

The Grama Gazette

Newsletter of the Native Plant Society of Texas
Garland Chapter

www.npsot.org/garland

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August 2011

August Greetings Native Plant Lovers!

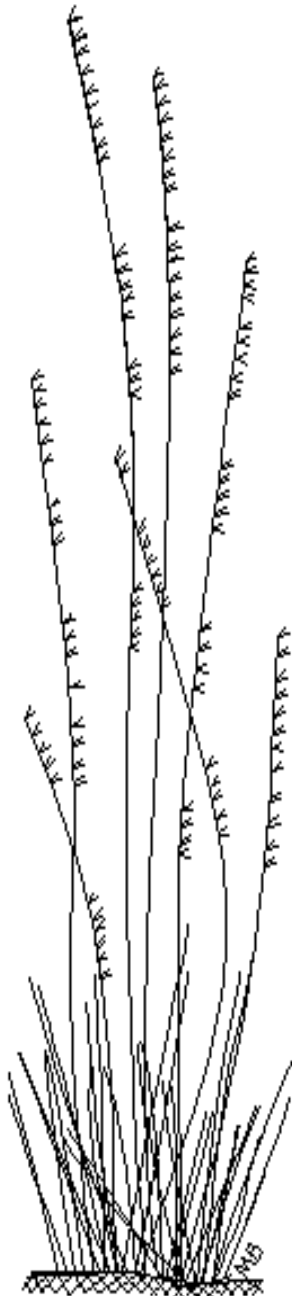
As August comes to a close you should see the temperature drop a few more degrees from the highs we see this week and usually, September is even five degrees cooler by its end. Now who would think we'd be happy to see mid nineties again! This unfortunately means we will most likely have a very warm October, so with this heat and drought you might think about tweaking your normal planting season for September.

If you decide to sow the winter growing plants from seed, you will need to put the seed out around the end of August to the beginning of September. I plan to sow seeds in pots, so that I can more closely monitor their moisture needs. Many plants such as Gayfeather, *Liatris*, Firewheel, *Gaillardia*, Wine Cups, *Callirhoe involucrata*, Lobelia, and others should be sown during this time period. Some need the fall moisture and our long frost-free weather to establish rooting patterns. Others need the long period of nightly frosts and warming patterns to initiate their germination.

You might not want to put all of your seed out this fall. Save half of it for next year in case this ends up being a very dry winter again. You could also try to germinate your plants in the refrigerator. As an example, you could sow *Liatris* seeds in small pots, enclose in a baggy and refrigerate for sixty days. Check the moisture level in the pot every so often and remove it to a bright location when you see the plant emerging from the soil. If you time it right and Mother Nature complies, you could practically take it outside and raise it there once the plant emerges!

Now, I need to remind you that we will not be having an August meeting and **we will not be having a September meeting due to the heat.** On the other hand, we will be at the Garland Healthy Living Expo September 24 with plants for sale! We welcome anyone who would like to help us, snacks are provided, and you will have time to tour the booths. I'll see you at the Expo!

Susan Anderson
President, Garland Chapter NPSOT



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

City of Garland Healthy Living Expo 2011

Saturday September 24th, 2011

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

GISD Special Events Center
4999 Naaman Forest Blvd.

Free admission and parking
Entertainment and demonstrations
Health screenings and immunizations
Environmental and conservation exhibits

Hosted by the City of Garland, Baylor Medical Center at Garland,
Garland Independent School District and the Garland Chamber of Commerce



Healthy You!
Healthy Earth!

Saturday, September 24, 2011
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

No Meeting in August!

**Next Meeting will be in
October!**

There is no meeting in August, and we will skip September as well due to the extreme heat.

*Please join us for our
meetings of the NPSOT,
Garland Chapter, this
year being held in*

*March, April, May, October and
November*

6th Annual Wildscapes Workshop

Native Plant Society of Texas

Fredericksburg Chapter

September 10th, 2011

7:30-3p

Fredericksburg United Methodist Church

1800 North Llano Street

For Registration Information

Go To: <https://www.npsot.org/Fredericksburg>

NATIVE GRASSES—NOT JUST FOR MOWING!

While most people know the Texas Hill Country for its magnificent wildflowers, could the real treasure be in its native grasses? Texas native grasses are beautiful and drought tolerant, useful and diverse, offering the home and professional gardener many practical options in size, shape and texture that are suited to any location and microclimate.

**Guest Speakers: Bill Neiman, Owner of Native American Seed,
Junction, TX**

“What on Earth will we do with the Texas Hill Country” With Bill, we will discover how our native grasses help sustain the uniqueness of this ecological treasure, the Texas Hill Country

With few exploitable natural resources – agricultural land, oil or mineral deposits – much of the Edwards Plateau Hill Country remains in large, unbroken parcels. The Texas Hill Country region has been valued for its native rangeland grasses,

abundant clean rivers and a variety of wildlife from the earliest Native Americans to current residents and tourists.

Flo Oxley, Director of Plant Conservation, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Austin, TX

"Got Grasses?" Join Flo for an intriguing look at some of our most overlooked wildlife resources, native grasses!

We all know wildflowers are fabulous for wildlife gardens, but what do we know about grasses? Like native wildflowers, grasses provide habitat, nesting, food and shelter for a variety of wildlife, including some of our most beautiful butterflies and birds.

John Snowden, Owner of Bluestem Nursery, Arlington, TX

"Wise Up! To Grasses as Ornamentals" Learn the "how to" as John educates us on the effective use of water conserving, native ornamental grasses to both beautify our landscapes and promote natural habitat rehabilitation.

Using native grasses for decorative purposes in our landscapes can be a challenge for those of us who are accustomed to growing flowers and small shrubs as ornamentals. But these drought-tolerant, water conserving native ornamental grasses offer a wide variety of textures, sizes and shapes to do just that – ornament our gardens.

Workshop Includes: Guest Speakers * Garden Tour * Catered Box Lunch * Native Plant Sale * Book Sale* Door Prizes * Raffle * Silent Auction * Exhibits An associated plant sale will offer many of the plants featured in the workshop presentations.

For more information contact Beverly Allen at 830.997.8767

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 purpose of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote the conservation, research and utilization of the native plants and plant habitats of Texas, through education, outreach and example.



Rohde's
Nursery & Nature Store

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

Rohde's
 1651 Wall Street
 Garland, TX 75041

972-864-1934 , 800-864-4445,
 fax 972-864-0128



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