GNO Gardening

LSU AgCenter
Research · Extension · Teaching

GNO Gardening Magazine

July 2019

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Cover Photo: Summer Peppers by Chris Dunaway

Figs

Late June to Early July is the height of fig season in Louisiana. We have been picking heaps of figs from the trees growing in our demonstration gardens at LaSalle Park in Metairie and the orchard next to the Delgado City Park greenhouse.

A visitor to the Delgado Community College orchard pics figs from a Celeste tree.

The fig was one of the first fruits cultivated by ancient peoples. Archeological evidence has shown the fig has been in cultivation since 4000 B.C., almost 6,000 years. Figs are even mentioned at least 44 times in the Bible and is one of the 6 fruits of Paradise according to the Quran. The other five are: Dates, Olives, Pomegranates, Grapes and Bananas.

The fig is a native of Asia Minor, and when taken to Greece and other Mediterranean countries, it became so widely used fresh and dried that it was known as the "poor man's food." The fig tree was imported to the United States sometime during the 16th century, and it grows well in the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast areas and in parts of California. Figs are one of the most popular fruits grown in Southern backyards.

This cross-section view of an LSU Gold fig shows the ostiole at the top with the male and female flowers inside.

Botanically, figs are one of the most interesting fruits you can grow. The fig is actually a fleshy, hollow branch, modified to bear numerous small flowers and fruit on the inside. At the tip of the fig is an opening called the eye, or ostiole. This small opening located at the end of the fig enables its pollinator, the fig wasp, to enter the fig fruit for pollination. The fig wasp does not exist in Louisiana; therefore, fruit is only produced by varieties that do not require pollination. Most figs in cultivation today are female plants only and do need pollination to produce an edible unit. Because pollination is no longer needed, this means the opening is not needed either for the fig wasp.

It has been possible to select for figs that have closed or plugged eye. A closed eye on the fruit is an important characteristic for the humid South. Having an opening in a fruits through our rains and humidity could cause major insects and disease problems. Figs with open eyes often sour during rainy weather. Some varieties with open eyes, however, are grown in the South and harvested before full maturity for use in making preserves. Cold hardiness of trees is also a valuable trait, especially in north Louisiana.

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July Vegetable Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety	Planting Depth	Spacing Inches	Days Until Harvest * from transplant date
Broccoli (Seeds for transplant)	Green Magic, Everest, Castle Dome, Packman	⅛ inch	18-24	70-90*
Brussels Sprouts (Seeds for transplant)	Jade Cross E, Long Island Improved	⅛ inch	12-15	90*
Cabbage (Seeds for transplant)	Bravo, Rio Verde, Caraflex, Blue Vantage	⅛ inch	12-15	65-75*
Cantaloupe	Ambrosia, Aphrodite, Passport, Primo, Verona	¼ inch	18-24	80-85
Cauliflower (Seeds for transplant)	Snow Crown, Cumberland, Incline, Freedom	⅛ inch	18-24	55-65*
Collards	Champion, Flash, Georgia, Top Bunch, Yates	⅛ inch	6-12	75
Chinese Cabbage (Seeds for transplant)	None Given	¼ inch	12	60-80*
Cucumbers	Slicers = Dasher II, Diva, Fanfare HG, Indy Pickler = Calypso	¼ inch	12-18	50-65
Luffa Gourd	None Given	½ inch	48	90
Okra	Annie Oakley, Cajun Delight, Clemson Spineless	½ inch	12	60
Peppers, Bell (Seeds for transplant)	Aristotle XR3, King Arthur, Paladin, Carmen	⅛ inch	--	140-150
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Prankster, Sorcerer	½ inch	36-60	90-120
Shallots	Matador, Prisma	1 inch	4-8	50
Southern Peas	Queen Anne, California #5, Quickpick, Colussus	½ inch	4-6	70-80
Squash	Zucchini = Declaration II, Justice III, Payroll Straight Neck = Multipik, Patriot II, Liberator III Crook Neck = Destiny III, Gentry, Medallion	⅛ inch	36	50-90
Tomatoes (Seeds for transplant)	Bella Rosa, Sun Chaser, Florida 91, Phoenix, Solar Fire, BHN-216, Solar Set	⅛ inch	--	100-115
Watermelon	Seedless: Cooperstown, Gypsy, Matrix, Millennium Seeded: Mickey Lee, Sugar Baby, Amarillo	¼ inch	48	90-110

