

FLOWER POWER

The Avondale Estates Garden Club
*Member of the National Garden Club, Inc. &
The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.*

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THE NATIVE NUDGE *Baptisia tinctoria* Wild or False Indigo



Baptisia tinctoria

These lovelies come in blue and yellow. They want full to part sun and when established are drought tolerant.

2-3' tall and wide. Cut back a bit after blooming to maintain compact growth.

Baptisia is easy to grow, has beautiful flowers and leaves and black seed pods that remain on the flower stalks for winter interest.

We always sell out of these at the Plant Sale.



Baptisia australis

A Message from Patricia . . .

Hi!

I'm Patricia Calcagno and it is my pleasure to be the President for the Avondale Estates Garden Club for 2023-2025.



My first goal as your President is to get members involved. When I joined AEGC in 2018 after retiring from AT&T after 37 years, I just wanted to attend the meeting, listen to the speaker, and enjoy the luncheon. That is not how things worked out. After attending a couple of meetings, I decided I wanted to be a contributing member of this great Club. I went from organizing the plantings at the Blue Star Memorial Marker to Membership Chair to Vice President and now your President. I was the driving force behind the plantings at Carl's Corner, the East entrance, and the Clock Tower which we will continue to improve in the fall.

I love living in Avondale Estates and it is my second goal for us to do more greenspace improvements within our city. I have some ideas for future projects but would also love to hear from you if you have any suggestions.

If you have any interest in becoming more involved within the Club or perhaps have a desire to be on the Board one day, please let me know. I or one of our current Board members would be happy to mentor you.

There are so many opportunities for you to become more involved. I promise you will have fun! And speaking of fun, I hope you all have a wonderful summer. Rest up and get ready for all the speakers, fundraisers, and projects we have in store for 2023-2024!

AEGC MISSION STATEMENT

The Avondale Estates Garden Club offers education and service opportunities to inspire the appreciation of the various horticulture arts and to promote the awareness of environmental responsibility.



June Yard of the Month 33 Kensington Road Home of Leslie Adcock

Leslie Adcock, grew up in Avondale Estates and moved back nine years ago in 2014. She refurbished the house and rehabilitated the yard with the help of landscape planner Dottie Myers. Over time, she has enhanced the yard with different landscaping and hardscaping projects, including the entrance and walkway, a new driveway, and multiple plantings in the front and back yards.

The suggestion of symmetry frames the tidy lines of the house beautifully and offers a lesson in the selective use of evergreens and perennial pops of color. Please come by and see the lovely blooms and garden at 33 Kensington!

PRUNING WHAT'S LEFT OF OUR HYDRANGEAS



Leave the short stems, but if you have longer ones that need to be pruned to the size you want, cut just above two opposite leaves.

There will be lots of new growth between now and October. Many of the resulting branches will also be able to mature and become capable of blooming next year.

Walter Reeves

What is pollination?

Pollination is the act of transferring pollen grains from the male anther of a flower to the female stigma. The goal of every living organism, including plants, is to create offspring for the next generation. One of the ways that plants can produce offspring is by making seeds. Seeds contain the genetic information to produce a new plant. *~from the US Forestry Service*

What is a pollinator? A pollinator is anything that helps carry pollen from the male part of the flower (stamen) to the female part of the same or another flower (stigma). Some plants are self-pollinating, while others may be fertilized by pollen carried by wind or water. Still, other flowers are pollinated by insects and animals - such as bees, wasps, moths, butterflies, birds, flies and small mammals, including bats. Insects and other animals such as bats, beetles, and flies visit flowers in search of food, shelter, nest-building materials, and sometimes even mates. Some pollinators, including many bee species, intentionally collect pollen. Others, such as many butterflies, birds and bats move pollen accidentally. Pollen sticks on their bodies while they are drinking or feeding on nectar in the flower blooms and is transported unknowingly from flower to flower resulting in pollination. *~from the US Park Service*

Why are pollinators important?

- **Do you like to eat?** One out of every three bites of food you eat exists because of the efforts of pollinators, including many fruits, vegetables, and seeds. Pollinators not only are necessary for our own food, but support the food and habitat of animals.
- **Do you like clean air?** Healthy ecosystems depend on pollinators. At least 75 percent of all the flowering plants on earth are pollinated by insects and animals! This amounts to more than 1,200 food crops and 180,000 different types of plants—plants which help stabilize our soils, clean our air, supply oxygen, and support wildlife.
- **Do you want a healthy economy?** In the United States alone, pollination by honey bees contributed to over \$19 billion of crop production in 2010, while pollination by other insect pollinators contributed to nearly \$10 billion of crop production.

~from the US Park Service



Walter says . . .

