

Lyonia Chapter
Florida Native Plant Society
November 2007

October Meeting

Robin Just, our membership chair, volunteered to take on the additional duties of librarian. Take a look – we have some nice books in the file cabinet up front. She also had name tags for those of us who had signed up. You can still order a tag. See Robin.

Our prez, David Schroeder, brought in some plants and led us in a great discussion, including a memorable Virginia creeper demonstration. I heard lots of good words about having an open time just to talk about native plants.

Speaking of how we spend our time, David brought in a survey to determine what we want at our meetings. If you didn't get a chance to fill one out, I've included one with this newsletter. Bring it in to the next meeting or mail it to me.

Next Meeting October 9,
2007

New regular features, compliments of David: Plant of the Month and What's Blooming Now.

Plan the Christmas party. See below.

I plan to bring up wildflowers. See below

How to Grow Them

We're coming up on the time to plant wildflowers – December and January in central Florida. Most commercially available wildflower seed, including the species native to Florida, is grown in Texas. But local ecotypes – the same species, but occurring naturally in the region – have been found to bloom longer and survive better. A few pioneering growers are beginning to

harvest and produce seed from our own region, and they sell them through their web site at www.floridawildflowers.com. You can buy individual packets, but I'm going to ask next meeting if there's any interest in our chapter buying larger quantities collectively. So stay tuned.

Now to grow them: Just because they're native doesn't mean they'll grow "naturally" in your yard. Here are instructions, almost straight from the web site above:

For best results, do not till or disturb the soil.

1. Thin turf cover: Broadcast the wildflower seed over the area then rake or drag the area to obtain seed-to-soil contact.
2. Average turf cover: Scalp the turf to 1 inch, remove the clippings, then broadcast the seed over the area and replace the clippings evenly as a mulch.
A mechanized seed drill can be used without removing the clippings.
3. Heavy turf cover: Herbicide and let the area sit for 1 month. Scalp to 1 inch,
Then follow step number 2.

Where to Buy Them

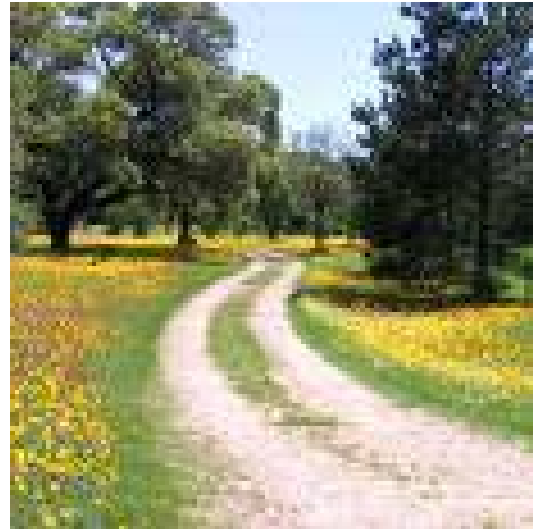
Exclusively Native

- Full Moon Nursery - Marvette and Kevin Bagwell, owners - 1737 Fern Park Drive, Port Orange - 322-9705/ 212-9923-cell. **Ten percent discount to Native Plant Society members!** Full Moon also publishes the Pawpaw chapter's quarterly newsletter, along with Lyonia's newsletter for that month. www.fullmoonnursery.com. fullmoonnursery@cfl.rr.com. Full Moon is a distributor of melaluca mulch.

- Double B Ranch, 850 Bay Drive, New Smyrna Beach, FL, (386) 547-1664
doublebranchfl@aol.com

Many Natives

- DeBary Nursery and Garden Supply, 61 US 17/92 in DeBary.
- Lindley's Nursery, 2359 SR 44, New Smyrna Beach.
- Designing Women 6275 W. State Road 46 Sanford, FL 32771 (407) 324-2377.



Read All About It –
If you Can

That cool book, *American Wildlife and Plants – A Guide to Wildlife Food Habits*, is out of print! The Muse book store in DeLand has placed an order with an out-of-print dealer who has one copy. I'm going to try to find more so I don't have the moral dilemma of letting the chapter buy it for our library, or buying it myself.

Upcoming Events

December 7, 10 to 2 Friends of Florida's First Wildflower Highway – a nice lunch meeting at a lovely B&B in Crescent City.

December 11 7 PM Lyonia Chapter Christmas party.

Our chapter meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM at the Volusia County Agricultural Extension Office auditorium. Contact the editor if you need directions. He may be reached at 386-734-3115 or at sdtonjes@cfl.rr.com, or at the return address on this newsletter