another cause of 'WILT'…dehydration

- more apt to manifest when spring weather goes into dryer conditions and warmer temps
- more apt to be with plants in the ground less than 2 seasons
- over-watering can also cause droop also especially in containers
- moisture enhancing polymer granules work well with Clematis in containers

- best practices always involve a moisture meter
- water less often, but deeply
- use a moisture meter at 10-12 inches of depth for in ground Clem
- newly planted check moisture 5 to 7 inches deep



dehydration buster, meet your new bff, a moisture meter

- it’s eye opening to use a moisture meter in ground and in containers
- I could not garden without moisture meters ….
- when your hydrangeas show their thirst in their leaves, it is time to deep water all your settled in ground Clematis



best practice for early Clematis weather damage

- very early spring growth can suffer

post traumatic frost syndrome

- can manifest up to a week after the early spring frost
- yes it is wilted
- cut the damaged vine down to just above an axil below the damaged vine



a high % of wilted clems are caused by…

- avoid tying in damage best practice
- collapsed vine can often be traced to tying in or “ training “ the vine
- a too tight clip or tie
- the direction or angle is a stretch for the plant or just not the way it wants to go…
- the stem is bruised or breaks at the point of tie in



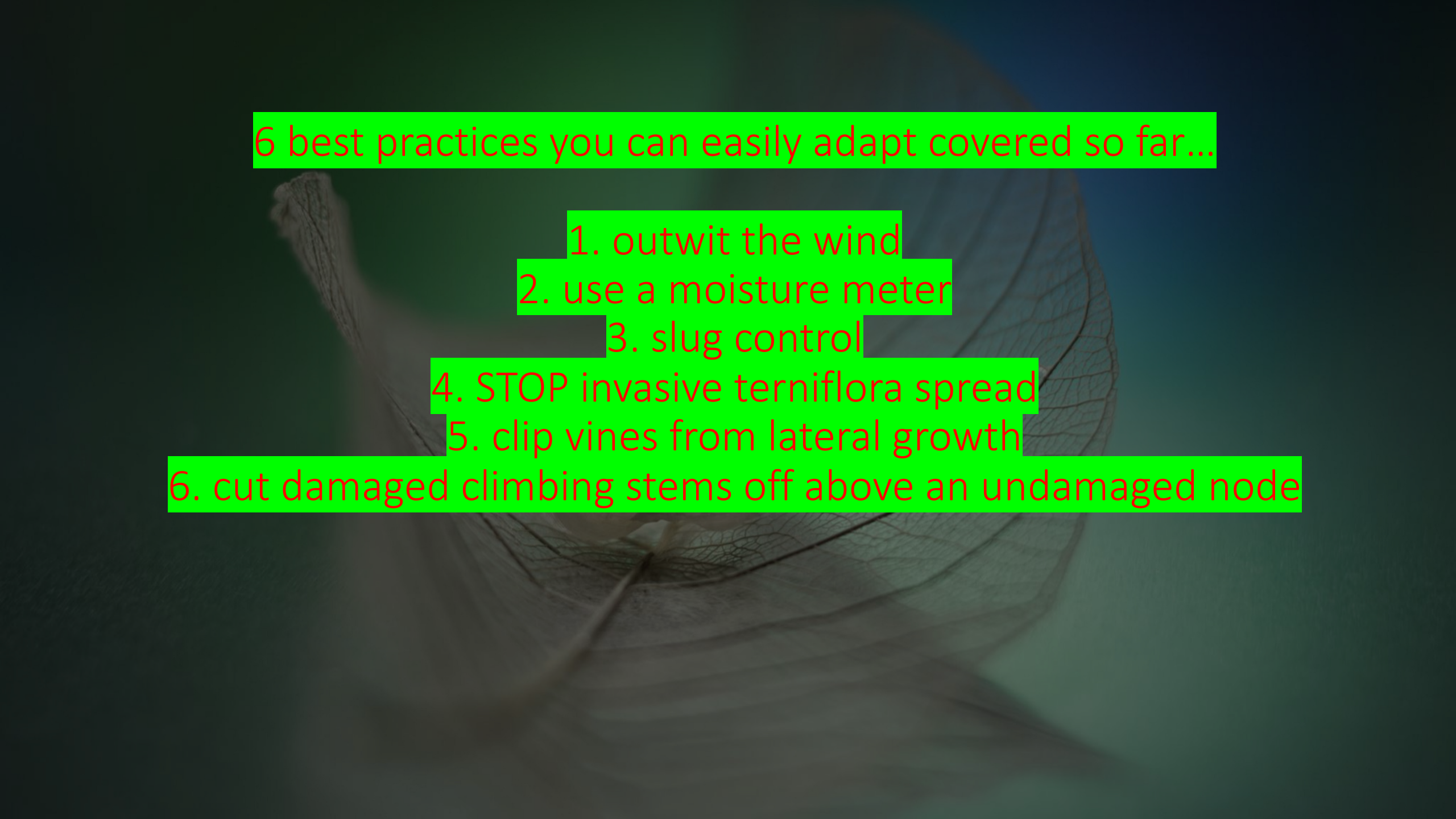
Best practice for training and tying in climbing Clematis vines.

