



September 2009

"Giving Garden" Success

by David Anderson, Utah Botanical Center

It is really exciting and encouraging to see the success of the UBC's Giving Garden. All produce grown at this 1/3-acre garden is being given to local food banks. The other day, I helped deliver some of it to the Layton Food Bank, where hundreds of pounds of potatoes and tomatoes were received with gratitude. A mid-harvest total of produce donated is more than 5,000 pounds.

This would not have been possible without volunteers and the efforts of Super Master Gardener April Clark, who willingly coordinated volunteer efforts on this project. More than 1,000 volunteers have helped plant, weed and harvest this garden. It has been very heartwarming to overhear comments made while weeding the garden. Adults, youth and children have expressed thanks and taken pleasure in being able to participate in such a worthy cause. It truly has been a successful project. We have invigorated many, causing them to pause and enjoy the activity of gardening; we have helped many to realize the importance of sharing with their neighbors; and we have fed many with beautiful and delicious "homegrown" produce. Thanks to all who have participated. But we do not plan to rest on our laurels (or corn, tomatoes, melons or potatoes). Our aim is to significantly expand the UBC's Giving Garden next year.



Feature Article:

Drying Flowers

by Jerry Goodspeed



Many people enjoy drying flowers and then using them in arrangements, to make cards or to simply brighten a room in the dark days of winter. Most annuals and perennials can be dried; however, some are easier and look better than others. Here is a list of some of the more common flowers used for drying.

- Annuals: Dianthus, Bells of Ireland, Celosia, Globe amaranth, Larkspur, Salvia, annual Statice, Strawflower
- Perennials: Baby's breath, Dianthus, tri-color sage, Yarrow (yellow varieties best)

For more information go to

http://extension.usu.edu/files/publications/factsheet/pub_887282.htm or
<http://extension.missouri.edu/publications/DisplayPub.aspx?P=G6540>.

Featured Perennial:
Hardy Ice Plant

by Richard Anderson

Delosperma cooperi

Type: perennial, succulent

Hardiness Zone: 5 (-20°F)

Size: 6-8 inches tall

12 inches wide

Description: Do you need a perennial evergreen groundcover for a small pocket in the rock garden or a southern exposure that blisters with summer heat?

Hailing from the African continent, this hardy ice plant, although appearing dainty, will enliven any

water-wise garden with vermillion blooms from spring until first frost. While it will adapt to various soil types, it will suffer in poorly drained sites. Rocky, infertile soils, sited in full sun, will provide good habitat for this plant to perform at its maximum potential.



Photo credit: Richard M. Anderson

Featured Pest:

Thrips

by Jerry Goodspeed

One of the more common insects that cause problems in the intermountain area are thrips. These insects also go undetected by most people. They are small (1/16 to 1/32"), thin and generally hide themselves very well. They attack fruits, some vegetables, and most flowers. Although they are quite small, they can indeed do quite a bit of damage.

Thrips damage flowers by destroying the petals and other parts before the flower even emerges from the bud. This causes misshapen flowers and can even cause some to not open at all. Thrips feed through sucking the vital 'sap' out of the plant. This not only weakens the plant, but can also distort and destroy the buds, flowers and even the leaves.

Thrips can be hard to detect and then destroy. Keeping the plant as healthy as possible is the first line of defense. A systemic insecticide can be used on ornamental plants and flowers. For more information go to http://extension.usu.edu/files/publications/publication/HG_Orchard_14.pdf.

Featured Tree:

Bigtooth Maple

by JayDee Gunnell

Acer grandidentatum

Type: Medium native tree

Zone: 3-6 (to -40°F)

Size: 20-30 feet tall
20-25 feet wide



Description: In just a few short weeks, our mountains and hillsides will be transformed into a display of color rivaling any other spectacle on earth. The tree that deserves the majority of the credit when it comes to this stunning show of color is our own native Bigtooth maple. Often called the canyon maple, this small-to-medium tree casts hues of orange, red and even hot pink with the right environmental conditions. The tree is slow growing and prefers well-drained soil conditions, but is much more tolerant of alkaline soils than other maples. The selections of Bigtooth maples commonly sold in the nurseries are often grafted onto sugar maple rootstock (its eastern cousin) which makes them more prone to iron deficiencies. USU researchers are working to develop improved selections of this local wonder.

