



The Colonial Master Gardener

February
2016

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WMASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY DEBORAH GRIESINGER

Dear James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener Association Members,

I know this has been a difficult few weeks for many of us, feeling the loss of three of our very active Master Gardeners and friends: Lois Enlow, Dan Tevlin, and Art Gustafson. We will sadly miss them as we work in their favorite projects and visit with one another at our general meetings and social events. One bright spot has been the many opportunities we have been provided to come together to celebrate their remarkable and memorable lives.

The winds are blowing snow outside my windows on this Saturday night, but I am focused on spring and the gardening projects already underway for 2016. I am also concerned that some of you may have further questions about the distinctions between our association and VCE. Five of our association members have been meeting to digest your thoughts and concerns and to put them into a FAQ (frequently asked questions) format to be sent out to everyone very soon. I am not sure which you will receive first--- this newsletter or the next email containing these FAQs.

Our board and a small committee have been investing a great deal of time and effort into communicating with you. Please refer to:

- January's newsletter
- The multi-page recent email from me
- Two separate PowerPoint slide sets recently sent to you
- The FAQs email
- This February newsletter

Before bringing this to the membership we have:

- Met with Kate and former unit coordinator Sonja Mitchell
- Met with Kate and present unit coordinator Sally Brooks
- Met with an attorney, Jo Ursini
- Corresponded with the attorney as new questions arose



The Graphics Fairy

Next Meeting:

Thursday, February 4

Program:
**The Ulster American
Homestead Garden Center**

Speaker: Joel Patton, owner

I am now charging you, our association members, to communicate further with me and/or other board members and to come to the Thursday, February 4, meeting at 9:00am prepared to discuss the board's recommendation and to vote.

All members in good standing (dues paid, including late fee if paid after January 31), will sign in at the table at the back of the auditorium. You will receive index cards for additional specific questions that may arise and one colored index card for your voting.

The meeting will begin promptly at 9:00am and will conclude at 10:15, followed by a break; our educational program will begin at 10:30.

This is a change and a reversal of our usual procedures.

The incorporation/insurance discussion will use a panel format. This panel will include board members, Kate Robbins from VCE, and Attorney Jo Ursini. Your additional questions on the cards will be collected and answered. A vote of the board's recommendation will follow.

The board recommends that the association members approve incorporation and the insurances specified.

Thank you,
Deborah Griesinger

LOIS ENLOW, DAN TEVLIN, AND ART GUSTAFSON COMPILED BY HOPE YELICH

Winter got a little bleaker with the passing this month of three members of the James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener Association family: Lois Enlow on January 11, Dan Tevlin on January 15, and Art Gustafson on January 18. All three were active and enthusiastic MGs, and we will miss them.

Lois, MG class of 2007, was born in Chicago and worked as a registered nurse before retiring to Williamsburg. As a MG, Lois worked in the Colonial Williamsburg gardens and greenhouse, Matthey's Garden, with the Pruning Program, and with the E2 Program at Matoaka Elementary School. When she wasn't gardening, Lois served as a member of the floral guild at the Williamsburg Community Chapel, played golf, and took mission trips to the Dominican Republic, among numerous other activities. She leaves behind her husband Gerald, her children, and her grandchildren.



Remembering her friend, Bev Baker wrote that she and Lois "did many activities together from playing golf to volunteering at church and working as Master Gardeners. She was always forging ahead at full throttle with great enthusiasm with whatever she did. she worked harder than anyone, but she had her limits because she couldn't tolerate the heat. She was an outgoing friendly person who liked to get things done. I think that's one reason she liked being a class manager, which she did for several years and where she got to know the interns. Extremely organized, she called herself a type A.; Lois always did her best. She liked to dance and she liked her glass of red wine. Lois said many times that this last year was the hardest year of her life and she had had her share of life challenges. She

"A tiny bouquet of flowers can fill a room with sunshine, a tiny act of kindness can fill a heart with joy."—Katherine Nelson, submitted by Angela Cingale



Born in the Bronx and proud of it, Dan spent his pre-MG years at the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Virginia Alcohol Control Board before moving to Williamsburg in 2002. As a Master Gardener and Tree Steward, Dan enjoyed Landscape Love, the Farmer's Market help desk, pruning, and his interactions with his gardening colleagues. He also enjoyed working with the public on behalf of MG and participating in the Williamsburg Civil War Round Table. Dan is survived by his wife, Patsy McGrady, his children, and his granddaughter.

