

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Making Hollywood more beautiful one garden at a time!

August 2019

Member of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs – <http://ffgc.org> – Deep South Garden Club - www.dsgardenclubs.com
National Garden Clubs, Inc., www.gardenclub.org, and Deep South Region



HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS
3RD TUESDAY of the MONTH
Fred Lippman Multi-Purpose Center
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. -- 2030 Polk Street, Hollywood, FL 33023



“When is the avocado ripe?” Avocados don’t really ripen on the tree. They reach maturity on the tree but must be harvested and ripen in the home. If left on the tree, the avocado’s eventually drop to the ground and will be bruised inside. Most of the time, this is done for us by iguanas and squirrels, etc . Determine the variety and the time the fruit will be ready to pick. Remove fruit even if they are hard and bring them indoors to soften. Taste test the soften fruit. If it is suitable, you are ready to harvest the crop. Avocados can be stored on the tree and used as needed for a month or so. Taste test to determine if they are ready and write down the harvest time on the calendar for next year.



Pinwheel Jasmine (*Tabernaemontana divaricata*) makes a great plant for shadier areas that have little or no color. It grows 3-5 feet tall and 4 to 5 feet across that can drupe to the ground. It has no fragrance. Pruning is needed to maintain a more compact form if that is what you desire. These plants thrive in moist, well-drained soil, but grow well with minimal water once well established. Plants perform best in acidic soil; when they are planted in more alkaline soils they may need fertilizer for best results. With this in mind, it’s best to plant pinwheel jasmine away from concrete as the soil around concrete is usually more alkaline.

Happy Birthday
Nicola Franklin and Errol Simmons

“All my hurts my garden spade can heal”
Ralph Waldo Emerson.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE - **Hollywood Garden Club** <http://hollywoodgardenclub.com>

What would you like to see in our newsletter?? Email pictures from your garden or other suggestions to mtabela@comcast.net
Membership in Florida Federation of Garden Clubs is open to all regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, or religious affiliation.

Let's plant some Butterfly Attractors

Our most popular butterfly attractor seems to be the Milkweed plant for the Monarch butterfly. The Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia diversifolia*) is a butterfly plant that grows to 5 feet tall and re-seeds itself. The flowers are orange and yellow and can be 3 inches wide. This is a favorite nectar plant for the Monarch butterfly and a good addition to milkweed in the garden.



The Desert Cassia (*Senna polyphylla*) is a very popular landscape tree in South Florida due to its small weeping form, attaining a height of 6-15' and a spread of 6-10' wide. It is also drought tolerant and moderately salt tolerant making it a good tree for xeriscapes. Its small leaves and moderate size make this tree suitable for planting in pots and as bonsai. It has yellow flowers in the spring and fall.

This tree is also popular with butterfly enthusiasts, as it is a host plant for Sulphur Butterflies as well as an excellent nectar source.

Corky Stem Vine (*Passiflora suberosa*) is a member of the Passionflower family and a native plant. It's value in the garden is as a host to the Gulf fritillary, Zebra longwing, Julia and variegated Fritillary butterfly. Grown on a trellis, the vine with support reaches 8 to 10 feet. It can also be used as a groundcover. The flowers are small and greenish to white and the fruit is a purplish berry that is edible.



Corky stem vine

THINGS TO DO LIST AUGUST 2019

PRUNING – Prune anything that will cause damage to your house in high winds. Poinsettias should get their last trim this month. For more flowers, remove spent blooms to improve plant appearance and stop seed production. Cut and throw away all diseased leaves. Shape up hedges and plants now so they look good for the holidays. Prune back roses. Replace all plants that aren't doing well after years of pampering.

PROPAGATION - Air layering should be done now before the slow growing winter season. Pull out old coleus and flowering plants and take cuttings 6 inches long. Root them in a clear water glass on an east or west windowsill until the roots are over 1 inch long. Do not keep leaves in the water, the stems will rot. Change water if it gets cloudy. There is a rotten one in the bunch. Transplant 5 or 6 cuttings in a 4 inch pot in soilless mix until the roots grow out the bottom. Transplant several of these plants into a larger pot and place them around the garden. Slowly move them from shade to partial sun, so they don't burn. To reduce the population of nematodes in the soil, solarize. Add compost and manure then cover with clear plastic for 6 weeks or more. If a potted plant has to be watered everyday put a saucer at the bottom and move it into more shade. Increasing the pot size by 2 inches will help also. Use Miracle-gro soil. Plants take oxygen out of the soil so don't keep them wet all the time.

INSECTS – Co-exist unless damage gets to unacceptable levels. For indoor insects spray a chemical barrier around your home's foundation. SNAILS – Use Sluggo Snail Bait. ANTS – Place powder bait outside and Raid ant bait trays inside, put the date on them and replace every three months. Try spraying rubbing alcohol 71% on bugs or washing off insects with a hard spray of water. Oil base sprays will burn plants in the heat of summer.

PLANTING – See EDIS Florida Vegetable Gardening. The following bulbs can be planted now: spider lily, walking iris, crinum, canna, caladium, Easter and day lilies. Bedding plants to plant are wax begonias, vinca, coleus, salvia, zinnia, gazania, celosia, marigold, torenia, gaillardia, verbena, sunflower, and penta. Fruit trees should be planted to have a head start on rooting before the cooler weather. The fishtail fern is one of my favorite groundcovers because the weeds don't grow under them. Purchase a blooming plant every month and your garden will be in bloom, year-round.

FRUITING – The trees in season now include avocado, carambola, mango, fig, muscadine grape, guava, jaboticaba, longan, monstera, papaya, passion fruit, sapodilla, sugar apple, atemoya, jackfruit, banana, velvet apple, Barbados cherry, egg fruit, lemon, mamey sapote, miracle fruit, natal plum, pineapple, rose apple, and sea grape.

MULCH – Use mulch to suppress weeds and keep the soil at an even temperature. High moisture created by mulch increases the chances of stem rot, which can result in plant death. Cuttings of the plants and trees should be left underneath them, as mulch. This puts some of their nutrients back into the soil that they used while they were growing. I am waiting until the rains hold off more before I replace my small pine bark mulch.

BLOOMING – Bougainvillea, alamanda, mussaenda, water lilies, African tulip tree, heliconias, ginger, royal poinciana, geiger tree, plumbago, ixora, hibiscus, rose, penta, periwinkle, orchids, portulaca, purslane, Mexican bluebell (ruellia), shrimp plant and desert rose, are just a few.

COLOR LIST - PURPLE – Torenia, Lantana, Vinca, Verbena, Salvia, New Guinea impatiens, Purple Queen. BLUE – Plumbago, Ageratum, Scaevola, Pentas, Blue daze, Agapanthus. RED – Wax begonia, Geranium, Impatiens, Petunia, Salvia, Ixora, Hibiscus, Crown-of-thorn, Kalanchoe, Passion flower, Vinca. ORANGE – Impatiens, Geranium, Petunia, Clivia, Day lily, Azalea, Marigolds, Gazania. YELLOW – Buttercup, Lantana, Marigold, Melanpodium, Golden globe, Day lily, Calendula, Purslane, Alamanda. WHITE – Vinca, Buttercup, Pinta, Begonia, gardenia, hibiscus, ixora, crinum, spider lily, frangipani, jasmine, candle stick, mussaenda.

Susan Berry, President of the Hollywood Garden Club, Master Gardener, Advanced Master Naturalist, Certified Garden Consultant, Certified Landscape Designer, FMNP Land Steward and FFGC Earth Steward.