For more recommended varieties and supplier information click here to visit the Recommended Varieties Database on the LSUAgCenter website.

http://apps.lsuagcenter.com/diseaseresistance/

Figs

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Fig Varieties for Louisiana

Although there are around 700 named varieties of fig, the following have proven to perform well in Louisiana:

Celeste-The popular Celeste is a hardy fig variety that grows well throughout the state. The fruit is small to medium and is purplish-bronze to light brown with a light strawberry-colored pulp. The fruit has a closed eye. Celeste is excellent for eating fresh, canning and preserving.

On the left in the photo is a ripe LSU Gold fig. It is an open eye variety. On the right is a mature Celeste with a closed eye.

Southeastern Brown Turkey-Also known as Texas Everbearing, is a larger fig than Celeste. It has a copper or bronze skin and an amber pulp. The small eye has a reddish color from a very early stage. The fruit is good fresh and is excellent for processing.

Hunt-A bronze-to-brown pear-shaped fruit with a short neck and a long slender stalk, which allows the fruit to droop. The fruit is larger than Celeste with amber to pink pulp and few seeds. The fruit has a closed eye. Although it is not a heavy bearer, it is well-adapted to the rainier areas of Louisiana.

Kadota-Sometimes known as Florentine, produces a medium to large yellow fig with an open eye that is sealed with a honeylike substance. During rainy weather, the fruits split and may sour before becoming ripe enough to eat. Kadota is fair for eating fresh, but excellent for canning and preserves.

Alma-A medium to large pear-shaped to round fig with a light tan to brown skin and a light tan pulp. The eye is medium and self-sealing with drops of gum. The tree is highly productive with fruit ripening from late July through August. The fruit has few seed hulls and is very sweet.

Chicago Hardy-A small- to medium-size fruit with blackish purple skin and a strawberry-colored pulp. The fruit is firm and holds up well during handling, processing and rainy weather. The fruit has a small open eye.

LSU has played a critical role in the breeding and development of many cultivars that you can find at nurseries and garden centers or plant sales throughout the state. The following are cultivars developed through plant breeding work done by the LSU AgCenter.

LSU Purple-A medium-size, long, turbinate, glossy reddish to dark purple fig that has light amber to light strawberry-colored pulp and a closed eye. A heavy main crop is produced in July followed by a later crop that often lasts into December. The mild flavor is good, and the fruit has high sugar content.

LSU Gold -A large yellow fig with light red to pink pulp. Because the fruit has an open eye when mature, it should be picked as soon as it reaches maturity because fruit spoilage may occur during ripening in high moisture periods. LSU Gold has good quality for eating fresh and preserving.

O'Rourke-Sometimes known as Improved Celeste. It is medium-sized and tan to brown, has a tan pulp and tapers slightly toward the stem end with a long neck. The eye is partially closed.

Champagne-This fig developed by LSU is sometimes known as Golden Celeste. The medium-sized fruit has a yellow skin, a tan to caramel-colored pulp and a partially closed eye.

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Figs

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Tiger-This LSU fig is sometimes known as Giant Celeste. It has a large brown fruit, yellow to gold pulp and a partially closed eye.

Site Selection

Figs are easily grown and do well on most Louisiana soils if they are well drained and reasonably fertile. Figs normally produce an extensive shallow root system which may suffer from drought conditions in shallow, light soils. Protect the roots with a mulch layer of leaves, hay, straw, etc. They perform best on deep, fertile soils. The ideal soil is one that holds moisture well during dry periods and is well aerated with good native fertility. You may create and plant in a mound above the native soil level in places with poor drainage. Fig trees should also be planted in locations that receive full sunlight for most of the day.

