# Horticulture Tips December 2003

Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Oklahoma State University

# **GARDEN TIPS FOR DECEMBER!**

### Lawn & Turf

- \* Remove leaves from cool-season grasses or mow with a mulching mower. (F-6420)
- \* Continue mowing cool-season lawns on a regular basis. (F-6420)
- \* Continue to control broadleaf weeds in well-established warm- or cool-season lawns with a post-emergent broadleaf weed killer. (F-6421)

### Tree & Shrubs

- \* Select a freshly cut Christmas tree. Make a new cut prior to placing in tree stand. Add water daily.
- \* Live Christmas trees are a wise investment, as they become permanent additions to the landscape after the holidays.
- \* Light prunings of evergreens can be used for holiday decorations. Be careful with sap that can mar surfaces.

### Flowers

- \* Apply winter mulch to protect rose bush bud unions and other perennials. Wait until after several early freezes or you will give insects a good place to winter.
- \* Poinsettias must have at least six hours of bright, indirect light daily. Keep plants away from drafts.

### Fruits & Nuts

- \* Cover strawberry plants with a mulch about 3-4 inches thick if plants are prone to winter injury.
- \* Wait to prune fruit trees until late February or March.

### General

- \* Keep all plants watered during dry conditions even though some may be dormant.
- Irrigate all plantings at least 24 hours before hard-freezing weather if soil is dry. (F-6404)
- \* Order gardening supplies for next season.
- \* Now is a great time to design and make structural improvements in your garden and landscape.
- \* Send for mail-order catalogs if you are not already on their mailing lists.
- \* Christmas gift ideas for the gardener might include tools, garden books, magazine subscriptions, *Oklahoma Gardening* educational tapes or membership to OBGA.
- \* Clean and fill bird feeders.
- \* Make sure indoor plants are receiving enough light, or set up an indoor fluorescent plant light.

- \* Till garden plots without a cover crop to further expose garden pests to harsh winter conditions.
- \* Visit your county office to obtain gardening fact sheets for the new gardening season.
- \* Join a horticulture, plant or urban forestry society and support community "greening" or "beautification" projects.
- \* Review your garden records so you can correct past mistakes. Purchase a new gardening journal or calendar to keep the new year's gardening records.

# **Food Safety and Fresh Produce**

Lynn Brandenberger and William McGlynn

The recent outbreak of hepatitis A in Pennsylvania, which killed three people and sickened over 600, has raised new concerns about the safety of the supply and distribution system for fresh produce in the U.S. The source of the outbreak has been identified as green onions and, as a result, the FDA has warned consumers not to eat uncooked green onions for the time being.

In light of the renewed food safety concerns connected with fresh produce, it's worth pointing out that there are a number of things consumers can do to reduce their risk from disease-causing microbes. Since most if not all microbial contamination is present on the skin or outer layers of fruits and vegetables, washing and peeling are effective ways to reduce the numbers of harmful microorganisms that may be present. Produce should be washed with clean water prior to eating. (The use of household soaps and other cleansers is not recommended.) Firm produce, such as melons and cucumbers, should be scrubbed with a produce brush during washing. Damaged or bruised areas should be cut out before eating. Fresh produce that requires refrigeration (temperatures below 45°F) should be kept refrigerated before eating and should not be left at room temperature for more than two hours. This is especially true for cut melons as studies have shown that harmful bacteria can grow rapidly at room temperature on cut melon surfaces. And, as with any food, it is important to wash hands and food preparation surfaces often and avoid cross-contaminating ready-to-eat foods with raw foods, especially meat, poultry and seafood.

While these techniques are highly recommended to enhance the safety of fresh produce, the only sure way to eliminate harmful microorganisms in fresh fruits and vegetables is through cooking. Heating fruits or vegetables to a temperature of 160°F or greater is enough to kill any illness-causing microorganisms that may be present. Of course, no one wants a cooked green salad. But folks who are particularly susceptible to food-borne illness – children, the elderly, and those with compromised immune systems – may want to avoid higher-risk, uncooked produce.

Unfortunately there is no "magic bullet" that can eliminate harmful microorganisms in all fresh foods. That is why a comprehensive food safety system, from farm to table, is essential to minimize the risk of food-borne illness. Ongoing research efforts involving the USDA, FDA, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and partners at state Land Grant Universities such as Oklahoma State University are investigating methods to further reduce the risk of contamination on fresh produce and create a safer and more secure food supply.

