



# Hort Notes

An educational newsletter with research-based information for businesses and individuals involved in selling, planning, designing, servicing, and enjoying landscapes and gardens.

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## All America Selections for the 2002 Season

*All America Selections* (AAS) is a non-profit organization for evaluating new, seed-grown flowers and vegetables from around the world. Each year AAS selects winning varieties from test gardens across North America. Each winner has superior qualities or traits that distinguish it from similar varieties in side-by-side trials. This year there are 13 AAS winners that were distinctly improved and were chosen by independent judges.

Two flowers won the Bedding Plant Award. **'Black Magic Rose' geranium** has an unusual bicolor leaf pattern that is different from other bicolor geraniums. Each leaf has a black center with a green leaf edge. The exceptionally dark foliage contrasts with the bright rose florets, with each floret having a small white eye. 'Black Magic Rose' is heat tolerant and flowers freely throughout the growing season. It will grow to a height of 10 to 14 inches, with a width of 14 to 18 inches under good growing conditions, and is well suited to container culture.

**'Jaio Scarlet Eye' vinca** has a distinct rose-scarlet flower color with a small white eye. The 2 inch, non-fading blooms cover the 1 foot tall plants. 'Jaio Scarlet Eye' is both heat and drought tolerant and will give season long color with minimal care.

Among the Flower Award winners are **'Tidal Wave Silver' petunia** and **'Cherokee Sunset' rudbeckia**. 'Tidal Wave Silver' sports silvery-white blooms with dark purple centers. This petunia is unique in that the gardener can determine the height of the mature plant by how closely spaced it is in the garden. If spaced 6 inches apart and given a small trellis to climb on, 'Tidal Wave Silver' will reach a height of 2 to 3 feet; if spaced a foot apart, this plant will form a mound 16 to 22 inches high. No pruning or pinching is needed and 'Tidal Wave Silver' shows good Botrytis resistance.

'Cherokee Sunset' rudbeckia is an annual in most northern gardens but may overwinter in a mild season. It is a blend of sunset colors including yellow, orange, bronze and mahogany. The 3 to 4 1/2 inch flowers are double or semi-double and are also good as cut flowers. This cultivar will grow 24 inches tall and does best in full sun.

*Roberta Clark*  
*UMass Extension Educator - Landscape, Nursery and Urban Forestry*

# Employee Safety Resources

Thinking of expanding your company's safety efforts and need some fresh ideas? There are lots of resources to help you find answers: publications, agencies, web sites and even your own insurance provider. The following list will get you started:

## **Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), <http://www.osha.gov/>**

In the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA is responsible for creating and enforcing workplace safety and health regulations. Visit this web site to access OSHA rules and regulations and statistics. Also download forms such as MSDS and OSHA 200 Log and Summary, or access free publications.

## **NIOSH (National Instituted for Occupational Safety and Health)**

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/homepage.html>

Although NIOSH and OSHA were created by the same Act of Congress, they are two distinct agencies with separate responsibilities. NIOSH is in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is a research agency. Access a variety of research and recommendations for the prevention of work-related disease and injury. Publications can be viewed, printed or ordered on topics such as back belts, noise exposure, prevention of lead exposure and lifting guidelines. Many are in pdf format which can be easily downloaded free from the web site. Phone 800-356-4674.

## **Safety Info**

<http://www.safetyinfo.com/>

This web site features a huge amount of safety information. Many documents can be accessed at no charge, while others require a subscription. Some of the free material includes elements of a safety program you can modify for your company, outlines for accident prevention training, safety talks, PowerPoint presentations and numerous inspection forms and checklists.

## **Industrial Safety and Hygiene News (ISHN)**

<http://www.ishn.com/>

The web site of this leading safety publication provides the latest news on safety in the workplace issues. Look for articles on OSHA, MSDS Compliance, and using respirators in the current issue. Search archives for specific topics, or review articles in past issues on topics such as hand protection, lightning safety, best practices, hearing and vision protection and executive strategies. A new link to ISHN's Buyer's Guide provides a handy "yellow pages" for nearly any type of safety product or service.

## **Publications**

The following publications provide news and information about the insurance industry, some of which is workers' comp related. While web surfers can access various articles and features, subscriptions may be required for full access to most of these web sites.

### **On Workers' Comp**

<http://www.mleesmith.com/wc/owc.html>

Available by subscription, this publication is strictly about workers' comp.

