



UConn Home & Garden Education Center Knowledge to Grow On!

www.ladybug.uconn.edu

NOVEMBER IS FOR NEW ENGLAND COTTONTAILS, NEW LOVE & NON-NATIVE ANTS !

Hello Fellow Gardeners! You are receiving this email because you have provided us with your email address either when subscribing to our quarterly newsletter, having your soil analyzed, or testing the horticultural prowess and investigative abilities of our incredibly well-versed staff at the UConn Home & Garden Education Center! Or, we just might have thought you would enjoy this e-newsletter. If you do not wish to receive our monthly email updates on gardening tips, pest problems, events and other information, please email us at ladybug@uconn.edu and ask to be removed from this list.



Like us on Facebook!

Pest Patrol/Current Concerns/Topics of Interest:



Young rabbit eating clover by DMP



African ant by Rose Hiskes (CAES)



Maple leaves by DMP

New England Cottontail Excluded from Endangered Species List

Dover, New Hampshire, September 11, 2015 -- Today, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell announced that a public-private partnership uniting foresters, farmers, birdwatchers, biologists, hunters and other conservationists has saved the New England cottontail from needing protection under the Endangered Species Act. The partnership has also initiated on-the-ground conservation efforts for the cottontail that will benefit the rabbit into the future. [Read more...](#)

African Ant Found in Cromwell

On Oct. 16, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station confirmed that ants found throughout a structure in Cromwell, Conn., were the invasive African ant, *Pheidole megacephala*. [Read more...](#)

Climate Change Could Affect Fall Foliage Timing

Climate change could substantially alter the timing of the autumn season in New England over the next century, a new study finds – in ways that are not simply based on rising temperatures. [Read more...](#)

Many Insects Appreciate Fallen Fruit



Wasp and fritillary butterfly enjoy fallen apples.

Other items that the Center is getting calls or emails on include seeding lawns, how late can you fertilize, inoculants for beans, cover crops, Asian lady beetles, planting fall bulbs, mushrooms on lawns, arborvitae and white pines shedding needles, pruning hydrangeas and voles. If you have specific questions, gardening queries or pest problems, check out our website, www.ladybug.uconn.edu or call the UConn Home & Garden Education Center (877) 486-6271 (toll-free in CT). You can reach us by email at ladybug@uconn.edu. Your County Cooperative Extension Centers are also listed on the website.

CT 10% Campaign: Take the pledge!

Pledge to spend 10% of your food dollars locally at <http://www.buyctgrown.com/ct-10-percent>. Locally grown food sustains CT's farming community but more importantly, locally grown and raised food will also increase food security in our Northeast region and support local economies.

LET'S CELEBRATE! 2015 is the INTERNATIONAL YEAR of SOILS

Watch the International Year of Soils: Soils and Climate

Climate has an important role in soil formation. Observing soils and soil profiles can give clues to past climates and weather cycles. Some climates have soils that are not as deep or fertile and require special management for preservation. Soil is an important part of the global carbon cycle. Different land management practices result in different amounts of carbon being released to the atmosphere.

Understanding this may allow us to manage for a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from soil and therefore manage soil's effect on climate.

Download our November [Soils and Climate video](#)- it's also excellent for use in classrooms and any other event/activity that will benefit from video! You can also view it directly on [YouTube](#). Feel free to share widely!

Learn more about International Year of Soils at www.soils.org/IYS



Like the UConn Soil Testing Lab on Facebook

Sunday November 15th is America Recycles Day!

2015 Theme: “Bathroom, Bags and Gadgets” -- This year’s theme shines a light on some of the everyday, but not “top of mind” consumer products, which can and should be given another life through recycling. These include personal care items commonly found in the bathroom, like haircare and mouthwash bottles; plastic bags, such as those used at retail stores, and plastic wrap used in packaging paper towels, toilet paper or dry cleaning; and consumer electronics and gadgets, such as mobile phones, tablets, game consoles, televisions and more. For more information go to: <http://americarecyclesday.org/>



Ten Tips for the November Gardener:

1. Drain hoses and sprayers before cold weather sets in to prevent them from freezing and bursting.
2. Wait to spread winter mulch until after the ground has frozen. Mulching beforehand can delay dormancy and makes a good home for voles.
3. Do not store apples or pears with vegetables. The fruits give off ethylene gas which speeds up the breakdown of vegetables and will cause them to develop a strange taste.
4. Clean the bird feeders and stock them with bird seed and suet.

