

The Bloomin' News

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Duane "Buck" Cowen, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message - Buck Cowen

Hi, fellow gardeners....

Well here I am again! It's getting to the point you could write this yourselves. There is not much new at the Tree Farm! We weed and we weed. We pot and we pot. I cut grass and I cut grass. We repair shelves and we repair shelves. We propagate and we propagate. The major problem is there are only nine of us working the plants at the Tree Farm.

We need some new members and or some workers. But I don't want to scare anyone off. In this day and age, ALL or a lot of organizations are having the same trouble! Most of the service clubs are having member problems. Churches are having trouble keeping or getting new members. Sooo, as they say, it is what it is. We will keep trudging along and do what we have to do. As you know, the Fall Sale is coming up! We are working to bring plants together so we have a good sale! We do have a lot of butterfly plants, thanks to Cat and Rick. Others help too. We have one month and I'm confident we will be ready. Till I see you at the Tree Farm or meeting! Just Me, Buck

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 sun- shine 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.

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 which 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 night time 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 is 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.

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 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 thriving, thanks to the terrific Tuesday and Thursday crews and the rest of members preparing them for our sale October 13th and 14th. Many propagated plants in the Mist House are ready for up-potting. Our Oaks are getting too big so we will try to plant them along Titusville's roadways and parks. Thanks to all who have planted and cared for all of our plants at the Tree Farm.

Titusville Garden Club – Day Group -
Welcome back from summer vacation!
September 6 – “Container Gardening the Easy Way” by Teresa Watkins, garden author, designer, horticulturist, environmental cons.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sept 2 - Gainesville Kanapaha Botanical Gdn
Guided tour the 1st Saturday of every month at 10a.m. For more information visit kanapaha.org

Sept 14 – 16 The Landscape Show
Orange County Convention Center – \$20 for a show badge (pre-registration price honored) includes access to the Exhibitors Showcase featuring new plants & products.

October 13th & 14th Fall Tree & Plant Sale
Men's Garden Club of Titusville welcomes all to the Tree Farm on Friday 9 – 5, or Saturday 9 – 3

Men's Garden Club of Titusville

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

**Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road,
Titusville. FL**

Our next meeting is

September 11th, 2017!!

**We will be discussing plans & prices
for our FALL TREE & PLANT SALE
on Oct. 13th & 14th**

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Titusville Men's Garden Club

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**Titusville Garden Club
Women's Day Group
Is offering their new 2017
calendar for sale!!
Be sure to get yours!**

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 Joanie @ 480-8807

