

The Grama Gazette

Newsletter of the Native Plant Society of Texas
Garland Chapter

www.npsot.org/garland

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August 2009

Side Oats Notes

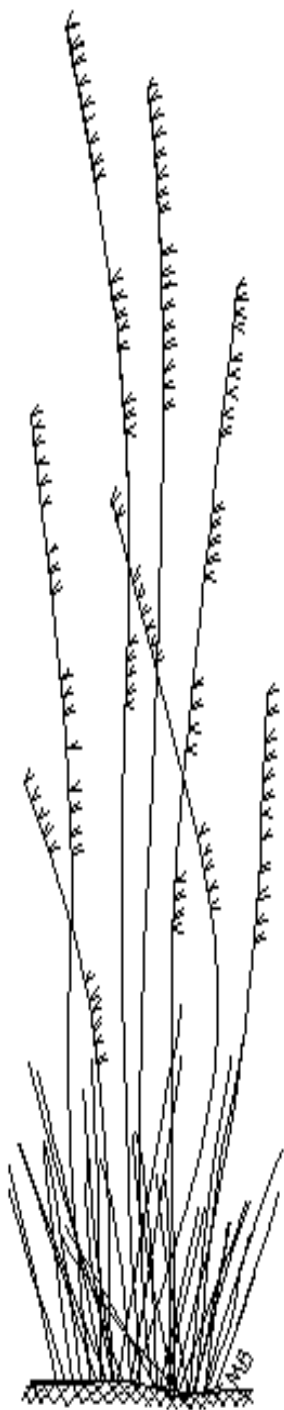
Our next meeting will be on August 16th, 2:00 pm at Rhodes.

Cecil Carter will give his talk
*"Water and Native Plants,
a Symbiotic Relationship"*

Please see our website for further
details.

See you on the 16th.

Derrell



Sideoats Grama
(*Bouteloua curtipendula*)
Enjoys full sun;
grows two to three feet tall
with attractive seed heads on
one side of the stem;
attracts birds and butterflies;
Is the state grass of Texas

Plant of the Month

RIVINA HUMILIS L.

Pigeonberry, Rouge plant, Baby peppers

Other Common Names: Rouge Plant, Rivina, Bloodberry. Baby peppers.

Type: Perennial herb. Leaves and berries are toxic to humans if ingested.

Natural Habitat: Native to the Edwards Plateau; found throughout Texas and most southern and western states in moist woodlands and in hilly chaparral.

Growth: 1-2 feet.

Deer Resistance: Moderately resistant.

Wildlife: Birds and butterflies.

Light Tolerance: Dappled shade, part shade to full shade.

Flowers: 2-inch spikes with delicate white and pink flowers; blooms March to October.

Fruit: Bright red berries from spring to fall.

Leaves: 1-3 inches long; deciduous; ovate to



IMAGE INFORMATION

Photographer: Loughmiller, Campbell and Lynn

City: **Lubbock**

State: **TX**

Water and Native Plants, a Symbiotic Relationship

Cecil Carter presents his statistics on the existing and coming water shortage and how the vigorous adoption of native plants in our landscapes can help.

Cecil is on the Lake Cities Municipal Water Authority. He is a Certified Community Developer, having consulted for 10 years with small towns trying to finance new water facilities. In Oklahoma, he is also a Certified Community Development Block Grant Administrator.

With 18 hours of graduate statistics classes, Cecil is a closet statistician. He will present his statistics on demographics, resource usage, and population growth in the Upper Trinity area. There is a relatively finite water supply and a strong increase in population. By 2050, this area will need another water reservoir the size of Lake Lewisville with an average depth of 20 feet.

One mitigating conservation factor is the vigorous adoption of native plants in our landscapes. Cecil will present the issues in changing society's awareness of water consumption and starting a grass roots effort to change perceptions about "lush lawns"?

Cecil and his wife have always been organic gardeners. But after his wife entered the Master Naturalist Program three years ago, they began moving exclusively to native plants.

Please join us for our May meeting
of the NPSOT, Garland Chapter,
Featuring:
Cecil Carter

*Water and Native Plants,
a Symbiotic Relationship*

August 16th, 2009
Meeting & Question & Answer Time at 2 pm
Program begins at 2:30 pm

Rohde's Nature Store and Nursery
1651 Wall Street
Garland
972-864-4445



Community Events

Guided Garden Walks

Third Saturday Garden Walks give you an in-depth look at garden ecology, maintenance strategies, and other interesting topics. Stroll through the Gardens with knowledgeable staff and local experts for about an hour and learn gardening tips and tricks.

