only guarantee of zero damage is a physical barrier to protect the plants. Eight-foot fences or nets work very well, but are expensive and unsightly. Some of the spray-on deer repellents work well if they are applied consistently and correctly. Sometimes, pet dogs can deter deer from entering the garden.

Knowledge of deer habits can also be useful. Damage seems most prevalent in the spring when new plant growth is present and when new fawns are learning to survive. The second time of year when deer browse heavily is in the fall and early winter when males are claiming territory. If a repellent is used, these times of the year are critical for application. Selecting different repellents to use on a rotating basis is helpful.

Whenever I speak to groups on deer-resistant plants, there is always someone who boldly declares, "If a deer is hungry enough, it will eat *any* plant!" This statement is not true. Think about it: Would a deer eat a foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*) or a monkshood (*Aconitum napellus*) that could kill them? In all of my years of gardening, I have never seen a spruce tree, boxwood, *Cleome* or *Miscanthus* grass touched by a deer. These are examples of plants that are rarely damaged by deer and are the best to use in the landscape where deer are problematic. There are plants that are occasionally damaged by deer either in the spring or fall when deer are migrating. During this time, deer may nibble on the plants before they realize there is an unpleasant flavor. However, once they learn, they will not return for a second course.

Partial list from the above article--continued

Grass	
Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola'	Golden variegated hakonechloa
Miscanthus sinensis	Chinese Silver Grass
Panicum virgatum	Switch grass
Pennisetum alopecuroides	Perennial fountain grass
Phalaris arundinacea var. Picta	Ribbon grass

Herbaceous Perennials-pt. 1

Aconitum napellus	Monkshood
Aegopodium podagraria 'Variegatum'	'Variegatum' bishop's goutweed
Agastache foeniculum	Anise hyssop
Allium scgiebiorasyn	Chives
Allium tuberosum	Garlic chives
Amsonia tabernaemontana	Blue stars
Artemesia ludoviciana	White sage
Artemesia schmidtiana	Wormwood

Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly weed
Calamintha grandiflora	Calamint
Carex sp.	Japanese sedge
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow-in-summer
Dicentra eximia	Fringed bleeding heart
Dicentra spectabilis	Bleeding heart
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove
Epimedium sp.	Barrenwort
Euphorbia sp.	Spurge
Fritillaria imperialis	Fritillaria
Galanthus nivalis	Snowdrop
Helleborus orientalis	Lenten rose
Lamiastrum galeobdolon 'Variegatum'	yellow archangel
Lamium maculatum	Spotted dead nettle
Lavendula angustifolia	Lavender
Lespedeza bicolor	Bush clover
Leucojum vernum	Spring snowflake
Ligularia dentata	Ragwort
Lysimachia nummularia	Creeping Jenny; moneywort
Marrubium vulgare	Horehound
Mazus reptans	Creeping mazus

(more plants next month...)

Community Supported Agriculture

Submitted by Donna Boozer

Hi Jean, Below is an article on Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) that might be of interest to the MGs, many of whom may not be familiar with the concept. Chis Sermons of BioWay Farms is planning to start one next year and spoke last month at our general meeting. He plans to have an informational sheet available after the first of the year. There are several CSAs in areas surrounding the Greenwood area. Please check out the following web site for more info. The article below came from this web site.

<http://www.localharvest.org/csa.jsp>

What is Community Supported Agriculture and How Does It Work?

Used with the permission of Community Supported Agriculture of North America at University of Massachusetts Extension

CSA reflects an innovative and resourceful strategy to connect local farmers with local consumers; develop a regional food supply and strong local economy; maintain a sense of community; encourage land stewardship; and honor the knowledge and experience of growers and producers working with small to medium farms. CSA is a unique model of local agriculture whose roots reach back 30 years to Japan where a group of women concerned about the increase in food imports and the corresponding decrease in the farming population initiated a direct growing and purchasing relationship between their group and local farms. This arrangement, called "teikei" in Japanese, translates to "putting the farmers' face on food." This concept traveled to Europe and was adapted to the U.S. and given the name "Community Supported Agriculture" at Indian Line Farm, Massachusetts, in 1985. As of January 2005, there are over 1500 CSA farms across the US and Canada.

CSA is a partnership of mutual commitment between a farm and a community of supporters which provides a direct link between the production and consumption of food. Supporters cover a farm's yearly operating budget by purchasing a share of the season's harvest. CSA members make a commitment to support the farm throughout the season, and assume the costs, risks and bounty of growing food along with the farmer or grower. Members help pay for seeds, fertilizer, water, equipment maintenance, labor, etc. In return, the farm provides, to the best of its ability, a healthy supply of seasonal fresh produce throughout the growing season. Becoming a member creates a responsible relationship between people and the food they eat, the land on which it is grown and those who grow it.

This mutually supportive relationship between local farmers, growers and community members helps create an economically stable farm operation in which members are assured the highest quality produce, often at below retail prices. In return, farmers and growers are guaranteed a reliable market for a diverse selection of crops.

