



Imagine

Illinois Master Gardeners' Information,
News and Education

Vol. 6 No. 6
Nov.-Dec. 2005

Coordinators' Comments

Many thanks to the Southern region Master Gardeners for a wonderful conference in Collinsville in September. Kudos to the volunteers from Madison-St. Clair, Washington, Jefferson and Perry counties. I also want to wish the award winners congratulations for their outstanding programs and for their service to Extension. Write-ups on each award winner and teamwork project (plus pictures) may be found on the Illinois Master Gardener website at <http://www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg/who/awards.html>

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to all who contributed to the Silent Auction at the conference. Through your generosity, we were able to raise \$4,373 to support the state office expenses. Money will be used for printing and mailing the *Imagine* newsletter, Master Gardener state awards and to fund educational programs. A complete list of the items sold and the donors is available on the website on the MG Resources page.

A highlight of this year's conference was the Container Design Challenge. The entries from 19 counties were outstanding and showed a lot of creativity—from the railroad garden container to the hypertufa planter shaped like the state of Illinois to the New Orleans fanfare container. We plan to have this event at the 2006 state conference in Moline, so it is never too early to begin planning for next year. We hope to have EVERY county participate in 2006!

At this time of year, our focus turns from gardening to education. Unit offices are accepting applications and interviewing possible trainees for 2006 training classes. Many of our local programs have instituted mentoring programs for the new trainees. This makes them feel welcome to the group and helps them in vital volunteer roles such as the Hotlines. If your group hasn't started a mentoring program—please consider doing so. Contact me for help or for contacts in other counties who have mentoring programs in place.

This is also a good time to take advantage of all the

continuing education opportunities available to you. Please remember that you must complete 10 hours of continuing education each calendar year to remain active. Our state policies list approved educational updates as the state conference, local update sessions and University of Illinois Extension sponsored seminars and short courses. Credit horticulture or plant science classes, or other horticultural classes must be **pre-approved** by your local Coordinator. The Four Seasons Gardening Telenets and the locally sponsored garden days are an inexpensive way to fulfill those hours. Last year, over 15 counties sponsored Saturday garden days. Watch the *Imagine* for details. The Morton Arboretum, Chicago Botanic Garden & Missouri Botanical Garden also offer excellent educational courses and workshops. National educational groups such as the International Society for Arboriculture & the Illinois Landscape Contractors also offer educational seminars that we can take advantage of.

A popular option for many today is online education. In this issue are details on two outstanding programs. The first is two online courses thru Cornell University— one on organic gardening and the second on grafting. Another option is the courses offered through the Horticulture Gardening Institute. Their newest courses on sun and shade perennials were designed by Alan Armitage and are comprehensive and challenging courses. I have had some experience with these courses and recommend them highly. The state office will be offering both sessions in 2006. The Hort Gardening Institute (www.gardeninginstitute.com) also offers a course on Smart Gardening which features the AHS regional guides.

Lastly, I think all Master Gardeners will enjoy the new Body Smart Gardening to be released early in 2006 by the Horticulture team. This curriculum contains great information on topics such as body smart tools, sun protection and skin care for the gardener and exercises to get ready for the garden ...plus much more.

Have a joyous winter holiday season!
Monica David, State MG Coordinator

Important Dates

December 1: Iowa-Illinois Fruit and Vegetable Symposium, Scott County Extension Office, Bettendorf, Iowa. Topics include Chesnut Production; Frost Protection in Fruits and Nuts; Raspberries & Blackberries; Sweet Corn and Weed Management; and Irrigation and Pumpkin Weed Control. For more information check the website at www.extension.iastate.edu/johnson

January 18-20: MidAm Trade Show and Workshops McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. www.midam.org

January 21: Herb Day, Urbana Holiday Inn. 217-333-7738

January 28: "A Winter Day in the Garden", Zwermann Theatre, Lincoln Trail College, Robinson, IL. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Doors open at 8 a.m. Speakers include: Dyke Barkley "Ornamental Grasses: Queens of the Fall Garden"; Jason Delaney "A Garden's Buried Treasure"; Pat Lanza "Lasagna Gardening: No Digging, No Tilling, No Weeding, No Kidding!"; and Carol Reese, "Charmingly Seductive Gardens." Registration fee is \$30 and includes coffee/snacks and lunch. Late registration fee \$40 after Jan. 16. Sponsored by the Crawford County Master Gardeners and LTC. 618-546-1549. Flyer and registration form can be found at: <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/crawford/> under the horticulture and environment tab.

