

The Crosby Arboretum

Mississippi State University Extension Service

Quarterly News Journal

Spring 2005

29

Zigadenus species (Death Camass, Camas, or Camus)

Approximately fifteen species of *Zigadenus* (Death Camass) occur in North America. Two of the most common species found in the Coastal Plains are *Zigadenus densus* (Desr.) Fern. (also known as Black Snakeroot or Crow Poison) and *Z. glaberrimus* Michx. Both species occur in savannas, pinelands, and bogs. They are upright plants with linear basal leaves that arise from a perennial rhizome or bulb. The inflorescence is a terminal raceme or panicle that consists of white to yellowish petals and sepals (perianth) with each segment subtended by a pair of green glands. *Zigadenus densus* starts flowering in April, while *Z. glaberrimus* flowers in June.

All parts of Death Camass (bulbs, leaves, flowers, and fruit) contain toxic alkaloids that can cause severe illness or even death when ingested. Human poisonings are not common, but are likely to occur when the bulbs are mistaken for edible Wild Onions (*Allium* spp.).



Zigadenus densus



Zigadenus glaberrimus

Spring Blooms at the Arboretum

Sun Bonnets, Yellow Pitcher Plant, Parrot Pitcher Plant, Bladderwort, Rose Pogonia, Sunbonnets, Yellow Star Grass, Meadowbeauty, Goldcrest, Candy Root, Golden Club, Louisiana Iris, White Floating Hearts, Yellow Cow Lily, Pickerelweed, Yellow Jessamine, Wild Black Cherry, Star Anise, Mt. Laurel, Buckwheat Tree,, Native Azaleas, Flowering Dogwood , Red Maple, Wax Myrtle, Elliot's Blueberry, Virginia Willow, Red Chokeberry, Big Leaf Magnolia, Southern Magnolia, Tulip Poplar, Persimmon, Snowbell, Titi, Hollies....and much more! Come see!

ARBORETUM NEWS

2005 ANNUAL APPEAL

The Board and staff of the arboretum would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the following Annual Appeal contributors. We have raised \$6,000 so far!

Nancy & Richard Adkerson, An Anonymous Contributor, John R. Blossman, Martha & Joe Boudreaux, Fay & Phelan Bright, Debbi & Osmund Crosby, Georgene C. Dunn (In Memory of Durward B. Dunn, Jr.), Betty Graves Brown (Honoring Thomas Bolton Brown), George G. Green, Jr., Sallye & John Hammett, Jennifer & Ray Heffner, E. T. Livingston, Lyle E. Nelson, Joe F. Sanderson, Jr., Judy Schwartz, Leo W. Seal Family Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Norman G. Stevens, William Lewis Thames, Leila Rossner Thissell, Jane & Douglas Wilds, Gene & Trudy Yeager

GETTING BACK ON TRACK

The distribution of our Quarterly Newsjournal is now back on track! Thank you for your patience. Here is what to expect.....

Spring Issue: March-May
Summer Issue: June-August
Fall Issue: September-November
Winter Issue: December-February

NOTE PROGRAM CHANGE

The Native Azalea Specialty Sale has been moved to the Fall, but we will have some available at the Spring Plant Sale!

THE CROSBY ARBORETUM LIBRARY

We have a recently re-organized library filled with books for you to check out. Our library consists of books on everything from plant identification to gardening, birds, insects, geology, and cultural history.

ARBORETUM GREENHOUSE RESTORED

If you visited our Restoration Center after the threat of Hurricane Ivan last September, you may have noticed that our greenhouse looked like a large, skeletal rib cage. The plastic covering was removed to prevent the frame from collapsing due to potential pressure build-up inside the greenhouse created by high winds. The plastic has now been replaced, thanks to our maintenance crew, the guys at the South Mississippi Branch Experiment Station in Poplarville, and a heaping handful of awesome volunteers! The greenhouse looks and will function better than ever.

THE CROSBY ARBORETUM HERBARIUM

Senior Curator Melinda Lyman used her taxonomy/herbarium expertise this winter making the arboretum's herbarium updated and more accessible. The Crosby Arboretum Herbarium specimens are now organized by phlogeny (evolutionary relationships) on class and ordinal levels and alphabetically by family, genus, and species. Family names have changed since the specimens were collected. The family Guttiferae is now Hypericaceae, Umbelliferae is now Apiaceae, Graminae is now Poaceae, Compositae is now Asteraceae and so on. Some of the grass genera (primarily Panicum which has some members that are now called Dichanthelium) and composite genera (Aster has been split into several genera) will be updated at a later time. An inventory of all specimens was gathered and will be entered into a database after accession numbers are assigned. In the future, Melinda plans to start adding specimens to the inventory and sharing/exchanging duplicate specimens with other herbariums.

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

March-May 2005

MARCH 2005

Spring Plant Sale (Family)

Saturday & Sunday, March 5-6

9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Members

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. General Public

Grab a cart and choose from our selection of native forbs, shrubs, and trees for your home landscape. Admission is free.

Plant Swap (Family)

Saturday, March 12

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.

Frog On the Lily Pad (Children)

Saturday, March 12

9:30 to 11 a.m.

Join Picayune Memorial High School senior, Ashley Veerkamp on Pinecote Pavilion for the children's play 'Frog On the Lily Pad'. A short activity will follow the play. Admission is free. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Wildlife Day (Children)

Thursday, March 17

9 a.m. to Noon

Join us for our annual Wildlife Day! Representatives from various wildlife organizations will be

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>

displaying live and preserved animals and talking about how to protect and maintain wildlife. Admission is free for schools. Call (601) 799-2311 by March 11 to register.

