

The BAILEYAN

<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/LHBGC/>



The Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club of Ithaca meets each month on the Second Tuesday at the Horton Room in the Floriculture Greenhouse, Tower Road Cornell University Ithaca, New York. The Club is open to all gardeners. Visitors are welcome.

Volume 51, Number 3

From the President's corner

Spring seems to be a bit late this year but will be arriving soon. The minor bulbs are making a longer showing before the larger bulbs come into bloom. Perhaps consider planting some minor bulbs this Fall to extend early blooming period.

We will be selling geraniums at the Spring Plant Sale to be held at the Amory on Saturday May 14. Volunteers will be appreciated for transporting, setting up and selling the plants. Links: <http://cctompkins.org/calendar/10/03/30/spring-garden-fair-plant-sale> and <http://cctompkins.org/garden/plant-sale>

Our speaker this month will be Manuel Aregullin a Senior Research Associate in the department of Plant Biology. He will be speaking about beneficial chemicals derived from plants. His lecture will be "The Role of plants in drug development".

I hope to see everyone at the April 12th meeting.

Ed Cobb, President

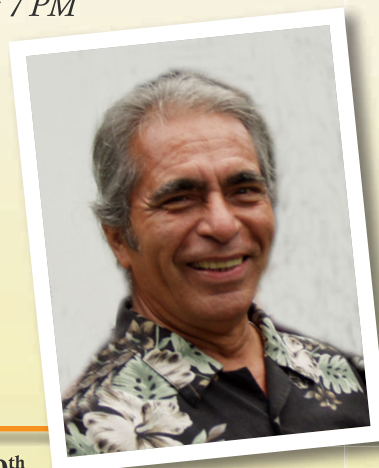
Save the Date!

April 12th

The Role of Plants in Drug Development

Manuel Aregullin

The Board of Directors will meet at 6:30 PM. The regular meeting will begin at 7 PM



May 10th

Plant Auction

Horton Room

** All photos are courtesy of Ed Cobb unless otherwise noted*

April Gardening Checklist

http://www.theindicator.com/opinion/article_e5e0dd74-5b13-11e0-8ee1-001cc4c002e0.html

Here is a monthly checklist for suggested garden activities in April.

1. Prune spring-flowering shrubs soon after flowering. Avoid excessive cutting except where necessary to control size. You want to keep the natural shape of the plant if at all possible.

2. Roses have high fertilizer requirements. For most soils, use a complete fertilizer for the first application just as new growth starts, then high nitrogen fertilizer every four to six weeks.

3. Continue to spray rose varieties susceptible to black spot, using an

appropriate fungicidal spray such as Funginex. Use this every seven to ten days, or as recommended.

4. As soon as azaleas have finished flowering, apply an acid type fertilizer at the rate recommended. Do not over fertilize, as azalea roots are near the surface and damage can occur. Water thoroughly after fertilizing.

5. Seed amaranthus, celosia, cosmos, marigold, portulaca, zinnia and other warm season annuals can be sown directly in the beds where they are to grow.

6. It will soon be time for bagworms to attach junipers and other narrow-leafed evergreens. Light infestations may be controlled by hand picking and burning. Control measures such as Sevin dust or spray, should be applied while the insects and the bags are about one-half inch in length.

7. For instant color, purchase started annual plants.

8. Check new tender growth for aphids. Always follow label instructions on approved pesticides for control.

9. Many flower or vegetable seeds left over after planting the garden can be saved for the next season by closing the packets and storing in a sealed glass jar in your refrigerator.

10. Start weeding early in the flower garden as competition with small plants can delay flowering. Mulching will discourage weed growth.

11. Closely examine the soil you purchase for garden beds. Often, nut grass and other weeds, nematodes, and soil borne diseases are brought into the yard through contaminated soil sources.

12. Watch the newspaper for information on wildflower trails and plan to take a trip to enjoy this beautiful natural resource.

The source of the above information came from the Garden Checklist by Dr. William C. Welch, Professor & Landscape Horticulturist, Texas A&M University. It was revised for this article.

Synapsis Seed Sales Fundraising

<http://www.cals.cornell.edu/cals/pbg/academics/synapsis/merch.cfm>

Synapsis raises funds to facilitate and enhance experiential learning in plant breeding and genetics at Cornell. Every Spring we do this by offering seed packets of select cultivars that have been developed by our department's breeding programs. These cultivars are not only unique and delicious, they are disease resistant and high yielding in upstate New York and beyond. For 2011, we're excited to offer 6 cultivars, including:

- '[Honeynut](#)' (a miniature butternut squash)
- '[Sweet REBA](#)' (a Resistant Early Bush Acorn Squash)
- '[Success PM](#)' (Straightneck Yellow Summer Squash)
- '[Greenfinger](#)' (an English-Type cucumber)
- '[Salt and Pepper](#)' (a specialty white cucumber)
- '[PMR Delicious 51](#)' (a muskmelon)
- '[Hannah's Choice](#)' (also a muskmelon)
- '[Synapsis Ornamental Grains](#)' (a blend of ornamental wheat, barley, and oats)

All vegetable cultivars are the products of conventional plant breeding. They are not genetically engineered.