February 21-22: Southern Grounds Maintenance School, Gateway Center, Collinsville, IL. 618-650-7050

March 11-19: Chicago Flower Show, Navy Pier, Chicago www.chicagoflower.com

June 15-17: Tri-State Master Gardener Conference (Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota), Cedar Rapids, Iowa More information to follow.

July 27-29: National Children and Youth Gardening Symposium, St. Louis, Missouri.

September 7-9: Illinois Master Gardener Conference, The Mark of the Quad Cities, Moline IL.

Deadline for submission of articles for the next issue is December 20, 2005.

2006 Training Sites*

| Location | Starting Date |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Champaign | 1-25-05 |
| Chicago-High School for Ag Sciences | 1-23-05 |
| Decatur/Springfield | 1-26-05 |
| DeKalb | 1-9-05 |
| Dixon | 1-24-05 |
| Edwardsville Cluster | 1-17-05 |
| Effingham | 1-18-05 |
| Grayslake | 1-13-05 |
| Kankakee | |
| Macomb | 1-19-05 |
| Matteson | 1-11-05 |
| Murphysboro | 1-19-05 |
| Ottawa | |
| Peoria/Pekin | |
| Rock Island | 1-20-05 |
| Rolling Meadows | |
| Online training** | 1-16-05 |

* Please contact your local coordinator to attend these classes. Times and locations are listed on the website at www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg/trainingschd.html

** The online class will be run from campus but participants should apply through their local unit office.

Chairperson's Chat

When is it time to pass the buck?

It's November. The phone call comes in to the Master Gardener office from Lon Moore. Little brown bags are hanging all over his spruce trees. It definitely sounds like bag worms. As a Master Gardener you recommend picking them off. A perfectly good and appropriate answer considering it is November when pesticide sprays are ineffective. But what if Lon says he has 350 spruce trees in the subdivision he is maintaining? Unless he has a lot of elves at his disposal, is picking them off still the best answer?

Once we move into the commercial world of horticulture - also referred to as the "Green Industry" - recommendations may need to be altered and there may be options open to commercial people that are not available to home gardeners. In addition with commercial personnel the monetary issues are vastly different. We as home gardeners hate to have a plant die. We may go out and replace it or buy a new completely different plant, but except for the occasional plant sale we never expected to recoup the cost of the original plant or to make money off it. Commercial growers and landscape management personnel, however, see an immediate monetary cost when one of their plants dies, they have to buy large quantities of pesticides or if they have to hire additional people to provide labor.

If you find yourself talking on the Master Gardener hotline to a commercial grower or anyone doing business in the horticulture world, it's time to pass the buck.

Commercial calls should be forwarded to the appropriate educator or state specialist. Have U of I horticulture resource personnel contact numbers handy in the office desk. If you aren't sure how to handle commercial calls, then it's time to talk to your Master Gardener coordinator or unit leader for clarification. Champaign County Master Gardeners are also instructed not to handle inquiries that concern possible herbicide misapplication. Be sure to also clarify this issue with your coordinators. I know callers are notorious for leaving out information. Part of being a Master Gardener is digging for plants, but also for information. It's about being a good listener and being a good plant whisperer. Usually as a caller talks it becomes apparent we are not in Kansas anymore. Once the question steps out of the home garden then it's time to pass the buck.