This tree has been cultivated to have multiple trunks. Lower and inward facing limbs have been pruned away to improve air flow.

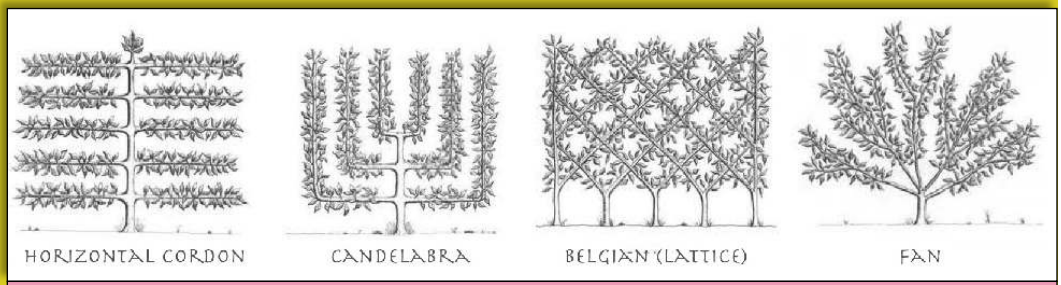
Installation

If you desire an upright "tree-like" shape with a single trunk, plant the root ball 2 inches below the soil level. Place the root ball 4 inches below the surface level for a mounded shape with multiple trunks.

Maintenance

Fertilizing: Fig trees do not require high nutrient levels to thrive. In fact, one common cause of fruit not maturing on fig trees is over fertilization using nitrogen fertilizer. A good indication of the need for fertilizer is the amount of shoot growth. A satisfactory amount of shoot growth is 1 to 1 ½ feet per year. In relatively rich soil, four to six inches of mulch and regular watering will often produce adequate growth of trees without sacrificing yield and quality. A general recommendation is 1 pound of 8-8-8 fertilizer per year of age of the tree up to a maximum of 10 pounds per year. Be careful, 8-8-8 fertilizer contains only 8% nitrogen so each pound of triple 8 fertilizer has only 1.28 ounces of nitrogen. Other fertilizers may contain a much higher percentage of nitrogen and can cause damage if you do not adjust the application rate correspondingly. Much of the soil in our area contain more than enough phosphorous and potassium for the plant's needs. We recommend that you take a soil test to determine the level of available nutrients and fertilize accordingly. Apply fertilizer in late winter or early spring. Do not fertilize trees in late summer because succulent growth is more susceptible to cold injury.

Pruning: Fig trees should be pruned in the winter during December or January when the trees are dormant. Fig trees respond well to pruning and can be very forgiving. Pruning is done to maintain a strong form, promote air flow, and maintain size. Fig trees may also me trained into elaborate shapes know as espalier.



Some examples of classic espalier designs.

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Figs

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Harvesting: In our area, will only produce one viable crop over a short two to three week period. During that time the trees should be checked daily, if possible, and any ripe fruit should be picked. To check for ripeness, first look at the size and color of the fruit. Final color depends on the variety. Give the fig a gentle squeeze. A ripe fig should be firm but slightly pliable.

Photo by Chris Dunaway

I picked these Celeste figs for an afternoon snack.

Storage: Some of this article has been reproduced from LSU AgCenter publication #3018 Louisiana Figs. The publication contains excellent information on storing figs including freezing, preserving, pickling, drying, cooking and more. Click here to see the publication or search for "Louisiana Figs LSU AgCenter" in your favorite web browser.

Other information in this article came from LSU AgCenter publication #1529 Figs for Commercial and Home Production in Louisiana. Click here to view the publication and learn more about growing fig trees in Louisiana including information on disease and pest control.

Since I was a kid climbing around in my grandmother's trees, figs have been a special part of every summer. Considering the ease of care, high productivity, and pliability make them an excellent choice for planting in a home landscape.

