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LOUISIANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY


Inside this issue:



- To preserve and study native plants and their habitats
- To educate people on the value of native plants and the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species
- To promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape
- To educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife

# Morning Walk at Green's Prairie in Folsom, Louisiana by Jackie Duncan

Thanks to Marc Pastorek for hosting a delightful visit to Douglas and Mary Green's private prairie in Folsom Louisiana on Saturday, June 15, 2019. This prairie was constructed by Mr. Green on a three acre parcel of land adjacent to the Green home. For many years the land was a thicket of large pines, small trees, shrubs and vines as shown by adjacent undeveloped land. Hurricane Katrina toppled most of the pines, and over the years Doug cleared the land and began planting oaks and loblolly pines and mowing the field on an infrequent basis.

Mr. Green and his wife Mary consulted with Marc Pastorek, and they together developed a design for the garden and a species list. The seed mix for the garden was designed and produced by Marc and the soil was cultivated by Mr. Green. The seed was planted on January 9, 2014.

The prairie has become a beautiful wildflower meadow with

Green's Prairie, Folsom Louisiana

**LOUISIANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ART CONTEST INFORMATION WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE**

*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* (Mountain mint) and *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed susan)

vistas of color that peak at different times of the year. Now it is filled with native prairie plants to include *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* (Mountain mint), *Eryngium yuccifolium* (Rattlesnake master), *Monarda fistulosa* (Beebalm), *Rudbeckia hirta* (Black-eyed susan), *Rudbeckia grandiflora* (Rough coneflower), *Gaura lindheimeri* (Gaura), *Rhexia mariana* (Meadowbeauty), *Rhexia lutea* (Yellow meadowbeauty), *Aletris aurea* (Colicroot), and numerous other native grasses and wildflower species. Oak trees are scattered throughout the prairie that gave us much appreciated shade, and a sprinkling of young longleaf pine (Pinus palustris) are planted in the northwest section. Mr. Green keeps a path mowed through the area where they walk their dogs each morning and evening -- and provides easy access to guests like us.

*Monarda fistulosa* (Beebalm)

*Eryngium yuccifolium* (Rattlesnake master)

Amidst the wildflowers were bees and butterflies, beetles and grasshoppers, dragonflies, and more doing their pollination job. Thank you Marc, and thank you Mr. Green for creating this wonderful native habitat and sharing it with us..

Plant folks visiting Green's Prairie, Folsom Louisiana

# The Northwest Trifecta by John Michael Kelley

In northern Louisiana, individuals often find themselves bored by the monotony of loblolly monocultures and Johnson-grass pastures. Our culture does not often tie us to a particular natural community that for which we remorse, due to historic losses. The natural heritage program seems to accomplish this best at the community level, and the Louisiana Native Plant Society (LNPS) seems to do an equally good job at the specific level. It is easier to appreciate raw natural beauty when you have laid eyes upon it. For those of us who are not truly hill folk, and equally detached from the floatant, three ecosystems may serve as the best examples of unmolested native communities. These local botany hotspots command our attention.

**Slope forests**

In Bossier and Caddo parishes, prime examples of Hardwood slope forests can be found on both private and public land. Published mentions from the Louisiana National Heritage Program (LNHP) include the Delaney mountain forests (private) and the Eddie Jones forests. Both contain rare species of plants and associations which are as close as possible to the natural state of the land type.

Delaney mountain has two tracts. The larger of the two borders a public road and can be seen in its great magnificent from atop the ridge of a slope which descends more than 100 feet along a northern aspect. Within are contained at least 4 state rare species, to include *Trillium recurvatum*. Through recent work the author of this piece has found new areas of undisturbed slope forest within a mile or two of the previously discovered site. At least one new species of rare plant has been added by these discoveries; *Thalictrum revolutum* has been found in small patches above streams in the steep ravines. Some old-growth has been discovered, but not yet delineated and the new sites total nearly 100 acres of undisturbed or easily restored land. Chestnut oak dominates the ridges and magnolias are markedly absent

The slopes of Eddie D. Jones park are lush and labyrinthine this time of year. Here the locally uncommon *Trillium ludovicianum* is rumored to occur and *Viola pubescens*, a state rare element, has been positively identified. At the base of the slopes Switchcane and Paw Paw are frequent, and the temperature changes noticeably in the miniature hollows. Here too magnolias are absent, but many other tree species are interestingly associated.

**Small stream forests**

Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes all hold unique small stream forests. Within are some of the best white oaks, loblolly, and ash in this region. Sporadic in this part of the state, beeches grow to mature size and are accompanied by common associates. The best sites are on Bodcau WMA, Corney district of Kisatchie National Forest (KNF), and Walter B. Jacobs nature park.

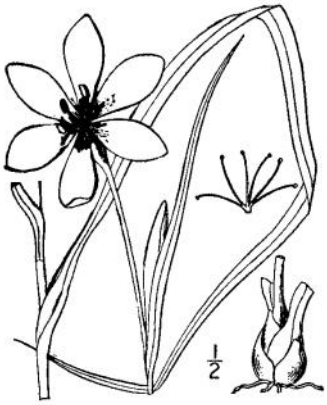
Bodcau WMA contains two LNHP tracked sites classified as small stream forest and one site which is under investigation. The two established sites both contain some well developed understory structure and uncommon species. No rare elements are known to the author within any upland sites on the Management area. The site under investigation has been found to contain old growth mesic tree species with ages in excess of 240 years and appears to be mostly undisturbed, barring the odd bit of barbed wire at its periphery. At least three species of trees have potential state champions represented here; Hophornbeam, Beech, and Basswood. It is picturesque and at least equal to the existing small stream heritages sites here.

Along Corney bayou, both within the KNF and on private lands, beech dominated slopes are graced with Twayblades and Mayapples every spring. As the summer progresses, these slopes are used by man and hog alike to escape the midday sun. Of particular interest is the Summerfield preserve of the nature conservan-

*Trillium recurvatum* - Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 1: 524.

*Thalictricum revolutum* - Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 2: 119.

*Viola pubescens* - Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 2: 559.



*Nemastylis geminiflora* - Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 1: 541.

cy. It is not open to the public, but if volunteerism should bring you there, you might rejoice at its scope and diversity.

Walter B. Jacobs is already recognized within the LNHP database, but its description seems variable. In the authors opinion, some areas along the small of its two bayous are best classified as small stream forest. This site contains as many as 15 rare elements and more than 500 species of native plants. The 160 acre tract showcases large mature shortleaf and white ash. Whatever this forest is best called, it is a sight to behold and truly a gift to nature study. Try to find the Granite gooseberry (*Ribes curvatum*) if you ever stop by.

