



# THE COASTAL NC DAYLILY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020

No. 106

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

Decision made. We decided to cancel OBX Autumn 2020 due to the restrictions placed on us by the State and considerations about protecting ourselves and our guests from the COVID-19 virus.

On the upside, we have already reserved the Elizabethan Gardens and the Comfort Inn on the Ocean for the **SAME TIME NEXT YEAR!** So, as Ken put it, think of it not as "the party's over", but as being **"A PARTY THAT HASN'T STARTED YET!"**

Going into a second year of planning – we have a ton of work behind us. Thank you all for everything you have already done. The quality and quantity of work that our small, yet EXTREMELY TALENTED group has done is impressive! You guys simply amaze me. Ken will give a report at our September meeting of where we are and what needs to be done. Together we will make OBX Autumn MMXXI an event to remember!

So, take a little break for now, disengage your brain from thinking about the Regional for a little while and focus on your garden and growing your daylilies!

With that said, in this edition, you will find an article about Proliferations. After reading, check your garden, you might be surprised to find free plants for the taking!

It's also time to look for and collect seed pods – either those you set earlier through cross pollination or those set by bees and other pollinators – often called "Bee Pods". Seed pods are ripe when you can squeeze them, and the top of the pod cracks open. Look for an article on daylily production from seed in next month's newsletter.



See you all in September – and as always – bring a friend!

# STOP READING RIGHT NOW & FIND YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

Currently, libraries and most public venues are not available for meetings. For now, we will be holding our meetings in members' homes. If you would be willing to host a club meeting, please let Pat know. Let's continue our efforts to encourage new members - bring a friend to every meeting! We will be holding some evening meetings so that working people and our youth members can have the opportunity to attend.

**September 15, 10:00 AM** - At the home of Janet Hong, 2605 Pine Forest Lane, Chesapeake, VA. [757.297.8681] Nominations for Society Officers will be taken and then voted on at the November meeting. BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH. Afterwards we will dig and pot seedling that Janet is donating to the Society for future sales.

**November 10, 10:00 AM**, At the home of Pat Mansfield, 503 W Bear Swamp Rd, Hertford.

**January 9, 12:00 Noon** – in Elizabeth City, location TBA. This will be our Holiday get-together. Dutch lunch followed by fun & giveaways.

**March 9, 10:00 AM**, location TBA. Guest Speaker.



Spud's Kindergarten —Ferguson, K —2020p

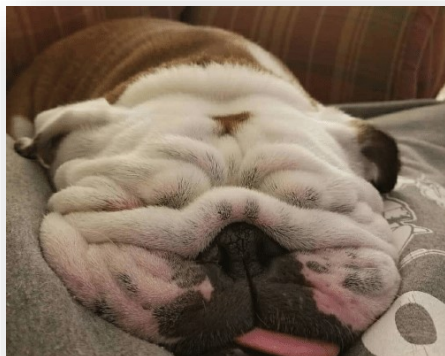
## We have another winner !

The DAYLILY TRIVIA was answered by our internet wiz, **Madonna Witte**. She claims up and down she didn't hack my computer for the answer. Madonna is the winner of several fans of *Spud's Kindergarten*, my latest introduction.

*question* What do the words: watermark, band, and halo have in common?

*answer* They are all descriptors of daylily patterns

## Animal lovers upset over melting pets in July heat.



# We weren't able to show what we can do at OBX Autumn 2020. BUT, we can NOW by winning some awards...

Region 15 President, Bill Hurt, has written all of the club the officers urgently requesting participation in of all things... awards. Awards Chair, Nancy Womack , recently sent out a plea begging for each of us to cast votes for two regional awards, and nominate individuals for several other awards. The process is as easy as sending an email... [nancyhwomack@gmail.com](mailto:nancyhwomack@gmail.com) BUT, the deadline is right around the corner, on or before SEPTEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>. FYI, these awards would have been presented at OBX Autumn 2020. There is one caveat. You must be a member of ADS to vote. So here's the list:

**HERMAN PRUITT MENTORING AWARD** (Nominate 1) From Nancy Womack, Awards Chair, "Think of those people who unselfishly go out of their way to promote daylilies and teach others their methods of growing and/or hybridizing them." This is the official description [edited for length]:

Generous with both his/her time and personal resources, Herman Pruitt exemplified the term "role model" for others. The award is open to any Region 15 member who has made outstanding efforts in mentoring others regarding daylilies. This may include mentoring youth, new hybridizers, or a new daylily club.

