

LSU AgCenter
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GNO Gardening Magazine

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In This Issue:

Know Your Natives: Resurrection Fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*)
By: Dr. Joe Willis

Look at Me: Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)
By: Anna Timmerman

Disease of the Month: Bacterial Spot (*Xanthomonas spp.*) of Peppers
By: Dr. Joe Willis

What's bugging you?: Spiny Orb Weaver (Gasteracantha cancriformis)
By: Alyssa Tarrant

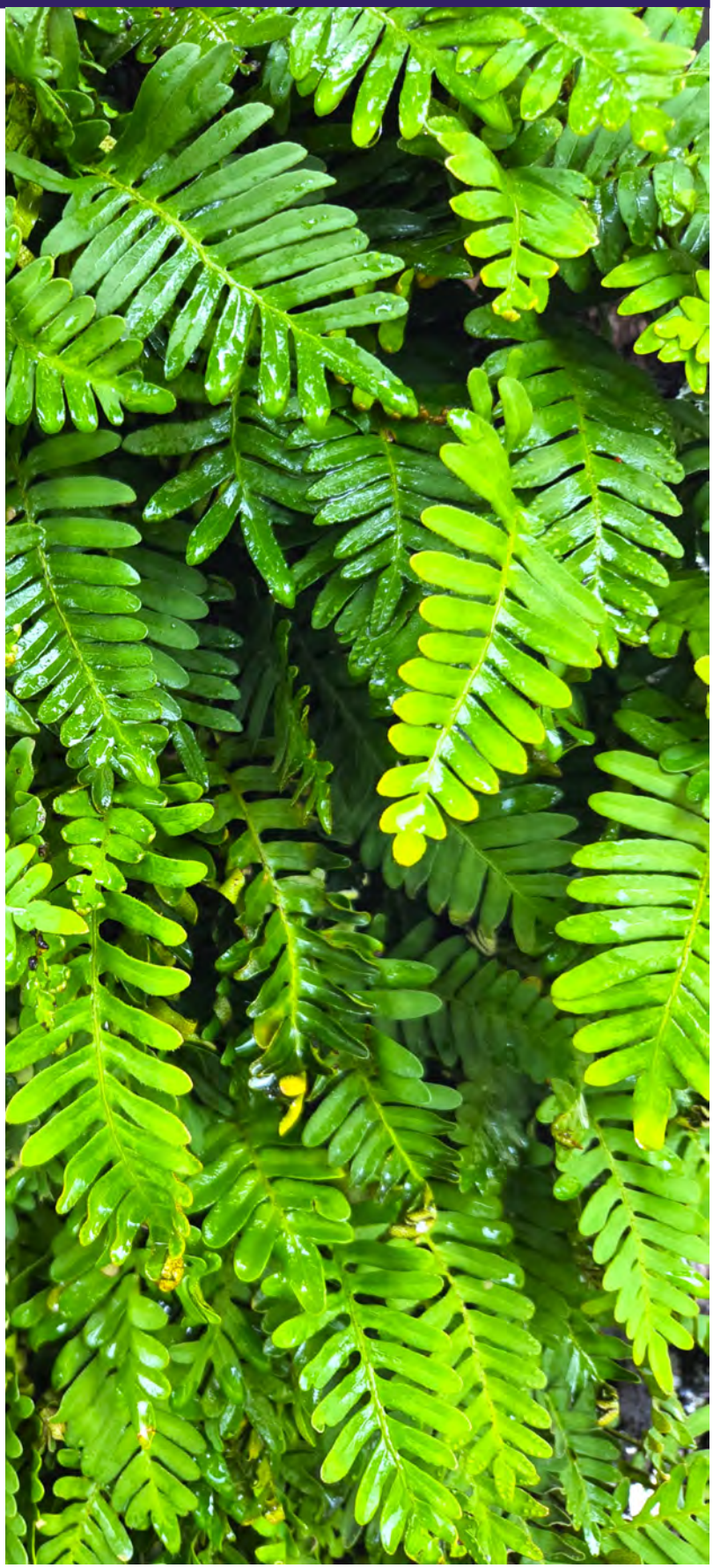
Weed of the Month Coat Buttons (*Tridax procumbens*)
By: Dr. Joe Willis

Owner of a Lonely Yard
By: Dr. Damon Abdi

Cover photo: Resurrection fern growing on a Chinese tallow tree in Elmwood by Chris Dunway

Know Your Natives—Resurrection Fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*): Nature's Living Miracle in the Louisiana Landscape

If you have ever walked beneath a mature live oak after a summer rain and noticed patches of bright green fern suddenly appearing on the branches, you have likely encountered the remarkable resurrection fern. This fascinating native plant is well-known for its ability to survive extended periods of drought by appearing dead, only to "come back to life" within hours of receiving moisture.



What Is a Resurrection Fern?

Resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*) is a small epiphytic fern that grows naturally on the bark of trees and occasionally on rocks. Unlike parasitic plants, it does not take water or nutrients from its host. Instead, it uses the tree simply as a support structure while obtaining moisture and nutrients from rainfall, humid air, and organic debris that accumulates around its rhizomes.

