

The Bloomin' News

MAY, 2011, Vol. VI, 46

Dena Chemerys, Chairperson

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message By Dena Chemerys

Hi, Fellow Gardeners. We had a very successful April Tree and Plant Sale, held this time at Sears parking lot on U.S. 1. At our meeting this coming Monday, May 9th, at 7:00p.m., we will be discussing the sale and our plans for the future. One of the topics will be our upcoming Appreciation Dinner. Hope to see you all there. Dena

Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

May 4th – Spring Luncheon & Installation of Officers, 11:00am

Location: Portofino Italian Grill

3350 S. Washington Ave. (U.S. 1) Titusville

Phone: 567-0636

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!

Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter

The Sea Rocket Chapter's meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Brevard County Agriculture and Extension Center, 369 Lake Drive, Cocoa. The public is welcome.

Garden Club Web Sites

National Garden Club: www.gardenclub.org

Florida Federation of GC: www.ffgc.org

TGC site: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tgc/>

TMGC: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc>

Become a New Member!! YOU Are Welcome

We are always looking for new members and have great opportunities for learning at our monthly meetings, at the Tree Farm and at special events. As a return for members' input/work, many plants are available to members at no cost. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information, call

RoseMarie: 543-8268, or Joanie: 480-8807

MAY IN THE GARDEN

May is usually a dry month, so regular watering may be necessary. Lawns should have about 1 inch of rain or irrigation each week; bedded plants and shrubs about ½ inch every 4 days; and CITRUS and other trees 1 inch a week. Renew mulches to conserve water and keep down weeds.

Continue to prune and trim your AZALEAS and CAMELLIEAS for next year. Prune GARDENIAS after they finish blooming. If mites, thrips and/or scale are present, spray with Cygon and/or Summer Oil. Feed monthly with an acid forming fertilizer. Small monthly feedings are better for most plants than fewer heavy feedings. Cut back perennials finishing their spring bloom. Continue to prune any dieback from winter damaged plants.

May or June is the time for a second application of lawn fertilizer. However, unless you are prepared to water heavily, if May is dry, I recommend waiting to fertilize in June, normally a wetter month than May.

Continue to seed, plug or sod to fill in bare areas in your lawn. Apply an iron-only fertilizer to re-green yellow Bahia lawns. Fertilize shrubs and flowers lightly with 6-6-6 fertilizer every 4 or 5 weeks.

Mole Crickets will be active in Bahia lawns this month. May is one of the best months to combat them. They tend to nest under concrete walks, driveways and stepping stones. They come out at night to feed. Mole Cricket Bait applied to a wet lawn in the evening is effective. Check St. Augustine lawns for Chinch Bugs. Treat infected areas about 10 feet beyond infestations when noticeable damage is occurring.

CRAPE MYRTLE, JASMINE, BOUGAINVILLEA, ALLAMANDA, GARDENIAS, QUEEN PALMS and other plants may show a yellowing of leaves because of a Manganese deficiency. Apply Manganese Sulfate to the soil at package recommended rates and water well.

NOTE: Manganese Sulfate will stain concrete.

Spider Mites can be a real pest during dry weather. While they seem to prefer JUNIPERS, MARIGOLDS and PYRACANTHAS, they can attack any plant. Look for them as a scorched area on leaves or fine webbing in crotches or leaf bases. You can blast them off with a hard stream of water.

Take tip cuttings of shrubs and plants to root in Perlite and Vermiculite. Divide and re-pot Bromeliads,

Orchids and other plants that have outgrown their containers.

Plant BLOOD LILY, CALADIUM, CANNA, RAIN LILY, DAY LILY, SPIDER LILY and CRINUM bulbs for summer color. Replace cool season plants with warm season plantings of BEGONIAS, BLUE DAZE, CELOSIA, COLEUS, GERBERA, IMPATIENS, MARIGOLDS, PENTAS, PERIWINKLES, SALVIA, TORENIA, VERBENA and ZINNIAS.



Household Remedies – Dena Chemerys

It is the Spring and so much to do from cleaning to planting to weeding, and so forth. With high cost of fertilizers, weed killers and other gardening supplies, what do we have at home that we can use instead? What did our parents and grandparents use? Well, if you have.....

