

Green Thumb Prints

Newsletter of the Hancock County
Master Gardener Volunteers



January 2012

*Gardening is our Passion
Education is our Purpose*



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- **A Rose that glows—by Bob Campbell**
- **Salt (Road, not Table)**
- **Updated fact sheets**
- **Kudzu**
- **Photos of us!**

Dates to Remember!

NOTE: There will be NO JANUARY MGV MONTHLY MEETING.

Next monthly meeting will be **Thursday, February 9th**, at the Extension Office, 7:00 pm.

Reminder: If you haven't done so yet, turn in your hours to Linda Dyar.

Enjoy those seed catalogs that come in the mail!



Upcoming Events!

Saturday, March 17: Persuading perennials, Norwalk high school, 9:00—12:30, \$15 fee. More info to be available.

Coordinator's Corner

By Marilyn Beltz

Hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year. As for the ball drop, I usually tape and watch it the next morning!!!!!!! Getting old I guess.

The seed catalogs are arriving almost daily and I am getting excited to try some new things this year. I'm always hopeful it will be better than the year before.

Our next big event will be the Leisure Living show and it is the bicentennial year for Findlay, so start thinking of ideas that we as Master Gardeners can contribute. I will be needing volunteers.

See you in February!

WREATH MAKING CLASSES— Here are a few of the many helpers!



"A Rose That Glows"

- by Bob Campbell

As you ponder the flower catalogues this winter, especially if you are a rose lover, you might want to look for the rose, 'Grande Dame'. I found it last year in *Edmunds' Roses*.

I had moved a *Clematis* 'Jackmanii' vine to the garden fence near where the gate opens. The clematis had shown little interest in flowering for the last five years. So I thought a change might do it good.

To create more interest, I wanted a rose in the foreground (or background, depending on which side of the fence you're on!). I thought a variation on red might blend well with the blue/purple of the clematis. I was also looking for vigorous grower as the fence is on the north side of the house where its exposure to sun is closer to a half day than a full one.

Rosa 'Grande Dame' caught my eye. Edmunds classifies it as a "'hybrid tea/modern bush type rose.'" *Weeks' Roses* says it is "modern antique for all climates . . . a big vigorous 'shrubby' bush."

Edmunds says it has "deep green leaves", which have "exceptional disease resistance." Weeks, more effusive, calls it "a clean mean flowering machine."

Edmunds describes the blooms as rose-pink and 5-6" wide." Weeks describes them as "super saturated rose pink, full, old-fashioned, in nodding clusters." Both agree it has an "intense old rose fragrance." (Yet under "product information," Edmunds contradicts itself, posing the question: "Fragrant?" And answering, "No.")

Edmunds in 2011 listed its height as 4-5 ½'; in 2012, it is revised upward to as high as 6'. Weeks simply says it will be "tall/upright and bushy."

Just about all roses are special to me, but this one, in its first year at least, was especially special.



As to fragrance in its first year, I did not find it "intense," nor was it non-existent. I would call it mild old rose. But its other virtues were many.

**The picture below, taken in late August, shows no sign of Black spot or other disease. That was without the use of any fungicides. It did develop some Black spot in mid-September and October. But I was amazed that on its own it went as long as it did!

**Despite its location with less than perfect sun time (the 2012 Edmunds' information lists it as needing from full to half sun, which I didn't know in 2011) it grew vigorously to 2 ½' tall and about 1 ½' wide. I have waited two years for some roses to get as far.

**And, best of all, its blooms and foliage, both in abundance for a first year plant, had a luminous quality about them. The leaves were oily and shiny and glistened in the sunlight. The blooms glowed, radiated, and sometimes shimmered, especially in the early morning and evening hours. The blooms reached five inches across in 2011 and were long lasting, far more so than most of my roses. They started small and kept getting bigger and bigger over the course of five or six days, towards the end developing a somewhat purple hue.

(Continued on page 4)

"A Rose That Glows"

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(Continued from page 3)

Rosa 'Grand Dame' was spectacular as a child in 2011. I am eager to see what it will become as a youngster in 2012 and as a grown-up in the years to come.