Kari Abbott, coordinator of the E2 program, shares this memory of Dan: "He was a great field trip volunteer. One of the first field trips we had back in the beginning of E2 –we went out in the marsh land at York River State Park. It rained a boat load the day before. The marsh was very marshy, soggy, and sinky. I had got Walmart plastic bags for everyone to put over their shoes, because we just sank in the mud. And Dan went out there with no worries and no bags. He had the children listening intently. I have attached a copy of a picture I have laminated of Dan, baseball hat on, with little boys listening to his every word. That is the way I will always remember him."

Continued on the next page.....



Photo courtesy of Kari Abbott

The Colonial Master Gardener February 2016



Dan at the Ambler Estate (left) and at the Farmer's Market (right). About Dan, Sally Sissel said " Dan was a Very private person. One look at a camera and he was gone."

Photo at left by Anne Nielsen. Photos courtesy of Sue Liddell.



A native Virginian, Art was a graduate of Virginia Tech with a BS in electrical engineering. He retired from a career in the Applied Technology Laboratory in Fort Eustis, moved from Newport News to Williamsburg, and became a Master Gardener in 2001. He served on the Master Gardener board and as hours administrator and developer of the composting program. He met his wife Barbara through the Master Gardeners, and they married in 2004. He and Barbara worked together as co-chairs of various programs, including Incredible Edibles, the Historic Triangle Community Garden, and Grow it & Eat It, an annual community seminar on growing vegetables. Art was also involved with the Pruning and Tree Steward programs and served as a speaker with the Speakers Bureau. In addition to his wife, Barbara, Art is survived by his stepchildren and their children and by nephews and a niece.

Kari Abbott recalls, "The first time I met Art and Barbara was the first meeting I attended of the JCCW MGs back twelve years ago. They announced to the membership that we were all invited to their wedding! They both have supported E2 and prompted me to achieve higher goals at every turn. Barbara convinced me to apply to the International Master Gardener College in 2009, where E2 was voted third-best youth program at the college. That was all owing to Barbara and Art's encouragement. Art was steadfast, with Barbara, and with everything he did."



Art demonstrating a pruning cut.
Photo courtesy of Sue Liddell.



Art and Barbara at Master Gardener College

Photo courtesy of Sue Liddell.

The Colonial Master Gardener February 2016

UPCOMING CLASSES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIUMS, AND PLANT SALES

BY KATHY BUSH

Now-February 25 (Jamestown Settlement). **Clayton and Catesby: Botanical Virginia.** Exhibit, special lectures, and classes.

- * Tuesday, **February 2** - **“Wildflowers and Grasses on Virginia’s Coastal Plain,”** presented by Helen Hamilton. 4:30pm, Robins Theater. This will be preceded by a one-hour Jamestown Settlement outdoor guided tour at 2:00pm, “Through the Eyes of Catesby,” focusing on the flora and fauna depicted in Catesby’s watercolors, and a forty-five-minute tour of the exhibit at 3:30pm. The tour and lecture are included with museum admission.
- * Thursday, **February 25** – **“Naked Tree Walk,”** presented by Dr. Stewart Ware, College of William and Mary professor of biology emeritus. 10:00am-2:00pm, Hatcher Rotunda. Advance reservation is required. Register online or call (757)253-4939. Cost is \$45 and includes lunch. Members of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund gift clubs (donors of \$100 or more) receive a discount and can call (757) 253-4139 or email giving@jyf.virginia.gov for a code to use in online registration.

February 9 (Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Norge) **Victorian Valentine’s Day Tussie Mussies by Julie Stanton.** 1:00pm. An open meeting sponsored by the Colonial Triangle of Virginia Unit of the Herb Society of America.

