

## Coming Events

### THINK GREEN THURSDAYS & MORE

Thurs., Sept. 12th, 10:00a and 6:00p  
*Fall Flowers—the Pollinators' Picks!*

Wed, Sept. 18th, 9a-6p

### MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE



Thurs., Sept. 26th, 10:00a and 6:00p  
*Composting—Let It Rot!*

Thurs., Oct. 10th 10:00a  
*Planting Trees and Shrubs*

Thurs., Oct. 24th 10:00a  
*Fall Bulbs—Make a Splash Next Spring!*

You can register online for any of the Think Green Thursdays classes here: <https://goo.gl/yQzUtp>. Just click on the name of the class you want.

### Contact us :

Alamance County Cooperative  
Extension Service

209-C N. Graham Hopedale Rd.  
Burlington, NC 27217

Phone: 336-570-6740

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## Master Gardener Plant Sale

**9th Annual**  
**Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale**



**NC STATE**  
Extension  
Master Gardener

### ONE DAY ONLY!

Wednesday, September 18, 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Agricultural Building  
209 N Graham-Hopedale Rd.  
Burlington, NC

- Flowering perennials, luxurious ferns and ornamental grasses grown by Master Gardeners, most priced at \$5 or less!
- One-day-only specials on Atlas gardening gloves and *The Garden Plate* cookbook.
- Enter to win a 2-hour private landscape consultation with Rett Davis.

All proceeds go toward the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program of Alamance County and to the care and improvement of Arbor Gate Teaching Garden, a public demonstration garden maintained exclusively by Alamance County Extension Master Gardeners.

### For information:

Phone 336.570.6740

E-mail: [christine.stecker@alamance-nc.com](mailto:christine.stecker@alamance-nc.com)

## What's THIS mess?

A common oak tree pest that you will see this time of year is the orangestriped oakworm. You may see the caterpillars feeding on the tree leaves or you may have noticed the numerous small pellets on the sidewalk and driveway underneath your oak trees. The pellets are the droppings of the caterpillars and, while messy, do not pose a health hazard. I noticed the mulch ring under a willow oak was completely covered with caterpillar poop, so a large number of caterpillars can make a large number of pellets.



## *Fear Not! It's Just Some Oak Leaves, Slightly Reformatted*

The main concern is the effect of defoliation on the health of the tree. Defoliation is not good for any tree, but late season defoliation is usually not a big problem for a healthy tree. A tree that is attacked for several years in a row however can start to decline. The best defense against the caterpillars is a good offense. Note which trees are being attacked this year because they will be most likely be attacked again next year. Look at the trees closely twice a week starting in late July for signs of caterpillar feeding. If you are observant, you may be able to prune off the branch where the caterpillars begin feeding and limit the damage.

If the caterpillars get ahead of you, there still are a couple of options. Trees that are less than 15 feet tall are prime candidates for the mechanical control method. That method involves taking a long pole and knocking the caterpillars to the ground while stepping on them vigorously. Note: Do not stand directly under the tree when you are hitting the branch with the stick. A caterpillar that falls down inside your collar and in your shirt can be a distraction. The next option is to spray the trees as high as you can with a Bt product like Dipel or Thuricide. These products are fairly safe to use and very effective on the smaller caterpillars.

For more information on orangestriped oakworm or any other gardening question, please give Chris or me a call.



Orangestriped oakworm, *Anisota senatoria*, on willow oak, *Quercus phellos*

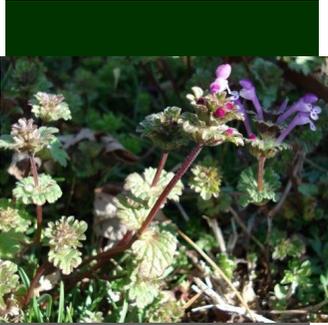


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A pair of orangestriped oakworm moths (the male has darker wings).

