

# The Bloomin' News

September, 2020, Vol. VI, 152

Alan Howland, Chairman

Thomas Perez, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## Chairman's Message - Alan Howland

Fellow Members,

Now that it is September I want to remind everyone that our fall sale is fast approaching on October 9th and 10th. We will be holding our September monthly meeting next Tuesday September 8th. It is important to attend this meeting so we can discuss the sale. Another important subject is the purchase of a large mulching machine. We are finding it impossible to obtain mulch from the county and our only other option is to buy soil from a nursery. It is very important to attend this meeting. If you cannot attend our workday on any Tuesday from now until sale please use Thursday or Saturday for a makeup day.

It's time to plant your fall vegetable garden plants. We have a large number of Roma tomatoes, kale, collard greens, banana pepper and broccoli plants that have sprouted and doing well. The vegetable gardens will be rototilled up for October planting. The demolition of the mist house is nearly complete and we will be setting new posts in the next few weeks. Thank you for all the hard work from everyone.

Regards, Alan

## SEPTEMBER IN THE GARDEN

September will be as hot and humid as August, and will bring about as much rain as last month. Changes that will affect our plants: night time temperatures will begin to drop and shorter daylight hours will induce some plants to set buds.

Because plants in Florida grow continuously, regular pruning is a must. Fall pruning and fertilizing should be done early to allow new growth to harden. Late pruning and fertilizing will stimulate new growth that could be damaged by cold in December or January. Prune declining fronds and flower stems from PALMS. Renew mulches to save water and reduce weeds.

Do not prune AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS or GARDENIAS as their buds are already set. CAMELLIAS often set two buds side by side. If you would like larger but few blooms, pinch one of them off. Make sure you can distinguish between leaf and flower buds

Give POINSETTIAS a final pruning before September 15. Watch for mildew, white flies and tomato worms. Spray and prune ROSES, removing old flowers, hips and dead, damaged or spindly growth. Fertilize to encourage fall blooming.

Where needed, complete seeding of Bahia turf as early as practical in September. Always follow label instructions. Operate sprinkler systems manually to conserve water. Water lawns when grass shows signs of stress.

Pinch CHRYSANTHEMUMS and spray for aphids, mites, mildew and blackspot. Feed until color shows in the buds. Feed hanging baskets and ORCHIDS every two weeks. Feed shrubs, perennials and container plants for fall.

CHRISTMAS CACTUS should receive their last feeding this month. Move them into partial sunshine and reduce watering until buds appear.

Till and re-plant flower beds. If you did not start annual flowers from seeds, local nurseries or garden shops will have a selection of plants that will provide color in your yard this Fall and Winter to include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, CORNFLOWER, DIANTHUS, GAILLARDIA, HOLLYHOCK, PERIWINKLE, PHLOX, SALVIA, SNAPDRAGON & VERBENA. Wait another month to plant PANSIES and PETUNIAS.

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## FALL VEGETABLE GARDEN - RoseMarie

Fall is my favorite time of year to plant the vegetable garden, and now is the time to be preparing. Tomato seeds should have been started mid-August for transplanting into soil or large pots for the fall crop. If you haven't done that, Better Boy and Brandywine heirloom are good choices that you can buy at the garden stores.



If you plant into the ground, be enriching the soil with compost. Keep the weeds down so as to not deplete the soil of nutrients. It is fairly important to give the tomatoes an early start as the weather can sometimes turn cold quite early. Once the nighttime temp drops below 50 degrees, blossoms become infertile, and a frost or freeze ends the season quite abruptly.

### **Using Cinnamon for Pests, Cuttings, & Fungicide – By Anne Baley**

Cinnamon is a wonderful flavor addition to cookies, cakes and any number of other foods, but to gardeners, it's so much more. This versatile spice can be used to help root cuttings, to prevent fungus from killing small seedlings and even for keeping pests away from your home. Once you learn how to use cinnamon powder for plant health, you'll think twice about grabbing harsh chemicals for your gardening needs.

### **Benefits of Cinnamon on Plants**

The benefits of cinnamon on plants are widespread and you may end up reaching for the spice almost daily. Here are some of the most common uses of cinnamon in gardens:

#### **Cinnamon for pests**

If you have a problem with ants [1] in your home or greenhouse, cinnamon is a good deterrent. Ants don't like to walk where cinnamon powder lays, so summer ant problems will be decreased. Use cinnamon for pests inside and outside your house. Find their entryway and sprinkle cinnamon powder in the path. Cinnamon won't kill the ants in your home, but it will help to keep them from coming inside. If you have a problem with ants in your child's sandbox, mix a container of cinnamon powder with the sand, mixing it well. Ants will steer clear of the sand.

#### **Cinnamon as rooting agent**

Cinnamon as a rooting agent is as useful as willow water [2] or hormone rooting powder [3]. A single application to the stem when you plant the cutting will stimulate root growth in almost every plant variety. Give your cuttings [4] a quick start with the help of cinnamon powder. Pour a spoonful onto a paper towel and roll damp stem ends in the cinnamon. Plant the stems in fresh potting soil [5]. The cinnamon will encourage the stem to produce more stems, while helping to prevent the fungus that causes damping-off disease.

#### **Cinnamon fungicide control**

Damping off disease [6] is a fungus-based problem that hits small seedlings just as they begin to grow. Cinnamon will help prevent this problem by killing the fungus. It also works with other fungal problems exhibited on older plants, such as slime mold [7] and with deterring mushrooms in planters [8].

Take advantage of cinnamon fungicide control by making a cinnamon spray for plants. Stir some cinnamon into warm water and allow it to steep over- night. Strain the liquid through a coffee filter and put the results into a spray bottle. Spray the stems and leaves of affected

plants, and mist the potting soil in plants that have a mushroom problem.

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**Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter**  
The Sea Rocket Chapter's meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the ENCHANTED FOREST, 444 Columbia Blvd (Hwy 405) The public is welcome. For information: 264-5185 <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/SeaRocket/>



### **TREE FARM REPORT –**

The plants and trees continue to thrive, thanks to our terrific group of members coming out on Tuesdays and Thursdays preparing them for our sale in October. Our propagated plants in the Mist House have been moved out to prepare for the building of our new mist house.

### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

#### **October 9th & 10<sup>th</sup> Fall Tree & Plant Sale**

Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm welcomes all to the Tree Farm on Friday 9 – 5, or Saturday 9 – 3

#### **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. We have facilities to start plants from seeds & clippings. For more information, call Rose 321-289-8388

#### **Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm**

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

Our next meeting is September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Behind Stuart Park

The Bloomin' News

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# Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

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

Next Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month, -- 10:00 a.m.  
(@ "the Farm" Behind Stuart Park)

## 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:** Part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, and 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 Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility, next to Stuart Park. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun.

**How We Operate:** We presently sponsor a March 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.

For more information Phone Rose @ 321-289-8388.

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## Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm Application

Send application to Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_