The common name "resurrection fern" comes from its extraordinary drought tolerance. During dry weather, the fronds curl tightly, turn grayish-brown, and appear lifeless. After rainfall, the fern rapidly rehydrates, uncurls, and resumes photosynthesis, often within a few hours. It can survive the loss of most of its water content, a capability that few plants possess.

Native Range

Resurrection fern is native to much of the southeastern United States, including Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, and portions of the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Its distribution extends southward through Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, and parts of South America. Populations also occur in portions of Africa.

In Louisiana, it is especially common in older hardwood forests and urban landscapes containing mature live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*).

Host Range

Although resurrection fern is frequently associated with live oaks, it can grow on many different tree species. Common hosts include:

- Live oak (*Quercus virginiana*)
- Southern red oak (*Quercus falcata*)
- Water oak (*Quercus nigra*)
- Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)
- Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)
- Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)
- Pecan (*Carya illinoinensis*)

It may also establish on decaying logs, stumps, limestone outcrops, and other rough surfaces that provide suitable attachment sites.

Natural Habitat

Resurrection fern thrives in humid environments with filtered sunlight and good air circulation. Natural habitats include:

- Bottomland Hardwood Forests
- Maritime forests
- Live oak groves
- Cypress swamps
- Hardwood hammocks
- Shaded urban landscapes

Most plants are found growing on trunks and large branches where moisture is periodically available and drainage is excellent.

Description

Resurrection fern is an evergreen perennial fern belonging to the Polypodiaceae family. Key identifying features include:

- Fronds typically 2 to 6 inches long, 1 to 2 inches wide
- Deeply lobed, leathery leaflets
- Dark green upper surface
- Brownish scales on the undersides
- Creeping rhizomes that adhere tightly to bark
- Round sori (spore-producing structures) located on the undersides of fertile fronds

The plant spreads slowly by rhizomes, forming colonies that can cover large sections of tree limbs over time.



Dry resurrection fern looking brown and brittle on a *Juniperus virginiana* trunk. Photo by: Dr. Joe Willis.



The same resurrection fern after a rainfall on the *Juniperus virginiana* trunk. Photo by: Dr. Joe Willis.

Propagation by Division

The easiest method of propagation is division of established colonies.

1. Carefully remove a small section of fern containing several fronds and attached rhizomes.
2. Keep the rhizomes moist during handling.
3. Place the division onto a suitable surface such as rough bark, cork bark, driftwood, tree fern fiber, or a tree trunk.
4. Secure the fern with biodegradable twine, fishing line, or strips cotton cloth.
5. Mist regularly until new growth appears and attachment occurs.

Division is highly successful and is the preferred method for gardeners.

Propagation by Spores

More advanced growers may propagate resurrection fern from spores.

1. Collect mature fertile fronds bearing brown sori.
2. Allow spores to dry and fall onto sterile growing media.
3. Maintain high humidity and indirect light.



Resurrection fern sori from both the abaxial (upper surface) left, and adaxial (bottom surface) right, view. Photos by Chris Dunaway



A piece of resurrection fern with attached rhizomes. Photo by Chris Dunaway

4. Wait for the development of the gametophyte stage, followed by young sporophytes.
5. Transplant juvenile plants once established.

Spore propagation is slower but allows the production of large numbers of plants.

How to Transfer Resurrection Fern from One Tree to Another

Gardeners often wish to relocate colonies from fallen limbs or trees undergoing removal or simply to spread it to other trees in their landscape.

Step 1: Collect a Colony

Select a healthy patch containing intact rhizomes. Gently peel the colony away with a putty knife or similar tool, retaining as much rhizome tissue as possible.

Step 2: Choose a New Host

Select a mature tree with:

- Rough bark
- Partial shade



Heavy growth of resurrection fern on a large live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) on N. Broad St. in New Orleans. Photo by: Chris Dunaway.

- Good humidity
- Protection from intense afternoon sun

Step 3: Attach the Fern

Place the colony against the bark and secure it with biodegradable twine or fishing line. Position it where rainwater will naturally run across the bark.

Step 4: Water Regularly

Mist or water the colony several times each week for the first two to three months.

Step 5: Allow Natural Attachment

Over time, the rhizomes will anchor themselves firmly to the bark. Once established, support materials can be removed.

Because resurrection fern is an epiphyte rather than a parasite, transferring it generally causes no harm to the host tree.

Landscape Uses in Louisiana

Resurrection fern offers unique ornamental and ecological value in Louisiana landscapes.

Naturalizing Live Oaks - Allow existing colonies to expand naturally on mature live oaks to create an authentic Southern landscape appearance.

Shade Gardens - Attach colonies to decorative logs, stumps, or large rocks in woodland gardens.

Native Plant Landscapes - Incorporate resurrection fern into native plant gardens where it complements species such as southern shield fern, Christmas fern, oakleaf hydrangea, and American beautyberry.

Courtyards and Patios - Mount plants on driftwood, cork bark, or decorative branches to create living garden art.

Educational Gardens - Its dramatic drought-response mechanism makes resurrection fern an excellent teaching plant for demonstrating plant adaptations and water conservation.

Resurrection fern is one of the South's most fascinating native plants. With its ability to withstand drought, its graceful appearance on live oak branches, and its ease of transplantation, this remarkable epiphyte deserves greater use in Louisiana landscapes. Whether growing naturally on a century-old oak or mounted on driftwood in a shaded garden, resurrection fern adds beauty, ecological value, and a touch of botanical wonder to the landscape.