**Prairie**

While both saline and calcareous prairies exist in this region, none of the saline type are accessible to the public. Luckily, some of the best Morse type calcareous prairies are capture by the bound of Bodcau WMA. A few Morse clay prairies have been found on private land lately. One, totaling only 1/5 acre in extent, contains at least three rare elements, including Prairie pleatleaf (*Nemastylis geminiflora*).

The prairies at Bodcau have often been converted to farmland and food plots for deer. The remnants that escaped these fates are of high quality and are generally between 20 and 200 acres in extent. The dense calcareous soils grow a menagerie of plants from Anemone to Zigadenus and every letter of genera in between. The best time to view is in the summer for both hunter safety and aesthetic reasons.

We might all love a trip to the Ozarks or the Everglades, but we are graced with a wide array of plant communities which are specially adapted to the muddy state we call home. These unique communities have enough diversity to entertain even the most experienced botanists.

# Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Native Plant Gardens - LDWF Press Release

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) developed the Louisiana Native Plant Garden to demonstrate and celebrate our state's natural beauty. Showcasing many species of thriving, native plants, the Louisiana Native Plant Garden (Garden) affords the public an opportunity to appreciate and learn about Louisiana's plants, while providing habitat for wildlife in the urban landscape. The Garden contains over 160 native plant species grouped into small gardens to resemble natural Louisiana habitats. The Garden covers an area just over 0.25 acres, making it one of the largest and most diverse native plant gardens in the state! Two interpretive stations and 80 plant label signs have been installed in the Garden to enhance the visitor's experience.

Recently, the Garden was selected as one of five locations to be visited on the Backyard Habitat Garden Tour hosted by the LSU Hilltop Arboretum. An LDWF botanist and volunteers were present at the Garden to lead tours, demonstrate gardening techniques, discuss applied design theory, and share lessons learned with visitors. The Department hosted over 165 visitors during this event.

Initiated in 2014, the Garden continues to evolve as staff make improvements as we implement new gardening and design techniques. Now is a great time to visit, as the Garden is undergoing a redesign to maximize aesthetics, while maintaining a natural appeal in each garden theme. In addition to a variety of native plants in bloom, visitors will be able to see the transition between the various garden styles (wild to manicured), allowing visitors to decide which best fits their own landscape.


Using native plants in Louisiana yards and neighborhoods provides many benefits to humans, wildlife and our environment. Please come visit the LDWF Louisiana Native Plant Garden to learn about the importance of native plants and celebrate our state's natural beauty. The LDWF hopes you will take pride in Louisiana by adding native plants to your landscapes to create a little wildlife habitat of your own.

# Charts to Assist in Identification of Woody Plants by Dr. Charles Allen

In the book (Trees, Shrubs, and Woody vines of Louisiana) at the suggestion of the late Dr. Harry Winters, I created tables to help with id by narrowing down the choices. So, we made seven tables with the 20% character (the 20% idea came from Byron Almquist during another plant id class a couple of years ago). So, we made a table that listed the genera of woody plants that had opposite leaves, another for the compound leaves, one for palmate major veins, one for the armed or spikey (grandchildren word), one for those with an odor to the crushed leaves. One for the evergreen leaves, and one for the vines. Each of these tables include a small number of species compared to the opposite or other characteristic hence the 20% idea. Then we realized that a few plants had not made an appearance in any of the seven tables so we made an eighth table for them.
Thanks to Jackie Duncan who caught a mistake in Table 8; the word not was left out of the title: List of genera that do not have any of the unusual characteristics.

During the recent Graminoid plant ID class, I was talking with Clay Ardoin and got an idea that I could create new tables to help with woody plant id. I hope to expand this to herbaceous plants and even graminoids this summer when I am in out of the heat. What I did was to combine two 20% characteristics and this really narrows down the choices. Most of the new tables have fewer than ten names and there were two without any (compound and palmate major veins) and (vines with odor). Have to use scientific names because of the variation in common names. Remember that the title says "and" so it has to have both characteristics

Also get out you purple book and add Toxicodendron* to Table 7, can't believe that I left out poison ivy from the list of vines.

Table 1. List of genera with opposite or whorled leaves. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Acer
Aesculus
Avicennia
Batis
Bignonia
Borrichia
Broussonetia*
Calamintha
Callicarpa
Calycanthus
Campsis
Catalpa
Cephalanthus
Chionanthus
Clematis
Clerodendrum
Cornus
Decodon
Decumaria
Euonymus
Forestiera
Forsythia
Fraxinus
Gelsemium
Hydrangea
Hypericum
Iva*
Jasminum
Lagerstroemia*
Lantana
Ligustrum
Lonicera
Macfacyena
Nerium
Osmanthus
Paulownia
Philadelphus
Phoradendron
Ptelea*
Punica*
Sambucus
Scaevola
Staphylea
Symphoricarpos
Trachelospermum
Viburnum
Vinca
Vitex

Table 2. List of genera with compound leaves. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Acacia
Acer*
Aesculus
Ailanthus
Albizia
Amorpha
Ampelopsis*

Aralia
Bignonia
Campsis
Carya
Cayratia
Cissus
Cladrastis
Clematis
Desmanthus
Erythrina
Fraxinus
Gleditsia
Indigofera
Jasminum
Juglans
Koelreuteria
Lespedeza
Macfadyena
Melia
Nandina
Parkinsonia
Parthenocissus
Poncirus
Prosopis
Ptelea
Pterocarya
Rhus
Robinia
Rosa
Rubus
Sambucus
Sapindus
Sesbania
Sophora
Staphylea
Toxicodendron
Vitex
Wisteria
Xanthorhiza
Zanthoxylum

Table 3. List of genera with palmate major veins. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Acer*
Ampelopsis*
Aristilochia
Broussonetia
Calycocarpum
Catalpa
Celtis
Cercis
Clerodendrum*
Cocculus
Ficus
Firmiana
Ginkgo
Hedera
Hibiscus
Liquidambar
Liriodendron
Malvaviscus
Manihot
Morus
Pachysandra
Paulownia
Platanus
Populus
Ribes
Ricinus
Sabal
Serenoa
Smilax
Spiraea*
Tilia
Vernicia
Vitis
Ziziphus

Table 4. List of armed (thorns, spines, or prickles or stems and/or leaves) genera. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Acacia
Aralia
Chaenomeles
Crataegus*
Elaeagnus*
Erythrina
Gleditsia
Ilex*
Lycium
Maclura
Malus*
Opuntia
Parkinsonia
Pinus
Poncirus
Prosopis
Punica
Pyracantha
Ribes
Robinia
Rosa
Rubus
Serenoa
Sideroxylon*
Smilax
Yucca
Zanthoxylum
Ziziphus

Table 5. List of genera with strong odor to crushed leaves and/or stem. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Acer*
Ailanthus
Asimina
Batis
Calamintha
Callicarpa
Calycanthus
Carya*
Catalpa*
Cinnamomum
Clerodendrum
Croton
Cryptomeria
Cunninghamia
Halesia
Illicium
Juglans
Juniperus
Lantana
Lindera
Liquidambar
Liriodendron