As new and improved safety measures are developed, the food safety risks associated with fresh produce will be reduced. However, even the best system cannot eliminate all risk. Therefore we must continue to manage these risks, especially those of us who are highly-susceptible to food-borne illness. This includes paying attention to news of outbreaks as they occur and heeding official food safety warnings. It also means following good food handling practices as outlined above. And, as we weigh and manage the risks that confront us, it's useful to remember that there are real health benefits that come with a diet rich in fresh fruits and vegetables. With a little caution and common sense, we can all keep following mom's good advice about eating fruits and vegetables.

For more information on this topic:

Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables can be found at: <u>http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/prodglan.html</u> Food Safety Begins on the Farm a Grower's Guide can be found at: <u>http://www.gaps.cornell.edu/pubs/Farm\_Boo.pdf</u> FDA advises consumers about fresh produce can be found at: <u>http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/tpproduc.html</u>

# **Indoor Gardening**

David Hillock

As the winter months move in, so do we when it comes to gardening activities. However, many indoor and seasonal plants can satisfy the need to grow things even when most everything outside has gone to sleep.

There are many plants to choose from when it comes to growing indoors. Among some of the easy-care houseplants are African violet, aloe, Angel-wing begonia, arrowhead vine, asparagus fern, Aucuba, baby's-tears, cast-iron plant, Chinese evergreen, coleus, creeping Charlie, devil's ivy, dieffenbachia, English ivy, grape ivy, Haworthia, jade plant, living-stones, peperomia, philodendron, polka-dot plant, rubber plant, Schefflera, snake plant, spider plant, Swedish ivy, Swiss-cheese plant, Ti plant and wandering Jew.

There are also several plants that are fun for kids to grow such as avocado (from the pit), banana plant, lemon tree (from seed), piggyback plant, spider plant, sweet potato, Ti plant and Venus's-flytrap.

# **Caring for Special Potted Plants**

David Hillock

Below are some tips to help you care for some of the special potted plants you may receive this holiday season.

Too little light, excessive heat, and improper watering are usual causes of failure in caring for gift plants. These plants are grown in a greenhouse, where the night temperatures are usually

cool, there is ample light and the air is moist. When they are brought into a dry home, where the light is poor and the temperatures are maintained for human comfort, results are frequently disappointing. Do not expect to keep a gift plant from year to year. Enjoy them while they are attractive and in season and then discard. Gardeners frequently ask whether they can carry their poinsettias over to bloom again next year. It is questionable whether the results are worth the effort, as the quality of homegrown plants seldom equals that of commercially grown plants.

<u>Amaryllis</u> – The secret of growing amaryllis is to keep the plants actively growing after they finish blooming. Keep the plants in full sun, with a night temperature above 60°F. As soon as danger of frost has passed, set the plants in the garden in a semi-shaded spot. In the fall, before danger of frost returns bring them inside, stop watering them to allow old growth to die back, and store them in a cool, dark place to rest. They will be ready to force again about November 1. Bring them into a warm, light room and water moderately to begin new growth.

<u>Azaleas</u> – Azaleas require direct sunlight to remain healthy. A night temperature of  $60^{\circ}$ F will prolong bloom. Keep the potting medium evenly moist. If the leaves should turn yellow, the potting medium may not be acid enough. Use an acid fertilizer sold especially for azaleas. Do not use softened water. When repotting, use a mixture high in acid peat moss.

Azaleas can be planted, pot and all, in a shady spot in the garden during the summer months. Examine them frequently and keep them watered during dry periods. Greenhouse azaleas are not hardy and need to be brought indoors before freezing weather.

Azaleas need a cool, rest treatment before they are forced into bloom. Place the plants in a room with filtered light and a temperature between 35° and 50°F to break flower bud dormancy. During this rest period, flower buds will develop. Return the plants to a well-lit, warm (65°F) room around January 1 to bring them into bloom. Unless you have the proper growing conditions for the azalea, you should not attempt to carry the plants over.

<u>Christmas Pepper</u> – Plants are usually available in four-and six-inch pots during the fall and winter and are bought for the highly decorative fruit. The fruit will be at peak color for one to two months. They will be brighter and last longer if you provide high light and mild temperatures ( $60^{\circ}$ - $75^{\circ}F$ ) and keep the potting medium moist. Fertilize weekly with a soluble fertilizer. Be aware that these peppers are sometimes extremely hot. Keep them away from small children. (It is also very hard to re-bloom Christmas pepper). Frost will kill the plants.

