

The Crosby Arboretum

Mississippi State University Extension Service

Quarterly News Journal

Winter 2007

226



Goldenrod: A Misunderstood Fall-Blooming Native

Goldenrod, with its frilly ray flowers that glimmer in the sun, is often mistaken as an obnoxious weed that causes allergies. On the contrary, this sweet scented fall-blooming native is pollinated by bees and butterflies; not wind. The pollen grains are far too large to cause hayfever as its ragweed relative is known for. American Indians used the flowers to treat fevers, snakebites, and sore throats. Its roots were used to treat burns. Seeds are eaten as winter survival food by goldfinches and pine siskins. Clinical researchers have isolated a compound called quercetin from goldenrod which is useful in treating hemorrhagic nephritis.

There are many wild species of goldenrod that are primarily adapted to poor soil conditions with varying gradients of moisture. They grow by short rhizomes (underground stems) just below the soil's surface and can be easily lifted and divided. Propagation is also very successful by seed. There are many cultivars available in the trade such as 'Fireworks' and 'Golden Fleece' which are grown for size and leaf shape. Adding goldenrod diversity to your own garden is easy to achieve by simply collecting seeds or rhizomes. Be sure, however, you are environmentally conscious when you do this as many plant species have become threatened due to over collection. This hardy native, however, is nowhere near the verge of extinction since it is so under appreciated.

Pinecote Pavilion Repaired!

As you know, Pinecote Pavilion suffered damage from Hurricane Katrina. Locating a quality contractor was of utmost importance to repairing this unique structure. Thanks to Jim Loveall of Jackson, MS, we have finally overcome another Katrina related hurdle! Our coveted Pinecote Pavilion is finally repaired and is still as majestic as the day it was built!



Arboretum Foundation Awarded Grant

This summer, Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc. awarded the Crosby Arboretum Foundation a grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 to purchase hand held radios and accessories for the annual prescribed burn programs.

Local Wal-Mart Support

We would like to thank the Picayune Wal-Mart for their continued support of the Arboretum. Throughout the spring and summer months, our neighbors have donated tons of potting soil, fertilizer and other much needed gardening supplies. They also awarded the Arboretum a grant in the amount of \$500.00 for programs.

Crosby Arboretum Program Schedule

December 2006 -February 2007

December 2006

Making Winter Bird Feeders (Family)

Saturday, December 9

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Local birds need protein and fat during the winter for insulation to protect them from the cold. We will show you how to make a bird feeder that will satisfy their winter dietary needs. All materials will be provided. Admission is free for members. Non-members \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. Please register by December 6.

Arboretum Open House (Adults)

Saturday, December 9

Noon to 4 p.m.

It's time again for the Arboretum's open house holiday celebration. Come browse the gift shop and the work of local artisans. Light refreshments and beverages will be served. Program is free and open to the public.

January 2007

Seed Art Activity (Family)

Saturday, January 13

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Seeds come in a wide variety of shapes, sizes and textures. Come learn about seed function and dispersal while creating an art piece. Program is limited to 15 participants. Admission is free for members; non-members \$2 each.

Winter Woods Walk (Adults)

Saturday, January 13

2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us for a winter journey through our Woodland exhibits. We will learn about tree dormancy and how to identify trees during this season. Admission is free for members and \$4 for non-members. Please register by January 10.

February 2007

Arbor Day Plant Sale

Saturday, February 3

9 a.m. to Noon Members Only

Noon to 3 p.m. General Public

Get ready for Arbor Day by choosing from our selection of native trees and shrubs for your yard. Free admission.

Arbor Day Celebration

Saturday, February 17

Native Woody Plants Seminar (Adults)

10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Tree Planting (Family)

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate Arbor Day at the Arboretum. There will be a seminar educating you about the common native woody plants that will enhance your landscape and we will plant new trees in our exhibits to demonstrate how to plant them properly. Seminar admission is free for members and \$4 for non-members and is limited to 25 participants. There is no admission for the tree planting demonstration. Please register for the seminar by February 14.

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.

www.crosbyarboretum.msstate.edu

Give the Gift of an Arboretum Membership this Season

Do you have someone on your shopping list this season that would enjoy the benefits of an Arboretum membership? We have membership gift packages that are specially designed for the holiday season. For more information, call Kim Johnson at (601) 799-2311, ext. 21.

Dedicated members, Thank you for your support!

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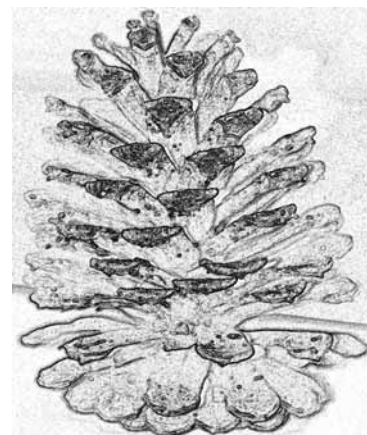
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Please address correspondence to:

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

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Renewing?

Memberships are for one year.

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