~Chris Dunaway

This Celeste tree has been pruned to be wide with a flat-top shape. This maximizes sunlight exposure and controls height for harvesting.

Garden Myths Exposé: Epsom Salts

Welcome to the first garden myths exposé in GNO Gardening. The LSU AgCenter gets a lot of questions about homemade remedies for pests and diseases in the garden. This is becoming more common as increasing numbers of home gardeners are making the transition to organic methods or trying to reduce pesticide usage in their plots. Epsom salt seems to be recommended by home gardeners as a remedy for every sort of plant ailment, but let's dig in and see if Epsom salt lives up to the hype.

Magnified view of Epsom salt crystals. Photo by Chris Dunaway

Epsom salts are commonly available and cheap, and being marketed as a safe, natural product for plants. Epsom salts are a source of magnesium, with a chemical composition of $MgSO_4$. Epsom salts have been studied as a solution to magnesium deficiency in many high value horticultural crops, including apples, sweet potatoes, citrus, carrots, beets, tomatoes, watermelon, tree nuts, and wine grapes. A quick online search finds a lot of home gardening sites claiming that applying Epsom salts will fix just about every issue in the home harden. Blossom end rot? Epsom salts! (More on this later). Yellow leaves? Epsom salts! Plant not flowering? Epsom salts! The list goes on, and includes Epsom salts as a remedy for just about every fungal or bacterial disease in plants to even being able to protect plants from leaf footed bugs. Sounds pretty great, right?

Unfortunately many of the above miracle cure properties of Epsom salts are a myth. Soils deficient in magnesium can absolutely benefit from an application of Epsom salts, but without doing a soil test, there is not a good way to know if an application of magnesium is actually needed. The majority of soil test results sent to the GNO AgCenter offices are already indicative of "Very High" levels of magnesium that occur naturally in the soil.

Excessive levels of potassium in the soil can cause plants to show symptoms of magnesium deficiency in the soil, because it inhibits the ability of the roots to take in the needed magnesium. Plants exhibiting signs of magnesium deficiency will begin to yellow between leaf veins, also known as interveinal chlorosis. Many other factors, including spider mite damage, iron, zinc, or nitrogen deficiency, and pH issues can create similar yellowing patterns and be confused for magnesium deficiency. A soil test will help to narrow down the causes of this interveinal yellowing.

Epsom salts are often marketed as being safe and impossible to over apply, however researchers have found that applying Epsom salts as a foliar spray can scorch leaves. Furthermore, it is highly soluble, meaning that it will leach out of the soil and end up in waterways, elevating the magnesium in those areas.

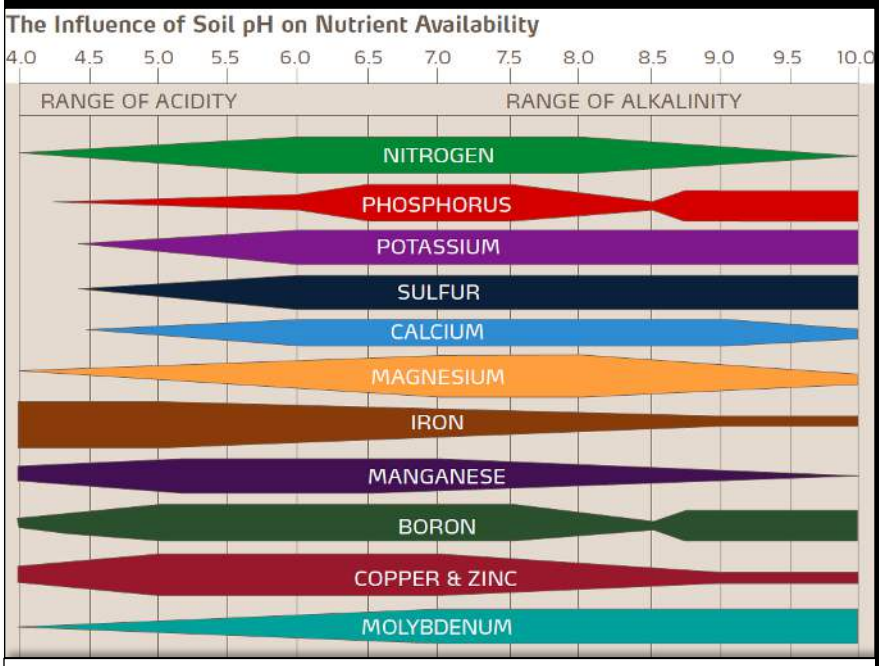
As pest control, no scientific evidence exists indicating that Epsom salts *(Continued on Page 8)*