Photo by John B. Wheatley, Bugwood.org

## NC STATE

### Extension Master Gardener



## September Garden Tips

**N**ow is the best time to reseed, overseed and start new fescue lawns. Overseed at the rate of 3 to 4 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Sow new cool-season lawns in prepared ground at the rate of 7 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Fertilize established cool-season lawns this month. In the absence of a soil test, use a balanced fertilizer and apply at the rate of one pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

**I**f chickweed, henbit and other winter annual weeds spoiled your spring landscape, treat the garden now to keep them out. Apply a pre-emergence herbicide to flower beds and natural areas. Call Extension for a recommendation: 336-570-6740. **Warning!** Do not apply a pre-emergence herbicide to newly-seeded or overseeded lawns

**D**iscontinue pruning at this time except to remove dead or broken branches and spent flowers. Spring-blooming plants have already formed their flower buds, and pruning of any plants may encourage new growth that won't have time to harden off before winter.

**C**onsider planting a cover crop or 'green manure' this fall in unused garden space. It's a great way to improve soil fertility and structure. Crimson clover is a good choice for our area. Plant at least a month before the first killing frost. In the spring, turn under your cover crop three weeks before planting your garden.

**H**arvest sweet potatoes in late September or early October (before first frost). Avoid bruising or scratching during handling—damaged sweet potatoes rot easily in storage. Ideal storage conditions are a temperature of 55 degrees and a relative humidity of 85 percent. The basement or crawl space of a house should work.

**H**arvest herbs to preserve for winter use. Use your microwave oven to dry herbs. Heat them between paper towels for about one minute, or until the leaves are crisp. Chives store well in the freezer. Alternatively, pot up chives, parsley and other herbs in six-inch containers to grow in a sunny window.

**P**lant mustard, onion sets and radishes until the middle of the month. Sow onion seeds all month.

**D**ig, divide and re-plant overcrowded perennial beds or start a new bed now.

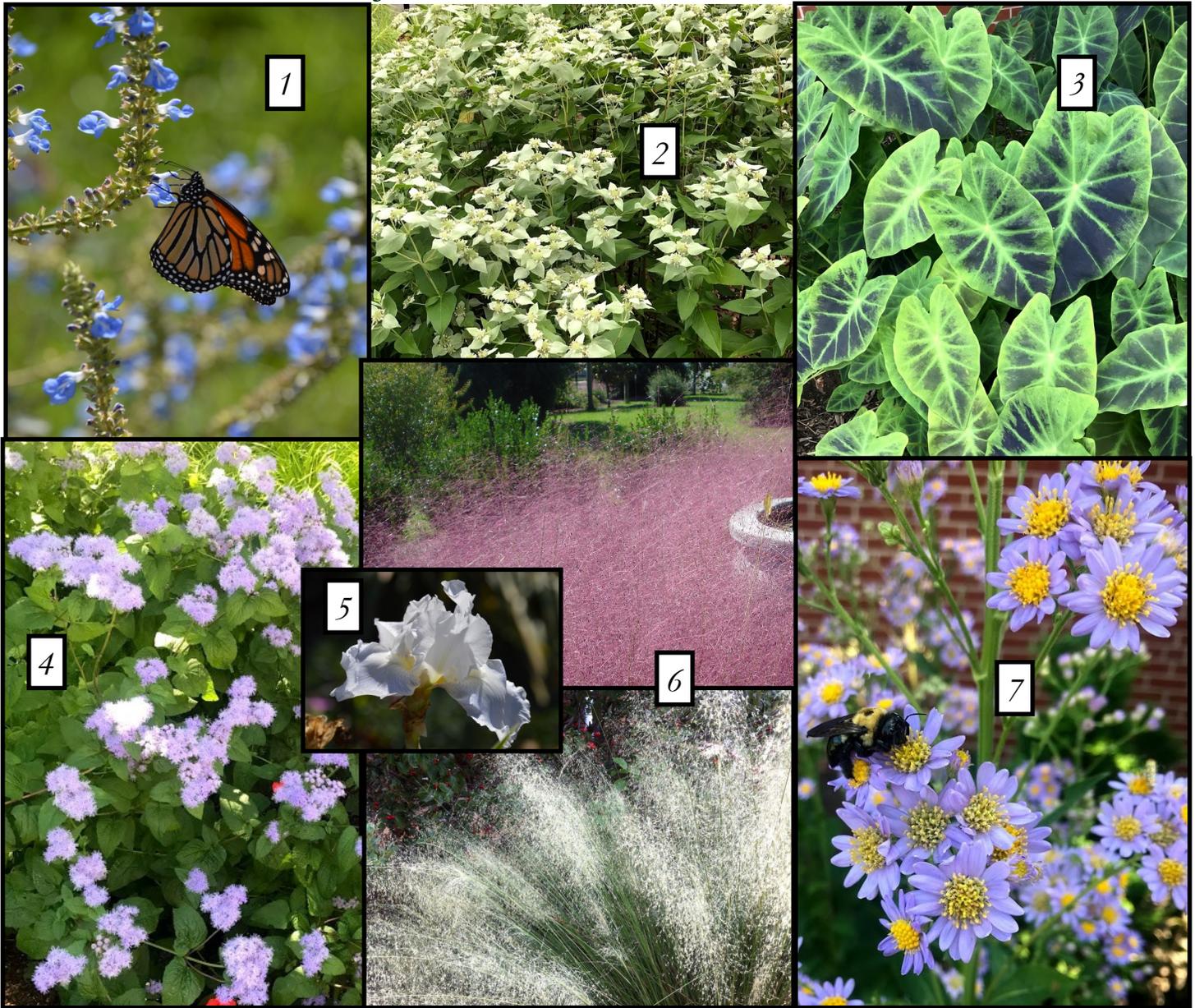
**Get NEW perennials at the Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale, Wednesday, September 18th, from 9am-6pm at the Agricultural Building.**

