The Crosby Arboretum

Mississippi State University Extension Service

Quarterly News Journal

Fall 2018

32.4

NATIVES, CULTIVARS, or NATIVARS - Which is best to use in sustainable landscapes?

What is the definition of a native plant? In North America, it is one that was found in a specific region of the continent before the first Europeans arrived. The closer a plant's range is located to your region, the more adapted it is to living in your area. Seeds of native plants usually produce similar plants that result in the natural genetic biodiversity needed to continue the species.

A cultivar is any plant variety that results when horticulturists or plant enthusiasts artificially/selectively breed a variety of plant, usually for a specific trait such as flower color or growth habit. These cultivars usually must be reproduced vegetatively to maintain the desired trait by tissue culture, cuttings or grafts, thus creating "clones" that may have no way to adapt to changing conditions such as disease, predation or changes in temperatures or rainfall. Cultivars are identified by a genus and species name followed by the cultivar name in single quotes or preceded by the initials cv. For example, a common cultivar that everyone is probably familiar with is the Owari Satsuma, Citrus unshiu cv. Owari or Citris unshiu 'Owari', which originated in China.

A nativar is a cultivar of a species native to your defined region. For example, a nativar of our local Pecan Tree is *Carya illinoinensis* cv. Western or *Carya illinoinensis* 'Western'. Many nativars appear to be suitable to your region but may in fact be adapted to other areas of the country and may not perform as they should in your region. Although nativars may sound like a good choice for your sustainable habitat, in fact, they may cause problems for many of the animal pollinators that are dependent on them.



Transplanting (with permission, of course) from existing, at risk wild populations such as this patch of Rudbeckia in the ditch at Hillside Bog Natural area, preserves local biodiversity.





Example: Clethera alnifolia (L) is a white-blooming native shrub. 'Ruby Spice' (R) is a pink-flowering C. alnifolia nativar. (White bloom image, www.southeasternflora.com)

Almost nine out of ten of the earth's plants (including many of your favorite fruits and vegetables) are dependent on pollinators to reproduce. Many of the pollinators are specialized and require specific native plants to host their larval stages and to provide them with the pollen and the nectar necessary for their adult stage.

Pollinators recognize the plants that provide them with the resources they need through a variety of cues: flower color, chemical scent, flower shape, etc. When horticulturists and plant enthusiasts select for plant characteristics that humans prefer, they may be unknowingly making the plant unsuitable for the pollinators that depend on them. For example, the resulting flowers may be shaped in such a way that the pollinators can't reach the nectar, or the color may no longer be attractive to the pollinators. More studies are needed to identify these potential impacts.

It is not hard to deduct that because of the uncertainties associated with substituting nativars for natives, the preferred species for your sustainable landscape should be those that are native to your region. By planting natives, you can be assured that you are helping to maintain the area's natural biodiversity. Therefore, as a precaution, because "The Crosby Arboretum is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to educating the public about their environment by: Preserving, protecting, and displaying plants native to the Pearl River Drainage Basin in Mississippi and Louisiana..." all upcoming plants sales at the Arboretum will feature species that are native to Mississippi and/or southeast Louisiana and that are propagated from regionally-sourced seeds whenever feasible.

- Jennifer Buchanan, Senior Curator The Crosby Arboretum, MSU Extension Service



The Crosby Arboretum Mississippi State University

A regional arboretum representing the native flora of the Pearl River Drainage Basin in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Picayune, Mississippi, USA

Director's Notebook:

We're pleased to have just finished planning one of our most active seasons ever, which includes many family-friendly events and programs. You will enjoy spending time here this fall, immersed in and learning about our natural world. We've even added add an extra two pages to our Program Calendar to contain them all! Everyone has pitched in this season to offer you these outstanding activities. Kim Johnson will be leading numerous children's craft workshops, aimed to spark your child's imagination and creativity. Some craft programs are being offered during the week to appeal to young and homeschooling families to allow them opportunities for interacting with one another. Kim has also revitalized a past event, a scarecrow display along our pathways, involving community members - families, clubs, and businesses. Sherri Lowe has created a new event, "Story Time at the Arboretum", and is coordinating October's dog-friendly "Family Pawz Day", in partnership with the Pearl River County SPCA. So much is happening at the Arboretum! Water is now flowing to the benches in our greenhouse, thanks to a recent renovation project. Thanks are extended to all our volunteers for their continued support, including the Pollinator Garden, which is looking fantastic! U.S. Navy volunteers have recently painted our front gates, and kiosks, for their community service projects. New site signage will be installed this fall at our interstate frontage, service entrance, and along Ridge Road. Funding for the signs is being made possible through the 2017 annual appeal to members and a Heritage Grant received by the Arboretum Foundation from Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area (MGCNHA) and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR). New signage and a site map are also planned for installation in the ticket booth area, to orient arriving visitors and provide clear directions to the visitor center. Finally, a brand new format for our programs and events will be made available this fall on our website, so make sure and check this out soon!

> - Patricia Drackett, Director The Crosby Arboretum, MSU Extension Service



Creative Services Producer Corey Hudson from WLOX-TV visited in August with his crew to gather information and to shoot drone footage for a Gulf Coast Weekend profile of The Crosby Arboretum.



This summer, fifteen persons, including Arboretum staff and volunteers, received Certified Interpretive Guide training through a Gulf Coast National Heritage Area (MGCNHA) grant.

THE CURATOR'S CORNER:

This past year, as a result of a grant that the Crosby Arboretum Foundation received from the Mississippi Gulf Coast National Heritage Area (MGCNHA) and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), the Arboretum in partnership with the Foundation has been able to enhance several of our events and attract more participants. "The MGCNHA is a partnership of communities, businesses, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and individuals who value the region's rich cultural and environmental diversity, history, natural beauty, and traditions." (http://msgulfcoastheritage.ms.gov) The grant began last year and is beginning to wind down as we approach the fall. Last month, several of the volunteers and staff members from the Arboretum along with representatives from many of the MGCNHA partners, were trained to be Certified Interpretive Guides (CIG) through the National Association for Interpretation with this funding at the Arboretum. "The CIG training is designed for anyone who delivers interpretive programs to the public. It combines both the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors." (www.interpnet.com). Graduates of the training returned to their organizations with new skills and a greater level of confidence for making public presentations. The final component of the grant is about to get underway, an oral history project designed to document stories from our community elders that reflect on the years before the Arboretum came into existence. If you or someone you know would like to be interviewed as part of this project, please call me at 601-799-2311 regular during business hours or email me at Jennifer.buchanan@msstate.edu to sign up. We can come to you, or you can come to the Arboretum to make your recording. If you grew up in Picayune or its nearby communities, we would love to document your stories!

> - Jennifer Buchanan, Senior Curator The Crosby Arboretum, MSU Extension Service



The Crosby Arboretum Mississippi State University

A regional arboretum representing the native flora of the Pearl River Drainage Basin in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Picayune, Mississippi, USA

CROSBY ARBORETUM MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES RECIPROCAL ADMISSION TO OVER 300 U.S. PUBLIC GARDENS

If you will be traveling over the holidays, remember that your membership includes free or reduced admission to over 300 public gardens through the **American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program**. Simply show your Crosby Arboretum membership card upon entry to the garden. See **www.ahsgardening.org/rap** for information on the program. Download a PDF of the state-by-state list of gardens here.

Nearby gardens you can visit include New Orleans Botanical Gardens, Longue Vue House & Gardens in New Orleans, LSU Ag Center Botanic Gardens at Burden in Baton Rouge, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Mobile Botanical Gardens, Cheekwood Estate & Gardens in Nashville, Memphis Botanic Garden, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, and the Atlanta History Center (exhibits include a native garden in an old quarry!)