February 20 (JCC rec center), **Williamsburg Botanical Garden program.** 9:00am—12:00 noon. Lisa Ziegler (Gardener’s Workshop) will offer two programs: Easy Seed Starting and Restoring Pollinators. She will also have the Gardener’s Workshop Pop-Up Shop with seeds, tools, books etc. A \$5 donation to benefit WBG would be appreciated.

March 12 (Williamsburg). **Williamsburg Home Show.** Save the date!

March 18 (Waynesboro, Va., Parks and Recreation). **2016 Shenandoah Valley Plant Symposium.** 8:00am - 4:00pm. A *Gardener’s Palette* of speakers during the 2016 Shenandoah Valley Plant Symposium. It requires an overnight stay but is well worth the effort. Details will be coming soon.

March 19 (Williamsburg Botanical Garden, Freedom Park). **Designing the Small Garden.** 10:00am—11:30am. Gordon Chappell, landscape architect and former CWF Director of Landscape and Facility Services, will talk about the hows and whys of garden design. Suggested donation to help the garden grow, \$5.

April 2 (White Stone). **23rd Annual Gardening in the Northern Neck Seminar - Nurturing Nature: Sustainable Gardening.** 8:00am—3:00pm. There will be guest speakers, vendors, book sales and even book signings! The seminar location is at the Church of the Nazarene, 57 Wisk Drive, White Stone, VA 22578. The registration forms will be available February 1 on the website <http://www.nnmg.org/nngardeningseminar.asp>. The registration fee is only \$25! Don’t miss these specific speakers:

- * Lisa Ziegler (The Gardener’s Workshop, Newport News), will present *From the Ground Up*. Program includes how to plant seeds directly in the garden or indoors using the soil block method. Lisa reveals the steps she follows to prepare garden soil organically for abundant growth and low maintenance.
- * Tim McCoy (Research Specialist, Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs), will speak on *Native Pollinators: An Overlooked Stakeholder Group*. Find out what you can do to help the pollinators- Tim’s talk even includes MANY specific suggestions!
- * Kevin Goff: (Director of the River Program, St. Margaret’s School, Tappahannock), will discuss *Too Much of a Good Thing*. Learn how homeowners in the Chesapeake Bay watershed can work for healthier water quality in our neighboring creeks, rivers, and the Bay.

April 16 (Freeman Center, CNU). **19th Garden Symposium.** Focus will be “Creating Environmentally Friendly Gardens” oriented to our specific geographic areas. There will be three speakers in the morning session and a panel discussion with audience participation after lunch. (In collaboration with the CNU Grounds Department.) Vendors will be outside to include the Colonial Triangle Chapter of the Herb Society of America with a tent full of herbs.

April 24-26 (Colonial Williamsburg). **70th Annual Garden Symposium.** Topics include planting for architectural interest, planting with style, perennials, foliage plants and foodscaping. One day or deluxe three day tickets available. For advanced ticketing call 1-800-603-0948.

The Colonial Master Gardener February 2016



2016 PLANT SALE BY MARGENE HARTSOUGH



It is time to begin working on the 2016 plant sale, the major fundraising event for the Master Gardener Association, which funds all the various projects we all enjoy. The sale will be **Saturday, April 30 at Jamestown Beach Park**, the same location as the past several years. Set up for the sale will be on Friday, April 29, from 7:00am-2:00pm, with the MG presale to occur from 4:00pm-6:00pm on Friday.

Some changes this year will be:

Intake – all plant material from Master Gardeners will be received from **8:00am-2:00pm** at Jamestown Beach Park **only on Friday, April 29**. This will require each MG to be diligent in properly potting their plant offerings. This change will reduce the number of hours required by members and the number of days devoted to one activity, eliminates the need to transport material to the sale site and back again, and eliminates the possibility of risk at the previous intake site.

Pots – Beginning with the February general meeting, bags with three-to-four six-inch pots filled with compost and perlite will be available. If you miss a meeting and want to take advantage of this the following locations will have a supply:

Kingsmill – Jerry Babski's home
Fords Colony – Becky Sutton's home
Stonehouse – Margene Hartsough's home
Settlers Mill – Pat Rathke's home
Settlers Powatan – Marty Oakes's home

If you have larger plants you may take advantage of the compost and perlite mix by going to Pat Abraham's house at 123 Quarter Meeting House Road.
Thanks to Pat Rathke and Pat Abraham for making this material available.