<u>Chrysanthemum</u> – Two types of mums are sold at retail outlets, florist mums and garden mums. Garden mums are generally available in the fall as a potted flowering plant. They can be planted outdoors and are hardy through the winter. Garden mums are perennial and will flower each year. Florist mums are greenhouse varieties available year-round; they provide three to four weeks of enjoyment. Florist mums can be planted into the garden, where they will easily perennialize; however, they may bloom too late in the fall to avoid having their flowers damaged by freezing weather. Buy florist mums when flower buds are just beginning to show color. Diffuse, bright light levels and 60° to 70°F temperatures will prolong peak bloom. Don't let the plants wilt. <u>Cyclamen</u> – Cyclamen plants require full sunlight and a night temperature of between  $50^{\circ}$  and  $60^{\circ}$ F. They prefer to be kept evenly moist. Flower buds will fail to develop if night temperature is too high or if light is poor.

Cyclamen can be carried over, but as with the poinsettia, homegrown plants are seldom equal to those grown by a commercial grower. Let the plants enter dormancy after they finish flowering by limiting water. Allow the dormant tuber to dry, but not to become shriveled. Repot the fleshy tuber in June with the top of it just above the potting medium.

<u>Foliage Plants</u> – Foliage plants have varying light, temperature and watering requirements. For example, Chinese evergreen plants do well in low light, but dieffenbachia require medium to high light. Temperatures below  $55^{\circ}$ F can damage most foliage plants. Ideal temperatures for growth are  $75^{\circ}$ - $95^{\circ}$ F. Ask your County Extension Educator or nurseryman or consult a plant book for the recommended light level for specific plants.

From time to time, clean the leaves to remove dust. Foliage plants can be rejuvenated by placing them in a shaded area outdoors during warm weather. Avoid placing them near windows or doors during winter where there might be cold drafts.

<u>Forced Spring Bulbs</u> – Forced bulbs are geophytes such as tulips, daffodils, crocuses and hyacinths that are exposed to chilling temperatures in a cooler or refrigerator for several weeks and then placed in warm greenhouses so that the flowers will develop.

To get the most color and greatest longevity from your potted spring bulbs, buy plants when the flower buds first show color. In most cases, the buds will open in one or two days. To slow flower development and make the blooms last longer, keep plants cool. They will tolerate temperatures down to 40°F. Keep plants evenly moist, as water stress can reduce the flowering time in half. It's not necessary to fertilize since the plant's useful life is two to four weeks. You may replant the bulbs outdoors, and they may reflower after a year or two.

<u>Gardenia</u> – Gardenias grown indoors need special care. They require an acid potting medium and should receive the same nutritional care as azaleas. The night temperature should be near  $60^{\circ}$ F, and the humidity around the plant should be kept high. High temperature and low light intensity will result in flower bud drop.

<u>Gloxinia</u> – Gloxinias are very similar to African violets in the way you need to care for them. They may be available in florist shops year-round. Bright, indirect light is necessary to keep the plant in flower. Gloxinias typically flower for two to four weeks. Individual blooms last four to six days. Unlike African violets, gloxinias need to rest before reflowering. When the leaves start to die back, reduce watering. Allow the tubers to rest two to four months in dry soil. To get the plant to reflower (although it's hard to do), resume watering when new growth appears.

<u>Holiday Cactus</u> – The holiday cactus has become increasingly popular with the development of several new varieties. At least three related species are sold in addition to a number of cultivars. All have similar cultural requirements.

The secret of good bloom is one of temperature and photoperiod control. They will develop buds and bloom if given bright light, short days and night temperatures between 55° and 65°F. Holiday cacti bloom best when somewhat pot-bound. Repotting is necessary only about once every three years. Full sunlight is beneficial in midwinter, but bright sun during summer months can make plants look pale.

Holiday cacti require less water from October to March than they do when growth is active from April to September. A rest period is very important if plants are to bloom abundantly. Short days (11 hours or less of light each day) should be started about the middle of September and continue for 8 weeks. Care should be taken that the potting medium never becomes waterlogged during the days of winter.

<u>Kalanchoe</u> – Kalanchoe are available year-round in many colors. Flowers will last three to six weeks in mild temperatures ( $65^{\circ}-80^{\circ}F$ ) and medium light if the plants are kept watered. Using manufacturers' recommended levels of houseplant fertilizer once a month helps. The plants will rebloom if you expose them to short days (long nights) for six to eight weeks. They can be grown successfully if kept in sunny windows or placed outdoors in late spring.