Cost: Free with Paid Garden Admission: \$3/adults, \$1.50 for kids ages 3-11, and \$2 for seniors. Become a Garden member and enter for free!

Caterpillar Crawl

When: Saturday, August 15

Time: 10 am to 11 am

Go on a caterpillar search as we show you creepy crawly wonders! This is a great introduction to the world of butterflies.

Fine Print: Program appropriate for ages 2 and up.

Texas Trees Garden Walk

When: Saturday, November 7

Time: 10 am to 11 am

Join staff horticulturist Randy Johnson on this annual tour of native trees. Learn proper planting and care techniques. You'll finish the tour just in time to go to the Fall Plant Sale!

Fine Print: Program appropriate for ages 8 and up.

Randy Johnson, horticulturist for Texas Discovery Gardens, enjoys trying different vegetable crops in the Gardens. His specialties are native plants of Texas and organic gardening.

A.L. Nickerson, a local supporter of community gardens, started the first community garden in Lake Highlands in April 2008.

For more information, contact Blake Morgan, Programs and Volunteers Manager, at

Programs@TexasDiscoveryGardens.org and (214) 428-7476 x 24.

Media Contact : Sarah Gardner, PR/Marketing Coordinator, at Contact@TexasDiscoveryGardens.org and (214) 428-7476 x 23.

About Texas Discovery Gardens

Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park is a year-round organic urban oasis filled with natural wonders for visitors of all ages. The Gardens feature spectacular native and adapted plants grown using sustainable methods that conserve water and protect the environment. Our EarthKeepers® Children's Education Program offers year-round outdoor education. [Opening September 12, 2009, the Rosine Smith Sammons Butterfly House and Insectarium will bring the secret lives of tropical butterflies to Dallas.](#)

Texas Discovery Gardens is a nonprofit educational organization supported, in part, by funds from the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department.

• **Visitor Information** • **Contact Us** •

Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park • 214 428 7476 • TDG@TexasDiscoveryGardens.org

Minutes of the June 2009 Meeting

On June 14, 2009 the Garland Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas met in the Little Red Barn at Rhode's Nursery and Nature Store. President Derrell Dixon brought the meeting to order and said that there would not be a treasurer's report as May was on vacation.

Derrell introduced our speaker, Julie Collins, who presented us with information about the Texas Master Naturalist Program, which is sponsored by the AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas Parks Wildlife Department. As she discussed the history of it, she mentioned that there are 41 chapters across the state with the one in Dallas being here since 1998. It is the North Texas Chapter and can be found online at ntmn.org.

Joining the program entails submitting an application in the fall, which can be found online, attending 40 class hours spread throughout February to May on Tuesday nights, and annually volunteering 40 hours with 8 hours in specialized training classes. There are numerous activities to choose from to obtain those hours such as service projects, educational outreach, and citizen science.

Julie finished her presentation with an open question and answer session and then we concluded the meeting.

Submitted by Susan Anderson

"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses."

-- Abraham Lincoln

Join the Native Plant
Society of Texas

Membership is renewable annually and extends for a year from the date we receive your original payment. If you wish to join or renew your membership, mail this form and the appropriate remittance, to:

**Native Plant Society of Texas
P.O. Box 3017
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830/997-9272**

http://www.npsot.org/application/join_npsot.html

- () Student.....\$15.00 () Senior citizen (65+)...\$20.00
- () Senior Couple (one member 65+)\$30.00
- () Individual \$25.00 () Family.....\$40.00
- () Group..... \$50.00 () Patron.....\$100.00
- () Benefactor.....\$250.00 () Supporting.....\$500.00
- () Corporate.....\$1000.00 () Lifetime..... \$1000.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____

Chapter Affiliation GARLAND

New () Renewal () Address Change ()

E-mail Address _____

The Native Plant Society of Texas is a 501c3 not for-profit organization. All monetary gifts and contributions to the Garland Chapter of NPSOT are tax deductible. Remember our chapter in your tax planning contributions for 2008. Thank you!



Rohde's

*Nursery
& Nature Store*

Thanks to our host Greg and the staff at Rohde's. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Rohde's

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<http://www.beorganic.com/>



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