Volunteer Coordinator Mary Donahue enjoyed her visit to **Desert Botanical Garden** in Phoenix, Arizona this year.



Master Gardener Amy Nichols said **Harry P. Leu Gardens'** butterfly garden in Orlando was the favorite one she's visited!



Amy Nichols also visited **Bok Tower Gardens** in Lake Wales, FL.

Do you have photos taken when you visited another public garden through the **AHS Reciprocal Membership Program?** We'd like to feature your pictures in a future news journal or possibly a travelogue program! Please send your photos to pat.drackett@msstate.edu.



Atlanta Botanical Gardens is an outstanding horticultural destination. Amy Nichols, who took this photo, would agree!



MISSISSIPPI SMART LANDSCAPES WELCOMES GARDEN/LANDCAPE PHOTOS

The new MSU Extension program, **Smart Landscapes**, is looking for photographs of Mississippi landscapes and gardens that illustrate successful sustainable landscaping and/or maintenance practices. Pictures may be used in Smart Landscapes website or in presentations. Please submit your photos to pat.drackett@msstate.edu.

For more information about the Extension program, see: http://extension.msstate.edu/smartlandscapes

SWAMP MILKWEED (A. incarnata) IN THE POLLINATOR GARDEN





During the Arboretum's August pollinator plants sale, a number of shoppers reported that their swamp milkweed (Asclepias incarnata) was performing outstandingly well this year, both grown from seed and from plants purchased from the Arboretum, and it had grown as tall as 5 to 6 feet in a year! However, we also learned of several instances where people had an explosion of monarch caterpillars but way too little available milkweed. If you hope to attract monarchs to lay eggs in your garden, remember that when they hatch they will be hungry. So, plant lots of milkweed! We're now in our third year of milkweed trials with Scott Langlois, facility manager at the Poplarville South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station. These results will be summarized in a poster presentation at the experiment station's Ornamental Horticulture Field Day on Thursday, October 4. You'll enjoy this fun and very informative event.

WHAT'S IN BLOOM - FALL SELECTIONS:

Honeycombhead, Balduina uniflora, yellow
Dense Blazing Star, Liatris spicata, purple
Boneset, Eupatorium perfoliatum, white
Chaffhead, Carphephorus pseudoliatris, purple
American Crinum Lily, Crinum americanum, white
Deer's Tongue, Carphephorus odoratissimus, purple
Heath Aster, Symphyotrichum pilosum, white
Southern Blazing Star, Liatris squarrulosa, purple
Meadow Beauty, Rhexia alifanus, pinks
Pickerel Weed, Pontederia cordata, purple
Pinelands Hibiscus, Hibiscus aculeatus, white
St.John's Wort, Hypericum brachyphyllum, yellow
Swamp Sunflower, Helianthus angustifolus, yellows
Sugarcane Plumegrass, Saccharum giganteum, tan plumes

If you've been considering volunteering at the Arboretum, we have many opportunities. No amount of time is too small, and we are sincerely grateful for any assistance.

The News Journal is a quarterly publication of The Crosby Arboretum, Mississippi State University Extension Service. A news journal subscription is included with an annual membership to the Arboretum.

Please send correspondence to: pat.drackett@msstate.edu Patricia Drackett, Editor, The Crosby Arboretum P.O. Box 1639, Picayune, MS 39466

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.

Membership Application All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed. For

more information call: (601) 799-2311 or prin	t for	m online
Student (send copy of student ID)	\$	15.00
Individual		30.00
Family		40.00
Donor		100.00
Patron		250.00
Benefactor	1	,000.00
Business		
Sweetgum		100.00
Sassafras		250.00
Live Oak		500.00
Bigleaf Magnolia	1.	00.00

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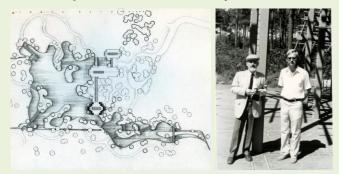
The Crosby Arboretum Mississippi State University P.O. Box 1639 Picayune, MS 39466-1639

Name			
Address			
City			
State	Zin	Phone	

Renewing? Memberships are for one year.

