

MASTER GARDENER UPDATE. . . Friday, May 2, 2008  
Announcements and news for ISU Extension Master Gardeners, staff, and faculty

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#### ONLINE PLANT GUIDE – FREE DATABASE

Retired Extension Horticulturist, Thomas E. Pope, PhD, and colleague, Neil Odenwald, PhD, retired head of School of Landscape Architecture at LSU, spent several years making digital images of plants for the home garden. These were made over the entire country -- Florida to Washington and Maine to California.

With endless hours of work, this has now evolved into a NATIONAL plant data base launched on the internet April 22, 2008:

<http://www.onlineplantguide.com>

There are over 8,000 images online at present and more than 2,000 waiting to be added. Approximately 2800 plant species are represented at this time with extensive cultural information on each. All is FREE to any person registering on the site

In developing this; Master Gardeners were one of prime audiences targeted. This site is very user friendly and has extensive search features.

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#### STORY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PLANT SALE

The Story county Master Gardener Association will hold two plant sales again this year. The plant sales feature master gardener perennial divisions, select hosta, perennial and grass varieties, hanging baskets, planted containers as well as plants for containers, select annual seedlings, heritage tomatoes, house plants and a garage sale section.

The first plant sale is Saturday, May 10, from 8 AM till 2 PM at Reiman Gardens in Ames. The second plant sale is Saturday, May 17 from 8 AM till Noon at Christie Hall in the Story County Extension office in Nevada.

The proceeds support the horticulture scholarship program, the Story County library book program, horticulture grants, the Master Gardener information tent, MG educational programs and other various gardening projects.

For more information contact: Craig Seymour [LandCSeymour@aol.com](mailto:LandCSeymour@aol.com)

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### GROWING MINIATURE VEGETABLES

The Iowa Arboretum will host a workshop, "Growing Miniature Vegetables" on Tuesday, May 13, beginning at 6:30 PM. James Romer, Extension Program Specialist III for ISU will speak on different vegetable varieties, growing requirements and harvesting times. Participants will receive plants to take home. Cost of the workshop is \$10 for Arboretum members and \$12 for non-members. Please pre-register by phoning 515/795-3216.

Iowa Arboretum is located 2 miles west and 2 miles south of Luther in Boone County.

For more information contact: Kristin Burkey [iowaarboretum@wildblue.net](mailto:iowaarboretum@wildblue.net)

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### MILLS COUNTY MASTER GARDNER PLANT SALE

Items will include perennials, annuals, garden art and baked goods.

Saturday, May 10th, 2008 9:00 AM -12 PM

Located in the parking lot behind the Glenwood State Bank at 32 N Walnut, Glenwood Iowa.

For more information contact: Annette O'Brien [delbert.007@msn.com](mailto:delbert.007@msn.com)

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### BICKELHAUPT ARBORETUM ANNOUNCES FREE GUIDED TOURS

The Bickelhaupt Arboretum is announcing free guided tours of the fourteen acre outdoor museum of plants every Saturday and Sunday at 2 PM

beginning May 3. The Arboretum offered guided tours for groups of twenty or more on a regular basis in the past. Visitors are asked to meet at the Gathering Place, directly west of the Parking Lot. Reservations are not expected for the tour; however, if an electric cart is needed for the convenience of those who might not be able to walk through the collections, advance arrangements are necessary. Please call the Arboretum office (563) 242-4771 by noon Friday, if an electric cart is needed and a volunteer will be contacted to drive for the tour.

For more information visit: <http://www.bickarb.org/>

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## SUBMITTING YOUR NEWS

Master Gardener Update is willingly published Friday by the Iowa Master Gardener Coordinator. Please send your news via email to James Romer (jromer@iastate.edu). Press releases received by Wednesday will be included in the next Update.

When submitting information for the MG Update, be sure to include who, what, when, where, why, cost (if applicable), a brief paragraph discussing the event and a contact for more information. Please review all information before submitting. For questions, call (515) 294-2336.

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