



# Master Gardener Thymes

[www.lakelandsmastergardener.org](http://www.lakelandsmastergardener.org)

September 2010

## - Special Note -

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Jean Anderson after the passing of her husband of forty years. In lieu of flowers the family humbly request that memorials be made to either the Disaster Relief Fund, McCormick First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 416, McCormick, SC 29835 or to Samaritan's Purse, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607-3000 or call 1-800-528-1980. Her home address is 4840 McCormick Hwy, Bradley 29819



## "SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN"

WITH PLANT COMMUNITY CONCEPTS AND **GREEN** APPLICATIONS

Mr. Rick Huffman, Owner and Principal Designer of "Earth Design", a landscape architecture and environmental design firm, will present an exciting lecture introducing landscape tools for sustainability and native plant applications. The lecture will review the historical significance of native plants of South Carolina and the role plant communities perform in the landscape design process. Mr. Huffman will demonstrate green applications of native plants such as "LEED" (Leadership, Energy and Environmental Design), rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, roof gardens and residential and commercial landscapes.

### WHEN

Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Doors open at 6:00 pm

*All Interested Gardeners Invited*

**\*\*\* Free Admission \*\*\***

**WHERE "Greenwood Genetic Center" Auditorium**

**117 Gregor Mendel Circle**

**Greenwood, SC 29646**

**(Sign and entrance on West Alexander)**

**Map and Directions at GGC.org**

**??? QUESTIONS ???**

**Contact: Clemson Extension Agent, James Hodges – 223-3264 Ext 116 Or  
Catherine Swindell, Lakelands MG Program/Speaker Chairperson – 223-8552**

---

## **Add a Few Fall Vegetables**



James F. Hodges - Greenwood County Extension

Many of the container plantings on my deck, front porch or gazebo have lost much of their luster from early in the summer. Deadheading the spent flowers, adding a light dose of liquid fertilizer and trimming back some of the yellowed or heat scorched stems and leaves improves their appearance, but many containers really need major renovation or renewal. Traditional mums and

pansies are often the plants of choice, but why not consider adding lettuce in your deck planter or a late season container of herbs.

These plant choices are different for most of us who are used to our mums and pansies each fall, but container gardening can lend itself to endless combinations with mixtures of colorful herbs plants and leafy vegetables such as red bunch lettuce. Many of our fall cool season vegetables traditionally are planted in August, but this year's intense heat would have fried most young transplants and seedlings. Planting a few containers of broccoli that can be protected until they mature in late fall can still be successful, but some of the smaller maturing vegetable plants such as lettuce, carrots, mustard, onion or radish may be an easier undertaking.

Smaller herbs such as oregano, thyme and chive can be grown in containers. Many herbs that aren't frost hardy, such as basil, can be grown in small containers on the deck this fall and moved to a sunny spot in the kitchen for use several months into winter. You can cheat on size of containers by planting a small transplant into a large container without removing it from the original pot. Make sure the small pot has several water drainage holes in the bottom or you can punch additional holes if you wish. The roots of the plant will quickly grow into the surrounding soil and produce a larger plant than if left to grow in a smaller pot.

Then, when it is time to move the plant inside, dig up the potted plant, remove the extra roots and soil attached, place the plant into a better looking pot just large enough to take the plant without removing the old container. These smaller containers will not take up as much space in the kitchen. Harvest the foliage heavily for use at this time. Water as needed once the plant is taken inside and continue to harvest leaves as needed.

For winter long green's crops such as lettuce, use 2 gallon containers only ½ filled with soil for planting. Several containers can be placed next to each other and covered with a sheet or blanket during those severe freezing days in December. Then as the weather warms the plants continue to produce all winter long.

Some plants can be added to containers with other plants, while it may be more productive to remove all plants and roots from an existing container, loosen the soil mix, then replant with all new plants. Visit Clemson Extension Home and Garden website: [Http://hgic.clemson.edu](http://hgic.clemson.edu) for many bulletins on individual cool season vegetables and herbs. The site includes useful bulletin with tips growing plants in containers that includes container types, sizes, soil mixes and fertilizations. Fall-Winter-Spring plants grown so that they can be covered during severe weather in partially filled containers.



Young herb transplants such as this basil can still be purchased locally for use in home containers.



Mature home grown leaf lettuce and broccoli can be selectively harvested over a long period. Remove outer leaves on lettuce periodically allowing new leaves to develop from the center of the lettuce plant or cut individual flower heads from broccoli as they mature.



This red lettuce plant is in need of harvesting outside leaves to allow for more space for the lily plants in the container.



Two varieties of lettuce, red and green, with recently harvested broccoli.

---

## **Cultivating Change**



Taken from *Habitat World*, June 2010

Submitted by Sandy Stachurski

Gansukh Munguntsetseg was drawn to Ulaanbaatar in the hope of a better life.

She moved to the city with her two daughters when she could not find work in her home district as a construction worker or bricklayer. Without land title or her own traditional Mongolian tent, Munguntsetseg rented an 8-square-meter ger. Water was drawn from a communal well, and several families shared an outdoor toilet.

Even in Ulaanbaatar, the country's capital city, Munguntsetseg sometimes found work hard to come by, and so she began growing fruits and vegetables – cabbage and cauliflower, strawberries and sea-buckthorn.

During one winter, a time of year when the number of construction projects always dips with the plunging temperatures, she began collecting plastic bottles. By cutting off the top and the bottom of each bottle, she could spread the bottle into a flat sheet and sew the individual pieces together to make the walls of a greenhouse, which was set up with wooden frames.