<u>Poinsettia</u> – The colorful bracts of poinsettias may stay bright for months if you care for them properly. Some of the newer, long-lasting varieties can be kept attractive all winter. Bright, indirect light and frequent watering are essential. Keep plants away from drafts. Don't allow the plants to wilt, but rather allow the potting medium to nearly dry between thorough waterings.

Plants can be reflowered, although the procedure is somewhat demanding. However, for those who wish to try, the following procedure can be followed.

After the bracts fade or fall, set the plants where they will receive bright sunlight and temperatures around 65° to 70°F. Cut the plants back to within five inches of the potting medium. Water sparingly during this time, just enough to keep the stems from shriveling. Keep the plant indoors until the danger of frost has passed, then move it outdoors into a partially shaded spot. Water and fertilize often. Shape the plant as desired. Prune it or pinch it to encourage branching. Do not pinch after September 1. About Labor Day, or as soon as the nights are cool, bring the plant back indoors. Continue to grow in a sunny room with a night temperature of about 68°F. Starting mid-September, give the plant a minimum of 12 hours continuous darkness every night until bract color is well developed (mid-November). This can be done by placing the plant in a closet or covering it with a cardboard box. Any light during the dark period will delay or prevent flowering. Plants require full light in the daytime, so be sure to return them to a sunny window. Night temperatures at this time should be between 65° and 70°F.

<u>Orchids</u> – Most orchids are easily cared for if kept away from intense light and cold. Many do very well under fluorescent lights or near windows. Most orchids bloom only once a year, but the blooms can last as long as two months. Fertilize during active growth with a complete fertilizer. Water often but allow the potting medium to dry between thorough waterings. Orchids can be grown outdoors under the shade of trees after the danger of frost has passed.

## **Growing Avocados Can Be Fun!**

### David Hillock

Avocado trees are fun and easy to start indoors. Simply suspend a seed in a glass of water, placing three or four toothpicks in the side about halfway down the seed. Then, place the seed, flat end down, in a container, and add enough water to cover the lower half of the seed.

Put the container in a sunny window or some other well-lighted spot. Add water as needed to keep the bottom half of the seed in water at all times. After a few weeks, a small root will appear in the water and signs of a small, tender shoot will appear at the pointed end. Later, when the stem pushes through the top of the seed, plant the seed in a well-drained potting medium.

Avocado plants will grow with water, fertilizer and light. Water the plant often enough to keep the soil evenly moist. When an avocado plant is over-watered, it develops curled leaves and soft stems. When under-watered, it wilts and develops dried leaves, which eventually fall off. Give the plant a small amount of houseplant fertilizer every three months, and good, indirect light every day.

Avocado plants eventually grow into trees that require lots of space to grow. If your home is small, you may want to start a new plant every three or four years. However, it may take as long as 20 years or more for your tree to bear fruit.

### **Growing African Violets**

David Hillock

African violets are excellent indoor flowering plants. Available in many flower colors, they produce flowers year-round under the proper growing conditions. Individual flower clusters may last three to six weeks under good conditions. Poor flowering is often related to insufficient light. East and west facing windowsills are the best locations for violets. African violets are highly subject to root and crown rot if overwatered. Use only warm water, as cold water causes spots on leaves. Buy only high quality plants because African violet pests and diseases spread very easily among other violets. Be especially watchful for crinkled tight crowns, a possible sign of incurable cyclamen mites. Mealy bugs can also infest African violets.

# Growing Good Kids Garden Grants<sub>sm</sub> Program

### David Hillock

Mary Thomas, Classroom Teacher and Outdoor Classroom Coordinator, at Bailey Elementary School in Owasso, OK is a recipient of one of the 40 awarded grants to schools, youth programs, and community programs across the country to create Junior Master Gardener (JMG) programs and gardens in their communities.

Approximately 200 applications from 31 states were submitted. Over 7,000 youth will be directly served through the grant program and these youth will be working on over 320 service-

learning projects over the next year.

The program is a result of a unique, year-long partnership between JMG, the international youth gardening program of the University Cooperative Extension network and Minute Maid. The partnership reaches youths, their parents and teachers with a broad range of activities meant to inspire more youth to experience the benefits of gardening.

As a grant winner, each selected group will receive JMG curricula, associated JMG products, and a cash component that will support efforts to create outdoor gardening projects at local schools and community centers. In turn, they have agreed to complete a minimum of eight service-learning projects for their schools, neighborhoods and communities.

