



Virginia Cooperative Extension

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August 25th 2016 – EMG Monthly Meeting Agenda

Report and Discussion of Ongoing Projects:

- Culpeper County Library Project
- Pollinator Garden
- Healthy Virginia Lawns – Anyone interested?
- Farmers Market – Volunteers to help in Madison County
- School Programs – Culpeper County Junior Master Gardener Program



Reminder of Upcoming Diseases, Insects, and Abiotic issues:

- **Cole crops:** cabbage loopers, diamondback moth; powdery mildew
- **Cucurbits:** cucumber beetles, squash bugs, squash vine borer; powdery mildew
- **Fruits:** caterpillars, Japanese beetles; anthracnose, bitter rot, black rot, brown rot, downy mildew, scab
- **Ornamentals:** aphids, bagworms, gypsy moth egg masses, Japanese beetles, orange striped oakworms, scab, spider mites, webworms; anthracnose, downy mildew, powdery mildew, leaf galls
- **Sweet corn:** corn earworm, fall armyworms
- **Tomatoes:** anthracnose, early blight, late blight, septorial leaf blight; aphids, spider mites, tobacco and tomato hornworms; blossom end rot, temperatures above 90°F will prevent or slow fruit set
- **Turf:** white grubs; fairy ring, fusarium blight, pythium blight, rhizoctonia brown patch, sclerotinia dollar spot, summer patch
- **Watering Ornamentals:** Remind people to water shrubs once per week if rain is lacking. Many shrubs like Camellias and Rhododendrons are setting flower buds for next year at this time

Fall Vegetable Garden Planning:

- Late August still a good time to start a vegetable garden
- Lettuce, radishes, spinach, turnip, and peas can be started from seed

- Chinese cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower started from transplants

Upcoming Announcements and Events:

- *The Rapidan River Master Gardeners Present: "From Your Backyard to the Blue Ridge"*, September 17th 9am to 12pm
- *Drinking Water Clinic for Madison, Greene, and Orange Counties*: September 6th 2016 at Madison American Legion Hall at 6:30 pm; contact VCE Madison (540) 948-6881, to find out more information and to register for the clinic
- *Virginia Pesticide Disposal Program*: October 10th at Orange Madison Coop, 13323 James Madison Highway, Orange, VA 22903; or on October 12th at CFC Farm and Home Center 15172 Brandy Road, Culpeper, VA 22701. VDACS will be collecting all unwanted and outdated pesticides from farms, businesses, and homeowners. Please contact your local extension office for more information
- *Beekeeping Classes*: November 14th, 16th, and 18th 2016 (4 pm to 6 pm) at Greene County Extension Office, 10013 Spotswood Trail Stanardsville, VA 22973. Please contact VCE Greene (434) 985-5236 or seweaver@vt.edu
- *Piedmont Master Gardeners' Events*:
 - Through the Garden Gate: Arbor Rise, September 10th 9am to 12pm at Arbor Rise, 1560 Briery Creek Road Scottesville, 24590
- *Fauquier Master Gardeners' Events*:
 - Winter sowing and Plant giveaway: September 6th 6pm to 7pm, Marshall Schoolhouse # 18 -- 7592 John Marshall Highway, Marshall, VA
- *Master Gardener Volunteer Training*: Starting on January 11th 2017 and will continue on Wednesdays at either the Culpeper, Greene, Madison, and Orange Cooperative Extension offices. Classes will be held from 9am to 12pm.

Helpful Links and Interesting Information:

- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/2902/2902-1100/2902-1100_pdf.pdf
- Creating a Water-wise Landscape: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-713/426-713_pdf.pdf



- Establishing Lawns: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-718/426-718_pdf.pdf
- Fall Lawn Care: <http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/430/430-520/430-520-pdf.pdf>
- Fall Vegetable Gardening: http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-334/426-334_pdf.pdf
- Galls made by aphids, adelgids, phylloxerans, psyllids, and midges:
<http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/ENTO/ENTO-146/ENTO-146-pdf.pdf>
- Impatiens Downy Mildew: <http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/PPWS/PPWS-19/PPWS-19-pdf.pdf>
- Japanese Beetles: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/2902/2902-1101/2902-1101_pdf.pdf
- Lawn Leaf Management: http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/430/430-521/430-521_pdf.pdf
- Pest Management Guide for Home Grounds and Animals:
<https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/456/456-018/456-018-16-Home-grounds-and-animals.pdf>
- Tomato Disease & Insect Control – Tennessee Extension:
<https://extension.tennessee.edu/grainger/Documents/Tomato%20Disease%20and%20Insect%20Control%20Manual.pdf>
- Washington Post – A shrub to brighten the dog days of summer:
https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/home/a-shrub-to-brighten-the-dog-days-of-summer/2016/08/02/a50b2206-5292-11e6-88eb-7dda4e2f2aec_story.html

Article from the Quarterly Horticulture Newsletter (Summer 2016) available on the VCE Culpeper, Madison, and Orange County Websites and linked to on the Facebook pages as well:

Exciting Plants: *Franklinia alatamaha*

Franklinia alatamaha, known by its common names Franklinia or Franklin tree, is a plant in the family *Theaceae*; this family includes the *Camellias*, *Gordonias*, and *Stewartias*. The Franklin tree has one of the most interesting back stories of any Native American plant. The story usually begins along the banks of the Altamaha river in Georgia, between the years 1765 to 1770 depending on the account you are reading. During that time span, the plant explorers John and William Bartram found the Franklin tree growing wild along the river bank. They did not return to collect seeds until 1776; which they later planted at their farm in Philadelphia. Supposedly all plants found in gardens today are descended from those seedlings because no one has seen this beautiful tree in the wild since the early 19th century. Many experts believe that a cotton disease was responsible for the extinction of the species. The



Figure 5. Flower of *Franklinia alatamaha*. Photo courtesy of Sandy Feather. Penn State Extension.



Franklin tree does have a reputation as a temperamental species because of its low transplant success rate but it is species that is worthy of specimen status. Dr. Michael Dirr describes this sentiment very eloquently in his book *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants* mentioning the specimen status “if one is so fortunate to procure this species he/she should provide it a place of prominence in the garden” and the temperamental nature “somewhat akin to a fickle lover and may stay around and tease with its beauty, or simply leave... the garden that is”. The flowers are white and three inches in diameter (Figure 5); resembling the fall blooming *Camellia sasanqua* but are commonly seen in August and September in Virginia. The flowers are surrounded by five to six-inch-long shiny, dark green leaves; that are arranged alternately along the stem. In the fall the leaves are a brilliant red-orange color before falling to the ground. The bark is a smooth, grey brown with vertical fissures; that assume a slight fluted appearance with age. The tree is a small to medium sized plant that usually reaches 10 to 20 feet high and wide in a full to partial sun location. Definitely a tree that deserves more usage in the modern landscape.

For more information, please view the following articles or books

- Dirr, Michael. “*Franklinia alatamaha*.” *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*. Champaign, Illinois: Stipes Publishing, 1998. 390-391. Print
- Feather, Sandy. *Tree of the Month - Franklinia or Franklin Tree (Franklinia alatamaha)*. Penn State Extension. 2012. <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/green-industry/news/2012/tree-of-the-month-franklinia-or-franklin-tree-franklinia-alatamaha>. Assessed 18 August 2016.
- Niemiera, Alex. *Franklinia*. VCE 3010-1485. 2010. https://pubs.ext.vt.edu/3010/3010-1485/3010-1485_pdf.pdf.

No Meeting in September; I will be at different conferences just about every week