Nominations should be in narrative form and should include details of the nominee's mentoring efforts as well as provide any other information about the nominee's contributions to AHS and Region 15. Nominations will be reviewed and voted on by the Region 15 Board. Contact information for the person making the nomination is required. An engraved plaque will be presented to the winner at the Region 15 fall meeting by the president of the sponsoring club or the president's designee.

*Editor's note: I am going to nominate our President, Pat Mansfield for this award. If you are of like mind, you can nominate her too. Your nomination is not a vote, but it will show support by our Society. The recipient will be selected by the Region 15 Board of Directors.*

**JEFFCOAT HYBRIDIZER AWARD** (Vote for 1) All of the nominees are listed on pp. 10-11 in the spring *HEMALINA*. If you don't have the magazine handy, here is the link to download it.  
[http://www.region15daylily.org/uploads/5/9/1/5/59152925/hemalina\\_spring\\_2020\\_031020.pdf](http://www.region15daylily.org/uploads/5/9/1/5/59152925/hemalina_spring_2020_031020.pdf)

Our Society has one nomination in the running, Shari Dee, K.Ferguson 2013. Nancy laments, "Right now I don't even have enough votes to legitimize the contest. PLEASE do this for our hybridizers."

*Editor's note: Again, if you think Shari Dee is worthy of an award, please vote. Our Society has never won this award.*



**CAROLINA SERVICE AWARD** (Nominate 1) Again from Nancy, “There are many deserving people in our Region who are worthy of consideration for this honor. Don’t let them go unnoticed.” This is the official description [edited for length]:

This award can be granted purely for service to the ADS mission in one’s local community alone; however, service elsewhere within the region or at the national level certainly adds extra weight to the nomination. Generally, it should require a variety of activities, and it should reflect service over a period of time, not just for one or two years. No award should be given or expected as a “thank you purely for holding an office. One’s leadership and impact are more important than simply holding office.” The nomination letter should include detailed reasons for the nomination—specific examples of why this person is worthy of the award. Contact information for the person making the nomination is required.

*Editor’s note: Janet Hong is going to nominate Ken Ferguson for this award. Again, if you are of like mind, you can nominate him too. Your nomination is not a vote, but it will show support by our Society. The recipient will be selected by the Region 15 Board of Directors.*

## Remember, on or before September 1st

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## Now, November 1st {not the Presidential election}



Inside a hybridizer’s head - K.Ferguson 2020

### THE CAROLINA DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPY CONTEST

I have seen more than one camera in the hands’ of our Society members. Now it’s the time to show off your work. There are four categories: *Artistic, Landscape, People, and Region 15 Hybridized Flower.*

AND there is another division just for Junior Members (the same categories above).

The specific details can be found at this link:

<http://www.region15daylily.org/carolina-digital-photography.html>

Your entries will need to go to Kathy Tinius [kfinius@yahoo.co](mailto:kfinius@yahoo.co)

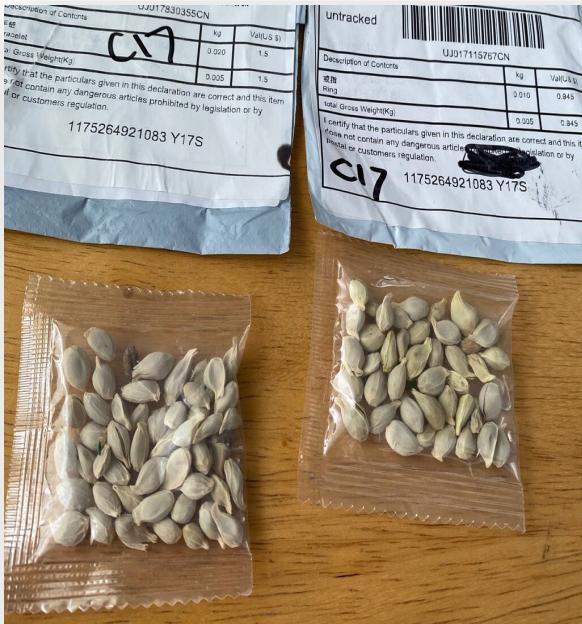
**DEADLINE - NOVEMBER 1, 2020**

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## And Now, November 3rd {Presidential election}

One way or another,  
be sure to exercise  
your right to vote.