September – October 2018

Our Fall Gallery Exhibit: History and Development of The Crosby Arboretum



On display in the Gallery this season will be a selection of photographs, awards, and graphics spanning the early years of the Arboretum's planning and development to the present day, including designs prepared by Mississippi State University landscape architecture students for our recent educational exhibits, the Gum Pond and Swamp Forest. Exhibit will be on display through November 30.

ALL ABOUT HUMMINGBIRDS

Saturday, September 1, Choose from either 9:30 to 10:30, or 11:00 to Noon

Long-time hummingbird bander **James Bell** will reveal how you can fill your yard with hummingbirds! Learn what is going on in the hummingbird's life, how they feed, why they fight so much, and simple tips and tricks to attract them, giving you a chance to enjoy the beauty of one of nature's most dazzling creations. Suited to ages 8 and up. Members free, non-member adults \$5, children \$2. Please call to register by August 31.



STORY TIME AT THE ARBORETUM

Saturday, September 1 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Image Source: https://etc.usf.edu/

Children will enjoy listening to a story in the beautiful natural setting of the Crosby Arboretum. (In case of inclement weather, the program will take place indoors.) The month of September will feature **Kristina Davis** from The Teddy Bear Museum. Stay tuned, as more Story Time dates and times will be announced at a later date. Members' children free, nonmembers' children \$2. Children must be accompanied by parent or guardian (no charge for adults). Reservations are requested. Please call to register by August 31.





Late summer brought beautiful blooms, including pine lilies (Lilium catesbaei, left) in the Savanna Exhibit, and Carolina lilies (Lilium michauxii) growing in the dappled shade of woods belonging to Crosby Arboretum members John and Gwen Grant.

WANTED: SCARECROWS! For The Crosby Arboretum Pathways



For families, groups and businesses! Construct a scarecrow(s) to display on the trails during September, October and November. Scarecrows must be family-oriented and non-offensive. **Submission deadline is September 9.** A sign recognizing your family, club, or business may be included. Contact Kim Johnson at kim.johnson@msstate.edu or call the office for more information. Arboretum visitors will vote on "The Best Scarecrow". Winner will be mentioned in our news journal and receive a day pass for the business or family.

KIDS' CRAFT WORKSHOP: SOCK CATERPILLARS

Saturday, September 8 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Program will be led by Arboretum staff member **Kim Johnson**. As children must be accompanied by an adult, there is no minimum age requirement. Space is limited, reservations requested. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6 (no charge for adults).

PIRATES & PRINCESSES TEA PARTY

Saturday, September 15 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Children will enjoy craft time, drinks, and food, and helping to locate the TREASURE filled with party favors! Members and members' children \$2, Non-members' and non-members' children \$4. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Space is limited and reservations are required. Please call to register as soon as possible.

September – October 2018

KIDS' CRAFT WORKSHOP: MY BUG JAR

Sunday, September 16 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Prepare for our upcoming BugFest, and create a personalized collecting jar to bring to the event! Program will be led by Arboretum staff member **Kim Johnson**. All materials provided. As children must be accompanied by an adult, there is no minimum age requirement. Space is limited, reservations requested. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6 (no charge for adults). Please call to register by September 15.