Seed packets are \$3.00 each for 30 seeds and are available on Cornell campus only at the following locations: **Cornell Orchards, Mandible Café & Cornell Plantations - Brian Nevin Welcome Center**



Cornell Extension Activities

<http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/tompkins/events/index.html>

Unless another location is listed in the entry, events are held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca NY

Free Guided Tree Walks

Saturday, April 9 & May 7, 2:15 - 4:15 pm

Join Akiva Silver, tree lore raconteur extraordinaire of Primitive Pursuits, and kindle your own passion and appreciation for the world of trees. If you want to go beyond simple tree identification and learn their edible, medicinal and utilitarian uses, then this is the walk for you. For adults, and children with supervision. *Pre-registration is not required, but is recommended in the event that we must cancel the walk. Please come dressed for the weather.*

Directions: The walk will be held at Ecovillage. Take 79 West from Ithaca for a few minutes (about a mile outside of the 35mph zone), then take a left on to Rachel Carson Way. Follow the driveway all the way to the back and stay to the right. We will meet in the parking lot near the Song common house. It will be appreciated if you don't speed when driving down Rachel Carson Way. If you have any questions call the Primitive Pursuits office at (607) 272-2292.

Learn to Prune Tress & Shrubs

Each spring, CCE-Tompkins offers a training series for individuals who wish to volunteer with the Citizen Pruner Program and for members of the general public. Three workshops will be offered this year:

- **Monday, April 4, 7:00 - 8:30 pm**, Trees for Challenging Sites, with Dr. Nina Bassuk of Cornell's Urban Horticulture Institute.
- **Monday, April 11, 7:00 - 8:30 pm**, Training Young Trees, Pruning Older Trees and Tools of the Trade, with City Forestry Technician Jeanne Grace and arborist Keith Vanderhye.
- **Monday, April 18, 7:00 - 8:30 pm**, Pruning Shrubs, with monika Roth, Agriculture Extension Educator at CCE-Tompkins.

Join the Citizen Pruner Program! Citizen Pruner volunteers prune trees and shrubs on streets and in parks throughout the City of Ithaca. Volunteer once a week or when available, from May through October. Training dates are held at the CCE-Tompkins Education Center. For more information, contact Monika Roth at (607) 272-2292 or mr55@cornell.edu.

Easy Perennials for your Landscape

Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Perennial flowers are nice, but you don't have a lot of time. Which perennials are long-lived, healthy and easy to grow? This class will cover a couple dozen easy and durable perennials and also offer tips for lower maintenance. Pre-registration is recommended. \$5/person.

Seed Starting Techniques

Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Learn how to sow seeds in this hands-on workshop, offered through Trumansburg Community Education. We will cover light and temperature requirements, grow lights, last & first frost dates, hardening off your transplants, etc. Class will be led by Pat Curran, Horticulture Educator at Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Pots and Promix will be supplied, but please bring a couple of your own seed packets to supplement those from the Cooperative Extension Seed Cabinet. Please DO NOT bring melon, squash, okra, corn, or bean seeds, as starting them on April 13 would be premature.

To learn more, or to sign up, please visit the Trumansburg Community Education Program at <http://www.tburg.k12.ny.us/commed/> for course description and the registration form. For questions about the class or its content, please email Pat at pc21@cornell.edu.

11th Annual 4-H Rubber Duck Race & 5K Run

Sunday, May 1, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Come watch 3400 bright yellow rubber ducks tumble over Cascadilla Falls then bob down the creek in a frantic and fabulous race to the 4-H Education Center on Willow Avenue. A 5K foot race starts at 10:00 am. Great prizes are given for both the 4-H Duck Race and 5K. Duck chances are \$5/duck or a flock of 5 for \$20. 5K pre-registration is \$10 (first 50 registered receive a t-shirt) and \$20 on the day of the race. Print an entry form from our website and mail it in. Proceeds benefit 4-H youth programs in Tompkins County.

Ducks Drop at 2 pm into Cascadilla Falls, at Cascadilla Gorge Park, University Avenue & Linn Street.

Volunteer Work Days at ICG

Tuesday, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Help plant and maintain the Ithaca Children's Garden at its Cass Park site, Tuesdays beginning May 3. All ages and skill levels are welcome. No gardening experience required. For more information, contact Leigh MacDonald-Rizzo, Garden Manager at (607) 272-2292 x186, or lam26@cornell.edu.