# Free seeds from China... in NC ?

CBS News confirmed that residents in all 50 states have reported receiving packages of unsolicited seeds from China. The mystery packages, which were labeled as "jewelry," appear to have originated in China. Last month, the USDA warned not to plant or throw out the seeds after an alarming number of reports about unsolicited packages of foreign seeds showed up in residents' mailboxes across the United States.

If you receive a package of seeds in the mail you are asked to retain the seeds and packaging and if opened, double bag the seeds and do not plant them or throw away the loose seeds.

You are then asked to report the package to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's anti smuggling hotline at 1-800-877-3835 or email the USDA.



# Mulch for FREE

I came across this web site, [getchipdrop.com](http://getchipdrop.com), and it almost seems too good to be true. I signed up (no personal info or credit card info required,) but have not used the service yet.

*ChipDrop* matches people who want free wood chip mulch with arborists and tree companies who are trying to get rid of it. In order to get ready for your first delivery, please watch these two intro videos. They are informative and entertaining.

[hyperlinks—CTL CLICK] They must have seen ours.

"Why ChipDrop Probably Is NOT For You"

"So You Really DO Want a ChipDrop"

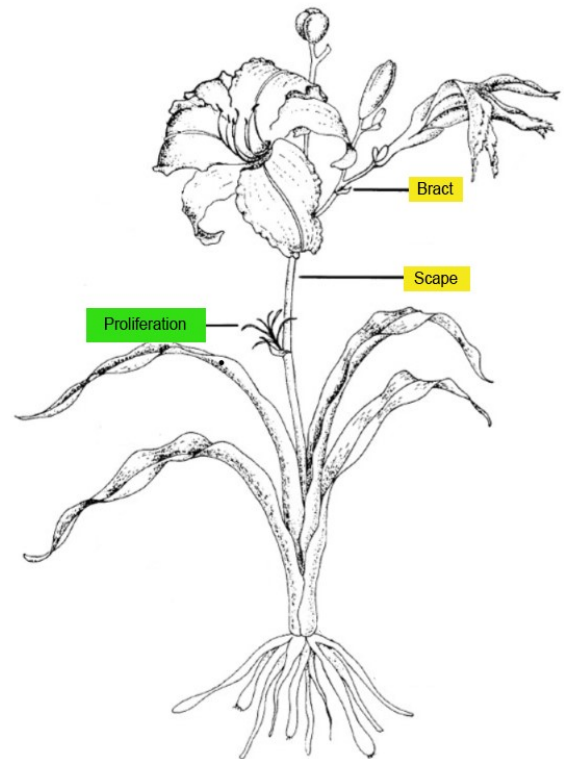


# PROLIFERATION

{ nothing to do with the spread of nuclear weapons }

by Pat Mansfield

Want some free plants? Go to your garden and inspect your flower scapes to look for Proliferations – better known as Prolifs. A Daylily PROLIFERATION is a miniature plant, growing from a BRACT area on the flower SCAPE. I've seen them in clusters, seen them with flower scapes of their own, and most often, seen them as single fans. Not all plants produce prolifs, but when they do, they can be grown into full size daylilies and the resulting plants will be exactly like the mother plant. Some plants produce prolifs every year, but some plants that produce prolifs one year, may not produce them the following year.



Found some? Now what? There may or may not be roots protruding from the bottom of the prolif. For now, it is being fed by the scape. If the scape is still green, leave the prolif where it is to allow it time to grow roots. The roots will grow from the base of the prolif and will look like orchid roots - thick and fleshy.

