2008 Master Gardener
Awards of Excellence & Recognition
2007 Numbers

- 3,835 Active volunteers in 56 counties
- 425,445 hours donated
- Value of $7,985,602.65
- 808,802 client contacts
- Reporting
  - Hours
  - Contacts
  - Continued Training
Auction Results

$2,626.00!!!!!!!!!

These proceed go directly to support the awards of excellence and service awards presented to MGs each year.

Thanks to Hillsborough County!!
Awards of Excellence Categories

Beautification
County Displays/Exhibits
County Master Gardener Newsletter
Demonstration Garden
Educational Materials Development
Extension Awareness
General Achievement
Outstanding Master Gardener
Personal Communications
Service to 4-H and Other Youth
Special Audiences
Written Mass Communications
Beautification

Leon
Okaloosa
Sumter
Okaloosa
County Display/ Exhibits

Palm Beach
Polk
Santa Rosa
County Master Gardener Newsletter

Charlotte
Highlands
Nature Coast
Osceola
Polk
Santa Rosa
Plant Life Line

Container Garden

By Donna Worthley

GROWING HERBS IN CONTAINERS

Herbs are plants grown for their special aromas and flavors. They are mainly used to season, enrich, or otherwise improve the taste or smell of foods. Nothing beats cooking with fresh home-grown herbs. Although most herbs will do well under the same conditions of sunlight and soil as vegetables, our hot Southwest Florida summers with our abundant rainfall make growing many herbs year round impossible. For these reasons, herbs are well suited for container culture, additionally only a small portion of the plant is usually needed at any one time and the plants are generally small. Creating a window garden of herbs or growing a container of herbs on your lanai close to your kitchen will help you to become a “gourmet chef.”

Choosing containers

The sky is the limit when choosing containers for your herb garden. You can plant each herb in a separate terra cotta pot or plant a collection in a long window box. Your only limitation when it comes to choosing pots for herbs is that you need to use containers that are food safe. Some glossy or brightly colored pots are made with lead or other materials you don’t want in your food. Plastic pots are always safe, and most plain terra cotta is safe. Containers that are not safe for food will usually have a warning label, so it should be easy to find something decorative that will not be harmful to your family. Most herbs will do well in small pots or with three or four plants in one long window box. Large plants, such as an old rosemary bush, can be planted separately in larger containers. Hanging baskets are especially suitable for herbs.

SEE CONTAINER PG 3
Demonstration Garden

Escambia
Nassau
Polk
St. Johns
St. Lucie
St. Lucie
Annual gardening festival emphasizes knowledge

BY SOTTY GREENE

The Master Gardeners’ annual Spring Into Gardening Festival provides creative ways to communicate the joy of learning about gardens. This year, the emphasis was on the five senses.

Smell: The welcoming greeting for visitors to the festival was (luckily) “aroma-therapy.” Marigolds were available for purchase by a St. Lucie County 4-H group. Full of nutrients for plants, marigolds ought to be first on any gardener’s shopping list.

Taste: Luscious varieties of fruits that can be grown in local gardens provided cool refreshment. The workshop was offered by the Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Rare Fruit Club.

Bearing: listening, visitors were able to learn the features of various plants during the plant fashion show. Coordinated by Judy Coffman, costumed Master Gardeners and friends strode the runway, carrying plants related to their creative outfits.

Sight: Featuring gorgeous plants and wonderful information booths, the festival offered sights of specialty varieties of orchids, bromeliads, crotons, roses and others.

Touch: The new demonstration garden attracted many visitors. It was great to touch the plants and decide which full-sun or shade-tolerant species would be welcome in our own yards. Then off to the Master Gardeners’ plant nursery, which featured plants to touch and purchase.

Proceeds of the day will be used to support Master Gardener projects that reach the community. Thanks to raffle donors Kacey Liburu, Blooming Idiots’ Roses and Heathcote Gardens, the raffle was a success. By funding scholarships, workshops, or other learning experiences, the Spring Into Gardening Festival turned out to be an opportunity for everyone to grow.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make this a great day for growing.
Educational Materials Development

Martin Polk Orange
Orange
Extension Awareness

Leon
Nature Coast
Okaloosa
Polk
Okaloosa
Billboard Publicizing our Spring Plant Sale
General Achievement

Bradford  Osceola
Flagler   Palm Beach
Martin    Polk
Nature Coast  Santa Rosa
Okaloosa
Santa Rosa Rosa
UF UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

Fall Field Day
TREEmendous Giveaway
Saturday, October 6, 2007
8 a.m. to noon
Admission is free

Come explore the Garden:

• Receive a free tree. Participants must attend a short class on
tree planting and care. Classes will be offered at 10 a.m. and
11 a.m. the day of the event. Call 850-623-3868 to register.
Please bring a vehicle capable of transporting a 5-foot tree.
• Buy Florida adapted daffodils
• Learn how to attract wildlife to your landscape
• Take a tour of the onsite teaching and demonstration gardens

Funding for the trees provided through
an Urban and Community Forestry Grant
received through the U.S. Forest Service