Upcoming Programs and Events

► Sustainable Clothing Choices

Tuesday, September 8, 7-8 p.m. at the Utah House

Come to this workshop to learn about some of the impacts of traditional clothing materials and to explore alternative materials that have a smaller environmental impact, while still providing comfort and style. For more information, please visit <http://utahbotanicalcenter.org/html/education/adults/green-building-workshops>. The cost to participate in the workshop is \$5. Contact Jayne Mulford at 801-544-3089 or jayne.mulford@usu.edu to register.

► Drying Flowers to Make Botanical Cards

Thursday, September 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Utah Botanical Center

This class is taught by Marie Kawaguchi, Weber County Master Gardener. Card-making is an enjoyable creative outlet, and being able to dry and use lovely flowers from your own landscape are rewarding parts of this process. Marie has been designing botanicals for some time and will share valuable tips and hints for selecting and drying desirable flowers to use in making your own greeting cards and stationary. The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for others. Call 801-399-8201 for registration at the OBG, or call 801-451-3403 for registration at the UBC.

► Clothing Swap

Thursdays, September 10, 17 and 24, 5-8 p.m. at the Utah Botanical Center

Bring a grocery bag full of washed and usable clothes to donate to the swap. Then, fill a bag with clothes that other people have brought and take them home. Any clothing items left over at the end of the last swap will be donated to Salt Lake City homeless shelters or thrift shops. There is no cost to participate in the event, which will be held at the Farmers Market, across from the Utah House at 920 S. 50 West in Kaysville.

► Solar Homes Tour

Saturday, September 12, 8:30-5 p.m. at the Wetland Discovery Point

The 2009 Utah Solar Tour will be an exciting opportunity for individuals, families and businesses to discover the reality of using solar energy to lower energy bills and be part of the solution to our nation's energy

problems. You will have the chance to see how individual home owners and business owners are using solar energy right now to create clean sustainable energy. The Wetland Discovery Point is proud to be part of the 2009 Utah Solar Tour. For more information visit <http://utsolar.org>.

► **Seasonal Splendor**

Thursday, September 17, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Wetland Discovery Point

Planting for color? Come learn how to select plants that give season-long colors and texture to your landscape.

► **Voluntary Simplicity Discussion Course**

Wednesdays, September 16-October 21, 7-8 p.m. at the Utah House

Discussion topics include the meaning of simplicity, living more with less, making a living, living simply and sustainably and do you have the time? This course was put together by the Northwest Earth Institute (www.nwei.org). The goals for the course are to understand the meaning of voluntary simplicity, to explore the material and psychological distractions that prevent us from caring for the Earth and to acknowledge the connection between our lifestyle choices and the condition of the Earth. Cost to participate in the workshop is \$20 and includes a book. For more information visit <http://utahbotanicalcenter.org/htm/education/adults/green-building-workshops>.

► **Dessert First: Designing with Bulbs**

Friday, September 18, 12-1 p.m. at the Ogden Botanical Gardens

Taught by Mike Keyes, garden director and designer, Ogden LDS Temple. Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this educational class on incorporating bulbs in your landscape. Bulbs are a great way to bring real color impact to your flowerbeds from earliest spring into summer. This class will help you begin thinking about choosing bulbs at your favorite nursery, or ordering from a catalog in time to get the best selection.

