



# THE COASTAL NC DAYLILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

No. 104



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER - *by Pat Mansfield*

It's full bloom season! I hope your gardens are bursting with blooms that are beckoning you out into the garden.

It's a great time to begin your spray for prevention of Daylily Rust and other fungal issues. If you need some Azoxystrobin to use to prevent rust in your garden, the club has some available at \$23.50/oz.

We weren't able to have our normal sales this Spring due to the COVID-19 restrictions. At our meeting last month, we agreed to hold an on-line plant sale. Using the leftover plants from last Spring's sales that were grown at Mansfield's Daylilies, as well as plants donated by Mansfield's Daylilies and Joe Hudson - our speaker at the upcoming OBX 2020, we advertised on Facebook on the "Daylilies and Seedlings Sales Page", that when a potential customer clicked on our post, it took them to our Facebook page.



We got a lot of "Likes" on our page and a few followers out of it. We did a pre-announcement of the date and time the sale would begin and they must have been sitting by the computer because they were grabbing them left and right for the first hour. It was pretty exciting to see so many people grabbing our plants. The result is that the Society netted \$757.50 from selling plants on-line. Ken, Beverly, and Madonna helped to get them dug, washed, boxed and mailed to recipients in Missouri, Mississippi, Georgia, Texas, Maryland, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and North & South Carolina. Whoo Hoo!

I hope to see you all at our next meeting.  
Until then - ENJOY THE BLOOMS!

# THE NEXT CNCDS MEETING

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## TUESDAY, JUNE 23rd

Yes, it's the Annual Lunch Picnic - at the home of Pat & Bill Mansfield on **TUESDAY, JUNE 23**, beginning at 9:30. Please bring a side dish of your choice or a dessert. Our hosts will provide the meat, drinks & water. We will be outside, under a tent with plenty of room to spread out.

The meeting will start with a demonstration on how to pollinate a daylily, and how to collect pollen and freeze it for future use. Members can then try their hand at cross pollination or can collect pollen to take home. Next we will have our business meeting, followed by discussions regarding OBX Autumn 2020. The meeting will end at 11:30 and then we will have our picnic.

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## moonglade *n.*

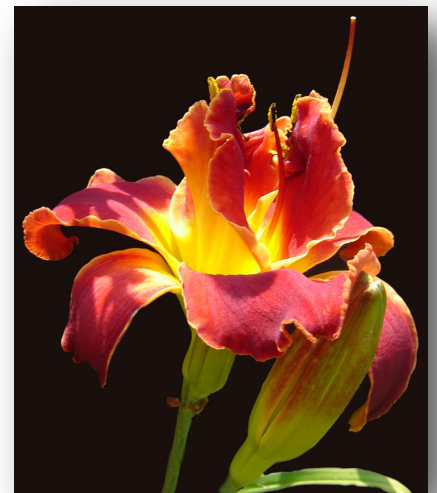
(poetic, rare) The bright reflection of moonlight on a body of water.



Well nobody emailed me with the correct answer to my little quiz last month.

Soooo, let's try it one more time. The first email to me with the correct answer to the question below will win one of my daylilies, *Shari Dee*.

SO TRY THIS ONE



Shari Dee—Ferguson, K —2013

## DAYLILY TRIVIA *duex*

Daylilies are **perennial** plants, whose name alludes to its flowers, which typically last about a day. The flowers of most species open in early morning and wither during the following night, possibly replaced by another one on the same **scape** the next day. Some species are night-blooming.

Why is the name DAYLILIES incorrect?

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# SOME SOUTH CAROLINA FIRSTS

First European settlement – 1526. ...

First American-built ship to cross the Atlantic – 1563. ...

First public library – November 16, 1700. ...

First fire insurance company – February 3, 1736. ...

First to claim the Shag as an official state dance—1984. ...

**AND**

**First group to start booking rooms** for *OBX Autumn 2020* — May 2020 !

## When they're gone, they're gone.

We've booked a block of rooms at the Comfort Inn On the Ocean, Kill Devil Hills, NC. Please note rooms need to be booked by the cutoff date of Friday, Sep 11, 2020 or they'll be released to the general public. Reserve your room online or call the hotel directly.

Group Name: American Daylily Society Region 15

Group Code: WD87H3

Check In: Friday, Oct 9, 2020 (4:00 PM)

Comfort Inn On the Ocean, 1601 S. Virginia Dare Trail

Kill Devil Hills, NC, US, 27948 252.441.6333



## Have an awesome idea for a Story or Article?

Contact Pat Mansfield  
mansfieldsdaylilies@gmail.com

or Ken Ferguson

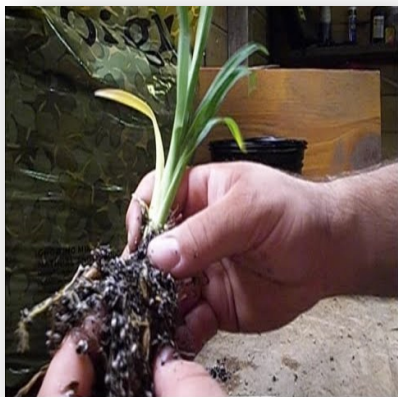
kferguson@mchsi.com



# IDEA

# Homebrewed Solutions & Wisdom... deux

by Ken Ferguson



As a follow-up to last month's article, this part 2 is designed to help you better understand daylilies and their needs. Some suggested solutions in most cases are common, inexpensive household products.

