Horticulture 2012 Newsletter
No. 2    January 17, 2012

Video of the Week:  Paperwhites for Winter Fragrance

UPCOMING EVENTS

Commercial Grounds Maintenance Training
Tuesday, February 7, 2012
Pottorf Hall, Cico Park, Manhattan, KS
Sponsored by K-State Research & Extension, Riley County and the Department of Horticulture, Forestry & Recreation Resources, KSU.
You can register online at www.riley.ksu.edu

RetailWorks: Spring Training for GardenCenters
Friday, February 17, 2012
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka
For more information, go to http://www.hfrr.ksu.edu/RetailWorks2012

MISCELLANEOUS

Now is a Good Time to Design Your Landscape

The dark, cold days of winter are a good time to dream and plan for the upcoming growing season. Have you always wanted to landscape your home but didn’t know where to start? We offer a number of publications available to help you accomplish your dream. This collection includes everything from general landscaping publications such as “Residential Landscape Design,” to specific works such as “Energy Efficient Landscaping,” “Landscaping the Farmstead,” “Naturalistic Landscaping” and “Low-Maintenance Landscaping.”

You can download printed publications free of charge from
Plants Deer Don't Like

With rising deer populations, damage to landscapes has increased because of browsing. But deer have preferences and will avoid some plant species if more desirable food is available. Following is a short list of plants deer normally do not bother. Even so, remember that feeding habits can shift because of changes in food supply. Also, some deer may have different preferences than most of the group.

**Rarely Damaged:**

**Trees:** Blue Spruce and Russian Olive, Smoketree, Tree of Heaven

**Shrubs:** Barberry, Boxwood, Redosier Dogwood, Mahonia, Yew, Russian Olive, Rose of Sharon, European Privet, Vanhoutte Spirea

**Annuals, Perennials and Bulbs:** Yarrow, Ageratum, Columbine, Snapdragon, Lily of the Valley, Purple Cornflower, Lavender, Sweet Alyssum, Daffodil, Russian Sage, Marigold, Lamb's Ears, Thyme, and Yucca.

For more information on deer control, go to: [http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/wldlf2/c728.pdf](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/wldlf2/c728.pdf)

For more information on plants deer don't like, go to: [http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/hortcult/treeshru/resistan.htm](http://www.wvu.edu/~agexten/hortcult/treeshru/resistan.htm) (WU)

**All-America Selection Winners for 2012**

All-America Selections tests and introduces new flowers and vegetables each year that have done well in trials across North America. This year there was one flower winner, one bedding plant winner and two vegetable winners.

Descriptions and images below are taken directly from All-America Selection materials. For more detailed information including how to grow, see [http://www.all-americaselections.org/winners/index.cfm](http://www.all-americaselections.org/winners/index.cfm)
Ornamental Pepper 'Black Olive', 2012 AAS Flower Award Winner
The AAS Judges said this entry was a standout, especially in the southern gardens where heat was a major presence during the 2011 trials. All season long this beauty kept its upright habit with nicely draping leaves and dark purple/black fruit which appeared in small clusters along the stems. As summer progresses, the fruits mature to red giving a beautiful contrast against the dark purple foliage and bright purple flowers. Retailers and growers can sell this multi-use ornamental as a 20” border plant, a great color splash for containers or as a cut flower in mixed bouquets.

Salvia 'Summer Jewel Pink', 2012 AAS Bedding Plant Award Winner
Sister to earlier AAS Winner Salvia 'Summer Jewel Red', this dwarf sized, compact plant has a prolific bloom count throughout the growing season. As a bonus, the blooms appear almost two weeks earlier than other pink salvias used as comparisons. And of course, the hummingbirds love pink, just as much as they do red! Commercial growers will appreciate the earliness, excellent pack performance and uniformity.

Pepper 'Cayennetta', 2012 AAS Vegetable Award Winner
'Cayennetta' is an excellent tasting, mildly spicy pepper that is very easy to grow, even for novice gardeners. This 3 to 4-inch chili pepper yielded bigger fruits from a very well branched upright plant that required no staking which would make it perfect for a container or patio planter. Unique to this variety is that it has good cold tolerance as well as dense foliage cover to protect the fruits from sun scorch and it handled extreme heat very well. This pepper is an all-around good choice no matter where you're gardening. Market growers will benefit from the heavy yield and prolific fruit set from each plant. Everyone will love the excellent pepper flavor that outshone all the comparison varieties.
Watermelon 'Faerie' F1, 2012 AAS Vegetable Award Winner

'Faerie' is a non-traditional watermelon in that it has a creamy yellow rind with thin stripes yet still yields sweet pink-red flesh with a high sugar content and crisp texture. Home gardeners will like growing something unique in their garden and the fact that the vines are vigorous yet spread only to 11’ means it takes up less space in the garden. Each 7-8” fruit weighs only four to six pounds making it a perfect family size melon. Professional growers will appreciate the disease and insect tolerance as well as the prolific fruit set that starts early and continues throughout the season. (WU)

Firewood

Not all firewood is created equal. Some species of trees are able to produce much more heat per cord of wood. A cord is the amount of wood in a well-stacked woodpile measuring 4 feet wide by 8 feet long by 4 feet high. Following are heat values (in million BTU’s) per cord for various species of tree. The higher the value, the better the wood.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree Type</th>
<th>Heat Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash, Green</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elm, American</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elm, Siberian</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hackberry</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honeylocust</td>
<td>25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locust, Black</td>
<td>28.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple, Sugar</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple, Silver</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulberry</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak, Red</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak, Bur</td>
<td>24.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak, Post</td>
<td>25.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osage Orange (Hedge)</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sycamore</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walnut, Black</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparks, do not use in open fireplace</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Kansas Forest Service has a publication titled “Managing Your Woodland for Firewood” that is quite helpful. (WU)

**Contributors:** Ward Upham, Extension Associate

To view Upcoming Events: [http://tinyurl.com/fswqe](http://tinyurl.com/fswqe)

**Horticulture 2012  E-mail Subscription**

For questions or further information contact: wupham@ksu.edu

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service