Magnolia*
Morella*
Persea
Pinus
Poncirus
Prunus*
Ptelea
Rhus
Sassafras
Vitex
Zanthoxylum

Table 6. List of genera with evergreen leaves. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Ardisia
Arundinaria
Avicennia
Baccharis*
Batis
Bignonia*
Borrichia
Cayratia?
Chionanthus*
Cinnamomum
Cliftonia
Croton
Cryptomeria
Cunninghamia
Cyrilla*
Elaeagnus*
Eriobotrya
Euonymus*
Gelsemium
Hedera
Hypericum
Ilex*
Illicium
Jasminum
Juniperus
Kalmia
Lantana
Leucothoe
Licania
Ligustrum
Lonicera*
Lyonia
Macfadyena
Magnolia*
Morella
Nandina
Nerium
Opuntia
Osmanthus
Pachysandra
Persea
Phoradendron
Photinia*
Phyllostachys
Pinus
Prunus*
Pyracantha*
Quercus*
Ricinus
Rosa*
Sabal
Salicornia
Scaevola
Sebastiania*
Serenoa
Smilax*
Symphoricarpos
Symplocos*
Tamarix
Vaccinium*
Vinca
Yucca

Table 7. List of genera that are vines. The * indicates that not all species in the genus and/or not all plants share this characteristic.

Ampelopsis
Aristilochia
Berchemia
Bignonia
Borrichia
Brunnichia
Calycocarpum
Campsis
Cayratia
Celastrus
Cissus
Clematis
Cocculus
Decumaria
Gelsemium
Hedera
Lonicera*
Macfadyena*
Parthenocissus
Pachysandra
Rosa*
Rubus*
Schisandra
Smilax*
Toxicodendron* (left out)
Trachelospermum
Vinca
Vitis
Wisteria

Table 8. List of genera that do not have any of the unusual characteristics. These plants have alternate, simple deciduous leaves with pinnate major veins. The leaf and/or stem does not have an odor, the plants are not armed and are shrubs or trees, not vines. The 1,2,3,4,5,6, or 7 indicates that some species or some plants do have one or more of the unusual characteristics and the number indicates the appropriate Table number.

Alnus
Amelanchier
Baccharis6
Betula
Carpinus
Castanea
Ceanothus
Clethra
Corylus
Crataegus4
Cyrilla6
Diospyros
Dirca
Fagus
Frangula

Gaylussacia
Hamamelis
Ilex4, 6
Itea
Iva1
Lagerstroemia1
Licania
Magnolia5, 6
Malus4
Nyssa
Ostrya
Oxydendrum
Photinia6
Planera
Polygonella
Prunus5, 6
Pyrus
Quercus6
Rhamnus
Rhododendron
Salix
Sideroxylon
Solanum
Spiraea3
Stewartia
Styrax
Symplocos6
Taxodium
Triadica
Ulmus
Vaccinium6

Table 9 Opposite and compound (1 not all are opposite; 2 not all are compound)

Acer2
Aesculus
Bignonia
Campsis
Clematis
Fraxinus
Jasminum
Macfacyena
Ptelea1
Sambucus
Vitex

Table 10 Opposite and palmate major veins (1 not all are opposite; 2 not all have palmate major veins)

Acer
Broussonetia1
Catalpa
Clerodendrum2
Paulownia

Table 11 Opposite and armed (1 not all are opposite)

Punica1

Table 12 Opposite and odor to crushed leaves (1 not all are opposite; 2 not all have odor to crushed leaves)

Acer2
Batis
Calamintha
Callicarpa
Calycanthus
Catalpa2
Clerodendrum
Lantana
Ptelea1
Vitex

Table 13 Opposite and evergreen (2 not all are evergreen)

Avicennia
Batis
Bignonia
Borrichia
Chionanthus2
Euonymus2
Gelsemium
Hypericum
Jasminum
Lantana
Ligustrum
Lonicera
Macfacyena
Nerium
Osmanthus
Phoradendron
Scaevola
Symphoricarpos
Vinca

Table 14 Opposite and vine (2 not all are vines)

Bignonia
Borrichia
Campsis
Clematis
Decumaria
Gelsemium
Lonicera2
Macfacyena2
Trachelospermum
Vinca

Table 15 No compound and palmate major veins

Table 16 Compound and armed

Acacia
Aralia
Erythrina
Gleditsia
Parkinsonia
Poncirus
Robinia
Rosa
Rubus
Zanthoxylum

Table 17 Compound and odor to crushed leaves (2 not all have odor to crushed leaves)

Acer2
Carya2
Juglans
Poncirus
Ptelea
Rhus
Vitex
Zanthoxylum

Table 18 Compound and evergreen (2 not all are evergreen)

Bignonia2
Cayratia

Jasminum
Macfadyena
Nandina
Rosa2

Table 19 Compound and vine (1 not all have compound leaves; 2 not all are vines)

Ampelopsis1
Campsis
Cayratia
Cissus
Clematis
Macfadyena2
Parthenocissus
Rosa2
Rubus2
Toxicodendron2
Wisteria

Table 20 Palmate major veins and armed (2 not all are armed)

Ribes
Serenoa
Smilax2
Ziziphus

Table 21 Palmate major veins and odor (1 not all have palmate major veins; 2 not all have odor to crushed leaves)

Acer1 2
Catalpa2
Clerodendrum1
Liquidambar
Liriodendron

Table 22 Palmate major veins and evergreen (2 not all are evergreen)

Sabal
Smilax2
Serenoa

Table 23 Palmate major veins and vine (1 not all have palmate major veins

Ampelopsis1
Aristilochia
Calycocarpum
Cocculus
Hedera
Pachysandra
Smilax
Vitis

Table 24 Armed and odor

Poncirus
Zanthoxylum

Table 25 Armed and evergreen (1 not all are armed; 2 not all are evergreen)

Elaeagnus1
Ilex1
Opuntia
Pinus
Pyracantha2
Rosa2
Serenoa
Smilax1 2
Yucca

Table 26 Armed and vine (1 not all are armed; 2 not all are vines)

Rosa 2
Rubus2
Smilax1 2

Table 27 Odor and evergreen (1 not all have odor to crushed leaves; 2 not all are evergreen)

Batis
Cinnamomum
Croton
Cryptomeria
Cunninghamia
Illicium
Juniperus
Magnolia1 2
Morella1
Persea
Pinus

Prunus1 2

Table 28 No vines with odor

Table 29 Evergreen and vines (1 not all are evergreen; 2 not all are vines)

Borrichia
Cayratia
Gelsemium
Hedera
Lonicera1 2
Pachysandra
Rosa1 2
Smilax1 2
Vinca

# Reflecting on Two Years as Propagation Chair of Acadiana Native Plant Project by Dona Weifenbach

I could not have predicted that 6 months after retiring from a position as Coastal Restoration Ecologist/Administrator after 22 years with the state of Louisiana I would purchase four and a half acres of pasture adjacent to my home in rural St. Landry Parish. Nor could I have predicted that I would propagate plants for a local native plant group that I did not know existed at the time!