With this simple structure, she could continue to grow fruits and vegetables even in the winter months. On average, Munguntsetseg can take home about 5,000 to 6,000 tugriks (US \$3.50-\$4.20) a day from selling her modest crops.

But Munguntsetseg's ingenuity could not change her family's living conditions – until she heard about Habitat Mongolia. In 2007, she contributed her own labor and expertise to the construction of her Habitat house.

She has kept her greenhouse, now filled with nearly 20 plant varieties. The avid gardener is keen to try new crops, such as apples and mandarin oranges. And she's keen to see a better future for her two daughters. "I would like them to work abroad and have their own homes," she says. "It is my hope that I will have grandchildren and they will have a good life."

---

## Hours & Mileage



Topiaries, Festival of Flowers, Extension classes...hours, hours, hours & miles, miles, miles all to be collected by **SEPTEMBER 15TH!**

I am still amazed at the growing number of service hours and the distance one will drive to plan, plant, dig and weed our surrounding communities as it is clearly shown by the record number of hours and miles collected, as I have said many times before even a few hours adds up over the year, so do not hesitate to make them count, plus a huge thank you to all who have already sent them in!

Contact information: Linda Halsey P.O. Box 82, Hodges, SC 29653 or 374-7253 or [halseyfarm@embarqmail.com](mailto:halseyfarm@embarqmail.com)



**Christmas Show Day Trip Reminder** Come along for a day of *Magical Christmas* at the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual

Southern Christmas Show. Greenwood County Family and Community Leaders is sponsoring a bus on Tuesday, November 16, at a cost of \$38.00 per person. Cost includes charter bus transportation, your ticket to the show and light refreshments on the way to Charlotte. Reserve your seat with a check made to Greenwood County FCL, and mailed to 106 Clark Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29649 or contact Master Gardener Helen Spiller.

Don't delay, as the bus is filling fast! This day trip is a great opportunity to catch the holiday spirit and get some early shopping done.

---

**Those who signed up to help James Hodges with the 2010 Master Gardener Class are:**

August 31: Dwight Long and Jason Jordan	Irrigation and Water Use
September 7: Sandra Johnson and Jason Jordan	Composting, Soil & Fertility
September 14: Julee Marshall and Jason Jordan	Urban Forestry, Tree Selection, Pruning
September 21: Kim Hastings This will be a trip to	Doris Green House Tour
September 28: Julee Marshall and Jason Jordan	Lawns & Weed Management
October 5: Kim Hastings and Jason Jordan	This will be a tour of Lakelands Nursery
October 12: Julee Marshall and Jason Jordan	Landscape Design
October 19: Kim Hastings and Jason Jordan	Botany & Physiology
October 26: Julee Marshall and Jason Jordan	Fruit Gardening & Pruning
November 2: Julee Marshall and Jason Jordan	Plant Propagation & Plant Care
November 9: Kim Hastings and Jason Jordan	Insects, Pesticides & IPM
November 16: Julee Marshall and Jason Jordan	Committee signups FINAL EXAM

If any committee chairpersons would like to go to the class to inform the class about your Committee, please feel free to go and try to get those in the new class to sign up. Thank you: Helen Spiller, Chair, Education Committee

---

**Here's the scoop...on free horse poop**

submitted by Bob Bentley The Lander University Equestrian Center has a veritable manure factory on Hwy. 72/221 East, and they've been generous with their product to at least one inquiring MG member. It saves them a little hauling, too, if collectors call before they've filled up a

trailer load, so it's win-win. It's not necessary, but an offer to shovel the manure into your containers directly from a Lander stable probably would be appreciated. This is a job usually done by a small, overworked staff, and I am sure they could use the help.

If interested in starting to sweeten that compost pile for spring planting, call Director Nancy Poston, 388-8585 or Coach Mary Hughston, 388-8586.



---

## Recommended Web Sites

Jimmy McInville sent in this site to share with his fellow Master Gardeners!

Better Homes and Gardens Garden Store <http://www.bhggardenstore.com>

---

## Minutes of the Lakelands Master Gardeners' Board Meeting Aug. 12, 2010 at the Clemson Extension - Submitted by Sandy Orr

There were 8 Board Members or Committee Chairs present, so there was a quorum: Dwight Long, Catherine Swindell, Patti Larson, Chuck Bender, Cindy Wilkins, Vince Plotczyk, James Hodges, and Sandy Orr. The Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$9,541.91 as of 8/12/10 and was accepted by the Board.

### ONGOING EVENTS/PROJECTS

Description

Responsibility

Status

Description	Responsibility	Status



Clemson Extension Office Sign and Rain Garden Jimmy McInville Plan Work Day in Oct.

Lisa Jones                      Sec'y to call, get workers  
at Sept. meeting. Put  
announcement in Sept news

Dwight Long                      Get load of leaf mold to  
Ext. Office for work day

September Meeting-"Sustainable Landscape      Sandy Orr                      E-mail members 2 wks prior  
Design"- Rick Huffman, speaker                      Phone non-e-mailers  
Contact Garden Clubs, Home  
Owner Associations. Phone  
Social Committee re  
refreshments

Nicole Ellis                      Activate phone tree 2 wks  
prior to meetings

Dwight Long                      Announce meeting thru

James Hodges                      Ann Eller

Erskine Garden Design                      Sandra Johnson Unknown

Find a Social Chairman                      Dwight Long