Presented by: UF/IFAS Santa Rosa County Extension &
The Santa Rosa County Master Gardeners
Location: Santa Rosa County Extension Office
6263 Dogwood Drive
Milton, FL 32570
Information: 850-623-3868 or
http://santarosa.ifas.ufl.edu
Outstanding Master Gardener

Hillsborough
Marion
Nassau
Okaloosa
Polk
Santa Rosa
Marion
Jo Leyte-Vidal
Personal Communications

Hillsborough
Martin
Okaloosa
Orange
Okaloosa
Robert L. Thomas
Service to 4-H and Other Youth

Martin
Nassau
Polk
Santa Rosa
Santa Rosa
Special Audiences

Hillsborough
Palm Beach
Hillsborough
Written Mass Communications

Nassau
Okaloosa
Nassau
We’re the Citrus State, so let’s grow some fruit

Florida is the Sunshine and Citrus State. Many Florida homeowners include orange, grapefruit, lemon or lime citrus trees in their landscapes. Watching a true bloom, develop fruit, and then harvest and enjoy the fruits is popular in many neighborhoods. Here in Nassau County, we are a little further south for the ideal citrus growing climate. However, selecting citrus varieties that are cold hardy offers the best opportunity for annual harvests in our area.

Our orange tree variety that does very well in Nassau County is the Satsuma. It’s a larger tree type orange. The Satsuma is productive, stays medium in size and is cold hardy. There are other sweet orange producing trees to consider: the Hamlin, Farmer, Brown and the O’neill. These varieties mature in early to late fall so the fruit can be harvested before a severe freeze.

To add citrus trees to your landscape, start by buying from a reputable nursery a good quality tree that is free of disease. A young tree should be planted on the south or west side of the yard to get direct exposure to the sun. Make sure you plant the root with space to grow at full size without being crowded by other vegetation. Citrus trees are planted 10 to 15 feet apart, 20 to 25 feet away from other trees and buildings.

The best time to plant is late winter or early spring. Dig up the ground to a depth of 1 inch over the width of the container. Remove the tree from the container and make several vertical slits in the root ball to stimulate root growth. Set the plant in the ground slightly higher than it goes in the container. refill the hole around the plant up to the dirt to remove air space. Form a water basin around the tree to retain water near the roots. Provide the tree with 1 inch of water three times a week for two weeks, then taper off gradually to once a week. Young trees should receive a generous supply of water every seven to 10 days during periods of little or no rainfall. The best way to irrigate citrus is via the drip method.

During the first growing season it is best to remove immature fruit from the tree, thereby leaving more nutrients for the tree to mature to grow to produce and hold fruit. The second season, citrus trees need to be fertilized with 12-48-12 fertilizer. Fertilizing should not be done except to shape or remove small sucker branches.

Kay McAllister is a Nassau County Master Gardener. She has lived in Nassau County for 16 years and has been a Master Gardener for two years.
4-H Plant ID and Judging
Top Team Score
Leon

Individual Scores
Kathy Carmichael
Native Plant Challenge Results

High Score

Ellie Kane - Martin
Peggy Kane - Martin

Good Try Score

Marjorie Chapin
10 Year Service Recognition

Wilma Coffey – Pinellas
Walter Coley – Highlands
Anna Coley – Highlands
Ruthann Grieshammer – Hernando
Wes Harris – Hernando
Jim King – Leon
Henry Lamwers – Hernando
Mary Lamwers – Hernando
10 Year Service Recognition

Curt Mayer – Charlotte
Kay Pacecca – Hernando
Cindy Paulhus – Hillsborough
Sharon Pilot – Hillsborough
Anna Polgar – Orange
Shirley Puzey – Highlands
Barbara Schroeder – Sumter
Joanne Spurlino – Hillsborough
15 Year Service Recognition

John Sziber – Hernando
20 Year Service Recognition

Johanne Fleming – Santa Rosa
Sally Menk – Santa Rosa
JoAnne Whale – Hillsborough
25 Year Service Recognition

Eleanor Flood – Putnam
2008 Master Gardener Awards of Excellence & Recognition
Deceased Master Gardeners

Lou Ciecinski – Duval
Paula Kraan – Duval
Tom Merquelin – Duval
Regina Trudell – Hernando
Flo King – Hernando
Regina Trudell – Hernando
Joan Kunkel – Hillsborough
Martha Hall – Hillsborough
Walter Hearn, Jr. - Indian River
Susan Finch – Lee
John Hulett – Lee
Kaye Cude – Lee
Sylvia Blue – Lee
Bill Brown – Leon
Chuck “Charles” White – Manatee
Alex Belisle – Martin
Estelle Rogers – Martin
Louise Rozario - Monroe
Robert Weil – Pinellas
Joe Boehnlein – Putnam
Ricky DeCasto – Putnam
Regina Imperato – St. Lucie
Joe Duignan “farmer Joe” – St. Lucie
Joseph Prophete – St. Lucie
Ivy May – Sumter
Nancy Stuckman – Sumter