In January 2016 I retired from a job that I loved, hired just out of graduate school in 1993 as a field biologist with a horticulture background, collecting monitoring data in the marshes and swamps of Louisiana's coastal zone to feed back into the decision-making process for restoration techniques and to determine the success (or failure) of those projects. Over the years, I became an administrator, managing the Coastwide Reference Monitoring System (CRMS) funded by the Coastal Wetlands, Planning and Protection Act (CWPPRA). Sadly, I had less and less time in in the field and more time at the computer and the meeting room. I gladly passed the helm into capable, energetic hands. Upon retirement, my initial goal was to get away from the computer desk, my seat at the table for meeting after meeting, and the car seat that carried me across the state to more meetings.

I traveled and reconnected with old friends during the first year after retirement. But the derelict cow pasture I purchased was like a blank canvas to me as a former landscape designer/contractor. I found it impossible to resist spending time and energy in the planning process. As I thought about the function of the land for habitat, a forested windbreak on the north side, a sunny area close to the house for fruit and vegetable production, I decided to restore three of those acres to coastal prairie. I thought of my old graduate school buddy and his work on coastal prairie restoration. Larry Allain was quite busy completing projects for his own retirement from USGS, so I joined the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society and begin attending field trips and meetings. By listening and learning and enthusiastically outbidding other members for plants at the fund raising auctions, I began acquiring the plant materials I needed to restore my pasture to its former glory.

At the same time, several months after purchasing the land, a friend told me about Acadiana Native Plant Project (ANPP) and their mission to educate people on the value of native plants and to provide native plants for sale. The group felt that since mainstream nurseries did not offer a wide selection of Louisiana native plants, ANPP would propagate them to raise funds for the non profit organization. In particular, the greenhouse they used for propagation was at the home of June Walker, near my house. Bill and Lydia Fontenot had been friends since the 1980's. Over the 12 years that I operated my landscaping business, I became bored with traditional land-

scapes. With Bill's encouragement, I began to incorporate natives into my designs. My husband and I attended the Cullowhee Native Plant Institute in the 1980s and my interest was piqued. After an injury, I decided to go the graduate school in coastal restoration and began the new career in 1993, where my interest in native plants was focused on native marsh and swamp plants for the next 22 years.

So, when I learned that June had retired from wholesale herb business and was devoting greenhouse space to growing natives for ANPP, I joined up. Bill simply stated that June could grow anything, and I was anxious to learn from her. I attended a propagation work day at her place. June had a set protocol for propagation, be it cuttings or seed. She had clearly instructed many newbie workers over her career as a nursery-woman, and was as well organized and efficient as any drill sergeant. She kept everyone busy, facilitating the work as we completed one task and went on to the next. I was with the group for two plant sales that spring before June died suddenly of a stroke. It was a great blow to our group, as she was close personally to many members and as a founding member, she was central to our structure. Her family generously donated her greenhouse to ANPP, as well as her gardening book collection.

A group of volunteers who had never constructed or dismantled a greenhouse before did just that. We found a location for the greenhouse in Arnaudville and began propagating in

February of 2018 in an unheated greenhouse. I was asked and agreed to be in charge of propagation. I had not grown plants in my landscaping business. Like most landscapers, I purchased them at wholesale nurseries for installation, So I decided to try. And, I had a teacher! Among the papers June left behind were handwritten detailed notes for her staff on greenhouse procedures. After setting up the tables, I spent an hour or so by myself in the greenhouse with her notes. A full page on cuttings, a full page on seeds and seedlings, winter temperature directions, three ways to cut back plants. Instruction on preferred fertilizer and pesticide treatments, dates and dosage of applications. Lastly, in June's own words, "We have set procedures for everything – always follow procedures – don't short cut. If you have a new idea for making things run more smoothly speak up. We are always open to a different or better idea." Ok then, let's get started.

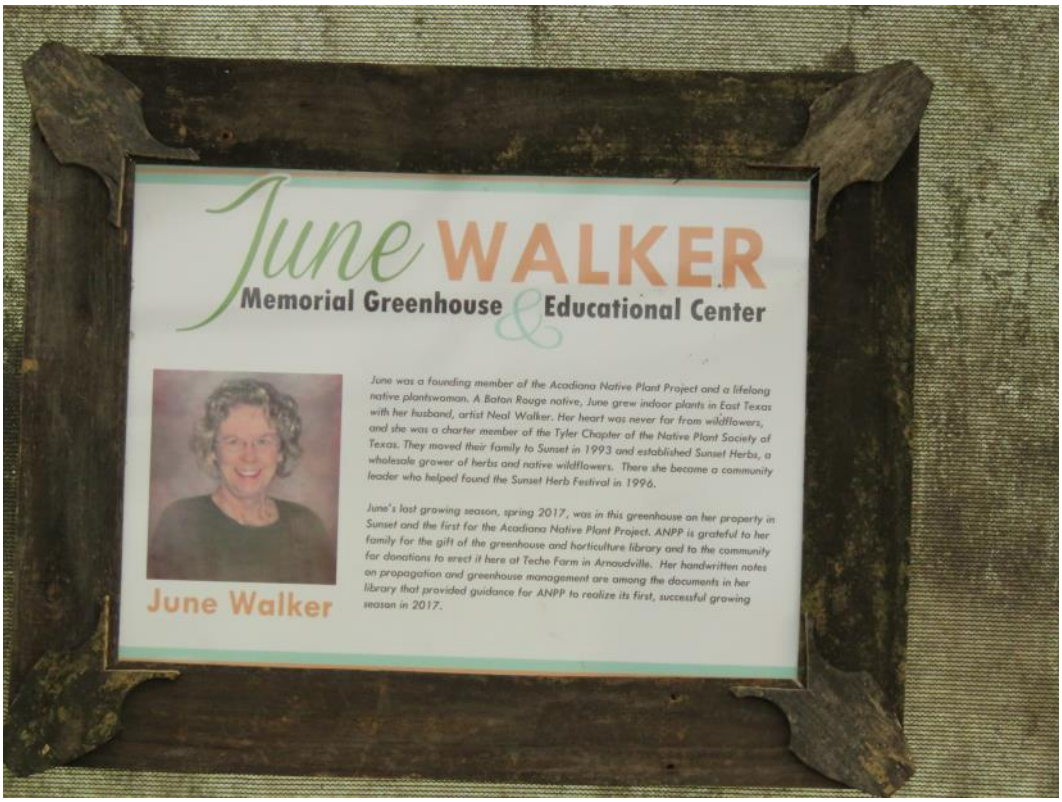
June also left a small stock of plants for cuttings and a refrigerator full of seeds. We moved the trees from our original temporary space at Vermilionville to our new central location in Arnaudville. First order of business was to establish a volunteer network and set up a schedule for workdays. Then, determine the seeds to plant, cuttings to make and we're off! June left enough seed trays, pots, potting soil, and osmocote for the first year so we were set. We separated her seed stock, native from non-native, then checked the dates. Many seeds were very old, but what the heck! We also had seeds donated by members, and plants that folks were growing at home so we started planting seed trays and eventually filled up the greenhouse. As expected, some seeds didn't sprout or had low germination rates. I can't say that I took notes as well as June did, but our small group of excellent, dedicated volunteers paid attention with me, and when we experienced failure, we tried again with different methods. Refrigerate for so long, soak them, talk to them sweetly, encourage them to grow.