~Dr. Joe Willis

Selected References

National Wildlife Federation. *Resurrection Fern*. Resurrection Fern | National Wildlife Federation

Pleopeltis polypodioides. 2026. Wikipedia. Pleopeltis polypodioides - Wikipedia

September Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Beets	Detroit Dark Red, Kestrel, Red Ace F1, Ruby Queen
Broccoli	Arcadia, Diplomat, Gypsy, Packman, Premium Crop, Windsor, Greenbelt
Brussels Sprouts	Jade Cross E, Long Island Improved, Royal Marvel
Cabbage	Blue Vantage, Platinum Dynasty, Stonehead, Cheers, Blue Dynasty, Emblem, Rio Verde
Chinese Cabbage	None Given
Carrots	Danvers 128, Purple Haze, Thumbelina, Apache, Enterprise, Maverick, Sugar Snax 54
Cauliflower	Candid Charm, Cumberland, Freedom, Incline, Majestic, Show Crown, Wentworth
Collards	Champions, Flash, Georgia Southern, Top Bunch, Vates
Kale	None Given
English Peas	Mr. Big, Novella II, Oregon Sugar Pod II, Sugar Ann, Super Sugar Snap
Kohlrabi	Early Purple Vienna, Early White, Vienna, Winner
Lettuce	Esmeralda, New Red Fire F1, Nevada, Tall Guzmaine Elite
Mustard Greens	Florida Broadleaf, Greenwave, Red Giant, Southern Giant Curled, Savannah, Tender-green
Potatoes, Irish	Dark Red Norland, Red LaSoda, Red Pontiac, Kennebec, Yukon Gold
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Gooligan, Sorcerer, Sprint, Silver Moon
Radishes	Cherriette, Champion, White Icicle, April Cross
Shallots	None Given
Swiss Chard	None Given
Turnip Greens	Alamo, All Top, Purple, Top White Globe, Seven Top, Southern Green, Top Star, Tokyo Cross

Look at Me: Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*)

I'm always on the lookout for plants that perform well in the dead of August, which is the most difficult gardening season for us locally. I did a quick poll of other gardeners and many reported that this summer, turmeric is performing well with little to no care, watering, or protection. Turmeric is a member of the ginger family and can be used as an edible plant and as an ornamental plant. It is perennial in the New Orleans area, hardy from USDA Zone 8-11. The foliage above ground does die back when exposed to freezing temperatures, but it regrows from underground rhizomes when the soil temperatures increase.



Turmeric flower growing in New Orleans.

Turmeric is native to southeast Asia and prefers summers when it is hot and humid. It tolerates drought conditions as well as excessive rainfall, making it an extremely good candidate for low maintenance garden areas in the subtropics. Turmeric produces edible rhizomes, which can be cooked with fresh, or dehydrated and ground into a powder for later use. Turmeric is an ingredient in a lot of Asian recipes and historically has been used as a dye for fabrics. You can grow turmeric from the rhizome roots purchased at local grocery stores. These rhizomes require no special steps or prep to plant.

Turmeric prefers moderately rich soil in full sun to partial shade. It will grow well in 3–5-gallon containers as well, using a good quality potting soil. Plant the rhizomes in the spring when soil temperatures are in the mid 70's. If you look closely at the rhizomes, they will have small buds, all facing in one direction. Plant the rhizomes 3-4 inches deep with the buds pointed upwards. As the turmeric grows, it produces a nice clump of glossy, tropical looking leaves with few pest or disease issues. In late summer, turmeric produces an attractive flower. The flower is typically cone shaped, with pink, purple, white or yellow gradients tapering down to a green base. These blooms last a long time on the plant or in a vase as a cut flower. Turmeric plants look great when planted in a landscape design with hibiscus, cordyline, shampoo or butterfly ginger, small palms, sweet potato vine, and croton for a really low-maintenance tropical theme.

To harvest turmeric, wait until fall when the leaves

begin to naturally die back for the season. Next, carefully dig the rhizomes up, then dry them in an airy place out of the elements for several days, unwashed to cure. Lightly brush the soil off of the rhizomes and store them in the fridge in a paper bag. They last a long time like this. You can replant some rhizomes from the large clusters produced each summer to propagate plants for next year. Turmeric comes in a variety of cultivars, including some that produce red, orange, yellow, and blue interiors of the root structures. The more exotic cultivars can be purchased from online nurseries. Turmeric plants are available at local garden centers and plant sales in the spring season.

~Anna Timmerman



A selection of freshly harvested turmeric. Photo by Anna Timmerman

Popular US Grown Varieties

Florida Red: A classic, bright orange variety with high curcumin content and large rhizomes, popular for culinary uses and golden milk.

Alabama Wild: A hardy, high-yield strain featuring a distinct peppery punch and southern spice.

Green Turmuric: Use in stir-fries, fresh juices ojr make a green turmeric pesto and drizzle it over roasted vegetables.

Tennessee Wonder: A newer red turmeric strain selected for cooler US climates that produces high curcumin levels and large yields per plant

Indira Yellow: A prolific Indian variety adapted well to South Florida climates, offering a traditional aromatic and earthy flavor.