"The JMG program is a unique gardening program that cultivates families and communities and aspires to grow good kids by igniting a passion for learning and service," said Lisa Whittlesey, national program director, JMG Program. "Minute Maid shares our mission and is a great partner for promoting these important values."

The benefits of gardening for youth are numerous. Research studies indicate that children who have been involved in the JMG program are more willing to try new fruits and vegetables and have better attitudes toward food choices.

**Congratulations Mary!** 

### **Master Gardener Corner**

David Hillock

#### State Master Gardener Conference Scheduled!

Master Gardeners, mark your calendars for June 4, 2004!! We will hold our summer annual Master Gardener Continued Training Conference in Ponca City at the Pioneer Technology Center hosted by the Kay County Master Gardeners. Watch for details to arrive early next year. The conference will take place the day before the Ponca City Herb Fest so you can get a full weekend of gardening fun if you would like to stick around and participate in their events as well.

#### HIS (Horticulture Industries Show)

Don't forget that HIS will be held in Tulsa on January 9-10, 2004. This is another opportunity available for returning MGs who wish to keep up their active membership by accumulating 20 continue training hours each year. Several commodity groups will be conducting educational sessions and you are welcome to attend any you wish. Of course we would love to see you in the Master Gardener/Public Horticulture session as well. Hope to see you there! Registration will be due soon, so contact your county coordinator for registration packets if you are interested in attending.

### **Oklahoma State Pecan Show 2003**

Becky Carroll

The 2003 pecan crop will be brought into the barns starting in a few weeks. Don't forget to enter your best pecans in the pecan show. There will not be any qualifying regional or district pecan shows this year. However, some county/area shows will be held at the discretion of the County Extension Educator. Growers are encouraged to participate in county shows if available. Winning entries from county shows will be sent to the state show. If no county/area show is available, growers may enter pecans directly by sending samples to Becky Carroll, 360 Ag Hall, OSU, Stillwater, OK 74078. Samples should arrive by January 12, 2004.

Samples should be entered in a sealed plastic or paper bag. Label the bag on the outside and place a label inside the bag. Information should include exhibitors name and address, county and type of pecan entered. Be sure to follow the guidelines that are listed below before sending entries.

A few helpful hints: Take the time to select pecans that are all the same cultivar or same size and shape natives – don't send mixed pecans. Select uniform, clean, uncracked pecans. Presentation can make the difference between two very similar samples. Make sure to send two pounds of pecans in a labeled and sealed bag.

#### **General Rules and Guidelines**

- All entries must be grown in Oklahoma during the current season.
- Each entry shall consist of two pounds of nuts.
- Entries deemed unworthy by the judges will not compete for awards.
- Label each entry as to exhibitor's name, address and cultivar of nuts. If more than one native (seedling) pecan exhibit is made, identify the nuts from separate trees by numbers. Only one exhibit of each cultivar or native tree may be entered by one individual.
- Each entry will compete in one of the following 28 classes:

Apache	Mahan	Squirrels Delight
Barton	Maramec	Stuart
Burkett	Mohawk	Success
Cheyenne	Pawnee	Western
Choctaw	Peruque	Wichita
Comanche	SanSaba Improved	Other Cultivars
Graking	Schley (eastern)	Large-Native (seedling)
Gratex	Shawnee	Small-Native (seedling)
Kanza	Shoshoni	
Kiowa	Sioux	

- Each grower is allowed to participate at one county show of his or her choice.
- Each grower is allowed to enter one entry in each show class with the exception of Class 26 (Other Cultivars), Class 27 (Large-seedling) and Class 28 (Small- seedling)
- Each grower may enter one entry from each native (seedling) tree.

- Entries should be shipped or mailed to arrive at the show at least one day prior to the deadline.
- County pecan shows will not be affected by these rules and procedures.
- Only first and second place winners in each class of each county/area show will be eligible to compete in the State Pecan Show. Following each county show, eligible entries will be placed in cold storage, and judged before the Oklahoma Pecan Growers Annual Meeting. At that time, the winning entries will be displayed with awards and recognitions. All entries will become the property of the OPGA.
- First and second place winners in each class at the State Pecan Show will receive ribbons.
- State Pecan Show Special Awards Trophies will be awarded for the largest pecan entry, the entry having the highest kernel percentage, the champion native and the best entry of the show.
- If a qualifying show is not available, growers may submit entries in accordance with these guidelines directly to the State Show. Entries in the state show must be received by January 12, 2004 at the following address:

Oklahoma State University Department of Horticulture & LA Attn: Becky Carroll 360 Ag Hall Stillwater, OK 74078

# **Pecan Management Course for 2004**

Becky Carroll

Back by popular demand, the Fundamentals of Pecan Management course will again be offered for 2004. Dr. Dean McCraw, professor emeritus will come out of his short retirement to teach the 2004 edition of the educational course. Dr. McCraw, Dr. Phil Mulder, Dr. Sharon vonBroembsen and other specialists will cover the management of pecan trees over the February to October time period. This course is designed to provide an in-depth experience for current or prospective pecan growers. It incorporates both a classroom and orchard learning environment to give growers the opportunity to discuss and see the management schemes appropriate for the season.

The classes are held one Tuesday afternoon each month at the Oklahoma Pecan Research Station beginning in February. Participants will receive a reference notebook, pecan variety board, rootstock trees and a certificate of completion. The fee for the 2004 course is \$250 per individual and spouse. The deadline for registration is January 30, 2004. For more information, please contact Stephanie Larimer at 405-744-5404 or steph@okstate.edu.

### **Grape Management Course for 2004**

Becky Carroll

The Grape Management Course will be offered again in 2004. This course has been very popular for individuals wishing to start a vineyard. Dr. Dean McCraw, Dr. Sharon von Broembsen, Dr. Phil Mulder, Dr. Keith Striegler and other guest speakers will cover grape management throughout the growing season.

Classes will meet from 1 - 5 p.m. on February 19, March 25, May 20, June 17, July 15, September 16 and October 21 at the Oklahoma Fruit Research Station in Perkins.

The cost for registration is \$250.00 per individual which includes a reference manual. The course will be limited so sign up early to insure your seat for the course. For more information on registration, please contact Stephanie Larimer at 405-744-5404 or steph@okstate.edu.

# **Upcoming Horticulture Events**

### **Horticulture Industries Show**

January 9-10, 2004 Tulsa Community College Northeast Campus For more information, contact Donna Dollins at 405-744-6460 or dollins@okstate.edu.

### Arkansas-Oklahoma Turfgrass Management Shortcourse

January 13-14, 2004 OSU Botanical Garden Educational Building, Stillwater

This is an intensive 2-day introductory level turfgrass management shortcourse. It is designed specifically to benefit turfgrass managers in lawn, grounds or athletic field care that have not had a formal turf management course. The course emphasizes sound research-based fundamentals of the "why" behind the "how" turf is cared for in Arkansas and Oklahoma. Topics are taught class room style and cover the fundamental of turf ID, selection, establishment, fertilization, mowing, irrigation, aeration, dethatching and pest management. For more information contact Stephanie Larimer at 405-744-5404 or steph@okstate.edu.

### Nursery/Greenhouse Trade Show and Convention

January 16-17, 2004 Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City

Growers, retailer or those contemplating the ornamentals industry should plan to attend the next annual greenhouse and nursery trade show and convention. Please contact Wendy Gerdes, Executive Director, for preregistration information at 405-942-5276 or ohic@ionet.net. To get a preview of the schedule of events see www.oknurserymen.org or www.ogga.org for nursery and greenhouse issues, respectively.

### **Turfgrass and Nursery Field Day**

May 20 OSU Botanical Garden, Stillwater **Integrated Pest Management for Landscape Professionals** May 25 OSU, Stillwater Campus

**State Master Gardener Conference** June 4, 2004 Pioneer Technology Center, Ponca City

### **Oklahoma Gardening Summer Gardenfest**

June 12, 2004 OSU Botanical Gardens

The keynote speaker will be Landscape Architect Tim Thoelecke from Garden Concepts, Inc. in Glenview, Illinois. His presentation will be on "Garden Makeovers."

#### **Greenhouse Production Shortcourse**

June 15-17, 2004 OSU-Oklahoma City Campus

#### **Horticultural Therapy Conference**

August 31, 2004 Stillwater, location TBA

#### **Multi-State Plant Materials Conference**

September 22-23, 2004 Stillwater, location TBA

#### Nursery/Greenhouse Trade Show and Convention

October 8-9, 2004 Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City

### **Tree Care Issues Conference**

November 3, 2004 OSU Botanical Garden Educational Building, Stillwater

For more information about upcoming events, please contact Stephanie Larimer at 405-744-5404 or <u>steph@okstate.edu</u>.

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