### **Risk Management Magazine**

<http://www.rmmag.com/>

### **Best's Review**

<http://www.bestreview.com/>

### **National Underwriters News**

<http://www.nunew.com/>

### **Workers' Comp Executive**

<http://www.wcexec.com/>

*This article was excerpted from an article written by Joe Clifford, Director of Risk Management for Regency Group, administrators of the Michigan Horticulture Industries' Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Fund in the September/October 2001 issue of The Voice of the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association.*

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## **LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!!!**

**Would you like a copy of our 2002 Green Directory?**

**Would you like UMass Extension to email you program announcements from the *Landscape, Nursery, Urban Forestry or Turf Programs*?**

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES - send me the 2002 Green Directory.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES - Put me on the email list** (*please print clearly*):

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Return to UMass Extension by: **MAIL** UMass Extension, French Hall,  
230 Stockbridge Rd., Amherst, MA 01003

**FAX** (413) 577-1620

**EMAIL** [greeninfo@umext.umass.edu](mailto:greeninfo@umext.umass.edu)

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## **A Conference on Challenges Facing the Green Industry:**

*Training Spanish-speaking Workers, Exploring European and E-Commerce Markets,  
Plant Materials, Shade Tree Insect Pests, Purchasing Practices, Indigenous Plants, and Controlling  
Invasives*

**Thursday, November 8, 2001 - Sea Crest Resort, North Falmouth, MA**

UMass Extension and the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association are cosponsoring a full day conference discussing critical challenges currently facing the Green Industry. Professional grounds managers, nurserymen, garden center personnel and landscapers are invited to attend. Topics include:

➤ **Opportunities in the European market** with Thomas Wirth, noted Landscape Architect and President, Thomas Wirth Associates, and Bonita Oehlke, Foreign Trade Specialist of the Mass. Department of Agriculture. They will present an overview of Floriade 2002 and discuss the involvement of New England growers in the six month long international horticultural exhibition.

➤ **E-commerce options and issues in the Horticulture Industry**, presented by Joel Albizo of PlantAmerica. This industry has quickly changed the way it is doing business because of e-commerce. Joel will explore the different e-commerce options and issues, review what other companies are doing, discuss the difference between business-to-business and business-to-consumer and show ways for businesses to get in the game.

➤ Other presentations include teaching tools for the multilingual workplace, nurserymen discussing finding landscape plant materials, identification and management of destructive shade tree pests, management of invasive plants in the landscape and utilizing alternative species, and American beauties in the landscape.

1 pesticide contact hour for categories 29, 36 and Applicator's license is offered. To register send check payable to MNLA (\$95/members, \$120/non-members and at the door) to Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association, P.O. Box 387, Conway, MA 01341. Registration deadline is October 29. For more information, call Kathleen Carroll at 413-545-0895 or Rena Sumner at 413-369-4731/fax 413-369-4962.

Go to <http://www.umassgreeninfo.org/> under Conferences and Workshops for more details and directions.

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## Upcoming Events

**October 18 & 19 - Tree Autopsy and Dissection Lab** with Dr. Alex Shigo, Portsmouth, NH. Contact Northeast Shade Tree at (800) 841-2498.

**October 19 - Diseases of Herbaceous Perennials Seminar**, Radisson Hotel, Cromwell, CT. Contact Leanne Pundt, University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension, at (860) 345-4511 or [lpundt@canr.uconn.edu](mailto:lpundt@canr.uconn.edu)

**October 22 - Protecting the School Environment: Adopting IPM and Complying with the Children and Families Protection Act**, UMass, Amherst. Contact Kathleen Carroll, UMass Extension, at (413) 545-0895 or [kcarroll@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kcarroll@umext.umass.edu)

**November 8 - Business Short Course: Challenges Facing the Green Industry**, Sea Crest Resort, North Falmouth, MA. Cosponsored by UMass Extension and the Mass. Nursery and Landscape Association. Contact Rena Sumner, MNLA, at (413) 369-4731, <http://www.mnla.com/>, or Kathleen Carroll, UMass Extension, at (413) 545-0895, [kcarroll@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kcarroll@umext.umass.edu)

**November 13 & 14 - Greenhouse and Garden Retailers Expo 2001**, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, Marlborough, MA. Contact Tina Smith, UMass Extension, at (413) 545-5306, [tsmith@umext.umass.edu](mailto:tsmith@umext.umass.edu) or go to <http://www.umass.edu/umext/programs/agro/floriculture/expo1.pdf>

**December 5 - Green Industry Conference**, Cape Cod Community College. Contact Lynne Dowdell at (508) 771-8757.

**December 6 & 7 - Tree Chemistry and Biology** with Dr. Alex Shigo, Portsmouth, NH. Contact Northeast Shade Tree at (800) 841-2498.

**February 7-9, 2002 - New England Grows**, Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA.

**February 12, 2002 - Stockbridge School Job Fair**, UMass, Amherst. Call (413) 545-2222 or email at [stocky@fnr.umass.edu](mailto:stocky@fnr.umass.edu)

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