Dividing Daylilies & Other Perennials

Wednesday, May 4, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Spring is the best time to divide many perennials. In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn to divide daylilies, Siberian iris, Hosta, Bearded Iris, and Phlox, among others. Come prepared to work! Rain or shine (indoors if wet). Limited to 15 participants; prepayment required. Fee \$10.

Dryden Garden and Art Tour



The third annual Dryden Beautification Brigade Garden and Art Tour is ready to blossom. On Saturday, June 25, this year's tour is heading out on the road, visiting four of Dryden's more rural country gardens. The nominal entrance fee of \$5 provides access to four carefully maintained gardens and the works of local artists, along with shuttle transportation to each site. The tour runs from 9 am - 1 pm, beginning at the municipal parking lot on George Street in Dryden (behind the First National Bank, Main Street branch). Tour passes, maps and shuttle vans will be available here as well as on each site along the tour.



Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club 2011 Meeting Schedule (and refreshments)

January 11th: Meeting cancelled

February 8th: Organization for 2011 & Hardwood Cuttings
(Ed)

March 8th: History of the American Chestnut – Shawn Kenaley (Beverly)

April 12th: The Role of Plants in Drug Development – Manuel Aregullin (Ken)

May 10th: Plant Auction at the Horton Room (Helen)

June 14th: TBA (Elke)

July 12th: Picnic?

August 9th or 13th: Butterfly Display at the Cayuga Nature Center – Jack Little & Joan

September 13th: Plant Exchange at the Horton Room (David & Arnaud)

October 11th: Dish to Pass Dinner

November 8th: Election

December 13th: Holiday Decorations

Written by *Monika Roth* Guest Columnist

Garden Tips

As soon as we get a warm, sunny day, we notice an increase of garden questions coming to the cooperative Extension at growline1@gmail.com. Our free seed exchange cabinet has been empty for more than a month. Ithaca area gardeners are ready for planting.

Here are some timely tips for the restless gardener:

Vegetables

- In April, start vegetable seeds indoors: lettuce and the cabbage family need 3 to 4 weeks before planting outdoors; others such as tomatoes, peppers and eggplant will take 4 to 6 weeks and should not be set outside till the middle or end of May. If you start seed too early, the seedlings will become large and leggy. When you're ready to set plants outdoors, first put them in a place where they are protected from wind and direct sun for several days before planting in the garden.
- Given the continuing cold, it may take time before seed can be planted directly in the soil. It is not worth planting seed in wet, cold soils. Wait until the frost is out of the ground. When you pick up the soil and squeeze it, water should not run out. Seeds that can go directly into the ground in April are: peas, spinach, lettuce, radishes and beets. In early May, you should plant the cabbage family and potatoes. After May 15, plant beans, cucumbers, the squash family and tender transplants, such as eggplant, peppers, tomatoes and basil.

Lawn and landscape

- Start by picking up sticks, raking remaining leaves and pruning branches that have been broken in the snow or overgrown shrubs. When pruning a tree branch or shrub, always take the branch back to its origin, do not cut midway along the stem. For pruning pointers, you can attend upcoming classes at Cooperative Extension, including April 11 on tree pruning, and April 18 on shrub pruning. Both classes start at 7 p.m. and are free. To register, call 272-2292 or e-mail mjc72@cornell.edu
- Birds, moles and skunks may damage lawns in spring. Repair damaged areas by raking, adding topsoil if needed and seeding. April is a good time for seeding a lawn. Cover the seed with soil and straw so it is less attractive to starlings.
- Grubs may be a reason for visiting birds, skunk and moles. As you walk around the lawn and find damage, peel back the sod and see if there are white c-shaped grubs present. Wait until after damage is done in mid-May then reseed or overseed to reinvigorate the lawn. Grub treatments are normally applied mid-summer.
- April or mid-May is a good time to fertilize a lawn.
- Mulch can also be replenished in garden beds. If mulching around trees, do not pile mulch against the trunk.

Ask the Gardener appears weekly in The Journal during the growing season. For answers to other garden, lawn, landscape and pest questions, call Cooperative Extension at 607-272-2292 or email: growline1@gmail.com.



Gardening Tips for Everyone!

<http://www.thedailygreen.com/green-homes/latest/tips-for-gardening>

Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned expert, you'll find useful gardening tips and inspiration from experts here:

- Cheapstake's No-Cost Gardening Tips
- Eat Right: 18 Tips That Matter
- Simple Composting Tips
- Bird Gardens 101
- Grow It. Then Drink It (with Booze)
- How to Save Heirloom Seeds
- DIY Backyard Beekeeping
- How to Make a Garden Greenhouse
- ...

Trip to the 2011 Philadelphia Garden Show (photos by Arnaud Germain)



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