Jobs – Sign-up sheets with job descriptions, shift information, and other data will be available beginning with the February MG meeting. We **NEED EVERYONE** to work to make the event a success.

After Sale – Since the intake process has been changed with no intake site away from the sale site, there will be **NO AFTER SALE event**. At the close of the sale on Saturday plant material obtained from vendors will be returned to them as has been the case in prior years. MGs who donate plant material that does not sell are invited to retrieve it at the close of the sale on Saturday afternoon. Any remaining material will be disposed of that day unless it is retrieved by the person who donated it or by a project chair.

Plant Material – Project chairs who wish to obtain plant material **MUST secure it immediately after the sale closes on Saturday afternoon**.

We ask each Master Gardener to provide six 6" pots of plant material. If all the two hundred members of our unit provided six pots we would have 1200 pots to sell at an average price of \$5 each, netting \$6000 in revenue—a very strong sale without any of the special plant material we purchase from outside vendors.

Thanks in advance for participating. Only with all of us working together can we accomplish our goals.

REMEMBER SIX 6" POTS

E2 NEWS

BY KARI ABBOTT



It is with a bit of sadness that we start our newsletter submission. Lois and Dan were good friends and volunteered in the E2 program. Lois volunteered at Matoaka, bringing a sense of fun that brightened a student's day. Dan volunteered with E2 field trips—a memorable year was when we went into the wetlands, mud and all. I will remember and miss them both.

In January the children found out about the wonder of water and why it is the coolest element on the planet. They learned about the three states of water, and they played a matching game in which, instead of looking at the picture, they had to match cards using water as a liquid, solid, or gas. It was a challenge, but they did it.

As we head into February the children will discover how much water is used in papermaking. They will also learn about how trees that go to the paper plant in West Point are grown and harvested. In this exercise, the children actually make a piece of paper, extracting all the water from the prepared paper pulp. This is a fun and messy class project with a lot of laughter.

The field trips for E2 are set, and it is a great schedule. All Master Gardeners are welcome to come and walk through the Beaver Trail with us. Students tell us it is the best field trip ever! Come be part of the fun. Start times will be established closer to the date, but these trips generally run from 9:00am-11:30am.

The walk-through at the York River State Park to update the field guide and for anyone who is interested will take place on Wednesday, April 13, from 9:00am-12:00noon. This would be the perfect time to go into the woods and learn about our lessons and to do E2 training. The field trip is like the final exam of the year. Please email me if you would like to join us. bearsbaskets@cox.net

We will update the trail guide from last year after the April 13 walk-through and send a copy to anyone who would like to read it.

Schoolchildren will be in the York River State Park on these dates:

JB Blayton	Friday, April 29
Matthew Whaley	Wednesday, May 4
DJ Montague	Tuesday, May 10
Clara Byrd Baker	Thursday, May 12
Matoaka	Tuesday & Wednesday, May 17 & 18

Please email bearsbaskets@cox.net if you would like join us in E2 volunteering with school children.

HELP DESK NEEDS VOLUNTEERS BY AVRIL PURVIS

The help desk needs volunteers to assist the upcoming class of 2016 in April. The mentor program has changed since it did not work effectively; therefore, we are looking for volunteers to hear about the new way we plan to address the issue. Please consider at the very least listening to the new way we are approaching the change, and just perhaps, you may be able to assist. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact Avril Purvis. avril_purvis@yahoo.com.

TURF LOVE TRAINING 2016

BY JUDY KINSHAW-ELLIS

If you have been thinking about how you want to spend your MG hours this year, Turf Love is always looking for dynamic Lawn Ranger volunteers! It is a great project if you are interested in water quality and conservation in our region or if you simply love a lush, dense carpet of green, and it includes Garden Love, the program for rain gardens.