Blue and Black Turmeric (*Curcuma caesia*): Also known as *kali haldi*. Medicinal varieties with dark blue-black or bluish interiors, known for strong, menthol-like or earthy medicinal profiles.

Red Hawaiian: A regional favorite prized for juicing and a sweet, distinct aroma.

Disease of the Month: Bacterial Spot (*Xanthomonas spp.*) of Peppers

Peppers, especially hot peppers, are one of the vegetables that can thrive in our Louisiana summers and still be productive. Peppers are true perennials and healthy plants will continue to flower and bear fruit until hit by a killing frost. I've had peppers that survived and produced for five years before we eventually had a severe winter. But acting proactively when conditions are conducive to disease development is important. One of the more common diseases in our Louisiana environment is bacterial spot.

- **Cause:** *Xanthomonas campestris* pv *vesicatoria* and *Xanthomonas vesicatoria* bacteria, which thrive in wet, rainy weather. The pathogen is known to be seedborne.
- **Temperature:** Highly active when temperatures reach 68°F to 86°F. Outbreaks peak during intense heatwaves where night temperatures stay stubbornly above 70°F.
- **Humidity & Moisture:** Requires extreme relative humidity above 85%. Prolonged leaf wetness from rain, dew, or overhead watering is necessary for the bacteria to multiply and colonize the leaf surface. Bacteria infect plants through stomates or wounds.
- **Symptoms:** The causal bacteria can infect all above ground parts of the plant. Small, dark, water-soaked (wet-looking) spots form on the leaves, fruits, and stems. The centers of these spots eventually turn brown and necrotic. Severe infections cause premature leaf drop.
- **Effect:** Severe infections cause leaves to turn yellow and fall off early, exposing the peppers to sunburn.
- **Control:** Water the base of the plant in the morning and avoid using overhead sprinklers. Apply copper-based fungicides or copper + mancozeb mixes as a preventative when conditions are favorable. Infected plants should be removed and discarded. Remove and discard plant debris during the season and maintain good mulch cover to prevent splashing spread of disease. For organic growers, Bacillus amyloliquefasciens strain MBI 600 and Bacillus subtilis strain QST 713 have been shown to be effective.

By keeping pepper plants healthy through proper fertilization and watering, providing prophylactic treatment when conditions are optimum for disease development, and managing insect pests, you can have an abundance of fruit all growing season long and into the cool season too.

~Dr. Joe W Willis



Selected References

Keinath, A.P. 2022. Controlling Bacterial Spot on Tomato and Pepper. Clemson University Extension. Controlling Bacterial Spot on Tomato and Pepper | Land-Grant Press

McAvoy, C., P. Roberts, and J.B. Jones. 2024. Bacterial Spot of Pepper. UF/IFAS. PP362/PP362: Bacterial Spot of Pepper

Scherer, A., I. Meadows, M. Henson, E. Hinchliffe, and S. Villani. 2019. Bacterial Spot of Pepper and Tomato. NC State Extension. Bacterial Spot of Pepper and Tomato | NC State Extension Publications

What's bugging you?: Spiny Orb Weaver (*Gasteracantha cancriformis*)

On a recent morning hustle to the car, hands occupied with coffee and keys, I took a spider web straight to the face. The unpleasant surprise was courtesy of a conspicuous crab-like spider known as the spiny orb weaver (*Gasteracantha cancriformis*). The "spiny" portion of their name refers to the six spiny projections that adorn the abdomen of female spiders. "Orb weaver" describes the larger group of spiders that spin familiar circular webs. Spiny orb weavers exhibit color polymorphism; they can be white, yellow, or orange with black or red spines and spots (Layton, 2018). Their bright color and menacing spines deter birds and other predators, but they are relatively harmless to people and pets. They may bite if disturbed, causing temporary discomfort comparable to a fire ant bite (Layton, 2018). But their propensity for catching garden pests has me walking more gingerly in the yard to avoid disturbing their well laid traps (Edwards, 2024).



A spiney orb weaver patiently waiting for its next meal.
Photo by Alyssa Tarrant

Spiny Orb Weaver Lifecycle

Male spiny orb weavers are less showy than the females; they are smaller, less colorful (black or gray with white spots), and lack spines. The characteristic prey-catching spiral webs are associated with females too, but limited information on male web-spinning behavior may reflect a focus on females in the literature. Although their role in web construction is unclear, males are known to hang from single strands next to a female's web where they may feed opportunistically while they wait to mate (Muma, 1971).

The male initiates mating by drumming the female's web rhythmically in a repeated 4 tap series (Muma, 1971). A delicate dance ensues. Following copulation, fertilized eggs are deposited into a yellowish green ovate egg sac on the underside of leaves next to the female's web. Spiderlings hatch within 11 to 13 days and disperse roughly two weeks later (Edwards, 2024).