So, we began, a small crew at first, growing with time. A small group of dedicated, energetic, interested folks is a gift, a blessing in a way, and it is the reason that ANPP has flourished. We installed a demonstration garden at Acadian Village in the fall of 2017 and at the greenhouse in the summer of 2018 to educate and provide seeds and cuttings for future propagation efforts. Plants that were easy to grow, with high germination rates were ashy sunflower, slender rosinweed, tropical sage, lyre leaf sage, pink marsh hibiscus, rattlesnake master, Texas star hibiscus, Gulf Coast penstemon, purple coneflower, and aquatic milkweed. We had unpredictable results with liatris, Indian pink, (although we may be onto something here), *Aesclepias tuberosa*, prunella and several viburnum species.

We changed potting medium when we ran out of June's mix, with varied success. One mix had too much bark, making nitrogen unavailable to the plants. Another had too much peat and either dried out or stayed too wet so when we moved to a sprinkler irrigation system from hand watering the first year, there were inconsistencies. The goal is to identify problems and try to solve them on our workdays.

Two years ago, we started with seeds that were on hand, and now we have the luxury of responding to public requests and our own wish lists. What native plants do we want in our yards that are not available? A member with young children requested a pollinator kit planted in a large patio container for her children to care for and watch and learn as insects and hummingbirds visit the plants. So, we created patio pollinator kits. Its popularity led us to offer wetland starter kits, shade kits, prairie kits, and wildlife food kits, for multiple types of habitat. We aim to compose the kits with an herbaceous layer, a shrub layer and a tree layer, depending upon the space available. This approach has been very helpful for gardeners just learning about native plants.

Our goal is to educate and inspire people to include native plants in their landscape, to create a habitat or corridor for wildlife, one garden at a time. And, we are learning right alongside them. I am happy that retirement has taken this turn, working and discovering with other avid gardeners. You can visit our website at greauxnative.org or on Facebook.



# Creating A "Once-Mown" Meadow or Prairie for Pollinators by Jeff McMillian

The Meadow - Almost Eden's first Once-Mown Meadow

Beebalm, *Monarda fistulosa*

You can easily develop an exceptionally low maintenance, spring-fall flowering, natural wildflower meadow filled with diverse high-quality native plants for pollinators that has one single annual maintenance requirement to keep it healthy and increasing in quality over time – mow it once in winter. We have adapted what would normally require an annual controlled burn using mowing to achieve the same desired effect. Some of the highest quality, most diverse natural meadows and prairies exist along utility line right of ways and railroads where these areas receive the same annual mowing treatment. In nature, our tall grass prairies, conifer forests (Longleaf Pine, Redwood), savannas, and even the acid pitcher plant bogs of the wet and humid southeastern US have come to depend on fire to clear the soil of dead foliage and to prune back existing vegetation. The fire creates a 'disturbance' that exposes the soil's surface to the sunlight that many of these native species need for good germination as well as reducing existing competition. Fire also helps to thin and crack seed coats of some important species and a good mowing machine can have a similar effect. Over a period of just a few years, what may have once been an area of high maintenance monoculture grass or unsightly weeds can become a reliable, high-quality, and long-term source of nectar, pollen, and habitat. A diverse mix of annual, biennial, and perennial forbs (broadleaf herbaceous plants) and graminoids (grass-like plants - grasses, sedges, rushes, etal.) has the potential to support a diverse cast of native pollinators, beneficial insect predators, songbirds, and many other cute and cuddly critters. This is a project that a family, school, or a community can do, enjoy, and learn from together but it is also simple enough to be completed by an individual.

For farmers and anyone else involved in vegetable gardening or fruit production, studies show that the benefits of this type of naturalistic area near production areas far outweigh the costs of developing and maintaining them. Just having a 3 or 4-foot-wide strip of natural wildflower area along one edge of a vegetable garden or orchard has the potential to increase pollination and thus fruit production. It also has the potential to reduce or even eliminate the need for pesticide applications due to the increased diversity and populations of natural predator populations. This growing trend is one of the most cost effective and low maintenance methods for developing an effective and diverse, easily managed, high-quality, long-term pollinator habitat. Not counting labor and yearly maintenance, the average material cost to install a new landscape is between $4-12 per square foot. This means that for a 10'x 100' area you are looking at a minimum of $4000.00. For the same size meadow, you can buy a high-quality wildflower seed mix for $40-$60. If you have a place to collect native seeds from private lands, it may only cost you time.

**Step 1. Select a Sunny Area**

You can start with an area as large as just a few square feet, select a strip at the edge of your lawn or along a roadside, or you may have acres of land that you would like to develop. This area should receive preferably 8 or more hours of direct sunlight per day for optimum vigor, flowering, and health of meadow and prairie species. Try to locate the meadow or prairie in an area that you can see even if it's from a distance, so that its seasonal choreograph of pollinators and flowering plants will draw you to it. The area should not be flooded for extended periods of the year on a regular basis, which seems obvious, and you should have the necessary permissions (zoning laws and significant others come to mind here) to develop the area over the long term as you intend to. As long as the area you have selected is currently growing some type of vegetation, such as grasses or weeds, there shouldn't be any reason that native species will not be able to grow and thrive there also.

**Step 2. Get to Know the Area You Intend to Develop**

Getting a deeper understanding of what your soil is like, pun intended, will help you to ensure that you select species that are well-adapted and should have no problems establishing and multiplying under your garden's conditions. What is the soil like - clay, loam, or sand? Is the drainage - average, excellent, poor? Are there areas where water stands for extended periods like a week or more? Is your soil's pH alkaline, neutral, or acidic? It is not that we intend to change the soil but this will help with selecting species that are optimum for the conditions they will endure.

**Step 3. Research – Selecting Your Meadow and Prairie Species**

Many of the same species native to prairies can be also be found growing in meadows, glades, savannas, roadsides, and even in and around acid bogs. This overlap reflects the fact that many of these species are widely adaptable to growing conditions helping to further increase our chances of success. It also just happens to help make the seeds of these species more widely available to gardeners.