It also lets you set the time you volunteer, so you can schedule appointments at times that work for you. Most Lawn Rangers volunteer two to three hours a week when we are busy in the spring, summer, and fall, but you can do as much as you like, and we will work around your travel schedule. If you have a friend who is also interested, it is a great team activity.

Turf Love runs all year, but it slows down in the late fall and winter. If the ground is frozen or covered in snow, no visits are scheduled, which gives us some time to train more Lawn Rangers. *We will have a later training following the conclusion of the current MG class that will include rain garden information.* Attend our February training and find out what Turf Love is all about.

2016 Training Sessions at the Extension Office:

February 18 or 22, 9:30am to 11:30am. Experienced Lawn Rangers need only attend the first hour.

Please call or email and let us know you will be attending: 757-564-2172 or JKinshaw@vt.edu

SAVE THE DATE: Turf Love University will be April 2 at the JCC Recreation Center and will focus on organic and low-impact lawn care. Mark your calendars!



Photo by Judy Kinshaw-Ellis



The J. Blaine Blayton Elementary School MGs and teachers enjoy their annual Christmas lunch.

Going around the table starting on the left: Ken Caro, Nicole Hammer (teacher) Charlie Morse (former teacher), Vince Rasper, Joanne Sheffield, Lisa Stefanic, Stacy DeMeo, Iris Grant, Peter Shaub, Mitzi Balma, and Valerie Hillyer.

Photo courtesy of Ken Caro.

WINTER/EARLY SPRING PLANT WALKS

BY HELEN HAMILTON

All walks are sponsored by the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society.

Evergreen Walk. Saturday, February 6. Join Gus Hall at 10:00 am on a quest for everything green at the Wahrani Nature Trail in New Kent County. Expect to see a lot of over-wintering plants – there are two species of orchids, several species of mosses, and lichens, sedges, ground cedar, clubmoss, ferns, a grass or two, and a few herbaceous leaves. Dress for the weather and expect uneven trails and some muddy areas along the trail.

Please register so that, in case the walk has to be re-scheduled because of inclement weather, we will be able to let you know. To register, contact Helen Hamilton at (757) 564- 4494 or helen48@cox.net.

Directions from the east (Williamsburg): Take 64 west towards Richmond, then take the 2nd West Point exit (Exit 220). Travel approximately four miles on Hwy. 33 towards West Point; trail entrance will be on the right hand side.

From the north (West Point): Take Hwy 33 across the bridge at West Point towards New Kent and travel approximately three-four miles on Hwy. 33 past the bridge; trail entrance will be on the left hand side.

For more information and a map, visit www.hikingupward.com/ovh/wahrani.

Nude Tree Walk. February 13, 10:00 am.

Walk with Charlie Dubay to learn about identification of trees in winter condition. At the top of the hill is a nice comparison of three Virginia pines – loblolly, Virginia, and shortleaf. Participants may park in the William and Mary Hall parking lot, which is open to the public on weekends. Meet Charlie at the Sports Center, 400 Brooks Street to walk to the College Woods. And remember—although most trees will be nude at this time of year, decency suggests that walk participants be clothed!

Contact Charlie Dubay at (757) 870-0284 to register and in case of bad weather.

Weeds and Orchids. Saturday, April 16, from 9:30 to noon. Join Donna Ware at Freedom Park to see native and non-native weeds [such as bluets (*Houstonia* spp. and *Veronica* spp.) of early spring in the big fields near the Interpretive Center and to visit a calcareous ravine to see showy orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*) and other species that prefer high nutrient soils. For information and to register contact Donna at (757) 565-0657 or dmeware@verizon.net

Wildflowers and Orchids! Saturday, April 23, at 10:am, at Grafton Ponds area. Join environmental consultant Meegan Wallace to look for showy orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*) which should be in bloom as well as many spring wildflowers.