If you are a rose lover, looking for what this rose has to offer, I'd recommend giving it a try!

Information and Plant Sources

Edmunds' Roses,

<http://www.edmundsroses.com/dc.asp?c1=Hybrid+Tea+Roses&c=6>

Weeks Roses,

http://www.weeksroses.com/rose_grande_dame.htm

This is a flowering quince that does not know who he is, or what he is doing. There are two things wrong with this picture. It blooms in May, and no self-respecting flower hangs around until it is covered in snow.



-Submitted by Ruth Furiate

How can salt used on roads and sidewalk affect plants?

Salt applied to walks and driveways to melt winter snow and ice, often causes plant injury. This injury won't show up right away, but typically appears in late winter and early spring when trees and shrubs break dormancy and roots begin to absorb nutrients and water from the soil. There are three or four ways that plants can be injured by salt.

- First, salt can create a drought-like condition around plant roots by attracting and holding water that would normally be absorbed by the plant. Salt spray occurs along high speed roads, and salt is deposited directly onto foliage of evergreens, which causes it to later turn brown.
- Salt also increases the sodium content of the soil (from sodium chloride), which can damage soil structure, and restricts the amount of nutrients, water, and oxygen available to plants.
- Finally, chlorine ions from salt are absorbed through roots and transported to leaves and shoots. When chlorine reaches a toxic level, it can cause a dried, burned effect on leaf edges, known as "marginal burn" or "scorch." Deciduous plants affected by road salt usually exhibit marginal burn, twig dieback, stunted, yellowing foliage, and premature fall color.

During the winter, use calcium chloride if possible, which is not as harmful as sodium chloride. Avoid piling snow and salt around trees or other plant beds, and don't pile it where runoff will directly drain into plants when the snow melts.



Source: osu.edu.plantfacts

MUGS OF JOY

Mugs of Joy were created at the Heritage nursing home by fifteen lady and gentleman residents on December 9. Into the Christmas mugs provided, they arranged fresh greens and artificial poinsettias. The finishing touch was a candy cane for a later treat. Keeping close watch on the proceedings was Willow, the resident dog, who ventured out of his dog house to greet all and inspect the mugs. Ruth Furiate directed the arrangements with Linda Laux and Jeannette Miller lending help and suggestions. Afterwards, all admired their Christmas mugs, visited, and sang Christmas carols lead by Ruth.



Photos and info provided by Jeannette Miller.



New & Updated Insect and Pest Fact Sheets

- [Giant Caterpillars, HYG-2015-11 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 09/20/11
- [Aphids on Trees and Shrubs, HYG-2031-10 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 10/19/11
- [Bagworm and Its Control, HYG-2149-10](#) - Updated 10/05/11
- [Lace Bugs, HYG-2150-10 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 10/19/11
- [Pharaoh Ant, HYG-2136-10 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 10/19/11
- [Carpet Beetles, HYG-2103-10 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 10/19/11
- [Millipedes, HYG-2067A-10 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 10/19/11
- [Fungus Beetles, HYG-2084-10 \(pdf\)](#) - Updated 10/19/11
- [Ground Beetles, HYG-2102-10](#) - Updated 10/19/11



Kudzu Presents Problems

An invasive species synonymous with the South has taken root in the Eastern Corn Belt, but it doesn't yet present quite the headaches for farmers above the Mason-Dixon Line as it has below.

A soybean disease researcher (Dorrance) at the OARDC became aware of this plant back in 2005 when they started getting an assessment of how much kudzu was around because it is an additional host of the soybean rust pathogen. In studies of soybean rust, southern Ohio was searched for patches of kudzu, learning how the plant overwintered in the relatively colder climate of the Buckeye State.

What research learned over the past six years is that not all kudzu is hospitable to soybean rust. One of the discoveries of a multi-state soybean rust came from scouting kudzu patches in the South where rust has appeared every year. As it turns out, not every patch of kudzu is a good host for rust. Some patches never seem to develop rust, and that wasn't known when all of this research started.

