

The Crosby Arboretum

Mississippi State University Extension Service

Quarterly News Journal

Fall 2005

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Alluring Amanita

This strikingly beautiful group of mushrooms have caused the most fatalities among novice human foragers. Common names such as Death Cap (*Amanita phalloides*) and Destroying Angel (*A. verna* and *A. virosa*) should warn those seeking wild edible mushrooms to refrain from eating them. Other species such as *A. muscaria* (Fly Agaric) are not deadly, but will make the consumer wish they had not sampled it. The symptoms following ingestion resemble that of alcohol poisoning combined with delirium. In some cases, victims have lapsed into a coma.



Two forms of Fly Agaric are the red western form and the orange eastern form. The orange eastern form of Fly Agaric is very common in the woodland and savanna exhibits at the Arboretum. The caps come in brilliant shades of orange dotted with whitish warty spots that are remnants of the universal veil. The gills of eastern Fly Agaric are creamy white and produce white spore prints. Below the gills on the stem is a persistent ring (also a remnant of the universal veil) that resembles a tattered skirt. The stem may be smooth or covered with hairs and has a buttressed base

that extends from the cup or volva. There are a few edible species of *Amanita* in North America. They do, however, closely resemble the poisonous species. Therefore, it is best to admire *Amanita* species for their function and beauty rather than their edibility.

Mushroom Facts

Mushrooms are the fruiting bodies of the fungus and do not represent the entire organism. Nestled in its substrate, the vegetative body is a network of tubular filaments called a mycelium.

The term toadstool is an alternate name for mushroom and has often been used by amateurs to designate poisonous mushrooms. There is no difference between a toadstool and a mushroom.

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

September-November 2005

September

Crosby Arboretum Volunteer Meeting
Saturday, September 3
9 a.m.

All are invited to the Crosby Arboretum volunteer meeting. Come prepared to work outside if weather permits. For more information, contact Robin Veerkamp at (601) 799-2311 ext. 23.

Prescribed Burn Demonstration (Adults)
Thursday & Friday,
September 8-9
10 a.m.

Crosby Arboretum Burn Manager Terry Johnson will be demonstrating the techniques involved in prescribed burns. Wear old clothes and boots, dress for the weather, and bring a lunch. Program available only if environmental conditions are favorable. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$4 for non-members. Persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Fall Mushroom Foray (Adults)
Saturday, September 10
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Dr. William G. Cibula will be back at the arboretum leading a fall mushroom foray. Come learn about the fascinating fall fungi that grow at the arboretum! Bring a trowel, paper bags/wax paper and a collecting container. Program will be offered only after a good rain! Alternative dates are scheduled for September 17 and 24. Admission is free for members; \$4 for non-members. Call 601-799-2311 to register.

Make A Sundial (Children)

Saturday, September 17

Our ancestors learned how to tell the time of day by observing the changing positions of shadows cast as the sun moved across the sky. Come make your own ancient time piece and learn how these instruments tell time. All materials will be provided. Ages 5 and up. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Weather permitting. Admission is free for members and \$2 for non-members. Program is limited to 15 participants. Call 601-799-2311 to register.

Arboretum Scavenger Hunt Using GPS
(Family)

Saturday, September, 24
10 a.m. to Noon

Have fun learning how to use Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology in real life settings at The Crosby Arboretum. A short training session will precede a scavenger hunt where you will use a GPS receiver to locate individual plants and plant communities. All ages are invited to participate so, bring the whole family! Weather permitting. Admission is free for arboretum members, \$8 per family who are non-members. Call 601-799-2311 to register.



Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

September-November 2005

October

Crosby Arboretum Volunteer Meeting
Saturday, October 1
9 a.m.

All are invited to the Crosby Arboretum volunteer meeting. Come prepared to work outside if weather permits. For more information, contact Robin Veerkamp at (601) 799-2311 ext. 23.

Fall Plant Sale (Family)
Saturday & Sunday, October 8-9
9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Members Only
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. General Public

Fill your cart with our selection of native forbs, shrubs, and trees for your home landscape. Admission is free.

Fall Plant Swap (Adults)
Saturday, October 15
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Have too much of one plant and want to get something different? Come to our plant swap that will be held in our Visitor's Center parking lot. Admission is free.

Arboretum Scavenger Hunt Using GPS
(Family)
Saturday, October 22
10 a.m. to Noon

Have fun learning how to use Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology in real life settings at The Crosby Arboretum. A short training session will precede a scavenger hunt where you will use a GPS receiver to locate individual plants and plant communities. All ages are invited to participate so, bring the whole family! Weather permitting. Admission is free for arboretum members, \$8 per family who are non-members. Call 601-799-2311 to register.

Native Medicinal Plant Seminar (Adults)
Saturday, October 22
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Father Roger Townsend-Hartline will discuss medicinal uses of native plants. Admission is free and open to the public. This program is limited to 30 participants. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Fall Fish Fest (Family)
Sunday, October 23
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We are opening the pond again for a day of fishing. There will also be demonstrations on making old-fashioned cane poles and fly fishing! Admission is free for arboretum members, \$4 for adults and \$2 for child non-members.

Haunted Forest & Monster Mash
(Family)
Saturday, October 29
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Join us for our 2nd annual October celebration! This year will be spookier than ever with more ghosts, ghouls and goblins roaming the trails! A Monster Mash will be held on Pinecote Pavilion so come dressed in your gouliest of garb. Admission is free for arboretum members, \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Reservations: Call the Arboretum office at (601) 799-2311, ext. 21 to confirm all events and to make a reservation, seating is limited. Programs subject to change.

Address: 370 Ridge Road, Picayune, MS 39466; P.O. Box 1639, Picayune, MS 39466

Hours of operation: Wednesday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Admission Fees: Adults, \$4; children under 12, \$2; members, free.

