

## MASTER GARDENER SYLLABUS 2009

- Jan.22 I. Welcome -----Scotty Rogers, President, NWLA Master Gardener Assn.  
Denyse Cummins, MG Coordinator, LCES
- II. Basic Botany ----- Carlos Smith, County Agent, LCES
- A. Stages of Plant Growth
  - B. Flowering & Pollination
  - C. Fruiting
  - D. Stress Factors
  - E. Taxonomic Glossary

- Lab - I. What is Extension?  
II. What is Master Gardening?  
    A. Role & Responsibility  
III. Propagation

**Read pp. I-1 to I-5, 1-1 to 1-26**

**Read pp. 2-1 to 2-16, skim 7-29 to 7-41, 9-35 to 9-36, 10-14 to 10-17, 11-44 to 11-50**

- Jan 29 I. Entomology----- Dr. Michael Hall – Research Scientist, LSU AgCenter
- A. Pest Identification
    - 1. How Do Pests Affect Plants?
    - 2. Recognizing the Enemy (Relationship of mouthparts to damage)
  - B. Control Alternatives
    - 1. Non-chemical Control
    - 2. Organic Chemical Control
    - 3. Chemical Control
  - C. Insect Control

Lab- Recognizing Pests lecture

Collecting insects. Pass out Bug Boards, pins - begin collecting

**Assignment** - Bring to Class next week (Feb 5):

- 1. One soil sample
- 2. Check to STPAL for \$10
- 3. One trash bag full of leaves or green garden waste (you may bring extra)  
(Put your composting materials by the back of the greenhouse---no pine straw)

**Read pp. 5-1 to 5-22**

- Feb 5 I. Soils ----- Jay Stevens – Specialist, LSU AgCenter
- A. Soil Types & Preparation
  - B. Nutrients, Fertilizers and Liming
  - C. pH
- II. Site Development
- A. Evaluating the Site
  - B. Drainage
  - C. Light Requirements

\*Did you remember your soil sample with check for today?

Lab – Build a compost pile with Grace Peterson

**Read pp. 3-1 to 3-13, look over 12-1 to 12-63**

Feb. 12 I. Intro to Plant Disease -----Dr. Patrick Colyer, Research Scientist & Regional Director, LSU AgCenter

- A. What is a Plant Disease?
- B. How Disease Affects Plants
- C. Controlling Plant Disease
  - 1. Cultural Means of Control
  - 2. Chemical and Non-Chemical Control

Lab – Disease diagnostics  
Check compost pile

**Read pp. 7-1 to 7-29**

Feb 19 I. Vegetable Culture -----Dr. Hanna Y. Hanna, Research Scientist, LSU AgCenter

- A. Specialty vegetable production (greenhouse)
- B. The Sex Life of Plants (mechanics of pollination)

Lab – Plant the Parterre Garden outside (wear coat & gloves).

**Read pp. 10-1 to 10-21**

Feb 26 I. Lawn Care -----Dr. Tom Koske, Specialist, LSU AgCenter

- A. Selection of Turf
- B. Installation and Maintenance
- C. Turf Problems

Lab – Soil Test Results Interpretation. Bring your copy from home.

**Read pp. 11-1 to 11-44**

Mar 5 I. Ornamental Plant Material -----Dan Gill, Specialist, LSU AgCenter

- A. Woody Shrubs
- B. Trees
- C. Herbaceous Plants
  - 1. Annuals
  - 2. Perennials
- D. Bulbs
- E. Tropicals

Lab – Intro to Sustainable Landscaping lecture

**Read pp 4-1 to 4-6, 6-1 to 6-8**

- March 12 I. Weed Science-----Dr. Ron Strahan, Specialist, LSU AgCenter  
II. Pesticide Safety  
A. Labels  
B. Safety  
C. Equipment

Lab – Lawn weed and disease control  
Sustainable disease control & fertilization practices  
Working with sprayers and garden chemicals

**Read pp. 9-1 to 9-37**

**Assignment** - Begin take-home Final, return final March 26

- March 19 I. General Fruit Culture -----Dr. John Pyzner - Specialist, LSU AgCenter  
A. Site Selection  
B. General Cultural Practices (Recommended c.v.'s)  
II. Tree Fruits  
A Stone Fruits (Peaches, Plums, Apricots, Nectarines)  
1. Pruning and Training  
2. General Management Techniques  
B. Pome Fruits (Apples and Pears)  
1. Pruning and Training  
2. General Management Techniques  
III. Pecans & Minor Fruits  
A. Berries  
1. Pruning and Training  
2. General Management Techniques  
B. Minor Fruits (Fig, Kiwi, etc)  
1. Pruning and Training  
2. General Management Techniques

Lab – Container plantings

**Assignment** – Finish your final exam and insect collection to bring next week

- Mar 26 I. Volunteer Development -----Denyse Cummins, LCES  
A. History of Extension  
B. Q & A about Master Gardening  
C. Inspect insect collections  
D. Discuss Finals

Lab - Volunteer Orientation, Communication Skills Development

**Assignment** - Turn in Final at beginning of class

Graduation ceremony: April 8, 2009 at noon at the Randle T Moore Center.