I hope you all have a wonderful Holly Day season!
Sandy Mason— Advisory Committee Chairperson

Junior Master Gardener_{sm}

"Literature in the Garden"

The JMG_{sm} *Literature in the Garden* curriculum cultivates the connection between children's gardening experiences and great books. This curriculum utilizes six Growing Good Kids Book Award-winning titles to inspire learning through outdoor activities, creative expression and open exploration. It will enhance youths' understanding of the messages and powerful illustrations conveyed in these stories. *Literature in the Garden* will serve to make both their learning and the stories they are reading more relevant. This new program will inspire learning through outdoor activities, creative expressions and open exploration and involve students in service-learning projects. The curriculum contains dozens of hands-on activities designed for youth in third thru fifth grades. The curriculum which costs \$35, will allow kids to earn a Golden Ray certification. This involves completing 13 activities from the curriculum, belonging to a registered JMG_{sm} group and participating in one community service project. For more information check the website at www.jmgkids.com and to order the manual either call 1-888-900-2577 or www.jmgkids.us/market



Growing Good Kids Book Awards

Created by the American Horticultural Society and the Junior Master Gardener_{sm} program, the "Growing Good Kids – Excellence in Children's Literature" award program honors outstanding children's gardening and nature books. Each year, this award will recognize a select group of children's books that are especially effective at promoting an understanding of, and appreciation for, gardening and the environment.

For the first year of the program, garden and ecology-themed books published before 2005 were considered for a one-time "Classics" category. The 40 books selected to receive this distinction were unveiled at the AHS's 2005 National Children & Youth Garden Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. The selection committee included the AHS National Children & Youth Garden Symposium Advisory Panel, Junior Master Gardener_{sm} specialists and coordinators, teachers, youth leaders, and kids. To view the list of award winning books for 2005 or to nominate a book for the 2006 awards go to the JMG_{sm} website at <http://www.jmgkids.us/index.k2?id=11866§ionID=10398>

BBC Neighbourhood Gardener Started in 2004

BBC Neighbourhood Gardener is a new gardening mentor scheme for enthusiastic amateur gardeners in the UK. Gardeners volunteer their time and experience to pass on their knowledge and passion to others in their local community. The idea is based on the widely popular Master Gardener program in the US. Sponsored by the British Broadcast Company and the BTCV- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, the program trains volunteers who will pass on their knowledge about gardening to others, while running and actively shaping innovative projects.



Enthusiastic gardeners in the UK will be able to complete an introductory Neighbourhood Gardener training programme at their local college prior to joining a local Neighbourhood Gardener team attached to the college. Initially the BBC Neighbourhood Gardener centres will predominantly be horticultural colleges but the scheme will gradually extend to other further education colleges, adult-learning providers and other community learning organizations. Over 52 affiliated colleges have joined the scheme throughout the UK. There are three ways that gardeners can be involved in a team:

- * as a fully qualified BBC Neighbourhood Gardener
- * as a Trainee Neighbourhood Gardener - currently taking one or both of the introductory courses
- * as an Associate Neighbourhood Gardener - part of a team led by BBC Neighbourhood Gardeners but not undertaking any training

After completing the training, Neighbourhood Gardeners will need to commit 100 hours a year to retain their badge.

Regional and centre Coordinators, local Advisory Teams and, in time, BBC Neighbourhood Gardeners themselves, will choose and start up projects that meet the BBC Neighbourhood Gardener criteria. All centres

have a set of criteria for Neighbourhood Gardener projects, but these are examples of the types of projects that are being done:

- * ask-a-BBC-Neighbourhood-Gardener information booths visiting local parks and shows with tips and advice
- * BBC Neighbourhood Gardener workshops where amateur gardeners can improve their horticultural skills & learn from BBC Neighbourhood Gardeners
- * a BBC Neighbourhood Gardener primary school advice team with special insights into learning through gardening
- * BBC Neighbourhood Gardeners on local estates - working with local estate residents to enrich and improve their green spaces and passing on knowledge and skills so that the estate can continue looking good