Look for the Stabilimentum

Keep an eye out for orb weaver webs this fall while walking through the garden or in the woods this fall. You may notice that some of the webs are decorated with a zig-zag like pattern of dense silk. This structure is called a stabilimentum, and its function is debated. As the name suggests, stabilimenta were originally thought to increase the stability of the web, but this idea has been widely debunked. Alternatively, stabilimenta have been hypothesized to attract prey, act as camouflage, or serve as a warning to birds that might accidentally fly

into the web. In a 2006 study, researchers testing these various hypotheses concluded that the most likely function in spiny orb weavers was to advertise the presence of the web to birds or other large animals preoccupied with their morning commute (Jaffé et al., 2006).

~Alyssa Tarrant



A spiney orb weaver watching over a satsuma tree in Kenner, LA. Photo by Chris Dunaway



Top view of a spiney orb weaver. Photo by Alyssa Tarrant



Bottom view of an spiney orb weaver. Photo by Alyssa Tarrant

Resources and additional reading

Edwards, G.B. (2024). Spiny Orb Weaver Spider, Gasteracantha cancriformis (Linnaeus) (Archnida: Araneae: Araneidae). IFAS Extension, EENY-167.

Jaffé, R., Eberhard, W., De Angelo, C., Eusse, D., Gutierrez, A., Quijas, S., Rodriguez, A., and Rodriguez, M. (2006). Caution, webs in the way! Possible functions of silk stabilimenta in Gasteracantha cancriformis (Aranea, Araneidae). The Journal of Arachnology, 34(2), 448-455. http://www.jstor.org.libezp.lib.lsu.edu/stable/4129804

Layton, B. (2018). Spinybacked Orbweaver. Bug's Eye View, 4(31). Mississippi State University Extension.

Muma, M.H. (1971). Biology and Behavioral Notes on Gasteracantha cancriformis (Arachnida: Araneidae). The Florida Entomologist, 54(4), 345-351. https://www-jstor-org.libezp.lib.lsu.edu/stable/3493600

Weed of the Month
Coat Buttons (*Tridax procumbens*)

I found this month's weed to highlight growing in the green islands in the parking lot of my office building. The plants were growing low over a large area, mixed in with the turfgrass. It was actually pretty with the tiny daisy-like flowers peaking out above the grass. I took a couple of pictures and reached down and began looking for where the plants were connected to the ground so that I could pull some of them. When I finally found the main stem, I was surprised to find that one plant was covering the nearly two square feet of area.

While there are many beneficial plants that are considered weeds by some, this plant is truly an invasive species and rightfully on the USDA Noxious Weed list.



The flower of a *Tridax procumbens*. The plant takes its name from the Latin words meaning three-toothed referring to the sets of three lobed petals on the flowers. Photo by Chris Dunaway

Description:

Tridax procumbens, commonly known as coat buttons or tridax daisy, is a species of flowering plant in the family Asteraceae. It is best known as a widespread weed and pest plant. It is native to the tropical Americas including Mexico, but it has been introduced to tropical, subtropical, and mild temperate regions worldwide. The plant bears daisy-like yellow-centered white or yellow flowers with three-toothed ray florets. The leaves are toothed and generally arrowhead-shaped. Both the upper and lower leaf surfaces of the tridax daisy are covered with close-lying hairs, but loses the hairs upper leaf on the uppers surface as the plant matures.

The fruit is a hard achene covered with stiff hairs and having a feathery, plumelike white pappus at one end. The pappus helps the seeds travel and disperse with the wind. Each plant can make about 1,500 acenes in a single season.

Control:

As is true for many of the weeds that would invade our lawns, one of the best control measures is to maintain a healthy lawn by following recommended horticultural practices. This includes proper and timely fertilization and herbicide use, maintaining soil health, mowing at the proper height for the turf variety and regularly scouting the lawn for problems. Hand pulling can be very effective at controlling many weeds, including *Tridax procumbens*. This is especially true when There are only a few weeds present before the plants have distributed their seeds.

There are several chemical control options that can be effective against tridax daisies. Pre-emergent herbicides can be applied in the early spring to prevent the seeds from germinating. After germination, there are several selective broadleaf herbicides that can be used when growing in a lawn. Look for products containing 2,4-D, Dicamba, MCPA, or MSM. These products work best when used while the plants are young and have not started setting seeds. If you do have weeds of any type with seeds, use the bagging mower to collect the clippings and dispose of them. This can reduce the number of plants that sprout next season.

Take time this fall to really look at your lawn. Hand pull weeds that you see and get ready to apply herbicides in the spring if needed.

~Chris Dunaway



This large clump of Tridax procumbens is all a single plant that grew from one seed. Photo by Chris Dunaway



A thickly growing matt of *Tridax procumbens* outcompetes turfgrass for sunlight and nutrients in a lawn. Photo by Chris Dunaway

Owner of a Lonely Yard

Move yourself, you always live your life. Taken literally, many people find themselves moving during the summer months to settle down for the upcoming school year, and with September rolling around, it is time for a fall plan. But forget kindergarten, it is another garden that needs preparation this time of year… especially if there is ample open space in a new place. For avid gardeners moving into a new home, a blank canvas is an opportunity to design the garden of their dreams. If you're an "owner of a lonely yard", fall is a great time to fill the landscape. This is the time to prove yourself (as a gardener), and you are the moves you make. Take your chances with certain plants, win or lose, you have to see for yourself how they will perform.



Make sure to mark underground utilities before planting, check for wires above, and select species that are appropriately sized for the site.