Garden Myths Exposé: Epsom Salts

(Continued from Page 7) will deter slugs, beetles, moles, caterpillars, or other pest of any kind. Extensive testing was done in the 1930's claiming that Epsom salts would repel crop-destroying grasshoppers, which was later refuted. All subsequent research has also proven that Epsom salts have no pest control properties.

As a way to make plants grow bushier, greener, or flower more profusely, the scientific evidence strongly indicates that applying additional magnesium does not spur growth. Plants grown in soil with adequate amounts of magnesium do not need this "extra boost". Magnesium is a part of the chlorophyll molecule, and a deficiency in magnesium will create a reduction in chlorophyll production. However, most plants that are yellowing are doing so for other reasons, which need to be investigated. A soil test is a great place to start!

Interveinal chlorosis due to Magnesium deficiency. Photo by Bruce Watt, University of Maine.



Soil pH can have an effect on the availability of nutrients to a plant. Follow this link to see a video of Dr. Joe demonstrating how to take a soil test: https://www.facebook.com/1030624690304124/videos/1452161988150390/

Blossom end rot can impact tomatoes, peppers, melons, eggplant, and many other vegetables. Epsom salt application can actually aggravate this condition, which is caused by a lack of available calcium. Epsom salts contain no calcium, so bone meal is a better solution to this issue. Applying Epsom salts can actually make things worse since magnesium and calcium utilize the same channels for uptake into the plant tissue. The more magnesium in the soil, the less calcium will be able to be taken up.

As a remedy for bacterial and fungal pathogens, Epsom salts also fall short. Home gardening sites tout this as a cure for powdery and downy mildews, black spot on roses, rust on blackberries, etc. There is no scientific evidence indicating that Epsom salts can control or manage fungal or bacterial pathogens in plants.

Epsom salts can be a great, inexpensive product to apply to your plants if a recent soil test indicates that the levels of magnesium in that area are low or inadequate for the type of plants being grown. The LSU AgCenter's soil test includes magnesium, so consider testing before blindly applying this product. Unfortunately the scientific, research-based evidence indicates that Epsom salts are not a miracle cure or perfect fertilizer as many claim.

Be on the lookout for additional content addressing common garden myths! ~Anna Timmerman

The Heat Is On

There is no doubt that summer has arrived and working in the garden is sometimes more of a chore than a pleasure. This is especially true if you aren't getting any return for your perspiration investment. But there are some vegetables that can really take the heat, even thrive in the South Louisiana summer. If you started these in the spring they should do quite well deep into the latter months of the year. Or you can start them right now and they will have plenty of time to produce in abundance until frost.

A selection of hot and mild peppers harvested from the demonstration vegetable plots located in the New Orleans Botanical Gardens.

Three favorites are eggplant, pepper and okra. Eggplant and pepper are solanaceous plants just like tomato. But unlike tomato, they will keep flowering and setting fruit through the summer heat. And, it is not uncommon for plants to live right through a mild winter and come on strong when spring warmth hits again.