This exciting new program is a tribute to the success of Master Gardener programs such as ours in Illinois. Wouldn't it be great to learn about volunteer projects and gardening in the UK? What a field trip that would be! Check out the BBC website for success stories from this exciting new program: www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/neighbourhood_gardener

New Turf Pocket ID Booklet from University of Illinois

Diane Pederson and Tom Voigt have crafted a pocket ID booklet that can help you identify weedy grass problems in your turf. *C1393 Identifying Turf and Weedy Grasses in the North-Central United States* is a 3.5 inch x 5 inch, 64-page booklet that shows 23 turfgrasses and grassy weeds. C1393 includes a convenient key to grasses and illustrations of grass morphology. Each grass or weedy grass has text descriptions and 4 to 5 full-color photos to aid in identification. A preview of the publication can be seen at <http://www.aces.uiuc.edu/ITCS/IM/C1393.htm>.

Delivery of the publication is expected by Thanksgiving, but the price has yet to be determined. For more information, contact Ken McPheeters (kmcpheet@uiuc.edu) or Molly Bentsen (bentsen@uiuc.edu) of Information Technology and Communication Services, University of Illinois.



Herbaceous Perennials for Sun: Identification, Culture & Garden Attributes

A New Online Program for Master Gardeners, Landscapers, and Horticulturists

Herbaceous Perennials for Sun is an innovative, interactive online program developed with Allan Armitage, one of the world's foremost gardening experts on perennials for all growing zones. The program features in-depth information for more than 100 outstanding herbaceous perennials belonging to 24 genera that prefer more than 6 hours of sunlight a day. It teaches you how to make informed decisions that will help you design, select and grow sun-loving perennials in your garden.

An interactive, online program teaches you to identify the plant family, genus, species, variety and cultivar. You will also learn how to identify growing conditions and propagation types as well as interesting facts about each plant, its history and more. Participants' complete online learning activities that help you practice what you learn and then apply it in your own gardens.

Print and electronic resources support learning objectives. Armitage's excellent reference book, *Herbaceous Perennial Plants: A Treatise on Their Identification, Culture, and Garden Attributes* (2nd Edition) is required (and included in registration) for participating in the program and is a wonderful addition to any gardener's library. Several of Armitage's other resources, including an online plant reference database, are suggested for purchase through our Web site, but they are not required for completing the program.

Once you've completed the *Herbaceous Perennials for Sun*, we encourage you sign up for the *Herbaceous Perennials for Shade* because almost everyone's garden has sunny and shady areas that are ideal for planting. The program teaches you about nearly 100 of the most desirable herbaceous perennials belonging to 20 genera that can tolerate or require partial shade to thrive and produce beautiful plants and flowers.

Summary of Herbaceous Perennials for Sun On-line Program

The program fee is \$125.00. The following benefits are included:

- *Herbaceous Perennial Plants: A Treatise on their Identification, Culture, and Garden Attributes*, 2nd Ed. by Allan M. Armitage (1141 pages)
- Access to the interactive, online program until August 11, 2006.
- Access to a community of gardeners and gardening experts through the Gardening Institute's online discussion board.
- One-year subscription to the AHS' magazine, *The American Gardener*.
- One-year AHS membership.
- Horticulture Gardening Institute's electronic newsletter.
- Illinois Master Gardeners will receive 10 educational hours for completion of program.

Herbaceous Perennials for Shade Online Program will be available beginning August 14, 2006.
Register now for both programs and save --only \$175 for both!

Herbaceous Perennials for Sun: Identification, Culture and Garden Attributes

Registration Form

Participants must have a valid e-mail account and access to the internet.
Registration Deadline: January 9, 2006

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ - _____
(Area Code)

Are you a Master Gardener? ____ No ____ Yes _____
(What county?)

I am Registering for:

- \$125 Perennials for Sun Only
- \$175 Perennials for Sun and Pre-Registering for
Perennials for Shade

Make checks payable to **University of Illinois**. Credit card payment is not available.