It may be easiest to start with a general list of species that are recommended for meadows or prairies in your state or ecoregion. We have provided several excellent online resources as starting points in Appendix A, many of which include images of many or most of the species they list. We have provided a list of over 80 species that are in our own once-mown meadows in Appendix B and have denoted species that we could potentially add. This list of over 200 wildflower and grass species also indicates which of those species that are native to both the Tall Grass Prairies and the Coastal or Cajun Prairies to further demonstrate the overlap and the exceptional adaptability of many of these species to climates and soils. Our list does not include the many sedges, rushes, and many of the other often smaller graminoids that exist in our meadows but are also an important part of these ecosystems so don't be put off by wildflower mixes that contain them or be shy to include them in your own mixes.

You want to find species that will not only thrive in your ecoregion, but there may also be specific plants that you would like to see in your meadow or prairie. While you are doing your research, take the time to make a "Top-Ten List" of plants that you would most like to have and try to include some if not all of them. I personally have a tendency to lean toward the Aster or Composite family and my favorite color is yellow. Coreopsis, Yellow Coneflowers (Rudbeckias – like Black-Eyed Susans), and Sunflowers provide a non-stop showing of bright yellow daisies from early spring, through summer, and often until late November providing bouquets even for Thanksgiving. If you happen to like the purple flowered Blazingstars, a.k.a. Gayfeather or Liatris, an important pollinator plant and many make good quality long-lasting cut flowers, there are over 55 species in the Flora of North America, 12 species in the Flora of Missouri, and 14 listed for Louisiana if you count the individual varieties/subvarieties/forms. There is a Blazingstar species that should work in any meadow or prairie you design and the same can be said about many different types of plants.

It is important to have species that flower in each growing season of the year so that the meadow or prairie can provide a continuous source of nectar and pollen to native pollinators and other beneficial organisms. Some of our 4000 species of solitary native bees have only a short 3-4 weeks from the time they emerge as an adult until they reproduce and die. These specialized pollinators need to have the resources on hand to prepare quality food stores for developing offspring that may not emerge from their nests until the following year. The more diverse your plant species are the more likely that your new garden will be able to support all types of pollinators when they need it most.

Plan to have your seed on hand for early fall sowing whether you collect and prepare them yourself, you intend to purchase them, or use a combination of the two. There are a number of reputable, native wildflower seed sources on the internet who offer diverse selections of species, general and specialized wildflower and prairie mixes, and some will allow you to create your own mix down to the exact percentages of each species. You can start with one of

The Roadside Meadow 6/24/2019

their mixes and enhance it and improve upon it to your liking. Not all species are going to be commercially available and some may not be available every year so keep alternates in mind. It is generally recommended to look for seed sources that harvest seed from your ecoregion. There are numerous seed companies who harvest locally in states across the US but keep in mind that many seed companies source seed from outside of their ecoregion. This is not a requirement, thanks to the adaptability of many of these species, but it may help to further ensure that your plants are optimally suited to their new environment.

You may also want to include transplants of wildflowers that may be especially difficult to establish from seed or are difficult to find elsewhere. If you do use transplants, try to use a minimum of 3, and preferably more, of any given type of seed grown plant to help encourage cross pollination and the production of viable seed. It is easiest to add transplants, which may even be bulbs, corms, or roots, during fall and winter dormancy since water usage will be lowest reducing moisture stress. Even though the top does not seem to be growing, roots of hardy perennials, biennials, and winter growing annuals will continue to grow and establish themselves throughout this period in areas where the soil is not frozen. If you have the ability to keep them watered during the initial establishment phase, you can successfully add container grown transplants to your meadow or prairie any time of year. Even though native species are tough and adaptable, you still need to ensure that you use proper planting and watering techniques. See our growing guide "Planting a New Plant in the Garden or Landscape" at: https://www.almostedenplants.com/shopping/c/plantingguide/to learn more.

You should end up with a diverse mix that includes annual, biennial, and perennial herbaceous forbs and legumes as well as some of the high quality native perennial grass species like Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*). Why use grasses at all, isn't that what we are trying to get rid of? Grasses add not only motion by swaying in the breezes, but also add interest with their decorative seed heads. Native grasses also provide nesting habitat for a variety of native bees, some are caterpillar food sources for Skipper butterflies, and some very desirable species are hemi-parasitic on native grasses, like False Purple Foxglove (*Agalinis* spp.). The foliage of some grasses are an important nesting material for some species of birds. Grass seeds also provide food to a variety of wildlife including songbirds, quail, wild turkey, and smaller mammals. The advantage we have here is that we can pick and choose which grass species to add. Again, the higher your diversity of plants species you can use, the more adaptable this long-lived pollinator meadow will be not only to your soils but also to climate extremes like an exceptionally wet or dry year.

**Step 4. Collect and/or Purchase Your Seed Mix**

If you have your own land with natural areas or can get permission from landowners, you can harvest your own wildflower seeds. In most states you can get fined for harvesting wildflower seeds along highway right of ways that are managed by county, city, state or federal agencies. It is also important to know the plants well enough that you can recognize them in seed. Some are more obvious than others, but you wouldn't want to find yourself collecting seeds of undesirable weedy species. Take pictures of species that you are not familiar with that interest you to help you identify and remember them for later. It is a good idea to visit the same area starting in spring and every few weeks during the growing season, if possible, so that you can learn not only to recognize the seed heads as well as to identify and locate species of interest. This also gives you a chance to collect a variety of seed from plants that flower in each season. As your own meadow or prairie matures you can collect seed from it to increase or start a new area.

When collecting wildflower seeds, it is important that the seed are mature before you collect them. We have collected seed of Liatris or Blazingstars just a week early and ended up with zero germination, on more than one occasion. The stem that supports the seeds will generally turn brown just below the ripe seed heads. For wind borne seeds, like for Liatris, we generally expect some of the seed to

start blowing away on its own before we know the seeds are mature. For seeds in pods, like legumes and milkweeds, the pods should be changing color from green to yellow or even brown and in the case of Milkweeds the pod should be starting to split open on its own. Using a pair of sharp bypass pruners you can easily cut the pods or heads off of the plant and drop them in your bag whole for later processing.

Never take more than you need and never take all of anything. Be generous and be a good steward when wild collecting seed so that these species will still be there for future generations to enjoy and wildlife to utilize. Be polite to landowners in case you someday you want to go back. As my mentors have always said, never leave more than your footprints.

It is important that your hand collected and purchased seeds be stored in such a manner that they will not develop mold or otherwise lose viability. We always use paper bags, like lunch bags, loosely filling them to about 1/4-1/3 full. It is a good idea to label your bags with the date, name, and even the collection site if you think you might want that information for later use, but this is not a requirement. You can mix and match species in your bags or collect one species at a time which can make later hand processing easier. If there is very much green material in the bags, it may be a good idea to spread that material out on newspapers in a dry area out of the wind to help prevent mold as they continue to dry out.

