

Tarrant County Master Gardener



TEXAS A & M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

Volume 3, Issue 4

April 2019

Intern Project Contributes to Living Memorial at Temple Beth El

By Lorie Grandclair-Diaz

On a very chilly morning in November of 2018, the Trumpet Vines intern group traveled to Temple Beth El in Fort Worth. They dug trenches and worked with the Jewish Sunday school children, youth group, and adult volunteers of all ages to plant 500 daffodil bulbs. The bulbs, donated by Rachel Goldman of the Temple, were planted as part of a worldwide project called “The Daffodil Project”. The Daffodil Project aspires to build a worldwide Living Holocaust memorial by planting 1.5 million daffodils in memory of the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust.

Earlier in the spring and summer, the Trumpet Vines, led by Judy Matlock, tilled, tested and amended the soil. The interns prepared a detailed landscape drawing and then planted many perennial and evergreen plants in front of the Temple, leaving room to plant the bulbs in the Fall.

“Why daffodils? The shape and color of the daffodils represent the Yellow stars that Jews were forced to wear during the Holocaust. Yellow is the color of remembrance. Daffodils represent our poignant hope for the future. They are resilient return with a burst of color each Spring, signifying renewal and beauty. The daffodils also honor those who survived the Holocaust and went on to build new lives after this dark and difficult period.” Quote from www.daffodilproject.net



Photos are of the daffodils in bloom in front of the Temple, and the November 11 workday.

Trumpet Vine Interns were: Angela Hathaway Cheri Mills, Jim Jensen, Sharon Neel and Laura Madsen. Now they are Blue Badges!

Tarrant County Master Gardener

Flower Of The Month

Content provided by Theresa Thomas

Texas Bluebonnet, *Lupinus texensis*.

by Josephine Kenney, Cross Timbers Naturalist and NC-NPSOT Member

This beautiful annual herb of the Fabaceae family is the most recognized Texas Native Wildflower.

It's fame is well deserved, for in April and into May it blankets fields and roadways in gorgeous shades of blue.

Mothers with their children as well as glamour girls, engaged couples and brides come to have their picture taken surrounded by a blanket of blooms.

These classic Texas photographs bring beautiful memories to last a lifetime.

People who have never seen a Bluebonnet are astounded at its beauty, and artists compete to capture the beauty of a field full of Bluebonnets surrounded by mighty Oaks.

The Sandyland Bluebonnet, *Lupinus subcarnosus* became the Texas State Flower in 1901, and in 1971 the State Legislature made all other Bluebonnets the State Flower.

Four additional species were included in 1971:

Texas Bluebonnet, *Lupinus texensis*

Big Bend Bluebonnet, *Lupinus havardi* (Endemic to Texas)

Dune Bluebonnet, *Lupinus plattensis*

Bajada Bluebonnet, *Lupinus concinnus*

The following are also Texas Bluebonnets:

Orcutt's Lupine, *Lupinus concinnus* ssp. *orcuttii*

Sundial Lupine, *Lupinus perennis* ssp. *gracilis*

by Josephine Keeney



SOME IDEAS ON USING THE 28-0-0 FERTILIZER YOU PURCHASED FROM THE TCMGA

Prepared by Lance Jepson
Sharecropper April 2012

Now that you have purchased 2, 4 or 6 bags of the 28-0-0 fertilizer, how do you apply it to your lawn? Here's some points to assist you:

- * Apply 3.57 pounds of this fertilizer per 1000 square feet to your lawn.
- * Use a broadcast spreader to apply it to your lawn including your shrubs.
- * Water in immediately after applying. A watering of 1 to 1 and one-half inches is recommended.
- * Do not use a weed and feed. AgriLife does not recommend these types of fertilizer.

More about all these fertilizer ideas.

Most of Tarrant County is blessed with clay soils. Phosphorus naturally occurs in our soils. Almost all of our soil tests completed on these soils show medium to high results, except for nitrogen. Potassium is usually higher than normal as it also occurs naturally in our clay soils. By buying 28-0-0, this means that you know that your soils are typical. If you are not sure, take a sample and test.

One half of the fertilizer that you purchased is slow release, designed to release nutrients over a relatively long period of time. Sulfur-coated urea, a synthetic organic fertilizer, is a slow release fertilizer with a covering of sulfur around each particle. Watering does not affect the release of this fertilizer, heat does. The resins of sulfur control the rate of release from the granules into the soil, depending on the thickness of the sulfur. Release can take from three to six months. Of course with high Texas heat high release rates are sometimes observed.

The other 50 percent of the fertilizer is quick release Ammonium Nitrate. It is fast acting, with greater burn potential, and lower cost. It leaches readily.

How much fertilizer to apply?