If restrictions permit, water your lawn once a week with a good soaking. . . Water trees 15 gallons per one inch of thickness. . . Remove all stems that support faded flowers on your blue and pink hydrangeas; shorten droopy, flowerless stems by one-third. The new growth that occurs between now and winter will produce next summer's blooms . . . Regularly remove faded flowers from salvia, zinnia, coneflower and [especially petunia](#). This will encourage bushiness and the production of more flowers. . . There is still plenty of time to plant seed of marigold, cosmos, cleome and dwarf sunflower. They'll make a spectacular flower show in six weeks. . . Share the wealth: Herbs such as mint, oregano, basil and thyme are fabulously attractive to pollinators. What about some form of sharing the wealth? Consider leaving half of the flower spikes uncut, for the insects, and clipping the flowers from the other plants, so you'll have tasty cooking ingredients.



Only Academics Quote Shakespeare?

If you cannot understand my argument, and declare "It's Greek to me", you are quoting Shakespeare; if you claim to be more sinned against than sinning, you are quoting Shakespeare; if you recall your salad days, you are quoting Shakespeare; if you act more in sorrow than in anger; if your wish is farther to the thought; if your lost property has vanished into thin air, you are quoting Shakespeare; if you have ever refused to budge an inch or suffered from green-eyed jealousy, if you have played fast and loose, if you have been tongue-tied, a tower of strength, hoodwinked or in a pickle, if you have knitted your brows, made a virtue of necessity, insisted on fair play, slept not one wink, stood on ceremony, danced attendance (on your lord and master), laughed yourself into stitches, had short shrift, cold comfort or too much of a good thing, if you have seen better days or lived in a fool's paradise -why, be that as it may, the more fool you, for it is a foregone conclusion that you are (as good luck would have it) quoting Shakespeare; if you think it is early days and clear out bag and baggage, if you think it is high time and that that is the long and short of it, if you believe that the game is up and that truth will out even if it involves your own flesh and blood, if you lie low till the crack of doom because you suspect foul play, if you have your teeth set on edge (at one fell swoop) without rhyme or reason, then - to give the devil his due - if the truth were known (for surely you have a tongue in your head) you are



quoting Shakespeare; even if you bid me good riddance and send me packing, if you wish I was dead as a door-nail, if you think I am an eyesore, a laughing stock, the devil incarnate, a stony-hearted villain, bloody-minded or a blinking idiot, then - by Jove! O Lord! Tut tut! For goodness' sake! What the dickens! - it is all one to me, for you are quoting Shakespeare.

Birds, Bugs, Bees and Butterflies

Remember to send photos from your garden to Jean Kingsbury for the new edition of AEGC notecards which will feature pollinators and pollinator plants!

Deadline for submissions is August 15



Calendar 2023

- July 3 . . . Deadline to register for GCG Awards and Leadership open to all members
- July 18 . . . GCG Awards & Leadership Workshop
- August 14 . . . Any changes or additions to the Yearbook must be sent to Christi Granger by this date.
- August 15. . . Photographs for the notecards are due to Jean Kingsbury by this date.

Flower Power Staff
Editor..... Susan Barton
Contributors..... Renee Valdes
Christi Granger
Patricia Calcagno
Helen Dorroh
Scott Legg
Jean Kingsbury

This is why we contribute to the GCG scholarship fund.

This is the future.



Jacob L. Winkles is a Graduate Student in Agribusiness at UGA. As a previous recipient of GCG Scholarship grants, it has been a pleasure for us to get to know Jacob and follow his career ambitions and achievements.

Jacob has served as an Ambassador of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, is an active member of Pi Alpha Xi-Tau, Horticulture Honors Society and is a former Vice-President of the UGA Horticulture Club. This club works diligently to raise funds and bring awareness to the community with their annual plant sale.

Jacob writes, "My dream career is to become a solutions analyst for the fresh produce industry. This will allow farmers to reduce their expenses by up to 30%. I want to give back to the industry that gave me the majority of my motivation and knowledge."

We will publish more of these recipients in future issues.

Avondale Estates Garden Club is proud to be a Member of National Garden Club, Inc., Deep South Garden Club, Inc., The Garden Club of Georgia, Red Bud District and The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



What's in a name? In the botanical world you can learn a lot from a name.

The system of nomenclature used today is based on the binomial system of nomenclature, developed by Linnaeus in the late 1700's. The binomial system of nomenclature is structured so that the scientific name of a plant consists of two names: (1) the genus or generic name, and (2) the specific epithet or species name.

There are rules to follow when writing a scientific name. •

Genus Name (1). The genus name is written first.
(2). The genus name is always underlined or italicized.
(3). The first letter of the genus name is always capitalized. Ex: Sanse-
vieria or *Sansevieria*

Specific Epithet (1). The specific epithet is written second.
(2). The specific epithet is always underlined or italicized.
(3). The first letter of the specific epithet name is **never capitalized**.
Example: trifasciata or *trifasciata*

Scientific Name (1). The scientific name of this plant would appear as follows: Sanse-
vieria trifasciata or

Sansevieria trifasciata



What About Mutations? The evolution of plant life is based on mutations, which are constantly occurring. Very often a particular individual of a species will mutate to a different color, size, or growth habit. These characteristics are passed on to its progeny (offspring). When this happens, a population of plants exists with the same scientific name, but a sub-group exhibits different characteristics.