FRIDAY, Sept. 21, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Field Day for School and Homeschool Groups

6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Blacklighting for Bugs After Dark Field Adventure (All Ages)

SATURDAY, Sept. 22, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Field Day for All Ages)

Explore the world of entomology with insect collecting, identification, and more, with Extension Entomologists **Dr. John Guyton**, along with professors and students from the MSU Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Entomology and Plant Pathology Department! School groups will enjoy a Friday field day, and the evening will offer "Black Lighting for Bugs" night-collecting activities (bring your flashlight!). Explore a Buggy Midway with entomology-based children's crafts from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. **The New Orleans Audubon Zoo's Bugmobile** presents from 10 a.m. until Noon on Saturday morning! **Costs:** Friday School Field Day, students \$2; no charge for teachers or chaperones (groups must call ahead and be assigned an arrival time). Friday evening and Saturday admission, \$5 for adults, \$2

KIDS' CRAFT WORKSHOP: SOCK CATERPILLARS

Thursday, September 27 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Program will be led by Arboretum staff member **Kim Johnson**. All materials provided. There is no minimum age requirement, as children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, reservations requested. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6 (no charge for adults). Please call 601-799-2311 to register as soon as possible.



Colorful fly agaric mushrooms (Amanita muscari) are often spotted along the Arboretum pathways in the fall and winter.

MUSHROOM FIELD WALK!

Saturday, September 29 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Join **Dr. Juan Mata** for a guided mushroom walk of the Arboretum. Learn about fungi's fascinating ecology, taxonomy, and relationship to mankind. A knife, gloves, and basket or bag are helpful for collecting, but are not necessary. Reservations requested. Members free; non-members \$5. Please register

The Fall Native Plant Sale



October 5 & 6 (Fri/Sat), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Members enter each day at 9:00 a.m.

Grab your cart and choose from an outstanding selection of native plants at this sale that is focused on woody trees and shrubs for your fall planting projects. Knowledgeable staff and volunteers, and Mississippi Master Gardeners will assist you with your plant questions and provide advice on plant selections for your property. *Free* site admission. Plant sale will be held in Greenhouse area. Use Service Road.

October - November 2018



FALL FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 6, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Jim DelPrince, MSU Extension Floral Specialist, will present a demonstration of contemporary designs using south Mississippi native, coastal floral, and foliage materials. The designs will celebrate the beauty of the fall season. DelPrince is a member of the American Institute of Floral Designers and heads the MSU Extension Master Floral Design Program. Limited to 10 persons. Participants just need to bring scissors and pruners. Reservations required. Cost is \$20 for members and \$25 non-members. Please register early.

KIDS' CRAFTS: BOOKMARKS & DOOR HANGERS

Sunday, October 7, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

This workshop will be led by Arboretum staff member **Kim Johnson**. All materials provided. There is no minimum age requirement, as children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, reservations requested. Please register by October 6. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6 (no charge for adults).

BEEKEEPING FOR BEGINNERS

Friday, October 19, 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Bees and gardens go hand in hand! Pearl River County
Extension Agent Dr. Eddie Smith will provide an
introduction to how to get started with beekeeping, covering
native plants for bees, basic biology, equipment, protective
gear, mistakes and tips, how to grow your first colony of
bees, and manage them throughout the year. Program free to
members; \$5 for non-members. Register by October 18.

KIDS' CRAFTS: EXPLORING CLAY

Sunday, October 26, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. This workshop will be led by Arboretum staff member Kim Johnson. There is no minimum age requirement, as children must be accompanied by an adult. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6 (no charge for adults). Space is limited, reservations requested. Register by October 25.

The Crosby Arboretum & The Pearl River County SPCA

Invite you to:

Family PAWZ Day!

Saturday, October 27, 2018 10AM - 2PM

Admission: \$5 Adults; \$4 Senior/Military \$2 children 12 & Under

Adoptions, Doggie FASHION SHOW, Face Painting, Doggie Poker Run, Bake Sale, Doggie Goodie Bags, Dog Activities, Kids' Crafts, Music, Personalized Collars/Harness/Bandanas (Purchase, or bring your own!)