**Find ferns, ornamental grasses and flowering perennials, including many propagated from favorites at Arbor Gate Teaching Garden, all nurtured by Extension Master Gardener Volunteers!**

**See page 5 for a partial list of what's available.**



# Arbor Gate Plants of the Month



## Some of the September Bloomers Available at the Sale!

These are just a few of the fall-blooming beauties now showing at Arbor Gate Teaching Garden. Find these and many others, most available for just \$5 each during our ninth annual Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale! See Page 5 for a more complete list of our offerings, but you'll have to be there on Wednesday, September 19th, to see them all!

By the numbers:

1) *Salvia uliginosa*—Sky blue sage, 2) *Pycnanthemum muticum*—Mountain mint, 3) *Colocasia esculenta*—Elephant ears, 4) *Conoclinium coelestinum*—Hardy ageratum; blue mist flower, 5) *Iris germanica* “Immortality”, 6) *Muhlenbergia capillaris*—we’ll have pink as well as “White Cloud” Muhly grass!, 7) *Aster tataricus* “Jin dai”, 8) *Leucanthemum x superbum*—Shasta daisy “Becky”, 9) *Solidago shortii* “Short’s goldenrod”



# 2019 Plant Sale

## Wednesday, September 18

### Partial Plant List

**NC STATE**

Extension Master Gardener  
Alamance County

Plant	Exposure
<i>Acorus gramineus minimus aureus</i>	sun-shade
<i>Agave parryi</i> var. <i>truncata</i> (Perry's agave)	sun
<i>Ajuga reptans</i> 'Black Scallop'	shade-part sun
<i>Allium tuberosum</i> (garlic chives)	sun-part shade
<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i> x <i>A hubrechtii</i>	sun-part shade
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> (butterfly weed)	sun
Aster 'Raydon's Favorite'	sun
Aster 'Jin Dai'	sun-part sun
Aster, Mongolian	sun-part sun
Aster, purple New England	sun
Aster, variegated Japanese	sun-part sun
Aster, white wood	part shade
Canna lily - peach	sun-part sun
Canna lily 'Bengal Tiger'	sun-part sun
<i>Carex</i> Evercolor 'Everillo'	shade-part sun
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	part shade
<i>Carex scaposa</i>	part shade
<i>Clethra alnifolia</i> 'Hummingbird'	sun-part sun
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> (elephant ears)	sun-part shade
<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i> (hardy ageratum)	sun-part shade
Crinum lily - deep pink	sun-part sun
Crinum lily - light pink	sun-part sun
<i>Crinum</i> x <i>amerocrinum</i> 'Fred Howard'	sun-part sun
<i>Dianthus</i> 'Firewitch'	sun
Dwarf Mondo Grass	part sun-shade