Okra *Abelmoschus esculentus* only takes about 50-60 days to start bearing. So, even if you plant it now, you will have time to get a nice harvest this season. But if you planted in the spring, then you're set. Some of the LSU recommended varieties are Annie Oakley, Burgundy, Cajun Delight, Clemson Spineless, Cow's Horn, Emerald, Lee, and North and South. If your okra plants are starting to get a little tall for you to harvest easily, or they are towering over everything else; you can prune the plants down to a manageable height which will also increase side-branching. Cut the main stem down to just above a leaf node. You will have a lull in production for a short time but then it will pick back up and probably even increase as the side branches develop and begin to flower. To keep it bearing at its best, you'll also want to fertilize with 3 lbs. of 8-8-8 per 300 ft^2 every 4-6 weeks.

Eggplants *Solanum melongena* take about 2 months to start bearing from transplant so it's really too late to be starting anew; however, the plants you started earlier in the year should still be going strong. Eggplant is a long season producer and will do best if you give each plant about 1 tbsp of calcium nitrate every month. You'll also want to keep the irrigation going, especially in these hot months. Eggplants produced during hot weather can sometimes develop bitterness if grown too dry. Also, if you haven't staked your eggplants, you'll want to add that to your "to-do" list. Heavily fruited branches can bend to the ground or break. Staking helps the plants support the fruit keeping it clean and disease free. Inspect your eggplants regularly for flea beetles, whiteflies and mites. These pests are a regular problem on eggplant and can cause major damage. Check the LSUAgCenter website for control methods.

Peppers *Capsicum annuum, C. baccatum, C. chinensis, C. frutescens, C. pubescens* also *(Continued on Page 10)*

The Heat Is On

(Continued from Page 9) take 2 months or more to begin bearing after transplant. It's getting too late to be putting out transplants and definitely too late to start seeds; however, the plants you started in the spring will still be producing deep into winter and will even survive mild winters and grow as perennials. Peppers, like eggplants, do well with a monthly nitrogen side-dressing. Hot peppers may get hotter in the summertime especially if they are not irrigated. Check them regularly for whitefly and control as necessary.

Though July can be a hot month and a transition period in the garden, having these heat-loving veggies around will continue to reward you for your sweat equity.

~Dr. Joe Willis

Okra plants are closely related to hibiscus plants as you can see from the flower of this Burgundy okra plant.

July Checklist/Garden Tips

Sharpen your lawn mower blades. They have generally gotten dull by this time of the year.

Fine, silvery webbing appearing on the bark of area trees is completely harmless. The webbing is produced by tiny scavenging insects called bark lice. Do not let any tree care company convince you that they are damaging your tree and charge you for unneeded treatments.

Cut back perennials in the garden when they finish flowering and the foliage begins to look tired.

Keep caladiums well watered during hot, dry weather to keep the foliage in good shape through the summer. You may apply a fertilizer now to encourage vigorous growth. Break off any flowers that form.

Unless it is absolutely necessary, avoid placing saucers underneath container plants outside. Saucers full of water will keep the soil in the pots too wet, an unhealthy condition for most plants. In addition, saucers full of water provide breeding sites for mosquitoes.

Keep up with weeding. This time of year weeds can get out of hand very fast. Use mulches wherever possible. If you need help with herbicide recommendations, contact your local LSU AgCenter Extension office.

Container plants should not be placed directly onto wooden decks. The moisture underneath can damage the wood (saucers do the same thing). Boost pots off of the surface an inch or two with pieces of brick, small blocks of wood or special terra-cotta pot supports available at some local nurseries and garden shops.

Keep old flowers cut off roses. Trim back to the first five leaflet leaf. Spray weekly with a combination insecticide/fungicide product labeled for roses if the types you grow are susceptible to black spot.

Remember to harvest herbs such as mints, basil, rosemary, lemon balm and Mexican tarragon regularly to keep the plants shapely and under control. Some herbs such as thyme, sage and lavender tolerate heat and rain poorly and may not be doing well now as a result.

What's Bugging You? Roof Rats

Have you ever gone out to harvest your citrus fruit and found that it's hanging on the tree hollowed out with just the rind still there or been watching your figs approaching their sweet perfection only to find big bite marks in them or nothing but the stem remaining on the plant? If that has ever happened to you, you're probably in competition with roof rats *Rattus rattus*.