If the mutated group is significantly different from the parents and is stable (the traits are passed on from generation to generation), then this new group of plants is often assigned a variety name.

Variety Names (1). Variety names are given when the mutation occurs **in nature**.

(2). The abbreviation var. is used to signify that the mutation is a variety. var. is placed after the specific epithet and is not underlined or italicized. Example: *Sansevieria trifasciata* var.

(3). The variety name is written **after var**.

(4). Capitalize the first letter of the variety name only if it is a proper noun.

(5). Underline or italicize the variety name. Example: *Sansevieria trifasciata* var. Laurentii or Sansevieria trifasciata var. Laurentii

Mutations can also occur because of human interventions such as breeding, applying mutagens, propagation, or by cultural practices. In these cases, the new group of mutated plants is called a **cultivar**. "Cultivar" is an abbreviated form of **cultivated variety**. The mutated plants are assigned a cultivar name.

Cultivar Names (1). Cultivar names are given when the mutation occurs due to human influence.

(2). The **abbreviation cv.** is used to signify that the mutation is a cultivar. cv. is placed after the specific epithet and is **not underlined or italicized**. Single quotes can be used instead of cv.

(3). The cultivar name is written after cv. or within the single quotes.

(4). Capitalize the cultivar name.

(5). Never underline or italicize the cultivar name.

Example: Sansevieria trifasciata cv. Golden Hahnii or *Sansevieria trifasciata* 'Golden Hahnii'

We repeat this information in the newsletter about every four years for your edification!

Got all that? We are happy to inform you there will be no test.

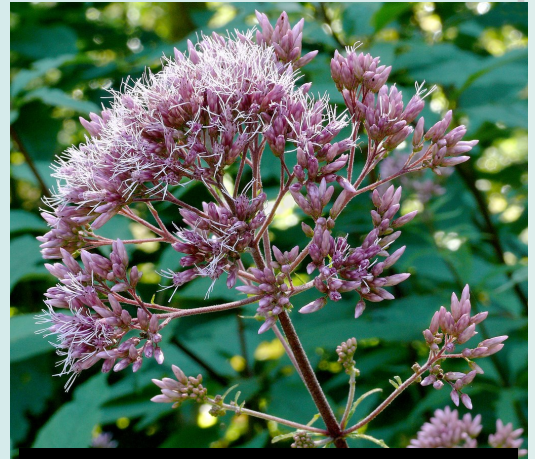
Cultivar? Native? Or perhaps Nativar?



Cultivar of Gerbera Daisy



Native Bee Balm



Nativar Joe Pye Weed 'Little Joe'

The term “nativar” is not scientific but has value to the nursery industry in helping identify selected, hybridized, or crossbred varieties of native plants. The UGA horticulturist Allan Armitage recalls that he coined the term “nativar” around the time he wrote [*Armitage's Garden Perennials*](#), which was published in 2000. Its purpose: to connect the industry to the powerful influence that the native plant movement was having on trends in buying.

The native plant movement, Armitage says, is “one of the very few times when the horticulture industry was swayed by the gardening community.” Usually, new plants developed by breeders influence what gardeners buy, but gardeners had been demanding plants with local or regional provenance. Though the movement was small at first, Armitage recalls, it “was going full steam before breeders even knew what was happening.” He coined the term “nativar” to show customers that the industry was offering what they wanted: garden plants developed from documented native sources, known in the scientific community as genotypes.

“Nativars allow us to retain the ecological benefits of native species while making them adaptable and accessible for a modern landscape,” McEnaney says. “Whether that means a more compact size, cleaner foliage, better color, or a tidier appearance, nativars solve problems that can arise” with the genotype. *~Landscape Architecture Magazine*

Doug Tallamy, Professor of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at University of Delaware ran a two year experiment using nativar plants alongside their native counterpart. They measured how six desirable traits in native woody plant cultivars (leaf color, variegation, fall color, habit, disease resistance, and fruit size) compare with their wild types in terms of their ability to support insect herbivore development, abundance, and species richness. Following is Dr. Tallamy’s conclusion.

“Our investigation of the ecologic value of woody plant cultivars in supporting insect herbivores important in urban food webs showed that only selections with anthocyanin-enriched leaves reduced insect herbivory consistently compared with straight species. We found no evidence that enhanced fruiting, leaf variegation, disease resistance, and altered growth habit degrade insect-based food webs where such plants are grown. These results might guide plant breeders to produce fewer cultivars with red or purple leaf color to meet the needs of homeowners, park managers, and landscape designers interested in building landscapes with unquestioned food web value in the future.”

HortTechnology Volume 28: Issue 5 ~Doug Tallamy