The 50# bag of fertilizer you bought contains 14 lbs. of nitrogen. No phosphorus or potassium. The rest of the material in the bag is sand or other inert materials. I am going to assume that you are applying the fertilizer to a 1000 Sq. Ft. lawn. The last assumption is that we are going to apply a TAMU recommended one pound of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. For lawns this is a typical recommendation. Below is an example of how to calculate the required amount:

- a. Divide 1 (the recommended rate) by the percentage of nitrogen (.28) . This will give you the rate per 1000 sq. ft. (3.57 lbs.) If you were using for example—15-5-10. Divide 1 by .15. You would need 6.67 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft.
- b. Then multiply the lbs. of fertilizer by the rate per sq. ft. $3.57 \times 5000/1000 =$ Apply 33 pounds/ 5000 sq. feet.
- c. For our 28-0-0 apply $3.57 \times 5000/1000 = 17.85$ pounds.

How do I apply it?

Fertilizer application is not an exact science. One must determine the quantity, select the type of equipment and try applying on 1000 sq. ft.. The choice of equipment is a drop or broadcast type spreader. Broadcast is easiest and quickest with the least amount of time and effort.

1. Using a broadcast spreader (one that spins and throws the fertilizer in a wide band) one can fertilize their shrubs and flowers at the same time as their grass. Of course one might waste fertilizer spreading it on sidewalks and driveways.
2. If one uses a drop spreader (spreading fertilizer in a narrow band) one can strip the grass, at the least one should crisscross the unfertilized areas.

Lastly always water in immediately after application with 1 to 1 and one half inch after application. The quick release fertilizer can be completely lost after 2-3 inches of rain. The slow release will not be affected.

Tarrant County Master Gardener

The President's Corner

Hello Master Gardeners,

The weather is beginning to warm up and our Texas sun is finally beginning to shine brighter a little more every day. The rain has been great but we are all wanting to get our hands in the soil, get rid of those weeds, mulch and plant, plant, plant! The Golden Groundsel at the SW Regional Library popped up a week ago and has brightened up the garden saying "Spring is in the air!".

Our own Resource Connection Demonstration Garden could use your help in a variety of ways. The minimum of the required four hours or more would make a big difference this year in the garden. There is a lot happening in the garden that could use your expertise. It is the showcase of the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association demonstrating many types of gardens that we and the community can have.

Join the Speaker's Bureau. This is another important Outreach program for the Master Gardeners. There is a large demand by the community for Master Gardeners to talk about different aspects of gardening.

The Plant Sale will be here before we know. What's the Date? April 27.

Hope to see you at the State Conference coming up on April 25-27. Heard there are one or two going to the International Master Gardener Conference in PA this year.

Thank you everyone that have been putting in your hours on VMS. Please keep up the great work.

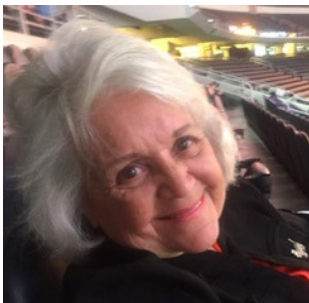
In 2018 we had approximately 298 members that completed their certified hours. Thank you Thank you!!

Please take a minute to remember our Master Garden friends that have been and/or having health issues or dealing with other types of issues in their lives.

I will be joining you in the garden, doing what we love.

Theresa

Keep calm, spring has begun! VOLUNTEER, VOLUNTEER, VOLUNTEER



Volume 3, Issue 4

Important Dates:

Thursday, April 4 Monthly Meeting

Thursday, April 18 Board Meeting

Friday, April 19 Good Friday, office closed

Saturday, April 27th, Plant Sale! Please Volunteer!

April 25—27 State Conference.



From Lorie's Garden:

Left: Squirrel Shenanigans

Below: Kerria Japonica, Golden Groundsel, Leopard plant, Oxalis, Aspidistra, Hosta and Japanese Maple.

Members would love to see pictures from your garden! Send them to Lorie at lgrandclair@gmail.com



Southwest Sub-Courthouse Demonstration Garden

By Gailon Hardin

6551 Granbury Rd, Fort Worth, TX. Work days: 2nd Saturday & Last Wednesday 11:00am -2:00pm

Leaders: Gailon Hardin & Dawn Hancock

The SW Tarrant County Sub-Courthouse native plant garden is adjacent to a parking lot. It's handy when courthouse visitors get out of their vehicles and admire the garden. Sometimes too handy! Some visitors enter the garden where there is not a pathway and step on precious native plants. That's when volunteers are helpful. On January 30th, seven volunteers helped install a pathway to prevent damage to plants, as well as to prevent erosion. It was 35 degrees.

Gailon and Dawn Need Help! Please volunteer!



Left to right: Suzette Tuttle, Dawn Hancock, Otto Witt, Gordon Scruggs, Margaret Shuping, Jim Leppert, Jim Prentice, Eric Johnson. Photos by Gailon Hardin.