Roof Rats prefer warmer tropical climates, are very agile climbers and may often live in attics or trees. Roof Rats are also commonly found within landscaped residential and industrial areas, vegetation along streams and riverbanks, citrus or sugarcane groves, and anywhere food and shelter are abundant.

Roof Rats will eat almost anything but prefer fruits and nuts when they are available, as well as pet feed. Roof Rats are primarily nocturnal, often living above ground (in attics or trees) and traveling down at night to find food sources. This makes traditional baiting and trapping on the ground a bit trickier. Unless traps or baits are placed at the very point of entry where Roof Rats travel to a food source, very few of them will be intercepted.

Roof Rats give birth to about 5 to 8 young after a gestation period of 21 to 23 days and may have up to 4 litters a year. Newborn rats may reach independence and reproductive maturity at about 3 months. Peak breeding season for the Roof Rat typically occurs in Spring and Fall.

The Roof Rat's adult head and body length is about 13 to 18 inches long, including its tail with a pointed nose and longish ears. The Roof Rat is sleek and graceful and kinda cute – but unless you're willing to give up your backyard fruit, you will need to control them.

~Dr. Joe Willis

A roof rat *Rattus rattus* feeding in a fig tree. Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

In the Kitchen with Austin

Smothered Okra

Ingredients:

2 quarts fresh okra, sliced

4 fresh tomatoes, skinned and diced

1 medium onion, chopped

½ green bell pepper, chopped

4 tbs. butter

1 tsp. thyme, dried and crushed in the palm of your hand

¼ tsp. sugar

Salt and pepper to taste

*Note: A pinch of cayenne adds tremendous flavor to this dish

Directions:

Sauté the onion and bell pepper in butter over medium heat. When seasoning vegetables are soft, add the tomatoes, okra, and the remaining ingredients. Lower heat and cook for 30 to 45 minutes covered. Stir occasionally and adjust seasoning to suit your taste. The recipe can also be made using your favorite meat or seafood for a hearty meal.

Bon Manger!

Plant the following ornamentals in your garden in July:

Full Sun

Torenia
Periwinkle
Melampodium

Torenia

Salvia
Scaevola
Purslane

Salvia

Pentas
Blue Impatiens
Begonia

Purslane

Narrow leaf Zinnia
Lantana
Verbena

Verbena

Part Shade

Caladium

Begonia

Coleus

Impatiens

Coming Events

Date	Event	Cost	Link
Saturdays through July 9 AM-5 PM	Open House @ Ninth Ward Nursery– 2641 Deslonde St. New Orleans LA	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/260114918203971/?event_time_id=260114944870635
July 13th-14th 9 AM-5 PM	Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show @ LSU AgCenter Botanic Garden, 4560 Essen Ln., Baton Rouge	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/2317029715286116/
Saturday, July 13th 10:30 AM-Noon	Make a Flower Press @ New Orleans Botanical Garden– 5 Victory Avenue, New Orleans	$20, advance registration required	https://www.facebook.com/events/255917635278171/ *Master Gardener Continuing Education Hours!
July 15-16th 8 AM-3 PM	Louisiana Sustainable Agriculture Working Group Conference @ NOCCA– 2800 Chartres St. New Orleans	$25, advance registration required	https://www.facebook.com/events/2427002237533233/ *Master Gardener Continuing Education Hours!
Saturday, July 20th 9 AM-Noon	Pelican Greenhouse Plant Sale @ City Park, New Orleans	Free	http://neworleanscitypark.com/events/pelican-greenhouse-plant-sales
Monday, July 22nd Time TBA	Nursery License Workshop for New Growers, hosted by LDAF and the LSU AgCenter. Location TBA.	Free	Email gnogardening@agcenter.lsu.edu for more information. Limited to nursery and backyard growers selling plant material.
Saturday, July 27th 10:30 AM-4:30 PM	Mosquito Fest @ The Audubon Nature Center, 11000 Lake Forest Blvd., New Orleans	Free	https://www.facebook.com/events/2667241506621236/

NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK
BOTANICAL GARDEN

Pelican Greenhouse 2019 Plant Sales

July 20

Other Dates:
August 24
Fall Garden Festival
October 5, 2019 - 10 am to 5 pm
October 6, 2019 - 10 am to 4 pm

The Pelican Greenhouse is located at #2 Celebration Drive, City Park. Just South of the I-610 overpass. For additional information, call 504/483-9464.