Please complete one form for each participant and return it along with your payment to:

Monica David

Illinois Master Gardener Coordinator
1007 Plant Sciences Lab
1201 S. Dornier Drive
Urbana, IL. 61801



If you have questions, please contact Monica David at 217-265-5256.

Herb Day Announced for January 21

Chuck Voigt has announced that Herb Day 2006 will be held again at the Urbana Holiday Inn this coming January 21. The educational program format, retail area, and lunch will be the handled the same as in past years.

Program highlights will include two talks by talented herb and gardening author **Sharon Lovejoy**. Sharon is a past president of the International Herb Association, who now splits her time between her long-time California home and a cottage on the Maine coast.

Pat Lanza, author of the popular gardening book, *Lasagna Gardening*, will speak about her most recent publication, *Lasagna Herb Gardening*.

Back by popular demand, our favorite herbal cooking author, **Susan Belsinger** will again cook up an herbal storm. The focus this year will be *Just Desserts*, which just happens to coincide with her most recently published book.

Last, but far from least, **Carolee Snyder**, of Hartford City, Indiana, and owner of Carolee's Herb Farm, will take us on an herb garden tour of England. She is also involved with the host committee for the Herb Society of America's annual conference, which will be held this coming June in Indianapolis. Check with her for details.

Last year, the retail area space was sold out and filled to overflowing, so expect a good variety of booths and products again this time. Beat the winter gardening blues and join us in Urbana for another day of herbal enjoyment!

Past attendees will receive a full mailing about the event, including registration forms by mid-November. People may register and reserve lunch at any time through January 13, as long as space remains available. Registrations will be allotted on a first come, first served basis, so reserve now. Once the available 250 spaces are filled, we will begin returning registration checks. On-site registration will only be available if all 250 seats are not filled by pre-registration. Notice of receipt of registration will not be sent, but you may confirm that your registration has been recorded by contacting Carol Preston, either by phone at (217) 333-7738 or e-mail: preston1@uiuc.edu

Cost of registration, including lunch, is only \$49 per person. This includes seating in the lectures, coffee and tea during morning registration, an herbal theme lunch buffet (including vegetarian options), and access to the retail area. A vegan plate is available, but only if specified on the registration form.

Reservations must be received no later than January 13, 2006, to guarantee lunch. Registration after this date will also cost \$49, but will not include lunch. Those interested in attending should mail checks, payable to the **University of Illinois**, to: **Herb Day 2006**, Attn: Carol Preston, S-406 Turner Hall, 1102 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana, Illinois 61801.

For more information, call (217) 333-7738 or e-mail preston1@uiuc.edu and mention **Herb Day 2006**. Sorry, credit card orders cannot be accepted, and cancellations will not be refunded. Registrations may be transferred to another individual, as long as Carol is notified of the name change by January 13.

Chicago MG Wins Mayor Daley Landscape Award

The City of Chicago Department of Environment has announced the winners of the 2005 Mayor Daley's Landscape Awards Program. University of Illinois Extension Cook County Master Gardener MaryAnne Spinner was awarded First Place in the Rooftop Gardens, City Wide category, for her container garden built atop a garage. MaryAnne is a member of the Class of 2003, having completed the Master Gardener program online. Her award-winning entry was inspired by the legendary Hanging Gardens of Babylon, blending tiers of annuals, exotic tropicals, and flowering vines into a lush wall of jungle vegetation.

Mayor Daley's Landscape Awards is an annual program that recognizes Chicagoans who help make the city green through their environmental beautification efforts. The program is open to individuals and businesses located in Chicago, and has twelve categories: Commercial Landscapes, Container Gardens, Interior-scapes, Naturalized Landscapes, Public Institutions, Rooftop Gardens, Vegetable Gardens, Window Boxes, Community Landscapes, Multi-unit Residential Landscapes, Schools, and Single Family Residential Landscapes. The 2005 awards will be presented personally by the Mayor on November 5th, at the Garfield Park Conservatory in Chicago.