Exploring the Garden (Children)

Saturday, March 19

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Hey kids! Come learn gardening techniques in our Children's Garden. All materials will be provided. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$2 for non-members. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Recommended for children under the age of 12. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Plant Identification & Collecting (Adults)

Sunday, March 20

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Crosby Arboretum's Senior Curator will show you how to collect, identify, and process herbarium-quality plant specimens (includes pressing and drying, mounting, and label preparation). Wear old clothes and boots and bring a trowel and pruning shears. All other materials will be provided. Admission is free for members and \$4 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Egg Dying with Natural Dyes (Children)

Friday, March 25

10 a.m. to Noon

Different plant parts produce pigments that you can use as dyes. Come learn to dye eggs from natural dyes. All materials will be provided. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$2 for non-members. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

March-May 2005

MARCH CONTINUED

Egg Hunt (Family)

Saturday, March 26

10 a.m. to Noon

Our secret bunny will be hiding eggs along the trails of the arboretum this year! Come see how many you can find! Some eggs will be filled with mystery prizes for children, adults, and the whole family! Bring a collecting container. Admission is free for arboretum members; \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

Gardening Demonstration (Adults)

Saturday, March 26

1 p.m.

Join Master Gardener, Pat Dale, for gardening demonstrations. Learn how to propagate plants from cuttings and seeds. Call (601) 799-2311 ext. 21 or 23 to register.

APRIL

Strawberries & Cream (Family)

Sunday, April 3

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us for fresh, locally grown strawberries served on ice cream with all the toppings, cookies, and lemonade. The pond will be open for fishing and there will be live entertainment on Pinecote Pavilion. Admission is free and open to the public.

Senior Citizen's Appreciation Day (Adults)

Saturday, April 9

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (tour at 2 p.m.)

Senior citizens truly make a difference in our community and we want to offer a special day to show how much we appreciate them. Admission is free for senior/retired citizens. Light refreshments will be served and a tour of the arboretum will be offered at 2 p.m. Call (601) 799-2311 ext. 21 or 23 to register.

Spring Wildflower Show

Sunday, April 10

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Our summer wildflower show turned out so great, we decided to hold a spring wildflower show! Come show off your talent at floral design with flowers from your garden and/or those found in the wild. Adult and child categories are available. Prizes will be awarded to the best displays. Call (601) 799-2311 ext. 21 or 23 by April 1 to register.

Exploring the Garden (Children)

Saturday, April 16

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Hey kids! Come learn gardening techniques in our Children's Garden. All materials will be provided. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$2 for non-members. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Recommended for children under the age of 12. Call (601) 799-2311 ext. 21 or 23 to register.

Plant Identification & Collecting (Adults)

Sunday, April 17

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Crosby Arboretum's Senior Curator will show you how to collect, identify, and process herbarium-quality plant specimens (includes pressing and drying, mounting, and label preparation). Wear old clothes and boots and bring a trowel and pruning shears. All other materials will be provided. Admission is free for members and \$4 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 ext. 21 or 23 to register.

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

March-May 2005

APRIL CONTINUED

Leaf Printing (Children)

Friday, April 22

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Leaves produce natural dyes that can be transferred onto a cloth surface! Come learn about the pigments found in leaves and create a leaf print! All materials will be provided. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$3 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 by April 15 to register.

Spring Wildflower Walk (Adults)

Saturday, April 23

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Join the Senior Curator on a walk around the Savanna Exhibits identifying wildflowers. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$4 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

M A Y

Mother's Day Gift Shop Sale

Saturday & Sunday, May 7 & 8

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Come choose a special gift for your Mother from our gift shop filled with unique merchandise.

Mom's Special Garden (Family)

Saturday, May 7

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Create a special container garden for your mom for Mother's Day. All materials will be provided. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$5 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 by April 30 to register.

Mother's Day (Family)

Sunday, May 8

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Treat your mom to a visit to the Arboretum on her special day. Admission is free for Mothers.

Exploring the Garden (Children)

Saturday, May 14

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Hey kids! Come learn gardening techniques in our Children's Garden. All materials will be provided. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$2 for non-members. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Recommended for children under the age of 12. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Plant Identification & Collecting (Adults)

Sunday, May 15

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Crosby Arboretum's Senior Curator will show you how to collect, identify, and process herbarium-quality plant specimens (includes pressing and drying, mounting, and label preparation). Wear old clothes and boots and bring a trowel and pruning shears. All other materials will be provided. Admission is free for members and \$4 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 to register.

Make A Rainforest (Children)

Friday, May 20

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The air in rainforests is moist and steamy all year long. You can watch this process in action at home by making a miniature rainforest! Bring a clean mayonaise jar or any other glass jar with a lid. All other materials will be provided. Admission is free for members and \$2 for non-members. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Call (601) 799-2311 by May 14 to register.

Leaf Printing (Children)

Saturday, May 28

2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Come learn about the pigments found in leaves and create a leaf print! All materials will be provided. A parent/guardian must be present with each child or group of children. Admission is free for arboretum members and \$3 for non-members. Call (601) 799-2311 by May 21 to register.



The Crosby Arboretum Staff
 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

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Please address correspondence to:

Melinda R. Lyman, Editor
 The Crosby Arboretum
 370 Ridge Road
 Picayune, MS 39466



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
_____	Patron		250.00
_____	Benefactor		1,000.00

 Name

 Address

 City

 State

 Zip

Renewing?

Memberships are for one year.

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