

The Bloomin' News

JUNE, 2014, Vol. VI, 83

Les Leckron, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message

To everything there is a season . . . a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted. And it's that way with all of us planting, growing and reaping the fruits of our labor. This is the season to make cuttings and try various methods of propa-gation. Enjoy all your time spent working with the miracles of plants growing.

What a wonderful program at our May monthly meeting! I think all of us got something out of what the Arboriste had to say and demonstrate. The motion to forego the business meeting and just keep educating ourselves was a great idea. We'll catch up on any open business at our June meeting. Thanks Kathryn for arranging to have such a great program. Keep hydrated and keep it growing! Les



JUNE IN THE GARDEN

Although May surprised us with some showers, June should give us even more rain. In a normal year, we get about 7 Inches, mainly as afternoon and evening showers. An unobstructed rain gauge can save guess work, and sometimes a good deal of watering. Our flowerbeds and lawn need a minimum of 1 inch of water a week in our hot weather. If you do not get about ½ inch of rain during each 3 to 4 day period, you should water until about ½ inch of rain and irrigation has been applied. Applying and/or renewing mulches and weeding will reduce water needs and help control summer weeds.

The increased rain and higher humidity will increase Black Spot and Powdery Mildew on ROSES, CRAPE MYRTLE, ZINNIAS and other similar plants. Start a weekly fungicide spray program. This will also help control Spider Mites.

If you did not fertilize your lawn and Citrus in May, June is also a good month to fertilize. Fertilize shrubs and flowers lightly with fertilizer every 3 to 4 weeks. If

you have Bahia lawn, June is an excellent time to seed bare and thin spots. After sowing seed, apply a thin layer of soil. Water well and frequently when it does not rain.

June is one of the most active months for Mole Crickets the scourge of Bahia lawns. Follow label instructions when you begin spraying or putting out bait. Mole Cricket bait applied on a damp lawn in the evening is also effective. Mole Crickets are usually active on the surface after dark.

Pinch back the tips of bushes and shrubs to develop more compact plants. Use the cuttings to root new plants for our plant sale. Do not prune or pinch AZALEAS or GARDENIAS after the end of June, or you will sacrifice some of next year's blooms. If plants are not a deep rich green, feed with Chelated Iron, Iron Sulphate and/or Manganese Sulfate. Manganese Sulfate will also cure "frizzle top" on Palm Trees.

Root tip cuttings of CHRYSANTHEMUMS and POINSETTIAS – use 4 to 6 inch long cuttings with all the leaves left on the MUMS. Remove all but the tip leaves on the POINSETTIAS.

Fruit drop from Citrus and some other fruit trees can be expected this month. The trees shed the fruit they can not support. To reduce drop, follow an established fertilizer and watering program. Feed bananas monthly.

Brighten your yard with warm season plantings of BEGONIA, BLUE DAZE, CALADIUM, CELOSIA, VINCA, COLEUS, IMPATIENS, MARIGOLD, PENTA, SALVIA, PORTULACA, PERIWINKLE, VERBENA and ZINNIA. June is also a good time to plant bulbs of DAY LILIES, RAIN LILIES. IRIS, CANNA, CRINUM and SOCIETY GARLIC.

NOTE: Above mentioned chemicals may no longer be on the market. Replace with Natural or Organic sprays.

Joanie's Corner -- SUCCULENTS

Succulents store water in their thick leaves, so they do not rely on a large root system. Take advantage of this unique quality by planting in small containers crevices of rocks or any small space. For containers, use a high quality potting soil. It is not necessary to use expensive cactus potting soil if you reduce the water and ensure good drainage. For large containers, fill the pots up halfway with empty milk jugs, soda bottles or cans or packing peanuts to take up space, increase drainage and keep the pots a bit lighter. Saving money on potting soil is an added bonus.



Succulents will grow well in full sun to part shade. You can add a beautiful topdressing to accentuate the color and texture, such as stones, pebbles, shells, gravel or tumbled glass. Propagate by setting leaflets on the top of a pot or tray of soil. Avoid temptation to "stick" them in – they will root if left just resting on the soil. A light misting every few days will be needed. Over several weeks you will begin to see small roots growing down from the cut end and new baby plants will begin to grow. Let these small plants reach dime size before transplanting into their own pots.

Titusville Men's Garden Club

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



**Our next business meeting is on June 9th, 2014
Garden Center -- 5275 Sisson Road**

**Our next meeting will be
June 9th, 2014!!!**

**Come join us! We look forward to seeing
you as we discuss plans for the coming
year.**

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Titusville Men's Garden Club

Joanie Opperman, Editor

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The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Next Meeting: Second Monday of the Month, 2013 -- 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 Tony Koromilas 269-1931, Steve Korpacz 269-3884.

Name: _____

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