Illinois Master Gardener Gardening Tour Offered for 2006

The State Master Gardener office will be offering a garden trip to the Pacific Northwest for summer 2006. The trip will feature outstanding public and private gardens in Oregon, Washington and Vancouver Island, British Columbia. The tentative itinerary includes the Portland Rose and Japanese Gardens; Lakewold Gardens in Lakewold, Washington; The Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island; Butchart Gardens; the Van Dusen Botanical Gardens in Vancouver and much more. Join Monica David, State Coordinator, Ken McPheeters, ITCS Instructional Support Team Leader and Robyn Gulstrom from Travel House Tours as they escort you to some of the premier gardens in the United States and Canada. The complete itinerary, trip costs and dates will be available in late November. Please email or call Monica David for the trip details— modavid@uiuc.edu or 217-265-5256.

Spotlight on Sangamon-Menard Unit Master Gardeners

Sangamon and Menard counties are proud to have 115 active Master Gardeners and interns are involved in providing horticulture education to adults and youth.

Sangamon-Menard Master Gardeners participate in a variety of volunteer opportunities. Here are a few highlights:

All of our Master Gardeners are encouraged to answer home gardening questions. In 2004, we were pleased to answer 1,191 questions.

Located in front of our Extension building on the Illinois State Fairgrounds is our 5,000 square foot Demonstration gardens. Master Gardeners take great pride tending to three separate gardens: Herb Garden, Perennial Garden and an Identification garden of flowers found throughout the fairgrounds. We focus on educating the public through creating handouts used for self-guided walking tours and monthly programs in the garden. During the Illinois State Fair Master Gardeners are in the gardens each day to give programs and answer fairgoers questions.

Sangamon-Menard Master Gardeners are dedicated to

spreading the word about the need for fresh vegetable and fruit donations to combat hunger. The Plant a Row for the Hungry (PAR) committee promotes PAR, maintains three dedicated gardens and hosts Saturday produce collection sites. Last year, committee members helped collect more than 34,940 pounds of fresh produce for the Central IL Foodbank.



Six of our Master Gardeners have become 4-H leaders and provide direction to three Junior Master Gardener_{sm}(JMG) groups. Fifteen youth participating in the program have become certified Junior Master Gardeners_{sm}. This year the “Smart Seed,” JMG_{sm} group, with the guidance of a landscape designer, designed and installed a garden area at their newly remodeled Springfield Ball Charter School.

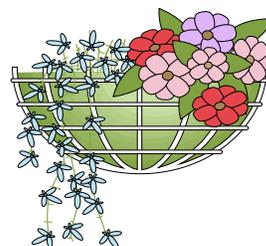
From spring to fall, Master Gardeners work with youth in the vegetable gardens at the Sangamon County Juvenile Detention Center. This program, started in spring of 2002, creates a means for youth involved in the Center’s after school reporting program to participate in a hands on activity that allows them to learn valuable life-long skills. Since the program’s inception, Master Gardeners and youth built twelve 8’ by 8’ raised beds, and a covered foot-bridge, and grow bushels of fresh vegetables and fruit.

Several Master Gardeners enjoy sharing their garden knowledge with residents of two local nursing homes. Master Gardeners work side by side with residents to plant and maintain flower and vegetable gardens.

We are proud to be University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners and we enjoy sharing our passion for gardening with members of our community.

Jennifer Fishburn

Horticulture Educator— Sangamon-Menard Unit



Horticultural Distance Learning thru Cornell University

The Hort Department of Cornell University is pleased to announce two online courses for gardeners. Each course is 8-10 weeks long and takes place entirely online—no campus visit is necessary. The courses have an interactive component that stimulates learning as well as a set of labs to be done at home—whether grafting hibiscus at your kitchen table, studying the structure of your garden soil or propagating plants around your home. The courses do not carry college credit. Further course information and registration can be found at <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/hortdl/>.