Yes! The milder temperatures of fall are a great time for planting trees and shrubs in the landscape. The sweltering summer heat begins to fade and plants can adjust more comfortably to their new surroundings. First steps always include calling 811 to mark underground utilities, but obvious as it may appear, make sure to look up for overhead wires as well. Design the landscape with the mature size of the plant in mind, not the size you purchase. Dig the hole at least twice the width of the rootball and install the plant just above grade. Worried about wind this time of year? STAKE! Stake yourself, it is easy enough but make sure you follow proper procedures. Do not have straps too tightly on the tree trunk. This constricts the stem and may limit the ability for flexing in the wind. A little movement is necessary, after all, you're every move you make, so the story goes.

For gardeners moving into an established area, a mature landscape can be a blessing – or a management mess in disguise. Take inventory of the landscape – especially assessing the health of mature trees. A certified arborist can offer insights that can help you protect both your plants and your property. Getting out ahead of potentially problematic limbs falling can avoid accidents, and sometimes tree removal may be necessary. After all, being the owner of a lonely yard is… (much better than) an owner of a broken car.

A lonely yard doesn't have to remain lonely. Proper planting practices and a wide palette of plants can help hedge your bets. Say you don't want to chance it, and you've been hurt so before. No planting just one and only, plant a mix of species. There's no real reason to be lonely. As a gardener, just be your creative self and give your free will (and plants) a chance, but you've got to want (and water) them to succeed.

~Dr. Damon Abdi



Caladiums growing in a New Orleans courtyard garden. Photo by Chris Dunaway

In the Kitchen with Dr. Austin



Fresh Pasta Sauce

This recipe is the ultimate in simplicity. That's probably why it is so delicious.

Ingredients:

2 lbs. fresh Roma tomatoes	Pinch of red peppers flakes
¼ cup olive oil	Salt to taste
3 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed	6 leaves of fresh basil, roughly torn

Directions:

Fill a pot with water and bring to a boil over medium-high heat. While waiting for the water to boil, cut Xs on the bottom of each tomato. Place tomatoes in boiling water until skins begin to curl back from their bottoms.

Remove tomatoes to a large bowl of ice water. This cools them down and makes peeling easier. Chop peeled tomatoes roughly and set aside.

In a sauce pan, warm oil over medium heat. Add garlic, red pepper flakes, and a pinch of salt. Cook just until fragrant, stirring constantly.

Add chopped tomatoes, stir again, and reduce heat. Simmer for 20 - 25 minutes until the sauce has thickened.

Stir in the basil toward the end of cooking. Taste and adjust salt to your liking.

Enjoy!



A pan of homemade fresh pasta sauce

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City
500 N. Norman C. Francis at the Bayou
Thursdays from 3-6PM
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders at www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park
City Putt Parking Lot
Dreyfous Dr. @ Anseman Ave.
Sundays from 8AM-Noon
Info at www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Uptown
200 Broadway
Tuesdays from 8AM-Noon
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders, info at www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Vietnamese Farmer's Market
4861 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East
Saturdays, 5:30AM-9:00AM

Marketplace at Armstrong Park
901 N. Rampart
Thursdays from 3-7PM
https://www.facebook.com/MarketplaceArmstrongPark/

New Orleans French Market
Lower Decatur Street
Daily, 9AM-6PM

Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market
Comiskey Park, New Orleans
Market dates vary.
Check http://midcityaf.org

Laughing Buddha Farm
4516 Clearview Pkwy, Metairie, LA
Or online at:
https://laughing-buddha-nursery.localline.ca/online-store

Barcelo Gardens Farmer's Market- Upper 9th Ward
2301 Gallier Street at the garden, Saturdays from 10AM-1PM
3440 Piety Street Fresh Market open daily, 10-4.
Check here the link below for other times and locations.
https://www.facebook.com/BarceloGardens/

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point
530 Powder St, New Orleans, LA
First and Third Sundays of the month, from 10AM-1PM
See more times and events at the link below.
https://www.bounyfulgreenmarket.com/

Sankofa Fresh Stop Market
5200 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA
https://sankofanola.org/rfqs/

FUBU Market NOLA
3101 Erato Street New Orleans, location changes, check website/social media
https://www.facebook.com/TheFUBUMarket/

St. Tammany Parish

Covington Farmers' Market
Covington Police Department
609 North Columbia St., Covington, LA 70433
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
Covington Trailhead
419 N. New Hampshire
Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (rain or shine)www.covingtonfarmersmarket.org
General information: 985.966.1786

Mandeville Trailhead Community Market
Mandeville Trailhead
675 Lafitte St, Mandeville, LA 70448
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (rain or shine)
https://www.facebook.com/TheMandevilleTrailhead
985.624.3147

Folsom Village Market
Hwy 40, one block east of Hwy 25
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (weather permitting)
Every 2nd and 4th Saturday
985.507.6496 (daytime only)

Abita Springs Art and Farmers' Market
22049 Main St., Abita Springs, LA 70420
Sunday: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM (rain or shine)
https://www.townofabitasprings.com/farmers-market
985.892.0711

Camellia City Farmer's Market
2055 2nd Street, Old Towne Slidell
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaCityMarket/
985.640.7112