► **Fall Merit Badge Classes**

Saturday, September 26, Environmental Science, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Wetland Discovery Point

Thursday, October 10, Landscape Architecture, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Utah House

Saturday, October 24, Energy, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Utah House

The Utah Botanical Center and Utah House offer several programs which teach boy scouts about the world around them while helping them earn badges. For most of the Merit Badge Workshops that are offered, all of the requirements for the badge are completed during the one-day workshop. Cost: \$25, which includes all supplies and lunch. To learn how to register, please visit <http://utahbotanicalcenter.org/htm/education/youth/scouts>.

► **Apple and Cheese Tasting Event**

Thursday, October 1, 5-8 p.m. at the Farmers Market

This free event is a great time to sample many different apple varieties. Find your favorite before you plant one in your yard.

► **Arranging Fresh Flowers**

Thursday, October 1, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Ogden Botanical Gardens

Thursday, October 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Wetland Discovery Point

Just in time for holiday decorating, come learn how to bring beauty into your home throughout the year by designing your own fresh floral arrangements. Participants will take home their own attractive creation, and an understanding of how to select and use a wide variety of plant materials. The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Call 801-399-8201 for registration at the OBG, or call 801-451-3403 for registration at the UBC.

► Dessert First: Apple & Cheese Tasting

Friday, October 9, 12-1 p.m. at the Ogden Botanical Gardens

This event is a real favorite with everyone, and a tasty, informative way to choose an apple variety for your own landscape. Always well attended, don't miss having a chance to sample a variety of apples (and cheese), and receive information about raising your own apples. This "dessert first" class will offer samples from beginning to end and culminate the classes offered throughout the growing season at the gardens.

► Utah Botanical Center Farmer's Market

Thursdays through October 1, 5-8 p.m. at the Utah Botanical Center

You'll find local produce, artisan foods, crafts and expert help for garden and landscape questions. Spend the evening shopping the market and visiting the gardens and the ponds. Visit

<http://utahbotanicalcenter.org/htm/events/farmersmarket> for more information.

► Free DIAGNOSTIC CLINICS

Every Tuesday, 1-4 p.m. at the USU Davis County Master Gardener Office, Davis Co. Courthouse, Farmington;

Every Wednesday, 3-6 p.m. at the Ogden Botanical Gardens

Need help with something in your landscape? Bring in a sample of a tree branch, section of an ailing plant, leaf, an insect pest, chunk of turfgrass (4-6-inches on the margin of the problem) or a weed you don't know how to handle. Just walk in and we will have someone there to help you! Leave with the problem identified and ideas for control.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of events at the Utah Botanical Center

Click [here](#) for a complete list of events at the Ogden Botanical Gardens



Get Growing Calendar

- Apply fertilizer to the lawn using 1 to 1½ pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.
- Treat broadleaf weeds in the lawn once temperatures are below 85 degrees.
- Reduce the amount of water applied to the lawn in the fall as the weather cools, and lengthen the time between watering.
- Plant trees, shrubs, perennials and, of course, bulbs while the weather is cooler and their root systems can establish before winter.
- Work compost (leaves, garden waste, grass clippings and dead annuals, but not weeds) into the garden, flowerbeds and tree and shrub areas.
- Soak evergreens well to prepare them for winter before the water is turned off.
- Visit the Ogden Botanical Gardens and the Utah Botanical Center for ideas for fall-blooming color to add to your own landscape.
- Plant a new perennial or two, and deadhead or cut back those that are dying.
- Control slugs and snails by using bait stations or even mechanical control (hand-pick and discard).



CONTACT INFORMATION

UTAH BOTANICAL CENTER-801-593-8969
725 South Segoe Lily Drive
Kaysville, Utah 84401
84404

<http://utahbotanicalcenter.org>

GARDENING HELP LINE
LINE

Phone: 801-451-3204 (M,W,F) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

[Click Here for Map](#)
[Map](#)

OGDEN BOTANICAL GARDENS-801-399-8080
1181 North Fairgrounds Drive
Ogden, Utah

<http://extension.usu.edu/weber>

GARDENING HELP

Phone: 801-399-8080 (Mon-Fri) 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

[Click Here for](#)

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