

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

April 2017

EVENTS

- April 1 - First Master Gardener Booth at the Farmers Market
- April 17th-24th – CFI Seed Giveaway – Local libraries, contact Debby Clark-Lalley debby@lalley.com
- April 24 - Monthly meeting, 6 PM, **Children's Garden**. Working on Plant Sale
- April 28 – Diagnostic Workshop, Athens Community Center, 9 AM Cost \$35
- May 13 – Plant Sale, PLEASE do your part. We need more help to make OUR plant sale a success.



BUGS AND BLOOMS

How to plant: *Roxanne Male'-Brune*
When in doubt about what to do, I consult the following guides:

<http://www.iohnnnyseeds.com/growers-library/flowers/flower-growing-guide.html>. (Lists most annual/perennial flowers, days to germination, weeks to transplant and comments for sowing)

<http://tomclothier.hort.net/page02.html> (Has more specific information on optimal growing conditions.)



Why is my conifer dying?

Diagnostic Workshop

Join other MGVs who love to learn and hone your diagnostic skills at the same time! Good diagnostics starts with proper identification! Is it a pine a spruce, a larch, a hemlock or a spruce-pine??? There are many different species of conifers and with them comes a variety of pest problems. The morning session, "Conifers Through the Seasons," will focus on conifer identification and pests, including some of the most common conifer problems that we encounter in the landscape. In the afternoon you will have an opportunity to practice your diagnostic skills on a variety of plant problems, not just conifers. There will be hands-on samples for you to challenge your abilities, helping you to increase your confidence in diagnosing plant problems.

Deadline to register: April 21

Make \$35.00 check payable to: Master Gardeners
280 W. Union St., Athens, OH

Contact: Ed Brown



APRIL GARDENING

- Plant Cool Season veggies
 - Asparagus
 - Beets
 - Carrots
 - Swiss chard
 - Collards
 - Leeks
 - Lettuce
 - Onion (set)
 - Peas
 - Potatoes
 - Radish
 - Spinach
 - Turnips
- Transplant
 - Broccoli
 - Brussel sprouts
 - Cabbage
 - Chinese cabbage
 - Cauliflower

Plant of the Month



Dodecatheon meadia, Shooting star. A spring ephemeral that grows in part shade to full shade. Tolerates clay soil

Submitted by Connie Davidson

Please submit your idea for plant of the month for May to brown.6000@osu.edu

Project Spotlight



The Master Gardener Annual Plant Sale is the primary fundraiser for the year. It takes the involvement of many volunteers in order for it to be successful. Planning and planting is already happening and will continue until the sale on May 13.

Digging Deeper

Mason Chambers of Five Springs Farm presented a program on Native Plants. His presentation concentrated on the native trees and shrubs and he recommended the book: Woody Plants of Ohio by E. Lucy Braun as a good source of information. Mason began with a brief history of commercial nurseries and how they became a thriving industry after WWII with the expansion of the suburbs. As commercial nurseries became popular they carried the easily transplanted plants, such as roses, butterfly bushes and ornamental grasses. He explained why native plants were not popular and the difficulties encountered when trying to successfully propagate and transplant native species. One method developed for native trees, which frequently have a single long tap root, was to undercut the root as it was growing thereby creating a larger root ball.