Some collectors will collect using a large strong trash bag or durable tightly woven mesh bag and then empty it out onto a weighted down tarp to begin the drying process while they continue collecting. It can take a week or more for some material to fully dry out and fully dried seed heads also generally make processing by hand quicker and easier. Properly harvested and stored seed of most species can remain viable for a minimum of 2-3 years or more depending on the species with proper collection and storage. Seed should be kept reasonably cool and dry until you are ready to sow it. Using sealed containers will also help to prevent insect and mammal infestations.

Processing the ripened seed heads will be important prior to sowing them so that you get the most out of each seed head. Some seeds like fully ripened Blazingstars separate in one swipe of the hand down the dense spikes while the ripened cones of Rudbeckias take slightly more work. We will often process our seed heads while watching tv. Some collectors will simply take the entire mix of dried collected seed and spread and shake them as they are over the area. We have also known collectors who loose fill a large durable round trash can and then use a weed eater to help break everything down. Whatever method you choose, the more the seed heads are broken down the better coverage you will get.

As previously mentioned, you need to have your seed on hand and ready to sow in early fall. We generally plan to sow our wildflower seeds in our zone 8B meadows around the first week of October. The earlier you can get the area planted the sooner many of your winter growing and spring, summer, and fall flowering annuals, biennials, and perennials will have a chance to germinate and begin to get established and hardened off before the first killing frosts. The great majority of our native wildflowers will grow slowly all winter, often as low simple rosettes of foliage, developing the resources required for vigorous spring or summer growth and flowering.

For more in-depth information on seed collecting, including charts with when (the timing will vary to some degree depending on your climate) to collect seed of individual species, designing seed mixes, and more see the following links:

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center – How to Collect and Store Seeds: - https://www.wildflower.org/learn/collect-store-seeds

Tall Grass Prairie Center - University of Northern Iowa: - https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/technical-guides

**Step 5. Preparing the Meadow or Prairie for Sowing**

You will want to assess and get ready to prepare your area well in advance of the fall sowing. Your goal is to prepare as much bare open ground so that the seeds are exposed to sunlight and have good contact with the soil's surface. If the area is covered by dense perennial grasses or other difficult to eradicate species, it may be necessary to begin preparing

Slender Blazingstar, *Liatris acidota*, with Flat-topped Goldenrod, *Oligoneuron nitida*, in the background

Plains Coreopsis or Golden Tickseed, *Coreopsis tinctoria*

the area as soon as the spring prior to your fall sowing. This may require that you use one or more applications of an herbicide, or more than one type of herbicide, to effectively eliminate and minimize potential competition from perennial weeds and grasses with your meadow's newly emerging seedlings. You want to apply the herbicide well in advance of preparing the soil for seed sowing so that it will have time to have maximum effect before removing or tilling in the dead vegetation. Some herbicides have a long life span that could prevent germination for a year or more on treated sites so be selective when deciding which herbicide(s) to apply. Always read and follow the label and use the pesticide as directed and apply it safely.

You will want to till or disk the area to a depth of about 6-8" prior to upcoming dry periods. Turning the soil using a disk or tiller will help to uproot perennial and annual weeds and grasses and once they are on the surface the roots' exposure to sunlight will help to kill them. Exposure to a few dry sunny days can be enough to kill even some of the toughest perennial weeds. Tilling will also help to incorporate the organic matter into the soil, improving its water holding and nutrient holding capacity, and it will give the organic material a chance to start breaking down. This will also help to aerate and loosen the soil eliminating compaction and making it easier for young roots to penetrate the soil. You can till the area 2 or more times about once every few weeks with the last preparation being completed just prior to sowing.

For very small areas, and for those of us that are still young and energetic, you can remove the existing vegetation by hand. Do not remove any more topsoil than is necessary and be sure that you get the roots of any undesirable perennial weeds to eliminate the chance of their return. Once you have the greatest percentage of the soil exposed, preferably a minimum of 90%, you can rake it smooth with a stiff metal rake (we call it a garden rake) and to lightly loosen the top layer or so of soil to about 1" deep. It is a good idea to loosen it up a couple of times, and again over a period of a couple of weeks. Rake out and remove any plant material and roots and compost them since you cannot turn them in. Lightly rake the area again the day before or just prior to sowing your seed.

Learn more about the importance of proper seedbed preparation at the links below:

A Guide to Native Plant Gardening - Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center: - https://www.wildflower.org/learn/guide-native-plant-gardening

USDA NRCS Plant Conservation Service Seedbed Preparation Video: - https://youtu.be/F04kscxnPm4

**Step. 6 Sowing Your New Meadow or Prairie**

Finally, the hard work is done, and you get to plant your new meadow or prairie with your collection of native seeds. There is more than one way to effectively spread your wildflower seed. For mixed seeds, unless you have a commercial spreader that can handle them, it is just about as easy to broadcast your seed by hand. Non-windborne seeds of the same size can be spread using small hand-held spreaders or walk behind spreaders to good effect. Very small seed may need to be mixed with sand to help ensure good distribution. Windborne seed, like Liatris, are typically easiest spread by hand and a light breeze will help to make easy work of it.

When you are spreading you want to make sure that you get good coverage and even distribution within reason. Spreading in a north-south direction and then crisscrossing that with an east-west pass of the same seed will help you to get even distribution. You may also choose to spread each species individually and may decide you want to use swaths of this and swaths of that here and there to add interest and to create a mass effect of some species. Hand spreading also has the benefit that when you are walking over the area your feet are firmly pressing the seeds into the soil's surface.

Optimally, choose a day just before a good rain so that it will thoroughly water your seed in after sowing. Often, fall rains will be enough to provide this moisture, but for a small area you can use a sprinkler on an automatic hose timer to run for just long enough to keep the soil's surface moist, but not wet or soggy for long periods, if rains are lacking. The length

of time and frequency that you water is going to vary depending on your climate, precipitation, and soil type. Sandy and loamy soils will be more likely to benefit from this type of light periodic irrigation than a clay soil that holds moisture for long periods. Irrigation is not a requirement and so if you have a large area, don't fret as mother nature will generally see to it. Where it is feasible, it can help to give your wildflower seeds the boost that they need to get started growing as early in the season as possible and thus giving them a competitive edge over any weedy species in the soil's seedbank.

**Step 7. The Waiting Game**

Many wildflower and grass seeds will continue to germinate over winter, into spring and some may not germinate for 2 or more years after planting. Spring will begin to offer up flowers from early flowering annuals and biennials that germinated the previous fall. By summer and fall you should have at least seen some perennials flowering in the mix. As the meadow or prairie begins to mature with each passing season, the perennial grasses and wildflowers will begin to compete more and more with the annual and biennial species.