#1 Aspirin (uncoated); dissolve 2 aspirin, 325mg in 1 quart of water, spray on foliage and use it to fight mildew and black spot.

#2 Epsom Salts will provide Magnesium to promote growth in your flowers and foliage.

#3 Boric Acid or Borax will kill ants and roaches. Apply in a light coating, roaches will walk on it, later groom themselves and die! If you pile it up, they will just avoid it. Smart little pests they are!

#4 White glue seals pruning cuts on ROSES.

#5 Potatoes on a stick! Wireworms feed on the roots of vegetables like carrots, beets, potatoes and turnips. Cut a potato into squares, pierce with a stick and bury into the soil with stick protruding. Once a week pull it up—throw it and the bugs away!

#6 Liquid soap (dilute in spray water bottle) is used to kill insects because it allows other ingredients to blend together, it is a great wetting agent, will cover your plants and leaves evenly, and the soap will penetrate the waxy body of most insects. So spray it on your plants, or dip them into a soapy bucket of water when replanting. Spray a small area and try it out first. Works great! NEVER use laundry detergent—it will burn your plants!!!

#7 White Flour (don't use self rising). Sprinkle on plants and leaves early in the morning when dew is present. Let it dry; that afternoon, wash the flour and pests away.

#8 Take some Salmon in the can, let it ferment for a few days, then place in your back yard to discourage deer. A few days later, place it in your flower beds. It's rich in vitamins/amino acids and fatty acids.

#9 Blackstrap Molasses (don't use regular syrup) can be used throughout your flower beds because it feeds beneficial insects. You can use it in insect traps to also attract pests that are harmful.

#10. Empty crab shells (crushed between sheets of wax paper), sprinkle on the soil around tomato plants. Gently work the crushed material into the soil. It is rich in Calcium and chitin. Tomato plants will love you, and you will love their tomatoes.

Next month we will continue with our tips on saving money and making life easier in our gardens. Take care of you and your plants, and remember "a little dirt never hurt anybody: TMGC Happy Gardening!!

FARM NEWS - Tony Koromilas

*The Tree Farm looks almost empty since plants were sold at our last sale. Thanks to all!!

*Burl and I are trying to produce a list of liner plants to buy. Patty, Kathryn and others had a list of "sold outs". Susan, Pat, Jayson and others are propagating like mad. We ordered lots of Vermiculite, Perlite, Fertilizer, ground cloth, etc. Thanks to Bill and Ed for picking it up.

*Buck and Bill are adding a pipe or two to get water to the Shade House, and correct the leaks. We need to buy and fix the meter for the North side.

*Jayson has indicated a desire to plant vegetables. Let's think about setting up the North side for anyone who wants to grow "veggies in pots", etc.

*We continue to donate some OAK trees to the City, etc. Thanks to all again for your tremendous support!

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Meets 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Garden Center

5275 Sisson Road

Titusville, FL

Our next meeting is May 9th, 2011

Please send your articles to Joanie at freddiefla@yahoo.com to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

The Bloomin' News

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Email: freddiefla@yahoo.com Phone: 480-8807

The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Next Meeting: May 9, 2011 -- 7:00 p.m.

Titusville Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL 32780

INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB

Who We Are: A non-profit club that enjoys gardening and contributing to our City's beautification and our environment.

What we Are: As a part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, we are a partner of the Titusville Garden Club.

What We Do: We educate and help each other to enjoy gardening, teach and learn to enjoy plants. We assist others to propagate, grow and distribute trees and plants to non-profit organizations. We participate in voluntary efforts to help Titusville's "Tree City" initiative to plant 2,000 trees per year.

Where We Meet: We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road (south of SR 50 / north of SR 405). We also meet at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun.

How We Operate: We presently sponsor an April and an October Tree and Plant Sale. The sales receipts are used to support the Club, purchase materials, and donate plants to the City and other worthy non-profit causes. Some members grow plants to landscape their own homes (all are welcome to do so). With permission from a plant's adoptee, members may take plants for personal use. Dues are \$25.00 annually, due in April.

Send application below to Titusville Men's Garden Club, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.

Phone: RoseMarie @ 385-9051 or Joanie @ 480-8807

Name: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Cell:** _____

Street: _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____