Visit our website at www.neworleanscitypark.com, or e-mail to plants@nocp.org

Farmers Markets in the Greater New Orleans Area

Jefferson Parish	Where	When
Fat City Farmer's Market	3215 Edenborn, Metairie	Every 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9AM-1PM
Gretna Farmer's Market	739 Third Street, Gretna	Every Saturday, except the Saturday of Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
Kenner Rivertown Farmer's Market	2115 Rev. Richard Wilson Drive, Kenner	Every Saturday, October-July, 9AM-1PM
Nawlins Outdoor Market	1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey	Every Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM
Old Metairie Farmer's Market	Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn Dr. and Labarre	3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-7:30PM
Westwego Shrimp Lot	100 Westbank Expressway, Westwego	Daily Mon-Sat 8AM-8PM, Sun 8AM-6PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Bucktown	325 Metairie-Hammond, Highway at Bucktown Harbor	Fridays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Rivertown New Orleans	Williams Boulevard at the River	Saturdays, 9AM-1PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Ochsner West Campus	2614 Jefferson Highway, Ochsner Rehab Facility	Wednesdays, 3PM-7PM
Orleans Parish	When	Where
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Uptown	200 Broadway Street at the River	Tuesdays, 9AM-1PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Bywater	Chartres and Piety, at Rusty Rainbow Bridge	Wednesdays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Mid-City	3700 Orleans Avenue	Thursdays, 3PM-7PM
Crescent City Farmer's Market-Downtown	750 Carondelet St at Julia	Saturdays, 8am-12PM
Sankofa Market	5029 St. Claude St.	Monday-Thursday, 9:30AM-4:00PM
ReFresh Farmer's Market	300 North Broad St.	Mondays, 4:00PM-7:00PM
Vietnamese Farmer's Market	14401 Alcee Fortier Blvd.	Saturdays, 5:30AM-8:30AM
Marketplace at Armstrong Park	901 N. Rampart	Thursdays, 3PM-7PM
Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market	Comiskey Park,	Market dates vary, check http://midcityaf.org
Treme Farmer's Market	814 N. Claiborne	Market dates vary, check https://gloriastremegarden.com/treme-farmers-market/
St. Bernard Parish	When	Where
St. Bernard Seafood and Farmer's Market	409 Aycock St., Arabi	2nd Saturdays, 10AM-2PM

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

1. This is the last month to lay sod for Centipede, Zoyia, or St. Augustine grasses. Bermudagrass may be installed through August. Seeding of Centipede may be done this month but is not recommended.
2. You may fertilize at this time if you have not already done so. Look on page 5 of the Louisiana Lawns Best Management Practices Guide for information on the correct timing and application rates.
3. Continue to scout for fungal damage and control with fungicides if necessary. The most prevalent is called Large Patch of Warm-Season Turfgrass. Click here to find information about large patch disease from the LSU AgCenter.
4. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. The best time to water is in the morning. It is safest, from a disease standpoint, not to keep a grass wet all night long. Watering established sod during midday is discouraged because of extra loss from evaporation
5. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
6. Dethatch the lawn if necessary.
7. Keep an eye open for insect pests and treat if necessary.
8. Spread fill soil and compost over the lawn to add organic material and smooth out the lawn. Do not add more than 2 inches over actively growing grass.
9. Set your mower to the correct height for your turfgrass type.

Don't's

1. Do not apply selective herbicides to the lawn.
2. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height at a single time.
3. Do not try to grow grass in deep shade.

Cutting turfgrass at the proper height maximizes energy production and encourages strong, healthy and deep roots.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help

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