October 2010

Dear Extension Friends,

The month of September has come and gone and in its path brought several changes. First and foremost, the Baker County Extension office is proud to announce that we have a new County Extension Director. Mike Davis began his employment on September 1, 2010. Mike comes to us from Texas with a background in Agriculture and give him a warm welcome.

Best Regards,

Alicia R. Lamborn
Horticulture Extension Agent

Fall Vegetable Gardening

The cool weather is coming and that means we can begin to plant our fall vegetable gardens.

- Beets
- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Carrots
- Cauliflower
- Chinese Cabbage
- Collards
- Kale
- Kohlrabi
- Lettuce
- Mustards
- Onions
- Radishes
- Spinach
- Strawberries

For more details on planting dates, plant spacing, and recommended varieties, stop by our office to pick up your free copy of the Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide or visit http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021

Farmer’s Market Re-opens October 16th

Visit the Baker County Farmers Market for a great selection of locally grown fresh fruits & vegetables, plants, and original arts & crafts.

Saturdays, 8 AM - 1 PM

Market is located in the Cornerstone Square shopping center in the parking lot in front of Sam’s Crystal River Seafood on SR 121.

Vendors Needed! Applications available at the Baker County Chamber of Commerce located at 20 East Macclenny Ave in Macclenny. Phone (904) 259-6433

For more details on planting dates, plant spacing, and recommended varieties, stop by our office to pick up your free copy of the Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide or visit http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021

Upcoming Programs & Events: October

October 8th — Fall Orchard Management at the North Florida Research and Education Center—Suwannee Valley, located at 8202 CR 417 in Live Oak. Topics include establishing an orchard, transitioning to winter, weed management, and developing a business plan. Featured crops will include persimmon and chestnut. This is the first workshop of a four part series. The cost is $80 per workshop or $240 for the complete series. Visit the Baker County Extension Office for a registration form. For more information, call 386-362-1725 ex 109 or visit http://nfrec.ifas.ufl.edu

October 14th — Insect Pest Management 6:00pm to 7:00pm at the Baker County Extension Office (Agricultural Center). This class will cover common landscape plants, the key pest insects that attack them, and management strategies. Please call (904) 259-3520 to register by Tuesday, October 12th.

October 21st — Jr. Master Gardener 4-H Club Meeting 6:00pm to 7:00pm at the Baker County Extension Office (Agricultural Center). Young farmers and gardeners, ages 8 to 16 are invited to join this 4-H club. We’ll explore alternative gardening methods (including hydroponics) while growing fruits, vegetables, and flowers. The club is free to join and youth get to take home everything they grow! The club will meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00pm in the 4-H classroom, although most activities will be held in the greenhouse. Visit our office or call (904) 259-3520 for more info.
Mums the Word

Mums the word this month, and with so many hybrids of chrysanthemums to choose from you are sure to find something you like!

Chrysanthemums have dark green, deeply lobed and aromatic leaves. The parent species of mums are native to China and Japan, but plant breeders have since created a wide variety of cultivars having different flower shapes, sizes and colors from dark burgundy, yellows and oranges, to lavenders, light pastel pinks, and whites. The hundreds of cultivars of mums are classified by flower shape. These include decorative, pompons, reflexed, spiders, spoons, daisies, and several other shapes.

Overall, mums are very easy plants to grow and maintain, preferring full or partial sun and moderate moisture. Pinching new growth during the late spring and summer will increase branching and prevent tall, leggy plants. All of the garden mums bloom in fall which makes October a great month for planting, and many cultivars will flower again in spring as well.

Weed Management in Lawns

If you visit your local gardening supply store, you’re likely to see all types of weed management products, but which type should you use and when should you be using it?

Pre-Emergence? Post-Emergence? Weed & Feed?

The first and best method of weed control begins with proper management practices that encourage a dense, thriving turf. Healthy turf shades the soil so sunlight can’t reach weed seeds that are ready to germinate. A thick turf also minimizes the physical space available for weeds to become established. There are several cultural management practices that will promote a healthy, dense grass. These include (but are not limited to) proper fertilization and watering, mowing at the correct height, and control of other lawn pests.

If all cultural management strategies are being employed and weeds are still a problem, herbicides can be used to help manage the problem. But which type should you use and when should you use them?

Pre-Emergence Herbicides: Apply before weed seed germination!

Pre-emergence herbicides (this includes weed & feed products) are used primarily to control annual grasses (e.g., crabgrass) and certain annual broadleaf weeds (e.g., common chickweed, henbit, and lawn burweed). These are applied before weed seeds germinate and must be timed correctly to be effective. If the chemical is applied after weed emergence, pre-emergence herbicides will have little or no effect.