Organic Gardening

January 16 to March 12, 2006 - \$250

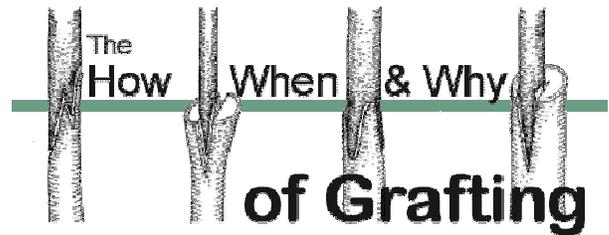
In response to strong interest from gardeners across the country, the Organic Gardening course was developed to help experienced gardeners broaden their understanding of organic techniques for all kinds of gardens. The course covers one topic during each of the 8 weeks, including vegetables, fruits, flowers and ornamentals, and lawns.

With a strong foundation in soil health and its impact on plant health, we then explore tried-and-true and cutting-edge techniques for all different kinds of garden plants – annuals and perennials, food plants and ornamentals. Students will come away with a greater understanding of systems thinking as it applies to organically managed land.

This course is aimed at those with some basic gardening experience. It includes a number of hands-on activities as well as a group discussion board, quizzes, and readings. Through online discussion students share their experiences and contribute to everyone's learning experience.

Course syllabus:

1. Introduction: What is Organic Gardening?
2. Your Garden Site
3. Soil, Compost, and Mulch
4. Managing Pests Organically
5. Vegetables and Flowers: Planning and Early Season
6. Vegetables and Flowers: Mid-Season and Harvest
7. Trees, Shrubs, and Herbaceous Perennials: The Long-Term Landscape
8. Organic Lawn Care
9. Advanced Topics for the Adventurous Gardener



How, When and Why of Grafting

March 13 to May 21, 2006 - \$300

Now in its 6th year, the How When & Why of Grafting is the original online horticultural course that pioneered the combination of hands-on experience and online learning at home.

Students receive four hibiscus plants, a CD with short demonstration video clips, and all the grafting supplies needed to learn three grafting and budding methods.

In addition to the hands-on experiences, students get an in-depth understanding of the history, biology, and horticultural applications that make grafting an important component of modern horticulture. The course emphasizes interactive learning with instructors and fellow students via the online discussion board.

Course topics:

- Requirements for Successful Grafting & Budding
- History of Grafting & Budding
- Reasons for Grafting & Budding
- Rootstocks
- Compatibility
- Anatomy & Physiology of Grafting Union Formation
- Lab exercises-
 - Top Wedge Grafting of Hibiscus
 - Budding of Hibiscus
 - Chip budding of Hibiscus
- Specific crop propagation systems-
 - Apple
 - Top Wedge Grafting of Avocado
 - T-budding of Citrus

Four-Seasons Gardening Telenets Win State Award

The Hort Telenet Series recently received the University of Illinois Extension team award for outstanding or innovative program. The award was presented at the 2005 annual awards banquet in Springfield on October 19th. Using TeleNet-Latitude bridge Teleconferencing and CD-rom projection, three up-to-date programs were offered each season Fall 2002 thru the present. Total contact to date exceeds 9,100. Members of the team honored at the banquet include: team leader– Martha Smith, David Robson, Duane Friend, Susan Grupp, Ron Wolford, Jim Schmidt, Sandy Mason, Sharon Yiesla, Jim Schuster, Monica David, Charlie Clark, John Tubbs, Barb Bates, Scott Bretthausen, Greg Stack, Dave Shiley and Elizabeth Wahle. Jim Schuster was also honored at the banquet for 35 years of service to Illinois Extension. Way to go Jim!

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Edited by

Monica David

Illinois Master Gardener Coordinator

University of Illinois Extension

1201 S. Dorner Drive

Urbana, IL. 61801

217-265-5256

modavid@uiuc.edu

Website: www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg/

Visit the Illinois Master Gardener website: <http://www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg>



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Department of Natural Resources and
Environmental Sciences
1201 S. Dorner Drive
Urbana, IL. 61801

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