St. Charles Parish

German Coast Farmer's Market-East Bank
St. Charles Parish East Regional Library
160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon
http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/

German Coast Farmer's Market-West Bank
Westbank Bridge Park-Luling
13825 River Road, Luling, LA
Wednesdays, from Noon-5PM
http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market
Between 3rd & 4th St. along Huey P. Long
Every Saturday, except the Saturday of Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
https://www.gretnala.com/visitors/farmers-market/

Nawlins Outdoor Market
1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey
Saturdays 9AM-5PM & Sundays 9AM-4PM
Fridays 11AM-3PM
https://www.facebook.com/NawlinsMarket/

Old Metairie Farmer's Market
Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn Dr. and Labarre
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-7:30PM** Check for seasonal dates!
https://www.oldmetairiegardenclub.com/tag/farmers-art-metairie-market/

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte
920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-2PM
https://www.facebook.com/JeanLafitteLa/

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie
3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 1-6PM
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064920097975

Westwego Farmer's Market
484 Sala Ave., Westwego
3rd Tuesday of the month, 11AM-3PM
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075979938725

Laughing Buddha Farm
4516 Clearview
Store Pickups, preorder online at
https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/

Westwego Shrimp Lot
100 Westbank Expressway at Louisiana St., Westwego
Daily Mon-Thurs 8AM-6PM, Fri 8AM-7PM, Sat 7AM-7PM, and Sun 7AM-6PM
https://www.facebook.com/officialwestwegoshrimplot

Harahan Farmer's Market
501 Oak Ave., Zeringue Park, Harahan
Sundays, 9AM-1PM
https://www.facebook.com/HarahanMarket

The Market at Kenner City Park
3800 Loyola Drive, Kenner, LA
Thursdays 1PM-6PM
2nd & 4th Saturdays 10AM-2PM
https://www.facebook.com/RivertownFarmersMarket

Local Independent Garden Centers

Jefferson

Perino's Garden Center	3100 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 834-7888
Rose Garden Center	4005 Westbank Expressway, Marerro, LA 70072	(504) 341-5664
Banting's Nursery	3425 River Rd., Bridge City, LA 70094	(504) 436-4343
Jefferson Feed	4421 Jefferson Hwy., Jefferson, LA 70121	(504) 733-8572
Nine Mile Point Plant Nursery	2141 River Rd., Westwego, LA 70094	(504) 436-4915
Palm Garden Depot	351 Hickory Ave., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 305-6170
Double M Feed Harahan	8400 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 738-5007
Double M Feed Terrytown	543 Holmes Blvd., Terrytown, LA 70056	(504) 361-4405
Sunrise Trading Co. Inc.	42 3rd St., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 469-0077
Creative Gardens & Landscape	2309 Manhattan Blvd., Harvey, LA 70058	(504) 367-9099
Plumeria Insanity Nursery	https://www.facebook.com/Plumeria-Insanity-Nursery-102123651930419	
Garden Specialties, Inc.	3601 Florida Ave., Kenner, LA 70065	(504) 468-2300

Soil Vendors

Schmelly's Dirt Farm	8301 Olive St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 535-GROW
Reliable Soil	725 Reverand Richard Wilson Dr., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 467-1078
Renaissance Gardens	9123 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA 70043	(504) 682-9911
Rock n' Soil NOLA	9119 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-0908
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713

If you would like your licensed retail nursery listed, please email gnogardening@agcenter.lsu.edu

Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans		
Harold's Plants	1135 Press St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 947-7554
We Bite Rare and Unusual Plants	1225 Mandeville St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 380-4628
Hot Plants	1700 Feliciana St., New Orleans, LA 70117	www.hotplantsnursery.com
Pelican Greenhouse Sales	2 Celebration Dr., New Orleans, LA 70124	(504) 483-9437
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713
Jefferson Feed Mid-City	309 N. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119	(504) 488-8118
Jefferson Feed Uptown	6047 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 218-4220
Ninth Ward Nursery	2641 Deslonde St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 296-8398
Crazy Plant Bae	800 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans LA 70119	(504) 327-7008
Canopy Plant Company	6030 St. Claude, New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 381-4033
Too Tall Nursery	2817 N. Roman, New Orleans, LA 70117	tootallfarm@gmail.com
New Orleans Succulent Boutique	Online Sales	https://sites.google.com/view/nolasucculentshop/home
Root Life Mobile Plant Nursery	Pop Up Locations	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?d=100053554224887
Rosalie Arts & Design	Online Sales	rosalietorres.square.site
Plaquemines		
Southern Gateway Garden Center	107 Timber Ridge St., Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 393-9300
Belle Danse Orchids	14079 Belle Chasse Hwy., Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 419-5416
St. Charles		
Plant & Palm Tropical Outlet	10018 River Rd., St. Rose, LA 70087	(504) 468-7256
Martin's Nursery & Landscape	320 3rd St., Luling, LA 70070	(985) 785-6165
St. Bernard		
Nice Plants, Good Pots	6720 St. Claude Ave., Arabie, LA	Etsy.com/shop/NicePlantsGoodPots
St. Tammany		
The Boho Being	1184 Front St., Slidell, LA 70458	(985)707-1623
Banting's Nursery-Northshore	26300 Hwy 190, Lacombe, LA 70445	(985)882-5550

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Funding helps the LSU AgCenter agents provide help for:

- School and Community Gardens
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- Local Research



Volunteers working at the LA Super Plant Garden in New Orleans City Park,

Look for Greater New Orleans Horticulture Support Fund

Scan the QR code above or click the link below to go to the LSU Foundation donation webpage.