Once you see roots growing, cut the scape 6" below the proliferation. Place your cut scape into moist soil, (I like to plant it near the mother plant) pushing the 6" of cut scape down into the soil to the point that the roots are in the soil and the bottom of the prolif is at the ground surface. Keep the soil moist and in about 2 weeks, the roots will have grown into the soil and your new plant is off to a new start.



## PROLIFERATION (CONT)

So what do you do if your prolif doesn't have roots? To encourage root growth, you can use a soft bristled paint brush to dust the base with Rootone while it is still attached to the scape. This will act as a growth promoter and a fungicide. On the outside chance that your plant has some sort of bacterial or fungal disease, dipping the brush directly into the bottle is **not a best practice** as this has the potential to contaminate the entire contents. Instead, pour a little into another container and when done, discard any left-over product.

You can also use Air Layering techniques to encourage rooting. Wrap the bottom of the prolif with damp sphagnum moss filled with a sterile soilless medium such as vermiculite and bind it to the plant with plastic and twine. Or use an Air Layering Pod. Google those to see how they work – Pretty cool!

If the scape is beginning to dry up, and you don't yet see roots, you can cut the scape well below the prolif and place it in a container with water. The water level should be just high enough to cover the bottom of the prolif. Keep the water at that level, changing the water every other day. Once roots are visible and about 1" long, plant it in soil.

When you remove the prolif from the plant, cut the foliage back by 1/2 so the prolif does not have to support that extra foliage until after it makes its own root system. While leaves are the food factory of the plants, they also transpire (release) a lot of water vapor, drying the plant out more quickly.

That is all there is to it! Free plants for extraordinarily little effort.



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## TWO HOMEBREW RECIPIES for your Prolifs

*by Ken Ferguson*

Discovered in 1935, indole-3-butyric-acid and naphthaleneacetic acid were found to be effective in promoting root formation from cuttings. Both are the active ingredients in most commercially available rooting hormone products. But, if you're an organic gardener or you'd just prefer a natural, chemical-free option, you should definitely consider HONEY as a natural rooting stimulant. The reason honey works well as a natural rooting hormone is because it has anti-bacterial and anti-fungal properties, and allows the natural rooting hormones in the cutting to stimulate root growth.



## HOMEBREW RECIPIES (CONT)

### HONEY HOW TO

Most recipes for honey rooting hormone say to mix one tablespoon of honey into two cups of boiling water, but most organic farmers prefer to use the honey straight out of the jar. The natural antibacterial and antifungal properties in honey are destroyed when honey is heated, which is why it's best to use raw honey. You can also add a pinch of cinnamon to the raw honey. Cinnamon has antibacterial and antimicrobial properties too.

Once you have your prolifs ready, dip each cutting into the honey make a hole in the potting mix with your finger and plant the roots, leaving the leaves exposed. Keep the potting media moist and you can expect roots to form in 7–14 days.



### WILLOW TWIGS HOW TO

Yes, you can make your own organic rooting hormone from willow twigs. Use your willow water rooting hormone to start seeds, propagate cuttings and water transplants in your garden.

So, what is willow water? Simply put, willow water is made by steeping young, green twigs and branches of a willow tree in water to extract the rooting properties of the tree itself. You can make rooting hormone from willow really easily. All you need is access to a willow tree, a pair of garden pruners, a container, a jar works fine, and hot water.

**[FYI -Pat's front yard is OFF LIMITS]**

Cut the young, green, and flexible stems and twigs and bring them home. Ideally the twigs, stems and branches you use should not be larger than the diameter of a pencil. Cut these down to length so they fit within your container. Your willow tree cuttings should be at least 1 inch long. Now pour hot water in your container, in this case a mason jar, but you can use any container--even buckets, and seal it for at least 24 hours.

You now have your first batch of your very own homemade rooting hormone for free. After a minimum of 24 hours your willow rooting solution is now ready to use. Most of the recommended uses for willow rooting hormone are for propagating cuttings, but some people also use the rooting hormone to water seedlings too.



**Sorry about the delay** in getting this Newsletter to you.

A lot of important information came in after deadline, so we had to do a lot of additional writing. We will try to get back on target next month. See you all at Janet's!