The plant, native in Japan and other East Asian countries, was first introduced into the U.S. in the latter half of the 19th century. Considered an invasive species here, it commonly covers roadsides and other expanses of the southern U.S. While the plant isn't a major concern yet in terms of serving as a host for the rust pathogen in Ohio, it could be a concern for other production-related issues.

One of the concerns that came up more recently is that some of these newer insects and pests that like soybeans also like kudzu. That is now one of the secondary issues to come from their studies. Moreover, given the relatively rapid proliferation of the plant in the South, it is important to keep kudzu from taking root, literally and proverbially, across Ohio.

It's a weed that in the South has completely overtaken things, so research recommends not to let that happen here. It is an invasive weed that needs to be controlled. Keeping tabs on kudzu is critically important, particularly in



Photo from MSU.edu

keeping the plant from destroying the native habitat of other plants, especially those that are endangered or rare native plants.

Ohio's climate will help. It does freeze back, and so keeping a monitor on where it grows is important. Goats have been used as a management strategy in those areas that were critical to protect for endangered plant species. Farmers in the South have used various methods to control or eradicate the weed over the past several decades, with mixed success. As global climate change leads to more hot days in the northern states, kudzu will be able to move faster.

Kudzu: *Pueraria lobata*

Weed Description: An invasive perennial vine with trifoliate leaves that was initially brought to the United States from Japan in 1876 as a soil cover to prevent erosion. Kudzu is one of the most common and troublesome weeds of rights-of-way, power lines, roadsides, and forests, and now invades an estimated 2,000,000 acres in the southeastern United States. It is common for this weed to completely overgrow all trees and other vegetation once it is established in an area. It is estimated that a single acre of kudzu would expand to 5,250 acres if left

(Continued on page 7)

Kudzu Presents Problems—continued

(Continued from page 6)

uncontrolled for 100 years



Photo from Virginia Tech

Seedlings: Cotyledons are oval to oblong. First true leaves are covered with short bronze hairs and are arranged oppositely. All subsequent leaves consist of 3 leaflets (trifoliate) and each set of 3 leaflets are arranged alternately along the stem.

Roots: Both fibrous and tuberous roots occur.

Leaves: Consist of 3 leaflets (trifoliate leaves). Each set of 3 leaflets is arranged alternately along the stem. All leaflets occur on petioles, however the lateral leaflets are on very short petioles (less than 1/2 inch), while the center leaflet occurs on a petiole approximately 3/4 inch long. All leaves are ovate in outline, hairy, and lobed. Lateral leaflets are usually lobed on one side only while the center leaflet is usually lobed on both sides.

Stems: Climbing on other vegetation or trailing along the ground. When young, stems are covered with stiff bronze hairs but these become much less common on older plants. Stems

may become woody when mature.

Flowers: Occur in racemes that arise from the area between the leaflet petiole and the stem (axillary regions). Each raceme is approximately 4 to 8 inches long and is reddish purple in color. Flowers are often inconspicuous due to the dense vegetation that often covers them, but generally emerge in August-September in warmer climates.

Fruit: A pod, approximately 1 1/2 to 2 inches long that contains many kidney bean-shaped seed.

Identifying Characteristics: The rapid growth, climbing or trailing nature, and invasive habit of kudzu make it easy to distinguish from most other weeds. The hairy leaves and stems and lobed leaves are also characteristics that help in the identification of kudzu.

Sources:
Holmes County Ext.
Michigan State University
Virginia Tech



Photo from Virginia Tech



Photo from Virginia Tech

Hancock County Master Gardener Volunteer Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 10, 2011, 7:00 PM

Bill Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with 34 members in attendance. He introduced Dr. Ed Lentz, Gary Wilson's replacement, who gave a brief background about himself and his involvement with OSU Extension. We welcomed him aboard with a big round of applause.