Click here or go to: https://bit.ly/3UQRS7H

September Checklist/Garden Tips

Mulches may have decayed and thinned out over the summer. Replenish mulch layers with fresh material to maintain about a two to three inch thickness. Ideally, use what you can get for free – such as leaves, dry grass clippings or pine straw. If you prefer the appearance of a purchased mulch, put down an inch or two of leaves, dry grass clippings or pine straw, and then top it off with an about an inch of your favorite purchased mulch. This will save you money and still give you the look you like. Cypress leaves make a great mulch too.

Only light pruning will be appropriate on shrubs from now on. Late, heavy pruning will stimulate growth in the fall and increase the chance of cold damage to your shrubs. Remember, spring flowering shrubs and gardenias, hydrangeas, sasanquas and camellias have already set their flower buds. Any pruning now will remove flower buds and reduce the display.

From now until next spring, do not apply fertilizers containing nitrogen to most landscape plants. Fertilizing trees, shrubs, lawns and ground covers with nitrogen in the fall can reduce the hardiness of some plants and promote winter injury.

Plant petunias into the garden now for blooms this fall and next spring. Petunias, snapdragons, nicotiana, calendula and dianthus are among the more heat tolerant cool season bedding plants, and can be planted earlier than more heat sensitive plants such as pansies.

Control caterpillar problems on ornamentals with a pesticide containing BT, spinosad or carbaryl (Sevin). BT is a bacterium that only attacks caterpillars and is harmless to other organisms. It is essentially non toxic and is appropriate for use by organic gardeners. Spinosad is also organic. Make applications before damage is too extensive, and make sure the damage is fresh and the caterpillars are still active before you treat. Keep these materials well away from butterfly garden areas. They are also toxic to butterfly caterpillars.

Evaluate caladium plantings. When the plants begin to look tired and less attractive and about two-thirds of the leaves have fallen over, it's time to dig the tubers. Caladiums may return the next year if left in the ground, but it is more reliable to dig them and store them indoors over the winter. Dig the tubers carefully leaving the foliage attached. Spread out in a well ventilated area to dry. When the foliage is dry and brown, remove it from the tubers and store them in paper or net bags indoors.

Many summer weeds are setting seeds now. Do not let this happen! Pull these weeds and dispose of them to reduce weed problems next year. Use a bagging mower to collect the clippings from the lawn and dispose of them.

Remove the canes from blackberry bushes that produced fruit this summer. They will not produce again. Vegetative canes may be tipped back to control their growth

It is time to divide and transplant Louisiana irises, Easter lilies, and calla lilies. Louisiana irises generally do best when divided every three years.

Mail order spring bulbs in time for them to arrive in October or November. Bulbs are also readily available in local nurseries now. You can go ahead and purchase them, but there is no hurry to plant them.

Water your vegetable and flower gardens deeply and thoroughly once or twice a week during dry weather. When a good rain occurs (one-half to one inch), adjust your watering schedule accordingly. A daily watering is not recommended for established plants. It increases diseases and encourages a shallow root system. Newly seeded beds, however, should be watered daily until the seeds come up. New transplants also need to be watered more frequently. And plants in containers may need to be watered everyday.

The hurricane season is kicking into high gear now, and if you haven't already done so, its time to look over your landscape. In particular, shade trees in the landscape should be carefully evaluated to make sure they are in good shape. Dead branches must be pruned off and dead trees removed entirely.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. Finish laying sod by the middle of the month to give it time to establish before winter.
2. Apply pre-emergent herbicide to prevent winter weed seeds from germinating in the lawn. Annual bluegrass (Poa) is a common winter weed controlled by pre-emergent herbicides.
3. As the weather gets cooler, you may apply selective herbicides to eliminate broad leaf weeds in the lawn.
4. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
5. Dethatch the lawn if necessary. This is the last month before winter to dethatch.
6. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.
7. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. The best time to water is in the morning.
8. Keep an eye open for insect pests. Chinch bugs and tropical sod webworms have been reported lately.
9. Spread a mixture of fine compost and course builders sand over the lawn to add organic material and smooth out the lawn. Do not add more than 2 inches over actively growing grass.
10. Set your mower to the correct height for your turfgrass type.
11. Take a soil test. Test kits are available in our offices as well as local garden centers.

Don't's

1. Do not apply fertilizer to the lawn again until April of next year.
2. Do not apply phosphorous winterizer to the lawn without taking a soil sample first. We have ample amounts of phosphorous in our soil already.
3. Do not attempt to install a new lawn with sprigs or seeds.
4. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height of lawn grass at a single time.
5. Do not try to grow grass in deep shade.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

Follow us on Facebook at GNO Gardening

For more information visit LSUAgCenter.com

Have Questions? Contact the LSU AgCenter Extension Agent in your Parish.

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