- over the years I have used about everything and anything to tie in or try to control the direction of Clematis.
- hooks, velcro, tomato loops, etc etc
- now I use only LARGE daisy orchid clips
- here's the twist
- only affix a lateral stem never the main stem of a Clematis to direct or control the plant
- the lateral stem is dispensable, no harm is done to the plant if it does not like it or even browns off
- when main stems are unhappy with a tie in, they "wilt" , a lateral stem is no big deal



best practice: use lateral stems for training or tying in

- plant stem has some flexibility in the wind
- main stem not damaged
- lateral stem is disposable to the plant if damaged
- plant can look more natural as it grows


6 best practices you can easily adapt covered so far...
1. outwit the wind
2. use a moisture meter
3. slug control
4. STOP invasive terniflora spread
5. clip vines from lateral growth
6. cut damaged climbing stems off above an undamaged node

best practice planting depth, fleshy root or thin wiry root?

the fleshier the root the deeper you plant

finer wiry, fibrous roots you plant at the same level as old location or current container.

LOOK AT THE ROOTS to guide you on depth

same depth: integrifolia, non vining

earliest blooming atragene, some species

WHY…AVOID ROOT ROT OF THINNER ROOTS

deeper: most medium and large flowered Clematis

WHY…MORE STEMS, MORE CROWNS, MORE PROTECTION



look at the roots…
the fleshier the root the deeper you plant

what is deep planting?

in very cold climates, vining, fleshy rooted Clematis have been planted up to a foot deeper than current

vining hybrid Clematis 2 to 4 inches deeper is a good practice

more axils under the soil make more crowns and shoots.

Best practice: deep circular planting

for fleshy root vining Clematis



best practice: angular planting

for fleshy root vining Clematis



best practices in weather extremes...



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postpone planting ?

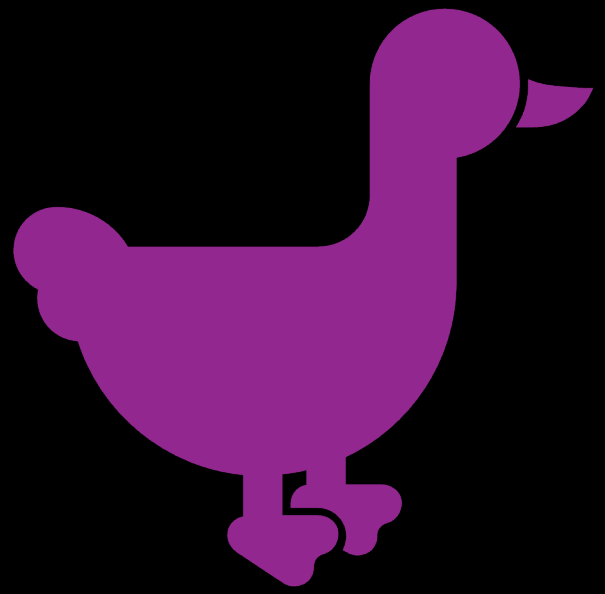
in hot , dry weather use a light mulch for not vining Clematis, pine needles are perfect

make sure manure-based products are well aged and used early in the season

plant fleshy rooted Clematis deeper, and cut the plant back when you plant it.

use a soil thermometer, 5 or 6 inches down it is cooler even during a heat wave and established roots find moisture down deep

much less risk of dehydrated, withered and dead crown in hot weather or dry periods



best practice weather extremes...

- overly wet conditions and newly planted Clematis can be a disaster
- best practice : use big scoops of Turface around stems and crowns to soak moisture away from the crowns when excess rain conditions are present for newly planted, weak or precious Clematis

recap best practices

- always reduce vine height when planting climbing Clematis, plant deeper than current soil level. consider angle planting and burying excess vine as shown.

- for non vining clematis , reduce at least half the stems to ground level, do not plant deeper than current soil level.