A general rule of thumb for pre-emergence herbicide application in north Florida is to apply around March 1 (when day temperatures reach 65° to 70°F for four or five consecutive days) to control spring-germinating weeds. These application timings generally coincide with blooming of landscape plants such as azalea and dogwood. For pre-emergence control of winter annual weeds, apply an herbicide in early October (when nighttime temperatures drop to 55° to 60°F for several consecutive days). Adequate soil moisture before and after application is necessary to activate most pre-emergence herbicides. Pre-emergence herbicides are generally effective in controlling weeds from 6 to 12 weeks following application. Most herbicides begin to degrade soon after application when exposed to the environment. Therefore, to obtain season-long control, an additional application should follow 6 to 9 weeks after the initial one.

Post-Emergence Herbicides: Apply after weed seed germination to actively growing weeds!

Postemergence herbicides are active on emerged weeds. Normally, the younger the weed seedling, the easier it is to control. Postemergence herbicide effectiveness is reduced when the weed is under drought stress, has begun to produce seeds, or is mowed before the chemical has time to work (up to several days after application).

Weed & Feed Products:

“Weed-n-Feed” products enable you to apply fertilizer and a pre-emergence herbicide in the same application. However, these products should only be used when a lawn has a uniform weed population. If weeds exist only on a portion of the lawn, do not apply a “weed-n-feed” product to the entire lawn.

If the situation warrants the use of a “weed-n-feed” product, it is important to determine if the manufacturer's recommended rate of application supplies the amount of fertilizer needed by the turfgrass and the amount of herbicide that is required for weed control. In other words, you could be over or under-applying your fertilizer to apply the required amount of herbicide needed for sufficient weed control. Also consider that lawns should be fertilized in April and September, not March and October when pre-emergence herbicide treatments should be applied. This is why it is recommended to apply fertilizer separate from herbicide.

*Note: The type of chemical you should use will depend on the weed species present in your lawn and your species of turfgrass. Don’t know what kind of weeds you have? Bring a sample to our office for identification.

This article contains excerpts from the Weed Management in Home Lawns publication. For more information on weed management, you can access this publication at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep141.
**Baker County Extension**  
**Master Gardener Program**  
**2010 Daffodil Bulb Fundraiser**  

**ERLICHEER** (pronounced early cheer)  
This double white has 2-15 florets per stem. Exceptionally fragrant. Good for Coastal and Central Florida. Full Sun.  
10-12” February

**DOUBLE CAMPERNELLI**  
Hybrid known for its fragrance and ability to produce florets with differing numbers of petals on the same stem. Multiplies.  
10-12” January

**PUEBLO**  
2 or 3 to a stem- starts yellow and fades white. Make a multi color clump. Prefers half day sun, fragrant. Plant 6” deep.  
12-14” Early March

**SCIILLY WHITE**  
Fragrant clusters of florets having white petals and a white cup. Requires sandy, well-drained soils.  
January

**TREVITHIAN**  
2-3 deep yellow, 2” flat cup flowers per stem, wonderful fragrance. Good border plant. Multiplies.  
16-20” Early March

**ICE FOLLIES**  
Petals are creamy white with very large flat frilled cup which opens bright yellow and gradually fades to white. Large, slow to multiply. 16” Early March

**GIANTIC STAR**  
Tall, vivid yellow flower. One flower to a stem. Large cup with frilled rim. Needs well-drained soil. Plant 6” deep.  
20+” Late February

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**DAFFODIL BULB ORDER FORM**

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<tr>
<th>Daffodils</th>
<th>No. of Bags</th>
<th>Daffodil</th>
<th>No. of Bags</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gigantic Star</td>
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<td>Fortune</td>
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Funds will be used to support future Master Gardener projects including educational activities and youth gardening programs.

All varieties are subject to availability. Pre-orders are reserved but unclaimed orders will be re-sold.

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Customer Name: _______________________  
Phone: ____________________________  
Mail to: Daffodils – Bulb Order  
Baker County Extension  
1025 W. Macclenny Ave.  
Macclenny, FL 32063  
Fax to: 904-259-9034  
Attention: Daffodils – Bulb Order  

DO NOT SEND MONEY - YOU WILL PAY AT PICK-UP

FULL COLOR order forms are available on our website!  
http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu  

Questions?? Contact:  
Alicia Lamborn 904-259-3520