Email: crosbyar@datastar.net

Crosby Arboretum Webpage: This website includes upcoming programs and events, volunteer opportunities, natural area information, and news updates.

<http://msstate.edu/dept/crec/camain.html>

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

September-November 2005

November

Crosby Arboretum Volunteer Meeting
Saturday, November 5
9 a.m.

All are invited to the Crosby Arboretum volunteer meeting. Come prepared to work outside if weather permits. For more information, contact Robin Veerkamp at (601) 799-2311 ext. 23.

Crosby Arboretum Cultural Celebration
School's Day
Friday, November 11
9 a.m. to Noon

General Public
Saturday, November 12
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us for as we celebrate the diverse cultures found throughout South Mississippi. There will be local story tellers, square dancers, historical groups, forestry exhibits, military exhibits, basket making demonstrations and many other traditional exhibits that demonstrate local talent. Friday is a free day set aside for local schools and Saturday is for our members and the general public. Saturday admission is free for members, \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

Arboretum Scavenger Hunt Using GPS
(Family)
Saturday, November 19
10 a.m. to Noon

Have fun learning how to use Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology in real life settings at The Crosby Arboretum. A short training session will precede a scavenger hunt where you will use a GPS receiver to locate individual plants and plant communities. All ages are invited to participate so, bring the whole family! Weather permitting. Admission is free for arboretum members, \$8 per family who are non-members. Call 601-799-2311 to register.



Carphephorus odoratissimus
Vanilla-Plant

Fall Wildflower Walk (Adults)
Saturday, November 26
10 a.m. to Noon

This time of year the savanna is filled with several colorful composite flowers! Join us as we meander through the savanna identifying the various flowers in bloom this season. Weather permitting. Admission is free for members and \$4 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.



Balduina uniflora setting seed

ARBORETUM NEWS

June Board Meeting

New officers were elected and are as follows:

President: David Spector

Vice President: Claudette Stewart Meyers

Secretary: Melinda Lyman

Treasurer: Glade Woods

Architect Tom Howorth presented Design Phase II of the Arboretum's new visitor center at the June 4 board meeting. This phase included discussing details of the facility interior and exterior. The next phase will include obtaining construction costs and acquiring funding. A fund raising committee was formed and will start allocating resources for possible funding.

Arboretum Awarded Grant from the Picayune Wal-Mart

The arboretum was awarded a \$500 grant from the Picayune Wal-Mart to offer environmental education programs to local youth. The first of the series was offered in August of 2004 (Soil and Water Testing). The rest of the series will be offered this Spring and will include learning how surface water bodies are affected by watersheds by testing water sources at the arboretum and those found in the community.

Thanksgiving Holiday

The Arboretum will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November, 25. We will re-open on Saturday, November 26. So, come bum off some of that Thanksgiving dinner at our Fall Wildflower Walk!

Summer Nature Camp 2005

This year's Summer Nature Camp was filled with all sorts of fun nature related activities. Twelve campers participated in making a sundial and compass, dissecting flowers and making flower bookmarks, exploring leaves and making pressed leaf coasters, learning how to identify ten of the most common trees at the arboretum, and creating poetry inspired by nature. Pictured below are ten of the participants who were among this year's graduating class as the Arboretum's official 'Nature Sleuths.' Certificates and flower press kits were awarded to all graduates.



2005 Summer Nature Camp Graduates

Pictured left to right are: Amanda Benton, Jenna Hegwood, Katie Loper, Logan Spector, Ariela Lumpkin, Devyn Smith, Earlie Davis, Curtis Libys, Steven Wetzel and Ryan Estopinal with his mother Caroline.

Arboretum Personnel

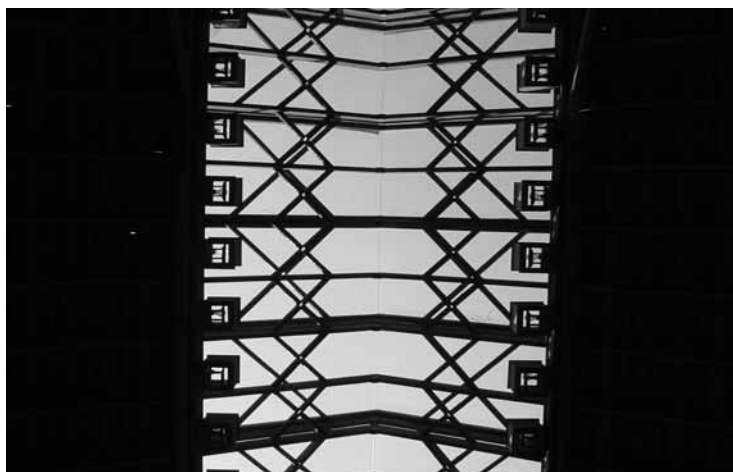
Melinda R. Lyman, Senior Curator

Robin Veerkamp, Volunteer Coordinator/Gift Shop Manager

Kim Johnson, Customer Service/Memberships

Terry Johnson, Burn Manager/Maintenance

Jarrett Hurlston, Maintenance



The News Journal is a quarterly publication of The Crosby Arboretum, Mississippi State University Extension Service. Journal subscriptions may be obtained with membership at the Arboretum.

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Please address correspondence to:

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Picayune, MS 39466-1639

Membership Application

All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed. For more information call: (601) 799-2311

_____	Student (send student i.d.)	\$	10.00
_____	Individual		25.00
_____	Family		35.00
_____	Donor		100.00
_____	Business		100.00
_____	Retiree		250.00
_____	Benefactor		1,000.00

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Renewing?

Memberships are for one year.

The Crosby Arboretum
Mississippi State University
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Picayune, MS 39466-1639
(601) 799-2311