If you feel that there is something that your meadow is missing, you can always come back and overseed these species or add them in as plugs or transplants. Again, you will do any additional seeding in fall or after the winter mowing under most circumstances. It will be easiest to establish any plugs or transplants during late fall, winter, or even in early spring when these species are in their natural dormant state and their water demands are lowest.

**Step 8. Mowing**

You can use any relatively heavy-duty mower or a brush or bush-hog to mow the entire area down to about 6" high. For a narrow strip, a typical lawn mower may be able to handle it if you set it on its highest setting. You may even be able to use a weed eater with blades to do the trick in quick fashion. Whatever you use, it will need to be able to cut through any large tough stems up to about ¾" in diameter even though the great majority of species will be easier and smaller to cut. As we mentioned previously, this will help to spread and breakup ripened seed heads, spread the seed, help with seed coat thinning and nicking, prune back existing perennial species, and creating bare soil in open spaces for seed germination.

In some areas you may be able to do a controlled-burn and you can do this in place of the mowing. It must be done by qualified professionals with the knowledge, equipment, insurance, permits and licensing required by your state and local authorities. They should have developed and submitted a burn plan for approval well before they set the first fire. This is not something that you should do on your own! A wildfire could cost you and your neighbors their homes, threaten the safety of your family, and could put you in jail even though you had the best of intentions. Many factors go into determining when and how to properly do a controlled-burn and even then, under optimum conditions a controlled-burn can quickly turn into a wildfire. Mowing is without a doubt the easiest and safest option that most of us should turn to for maintaining our once-mown meadows or prairies.

**Appendix A – Online Resources for Developing Your Species Lists**

Cajun Prairie Habitat Restoration Society - https://www.cajunprairie.org/projects

Louisiana Native Plant Society - https://www.lnps.org/

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center's Special Collections - https://www.wildflower.org/collections/

Paradise Lost? - The Coastal Prairie of Louisiana and Texas - https://www.nwrc.usgs.gov/prairie/paradise_lost.pdf

Pollinator Partnership Ecoregion Guides - https://www.pollinator.org/guides

Seed Bed Preparation Video – USDA NRCS Plant Conservation Service - https://youtu.be/F04kscxnPm4

Tall Grass Prairie Center - University of Northern Iowa - https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/technical-guides

USDA Plants Database State Checklists - https://plants.usda.gov/dl_state.html

The Xerxes Society Regional Plant Lists for Pollinators -

Pale Lobelia, *Lobelia appendiculata* - a particularly bushy specimen as this annual species is normally single or few-stemmed but the winter mowing pruned it back making a much denser plant.

https://xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/plant-lists/

This is only a taste of the available online resources! An internet search can help you find numerous additional lists that have been compiled by the county extension services, universities, state native plant societies, and more.

**Appendix B. Native Wildflower & Grass Species for a Once-Mown Meadow or Prairie**

We started the list at https://www.almostedenplants.com/shopping/c/oncemownmeadowplantingguide/ with a basic species list from the Cajun or Coastal Prairie and modified it to include the 80 or so species in our Almost Eden Once-Mown Meadows. Out of curiosity and to show species range overlap, and thus the adaptability of these species, we have also included whether these species exist in the Tall Grass Prairie. We've also attempted to denote if a particular species tends to lean more heavily toward moist or dry conditions where applicable.

**Acknowledgements & Accolades – A couple of special people and projects deserve special recognition for their exceptional contributions to the world of native plants in our region and for helping to inspire our own meadows**

Dr. Charles M. Allen – a retired professor, author, and botanist who has shared so much with so many. He has spent his life studying, writing, and teaching about the native plant species of our region. He has also been a major driving force in the development and completion of the Eunice and Duralde Cajun Prairie restoration projects. To learn when the next native plant classes are, read his many articles on native plant species, or to purchase Dr. Allen's books visit: https://www.allenacresbandb.com/booksandclasses

Marc Pastorek of Meadow Makers, Inc. – an entrepreneur with a unique specialty in our region and in-depth knowledge about native meadow and prairie species. He has spent his life building, establishing, and maintaining meadows, prairies, and naturalistic landscapes from the ground up as well as sharing that knowledge through tours, speaking engagements, writing, and blogging. Marc has also been a big part of establishing and restoring the Eunice and Duralde Cajun Prairie projects. Learn more or follow Marc's blog at: https://marcpastorek.com/

**An Inspiring Road Trip Anyone?**

Visit the Eunice Cajun Prairie in action in Eunice, Louisiana. This restored prairie set in the middle of a city is a prime example of a high-quality prairie that is filled with flowers, pollinators, birds and other cute critters throughout the growing season. Even if you don't develop your own prairie or meadow it is worth a visit just to experience what this amazing ecosystem has to offer. See how you can contribute and learn more by joining the Cajun Prairie Habitat Preservation Society who maintain and oversee the Eunice and Duralde Prairies. Learn more at: https://www.cajunprairie.org/projects

We hope this helps to get you started on your way to developing your own meadow or prairie installation!

# Fall 2019 Herb Society Plant Sale Celebrate Herbs! on Saturday September 28th - NOLA Herb Day

The Herb Society of America, New Orleans Unit will hold their 2019 Fall Plant Sale on Saturday September 28th, from 9 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

8301 Olive St,

New Orleans, LA, 70118

Just off S. Carrollton at the location of the former Hollygrove Market and future home of 14 Parishes Restaurant

Members of the local Herb Society unit will be on hand to help gardeners select plants for culinary and ornamental use. Let the experts help you select herbs for your spring gardens or containers. Pop up presentations will show you how to grow, harvest & use herbs from the bounty of your herb garden. Bring your herb growing questions.

The sale will benefit projects of the New Orleans Botanical Gardens, Longue Vue Gardens, the Herb Society of America, New Orleans Unit's educational programs and other local gardening initiatives. For further information contact our unit chair Linda Franzo at lindafranzo57@gmail.com or (985) 781-4372; or email the unit at herbsno@gmail.com

Be sure to "like" us on Facebook at Herb Society of America-New Orleans Unit.

Note: Due to growing conditions, quantities may be limited. Cash or checks accepted.

The Herb Society of America is dedicated to promoting the knowledge, use and delight of herbs through educational programs, research and sharing the experience of its members with the community.

Medical disclaimer: It is the policy of The Herb Society of America and the Herb Society of America, New Orleans Unit not to advise or recommend herbs for medicinal or health use.

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**Mark Your Calendars!!**

**Next Louisiana Native Plant Society Meeting is February 7-9, 2020**

**Grant Applications must be completed and received no later than July 31, 2019**

**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!**

# Annual LNPS Dues

Circle one: Individual, $10. Student/Senior, $5. Family, $15. Organization, $25. Sustaining, $50. Corporate, $100.

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Checks payable to LNPS.

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