Travel east on Fort Eustis Blvd (Va-105), pass Richneck Road on the right, look for a small parking area on the left, marked with VNPS signs. Contact Meegan at (757) 291-1099 to register and for more information.



pixabay



pixabay

WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2016

BY HELEN HAMILTON

PAST PRESIDENT, JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Swamp Bay *Persea palustris*



Swamp Bay (*Persea palustris*) taken by Phillip Merritt

Most evergreen trees in the Coastal Plain have needle-like leaves. The magnolias are exceptions and so is swamp bay, which has narrow, dark green leaves. They are strongly aromatic, somewhat leathery, and wedge-shaped at the base. Shiny on top and pale green beneath, the leaves have upright rusty-colored hairs on their midveins. Swamp bay closely resembles sweetbay (*Magnolia virginiana*) but the leaves of sweetbay are whitened beneath.

The twigs are angled, and densely rusty-hairy. In May and June small flowers are borne in clusters on hairy stalks, producing small, dark blue to black roundish berries from September through October, on red stems. Bark is dark reddish and deeply grooved.

Swamp bay is found in the southern coastal states growing in swamps and wet woods. In Virginia, it occurs in only twelve counties of the Coastal Plain, extending south from James City, Gloucester, and Mathews counties. There is a large champion tree that grows in a residential neighborhood in Newport News with a circumference of 155 inches and fifty-five feet in height. A group of swamp bay grows in thickets near the start of the Jamestown Loop Road on Jamestown Island.

With an aroma similar to that of the European true laurel or bay tree, *Laurus nobilis*, the spicy leaves can be used to flavor soups and meats. Several species of birds eat the blue fruits of swamp bay, and the caterpillars of the Palamedes swallowtail butterfly feed on the leaves. A good place to see the Palamedes swallowtail is along Washington Ditch in the Great Dismal Swamp where swamp bay is common, and in the wet forests of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach cities.

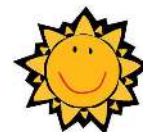
Swamp bay is a member of the Laurel family which includes spicebush and sassafras. The avocado (*P. Americana*) is another close relative, native to Central America.

For more information about native plants visit www.vnps.org.

Important Dates

- 1/28 Nature Journaling, Jamestown Settlement
- 2/2 Wildflowers & Grasses, Jamestown Settlement
- 2/6 Evergreen Walk, Wahrani Nature Trail
- 2/9 Tussie Mussies, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
- 2/13 Nude Tree Walk, College Woods
- 2/13 VMGA meeting, Northumberland Co.
- 2/18 Turf Love Training, VCE office
- 2/20 Gardener's Workshop (Lisa Ziegler), JCC rec center
- 2/22 Turf Love Training, VCE office
- 2/25 Naked Tree Walk, Jamestown Settlement
- 3/12 Williamsburg Home Show
- 3/18 2016 Shenandoah Plant Symposium, Waynesboro
- 3/19 Designing the Small Garden, Freedom Park
- 3/26 Weeds or Wildflowers?, Freedom Park
- 4/2 Turf Love University (JCC rec center)
- 4/2 Nurturing Nature, White Stone
- 4/16: 19th Gardening Symposium, CNU
- 4/16 Weeds and Orchids, Freedom Park
- 4/23 Wildflowers and Orchids!, Grafton Ponds Area
- 4/24-26 70th Annual Garden Symposium, CW
- 4/30: Annual Plant Sale, Jamestown Beach Park

SUNSHINE NOTES



This past month we sent sympathy cards to:

Barbara Gustafson (Art Gustafson)
Patsy McGrady (Dan Tevlin)
Family of Lois Enlow
Lyn Natanski (father)

The organization would like to send cards to members with difficult medical issues or who have experienced a death in the immediate family. Please provide names to the MG secretary, Cathy Johnson, at (757) 208-0065, or cathypj@gmail.com.



Graphics Fairy

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the March newsletter will be Monday, February 22.

Please send any submissions to Hope Yelich, newsletter editor, at hopeyulich@gmail.com

JCC/W Master Gardener Mission Statement

The purpose of the James City County/ Williamsburg Master Gardener is to learn, educate, and communicate environmentally sound horticultural practices to the community. Trained by the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Master Gardener volunteers are committed to offering information to the public through sustainable landscape management educational programs.

ABOUT THE VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENERS AND VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Virginia Master Gardeners are volunteer educators who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training. As an educational program of Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Master Gardeners bring the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Interim Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.