FOREST BATHING WORKSHOP



Saturday, November 3, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Discover how to increase your health and well-being by connecting with nature at a deeper level. Join Nature Mindfulness Facilitator **Nadine Phillips** to learn about forest bathing and other techniques to help you relate to the natural world more consciously. The forest therapy of Shinrin-yoku was developed in Japan during the 1980s and has become a cornerstone of preventive health care and healing in Japanese medicine. Shinrin in Japanese means "forest," and yoku means "bath." So shinrin-yoku means bathing in the forest atmosphere. Limit 12 persons. Reservations required. Cost \$20 for members; non-members \$25. Please register early.

YOGA AT PINECOTE PAVILION

Saturday, November 3, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
Join certified yoga instructor James Sones in a beautiful natural setting for a gentle yoga class and short meditation.
Class size is limited to 16. Yoga mats provided, or bring your own. Arrive 10 minutes early. Members free, \$5 nonmembers. Reservations requested. Register by November 2.

November 2018

16[™] ANNUAL PINEY WOODS HERITAGE FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, Nov. 9, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Living history presentation on Pinecote Pavilion

SATURDAY, Nov. 10, 10:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Exhibitors, music, and demonstrations

This annual celebration of the early days of the Piney Woods begins on Friday evening with a living history presentation. Meet **Fannye Cooke**, Mississippi's pioneering conservationist and scientist, as portrayed by Dr. Cathy Shropshire! Saturday's festivities feature musical performances and exhibitors with demonstrations and displays of traditional skills and crafts such as blacksmithing, quilting, spinning, basket-making, and more. Saturday admission, adults \$5, children \$2. Free entry for Arboretum members.

KIDS' CRAFTS: PINECONES & TREE COOKIES

Friday, November 16 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

This kids' craft workshop will be led by Arboretum staff member **Kim Johnson**. All materials provided. There is no minimum age requirement, as children must be accompanied by an adult.. Space is limited, reservations requested. Please register by November 15. Members' children \$4; nonmembers' children \$6 (no charge for adults).

KIDS' CRAFTS: PINECONES & TREE COOKIES

Sunday, November 18 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

This workshop will be led by Arboretum staff member **Kim Johnson**. All materials are provided. There is no minimum age requirement, as children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, reservations requested. Please register by November 17. Members' children \$4; non-members' children \$6 (no charge for adults).







www.crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu

Remember that one of the many benefits of your Crosby Arboretum membership is having lending privileges to our Library, filled with books on native plants, gardening, Mississippi culture and history, and much, much more!



FIELD WORKSHOP: NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

Saturday, November 17

9:00 a.m. to Noon

Join **Diana Thornton** to explore Crosby Arboretum for a gentle nature photography walk. You will learn landscape, wildlife, and macro photography, and work on exposure settings, creative imagery, and finding your "eye". Basic DSLR knowledge required. Required: DSLR camera, extra batteries and memory cards, comfortable walking shoes, poncho in case of rain, bug spray, water, backpack or other way to carry your equipment easily on the trail. Recommended but not necessary: Tripod (small and light to bring on the trail unless you want to hire a sherpa), various lenses – i.e. macro, zoom, etc. (if you don't have any others, Diane will show you how to work with the lens you have). Limit of 10 persons. Reservations required. Cost is \$20 for members; \$25 for non-members. Register early.

MONARCHS, MILKWEED, AND NECTAR PLANTS FOR THE GULF COAST REGION

Saturday, November 17, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Amy Nichols, a passionate Monarch butterfly enthusiast, Mississippi Native Plant Society member, and Pearl River Master Gardener will discuss the life cycle of Monarch butterflies, their migration, and the native milkweeds that support their larval (caterpillar) stage, as well as the importance of including spring and fall nectar plants in your Gulf Coast garden to support adult monarch butterflies. Reservations requested. Please register by November 16.

Reservations: Call the Arboretum office at (601) 799-231. **Physical Address:** 370 Ridge Road, Picayune, MS 39466. **Hours:** Wed-Sun, 9 AM – 5 PM.

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