How Does CSA Work?

Money, Members and Management

A farmer or grower, often with the assistance of a core group, draws up a budget reflecting the production costs for the year. This includes all salaries, distribution costs, investments for seeds and tools, land payments,

machinery maintenance, etc. The budget is then divided by the number of people for which the farm will provide and this determines the cost of each share of the harvest. One share is usually designed to provide the weekly vegetable needs for a family of four. (although your mileage may vary) Flowers, fruit, meat, honey, eggs and dairy products are also available through some CSA.

Community members sign up and purchase their shares, either in one lump sum before the seeds are sown in early spring, or in several installments through-out the growing season. Production expenses are thereby guaranteed and the farmer or grower starts receiving income as soon as work begins.

In return for their investment, CSA members receive a bag of fresh, locally-grown, typically organic produce once a week from late spring through early fall, and occasionally throughout the winter in northern climates and year-round in milder zones. Members prefer a wide variety of vegetables and herbs, which encourages integrated cropping and companion planting. These practices help reduce risk factors and give multiple benefits to the soil. Crops are planted in succession in order to provide a continuous weekly supply of mixed vegetables. As crops rotate throughout the season, weekly shares vary by size and types of produce, reflecting local growing seasons and conditions.

* CSA vary considerably as they are based on farm or garden location, agricultural practices, and specific farm and community goals and needs. Memberships are known to include a variety of community members including low-income families, homeless people, senior citizens, and differently-abled individuals. If provided, an extra fee typically is charged for home delivery. Most CSA invite members to visit the farm and welcome volunteer assistance. Working shares are an option in some cases, whereby a member commits to three or four hours a week to help the farm in exchange for a discount on membership cost.

* Apprenticeships are growing in popularity on many CSA. For some farms they are an integral component of a successful operation. Apprenticeships offer valuable hands-on education.

* Property arrangements tend to be quite flexible. Beyond private ownership, there is leasing of land with lease fees factored in as a regular budget item. CSA is also an excellent opportunity for holding land in some form of trust arrangement.

* Every CSA strives over time for a truly sustainable operation, both economically and environmentally. Many try to develop to their highest potential by expanding to provide additional food items such as honey, fruit, meats, eggs, etc. Networks of CSA have been forming to develop associative economies by growing and providing a greater range of products in a cooperative fashion.

* Some CSA provide produce for local restaurants, roadside stands or farmers' markets while building farm membership, or in many cases, in addition to it.

Distribution and Decision-Making

Distribution styles also vary. Once the day's produce is harvested, the entire amount is weighed and the number of pounds or items (e.g. heads of lettuce, ears of corn) to be received by each share is determined. Some CSA have members come to the farm and weigh out their own share, leave members behind any items they don't want at a surplus table and possibly find something there they could use. Other farms have a distribution crew to weigh items and pack shares to be picked up by members at the farm or at distribution points.

Several advantages to the direct marketing approach of CSA, in addition to shared risk and pre-payment of farm costs, are the minimal loss and waste of harvested farm produce, little or reduced need for long-term storage, and a willingness by members to accept produce with natural cosmetic imperfections.

A core group made up of the farmers or growers, distributors and other key administrators, and several CSA members are often the decision-making body for CSA that determines short and long-range goals, prepares the budget, conducts publicity and outreach, organizes events, etc. Annual meetings, a member newsletter, and occasional surveys are some basic means of communication between the farm and its members.

Why Is Community Supported Agriculture Important?

* CSA's direct marketing gives farmers and growers the fairest return on their products.

* CSA keeps food dollars in the local community and contributes to the maintenance and establishment of regional food production.

* CSA encourages communication and cooperation among farmers.

* With a "guaranteed market" for their produce, farmers can invest their time in doing the best job they can rather than looking for buyers.

* CSA supports the biodiversity of a given area and the diversity of agriculture through the preservation of small farms producing a wide variety of crops.

* CSA creates opportunity for dialogue between farmers and consumers.

* CSA creates a sense of social responsibility and stewardship of local land.

* CSA puts "the farmers face on food" and increases understanding of how, where, and by whom our food is grown.

Special thanks to the contributors to this description of CSA: Robyn Van En, CSA of North America (CSANA); Liz Manes, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension; and Cathy Roth, UMass Extension Agroecology Program.

Thanks to Community Supported Agriculture of North America at University of Massachusetts Extension for allowing us to post this article.

For more information on Community Supported Agriculture, please contact The Robyn Van En Center for CSA at: info@csacenter.org

**Lakelands Master Gardeners
PO Box 49632
Greenwood, SC 29648**

Budget Summary for August

Balance as of 7/29	\$9,496.10
Income	\$0
Expenses	\$365.83
Balance as of 9/8	\$9130.27

**For more information contact the club treasurer,
Louise Powell at 223-9393**