5. Use small stakes or markers where you've planted bulbs or late starting spring plants in the perennial garden, to avoid disturbing them when you begin spring soil preparation.
6. Keep mowing your lawn as long as the grass is growing. Meadow voles and field mice may damage turf and nearby trees and shrubs if they have long grass for food and cover.
7. Inspect your fruit trees. Remove any mummified remaining fruits, and rake up and dispose of old leaves.
8. Protect roses from freezing temperatures by placing bark mulch around the base of rose bushes so that the first part of the stem (nearest the ground) is completely covered or mound with soil and protect with a purchased rose cone. Do this after the ground freezes.
9. Clean and fill bird baths regularly and consider a heating unit to provide fresh water throughout the winter.
10. Pull stakes and plant supports. Clean them with a 10% bleach solution before storing for the winter.

Events/ Programs/Save the Dates:

UConn Blooms' Pumpkin Arrangements & Workshops!

UConn Blooms is now offering pumpkin arrangements for the next few weeks. They are perfect for fall festivities and especially, Thanksgiving! Pleasing pumpkin pots will radiate fall color wherever they are placed. These companions are great gifts for someone's desk or table. We also carry gourds and mini pumpkins and they make great accompaniments to our centerpieces!

Create a living piece of art that you can bring home! UConn Blooms will help you construct a Thanksgiving centerpiece on November 18th and/or a Christmas centerpiece on December 16th. Please register in advance since seating is limited. The fee for each workshop is \$30.00 and they will be held between 5:30 and 6:45 in the Floriculture building where UConn Blooms is housed. Parking is available alongside our greenhouses and at the Towers parking lot.

UConn Blooms is located in the Floriculture Building on Route 195 (1395 Storrs Road) across from the yellow barn. Parking is available alongside our greenhouses in the driveway. We are open from 10:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday and we will deliver on campus. Call us at 860-486-6000 to order early. Look for us online at <https://web9.uits.uconn.edu/uconnblooms/> or email uconnblooms@uconn.edu.

Garden Master Classes (open to all, fee, <http://mastergardener.uconn.edu/>)

Botanical Latin Saturday, Nov 14, 2015 from 10 am to noon. Litchfield County Extension Center
Deadline for Registration: Nov 6. Instructor: Jude Hsiang

Conifer Culture Tuesday, Nov 10, 2015 from 7 to 9 pm. Hartford County Extension Center.
Deadline for registration: Nov 3. Instructor: Kevin Wilcox

Conifer Cultivars 2 Monday, Nov 16, 2015 from 10 am to noon. New Haven County Extension Center. Deadline for registration: Nov 9. Instructor: Kevin Wilcox

Fabulous Shrubs for the 4 Season Garden Thursday, Dec 17, 2015 from 1 to 3 pm. Fairfield County Extension Center. Deadline for registration: Dec 10. Instructor: Brid Craddock

KNOWLEDGE TO GROW ON!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

[Do industrial agriculture methods yield more food per acre than organic ones?](#)

[Children that eat the most fruits and vegetables have healthier hearts](#)

[Hunting down hidden dangers and health benefits of urban fruit](#)

CLIMATE CORNER

[Exxon knew about climate change almost 40 years ago](#)

[3 out of 4 Americans acknowledge climate change](#)

WHO KNEW ?

[Lathering up with sunscreen may protect against cancer -- killing coral reefs worldwide](#)

[Wildflowers on farms -- not just crops -- can expose bees to neonicotinoids](#)

[Native Plants Boost Beneficial Insects](#)

UConn Sustainable Living Website: www.sustainableliving.uconn.edu

UConn Extension Website: www.extension.uconn.edu

UConn Food Safety Website: www.foodsafety.uconn.edu

CLEMATIS 'NEW LOVE'

Clematis New Love received two awards at the 2015 New Varieties Showcase at the Far West Show: the Best New Plant Award and the Retailers' Choice Award.

New Love was developed by Wim Snoeijer from the Netherlands and is being brought to the industry by [Concept Plants](#). It has a bush-forming, self-supporting habit that is perfect for small spaces. The star-shaped indigo blooms are fragrant and have reflexed petals that curl backwards. It blooms from June to September and is hardy to Zone 5.

This looks like a great item for patio containers or perennial borders!

[What do you think? Share your thoughts and read what others have to say HERE.](#)

From Perennial Pulse 9-11-15



We Need Your Support!

If you enjoy our efforts to keep you informed about horticultural and College-related items, please consider showing your support by **liking us on Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/UConn-Home-Garden-Center/136211899745967>, **checking out our weekly blog** www.uconnladybug.wordpress.com, or **SUBSCRIBING TO OUR PRINTED, 20-PAGE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR \$10/YEAR**. Find the subscription form at <http://www.ladybug.uconn.edu/newsletter/index.html>

THANK YOU LOYAL READERS – PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS!!

“An equal opportunity and program provider “

November 2015, DMP