## Prophylactics... *sounds nasty, but not*

As tough as daylilies are, they are susceptible to some diseases. Fungal crown and root rots are the two most common problems, both thought to be caused by microscopic organisms. Some symptoms of rotting can include poor growth, wilting, yellowing of leaves, mushy tissue and the ultimate bummer, death of the plant. Overwatering, over-fertilization, poor soil conditions and plant stresses also may be contributors to rot diseases. Here is a quick, inexpensive, prophylactic measure that may head off some of these problems... a BLEACH soak. Sources differ in their opinions on the value of the process, but bleach is cheap and 10 minutes will not keep you in the garden that much longer on planting day. **IMPORTANT:** Use the same personal protective cautions that you would with any household bleaching agent.



- In a 5-gallon bucket, make a 10% bleach solution (1 cup common household bleach to 10 cups of tap water.)
- Soak the CLEAN (free of ALL soil,) bare-rooted fans for about 10 minutes.
- Remove and let the excess solution drain off before planting.



## Feeding... *"Big Box" method*

Because each garden has different soil types with different nutrient needs, it is absolutely impossible prescribe a single, specific fertilizer for use on all daylilies. In general, daylilies are really not that picky about what you feed them. A complete balanced fertilizer such as 6-12-12, or 10-10-10 or 13-13-13, applied in moderation will do just fine.

## Feeding (cont)

Proper feeding will result in more and larger blooms and the plants will generally be more vigorous. Wait until your newly planted daylilies are established, about two to three weeks, before you apply a fertilizer. In most cases, the first application of a commercially prepared composition should be in the early spring when the daylilies begin their new growth [March in this part of North Carolina] with a second application in the fall once the temperatures start to cool off [September.]

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## Feeding... *DIY method*

The following formulations can be tried at your own peril. It might be informative [and fun] to make a small bed with splits off the **SAME** clump and see if any, some, or all of the solutions work in your particular soil type and micro-climate. Individually treat the fans in the test bed with the various formulations, but leave **ONE** fan unamended as a control plant. Keep good notes as to what you did to which plant. Please let us know if you try any of them and include your results, so we can share them with the membership. **DON'T USE ON SOCIETY PLANTS**



## Feeding... *Modified Hooker's Formula*



The "Hooker Formula" is probably one of the most talked about and reprinted DIY daylily fertilizer. The composition was developed and first published in 1978 by George W. Hooker, a retired chemist living in New Brighton, Pennsylvania. The formula was based on Mr. Hooker's specific soil needs. His formula included Cygon (no longer available,) an insecticide used to control thrips and aphids. This chemical is very bad news... toxic to fish, birds, and other wildlife (including humans.) Here is a modified version of his original formula.

- Fill a 5-gallon bucket to about half full with tap water.
- Add 5 Tbsp Miracle-Gro Water Soluble All Purpose Plant Food (24-8-16)
- Add 1/3 cup Epsom salts
- Add 1/3 cup Fish emulsion
- Add 1/3 cup liquid iron
- Mix well until all solids are dissolved.
- Add tap water to make 5 gallons of solution.

Mr. Hooker applied this formulation in March, May and July. As the mixture should not be stored, adjust the recipe to make only the amount you need. Apply 2-4 cups to each clump at the crown, more or less, depending on the size of the clump. Doing the math for you, 5 gallons of solution applied at an average rate of 3 cups per clump, will allow you to fertilize about 27 plants

## Now some real kitchen chemistry fun... *Bare Root Recovery Booster*

This was an unusual find. And we all know that **everything** found on the internet is true. But still, this particular formulation was intriguing enough to be included in this collection. According to the author, it allegedly is an eco-friendly, natural "bio-stimulant" containing sulfur, potash, and many other trace minerals needed by daylilies. Plus, the baking soda may help control fungal disease. The minerals in this mix can also be absorbed through the foliage when used as a foliar dip or spray.



- Fill a 1-gallon bucket to about half full with tap water.
- Add 1 tsp Epsom salt
- Add 1 oz Sorghum Molasses
- Add 1 Tbls Baking Soda
- Mix well until everything is dissolved.
- Add tap water to make 1 gallon of solution

Before planting newly acquired or recently divided daylilies, wash roots and submerge entire plant in this solution. Then use the mixture to water the fan after planting by pouring 2 cups of the solution over the crown. Daylilies can be given this booster again when bloom scapes appear to intensify bloom and foliage color.

## First-year Seedling Bloom Potion

And again, according to the internet, here is a “proven” formula for forcing seedlings to bloom in 9 months, if they are in the ground by September.



- • 1 cup Beer, any brand will do [just don't use a really good IPA]
- 1 cup Lemon ammonia
- ½ cup Lemon dishwashing soap
- ¼ cup Mint oil
- ½ cup Karo white syrup
- ½ cup Miracle-grow crystals

This makes about 1 quart of a **CONCENTRATED** solution. DO NOT apply this mixture directly to your plants.

Mix ¼ cup of the concentrate to 1 gallon of water in a clean garden sprayer (meaning a sprayer that you have NOT used with Roundup®.) Apply early morning or late afternoon ONLY, saturating the soil and foliage every 21-days. Again doing the math for you, the concentrate should make about 16 gallons of solution ready to spray.

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So... If you try any of the above concoctions, please, let us know your outcomes. Any results you report will be included in future newsletters... with your permission of course.

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## One good reason NOT to kill a black snake!

In a real life battle to the finish, the Black Snake vs a Copperhead or vs a Rattle Snake, the Black Snake will always be the victor.

According to WIKIPEDIA, Pantherophis obsoletus – is also known as the western rat snake, black rat snake, pilot black snake, or simply black snake – is a **non-venomous** species of Colubridae found in central North America.