Bill shared information about the International Conference he attended which focused on the environment and being green. He talked about how temperature can affect fruit sets in Ohio and that the Japanese beetle is being affected by a parasitic wasp which is killing it (good to hear). White spots on the beetle is a sign of the wasp's presence. Bill mentioned the effect green space had on crime reduction and how landscaping will add 110% of the value of its installation to the value of the property.

Some interesting websites to check out were:

coleusfinder.org
Americainbloom.org
tree benefits.com
Itreetools.org
Leaf snap for the Ipod and phone users



Marty Davis had nothing to report other than Fall was over.

Cathy Zernehel was acting Secretary in Pam's absence this month. Bill Jones made the comment that Pam has done an excellent job with the minutes this year. All were in agreement of the wonderful job she is doing.

Bill and Anita Lanning gave the treasurer's report. Anita reminded everyone the importance of having checks for speaking engagements made out to Hancock County Master Gardeners. It saves a lot of problems at the bank.

Marilyn Beltz gave the Coordinator's Report as follows:

- Nancy Kronberg's new address is: 1314 Manassas Dr., Hixon, TN 37343
- Nancy's new email address is: www.gardenlady@epbfi.com
- Sign up sheets for green cutting and wreath classes are in the back of the room. Please sign up if you are interested. We will be meeting at the OSU Extension office on 11/25 and 11/28 at 9:30 AM. We will divide into various groups to get the cutting done.
- Wreath class dates are 11/30, 12/4, and 12/6. Check times on the sheet. It will be at the Library this year.
- The sign up sheet for the Christmas Potluck is being passed around. It will be December 1st at 6:00 at Birchhaven.

Dick Deerhake reported that cleanup will commence on Friday, November 11th at 9:00 AM to finish. Help would be appreciated. He also encouraged more members to participate in taking one of the beds next year. See him for details.

Dick also talked a little more about the Community gardens:

- The Center was reasonably successful. United Way was instrumental in helping them.

(Continued on page 9)

Master Gardener Volunteer Meeting Minutes Continued

(Continued from page 8)

- West Main Cross did not have enough volunteers. They are hoping to expand next year.
- Dick did a presentation at the Senior Center on plantings and spacing this year to generate more interest in Community Gardening.

Dick also asked if anyone knew anything about Blanchard Valley School putting up a greenhouse. Please forward him any information you might have regarding this project.

Linda Laux reported that Ruth had gone to the Cleveland Clinic for testing and she wished she was there.

Barb Phillips stated that she needs volunteers for WFIN for February through October of 2012. Let her know if you are interested.

Kay Sidaway is still looking for articles. She will be printing recipes from the potluck for December. Be sure to submit yours.

Sharon Hammer-Baker has 5 presentations lined up for Advanced Brown Bag Training for 2012.

Noreen Walters has 7 presentations lined up for the library in 2012. Three of the topics being presented are Composting by Dick Deerhake, Hot Peppers and Garlic by Pat Flinn, Landscaping for Small Spaces by Cathy Zernechel. The other four are TBD at a later time.

Lauri Inkrott is gathering information from Bill Jones for MGV Communications. Leisure Living Show will be in April at The Cube. More information at a later date. The Recognition Banquet will be in May at Birchhaven. Same place as last year. The mugs of joy project is ready to go. More mugs to be picked up in the office. The front garden maintenance will commence in the spring. See Mary Miller if you want to help.

Other things to share were the little black bugs that are biting this year are called “No see ums“. The tomato crop did not do as well this year because of weather. If you need horse manure, contact Pam McCloud. Sharon Hammer-Baker’s artistic display at Owen’s Library until 11/30 is a must see. The theme was “Diners”. A special thank you to Bill Patch for his presentation on “Horticulture in the Parks”. The meeting was motioned to adjourn at 8:30 PM. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted
Cathy Zernechel, Acting Secretary



The Master Gardener *Green Thumb Print* is a publication of the Hancock County Extension Office, 7868 Hancock County Road 140, Findlay, OH, 45840, 419-422-3851. The Master Gardener Coordinator is Marilyn Beltz.

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