<i>Echinacea</i> Cheyenne Spirit	sun
<i>Epimedium sulphureum</i> (barrenwort)	shade-part sun
Fern, 'Fortune's Holly' (cold hardy)	shade
Fern, 'Ghost Lady'	shade
Fern, 'Golden Mist' woods	shade
Fern, hay-scented	shade
Fern, 'Maris's Maidenhair'	shade
Fern, 'Regal Red' Japanese painted	shade
Fern, Christmas	shade
<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i> 'Whirling butterflies'	sun
<i>Hedychium coccineum</i> (orange ginger lily)	sun-part sun
<i>Hedychium coronarium</i> (butterfly ginger lily)	sun-part sun
<i>Heuchera</i> 'Caramel'	part shade
<i>Heuchera</i> 'Plum Pudding'	part shade

Hosta "Golden Tiara"	shade
Hosta 'Halcyon'	shade
Hosta, 'Abiqua Drinking Gourd'	shade
Hosta, 'Blue Mouse Ears'	shade
Hosta, 'Stained Glass'	shade
Hosta, 'Wide Brim'	shade
<i>Hypericum</i> 'Brigadoon' (St. John's wort)	sun-part shade
<i>Iris</i> 'Immortality'	sun
<i>Iris siberica</i> 'Caesar's Brother'	sun
<i>Lycbnis coronaria</i> (rose campion)	sun
<i>Mitchella repens</i> (partridgeberry)	shade
<i>Monarda didyma</i> - lavender	sun
<i>Monarda didyma</i> - medium pink	sun
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i> 'White Cloud'	sun-part sun
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i> - pink	sun-part sun
<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i> 'Cassian' (fountain grass)	sun-part sun
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i> (obedient plant)	sun-part shade
<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i> (mountain mint)	sun
<i>Rudbeckia</i> (black-eyed Susan)	sun
<i>Salvia guaranitica</i> 'Black and blue'	sun-part sun
<i>Salvia uliginosa</i> (Bog sage)	sun
<i>Sedum</i> 'Autumn Joy'	sun-part shade
<i>Sedum</i> 'Blue Spruce'	part sun
<i>Sedum lineare</i> 'Sea Urchin'	sun-part shade
<i>Sedum</i> 'Mini Joy'	part sun
<i>Sedum</i> 'Vera Jameson'	part sun
<i>Selaginella</i> , 'Peacock'	shade
<i>Sempervivum</i> 'Commander Hay'	sun-part sun
<i>Serissa japonica</i> 'Apple Blossom'	sun-part sun
Shasta daisy 'Becky' ( <i>Leucanthemum superbum</i> )	sun-part sun
<i>Sisyrinchium atlanticum</i> (blue-eyed grass)	part shade
<i>Solidago shortii</i> - Short's goldenrod	sun
<i>Spiraea prunifolia</i> 'Bridal Wreath'	sun-part sun
<i>Stokesia laevis</i> 'Peachie's Pick'	sun-part sun
<i>Stokesia laevis</i> 'Purple Parasols'	sun-part sun
<i>Tricyrtis hirta</i> (toad lily)	sun-part shade
<i>Verbascum</i> 'Southern Charm'	sun
<i>Veronica</i> 'Purpleicious'	sun
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i> (chaste tree)	sun