



HENDRY HERALD

JAMES E. HENDRY CHAPTER

of the AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

WHEN YOU GARDEN, YOU GROW hendrychapterhibiscus.com OCTOBER 2019

TIME TO CONSIDER HYBRIDIZING

Looking Back - Quoted from the September MBAC Newsletter

BARRY SCHLUETER, Master Hybridizer, conducted this interview with BUDDY SHORT before Barry passed away in 2014.

"We will soon be in our second hybridizing season of the year. The Handbook would tell you that the ideal temperature for successful crosses is 70-85 degrees. The following interview gives you my thoughts on why I continue to hybridize year round regardless of the temperature outside. The interview was conducted with my friend and Master Hybridizer Barry Schlueter." BUDDY SHORT

BUDDY'S HYBRIDIZING STORY by BARRY SCHLUETER - An excerpt from the interview

Q. Any other advice you wish to give to new hybridizers?

A. Before you begin you need to understand the basics of the process and the timetable involved. Patience will ultimately be the key. Are you willing to wait, in many cases, 18 months or longer before you see a bloom? If so, identify a few individuals out there you can ask a few questions. Learn your blooms and those that could give you the best chances for success. Learn from other hybridizers what hibiscus varieties have worked best for them. Not all varieties are good parents. If you create something special, propagate it IMMEDIATELY. Don't wait! This has been my worst nightmare but I'm getting better. My closing comment would be, "Understand the process and then, Try it!" Remember that every flower you admire today started exactly this way. You never know when you might create the next "Hibiscus of the Year."

LET'S IMAGINE YOU HAVE HYBRIDIZED AND HAVE A GORGEOUS BLOOM! TIME TO REGISTER IT. INFORMATION FROM MARTI GRAVES ON HOW TO:

AHS no longer registers new varieties. You must do so via the International Hibiscus Society. Here is what you need to do:

HOW TO ACCESS THE IHS DATABASE

Before you can begin to register new varieties you will need to login to the registration form. To obtain your own personal username and password, contact the administrator. Send your request stating your desired username and password to: cactusman003@yahoo.com. Once you have your login info you can reenter the registration form as many times as you wish. Simply enter your username and password to access the automated registration form.

When you have accessed the form, please read the INSTRUCTIONS before proceeding.

The direct link to this after approval of your username and password is

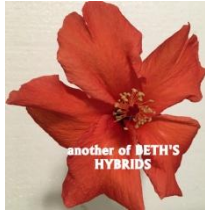
<http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/SEArchive/form.php>

Sorry for the confusion, I have been trying for years to get someone in the AHS to change the forms, and publish this process.

Continue to make crosses and use this method to register your new "babies". MARTI GRAVES,

Therefore, when you want to register new hybrids, you must use this process. Save this info in case you ever have a plant to register.

These are a few new hybrids that member **BETH MEEHAN** has created and is going to register!



On Friday, September 13th, the James E. Hendry Chapter was chosen to serve breakfast to the attending members of Garden Council. MICKI DOUGHERTY organized the food and presented the Council group with a huge spread. Believe me, no one went home hungry. These JEH ladies were present and along with other members, provided the food. MICKI DOUGHERTY, JILL BRESLIN, BARBARA OSTER, CHARLOTTE HARFF, CONNIE FISK & NANCY KOPP.



The Dreaded Hibiscus Pest ~ Scale!

In the last month we have had several hibiscus lovers send us photos asking us what, if anything, is wrong with their hibiscus. Both photos showed raised spots on the bark of the hibiscus plant. In one case, the spots were brown and the grower told him the spots were part of the bark.

Hibiscus bark is rough, but it almost never has large round bumps on it. It has shallow, vertical cracks and crevices. But round bumps like this are rarely part of the bark. If you see one bump on your hibiscus wood, you may not need to worry. But a few days or a week later if it is 2, 3 or 4 bumps, then you have a pest. This is brown scale, a pest that will slowly but surely take over your whole plant.

At the first sign of a round bump or white spot like these, grab a Q-tip and **Horticultural Oil**. In a pinch when you only have a few bugs, cooking oil will work, although it will stain the bark. Move the plant into the shade, dip the Q-tip in undiluted oil, and cover each bump with oil. The oil smothers the scale, kills it, and it drops off the plant. Check your plant at least once a week and treat every bump until they all disappear.

Snow scale is bright white and easy to see. White flies have a similar look though. To tell the difference, shake the plant. If the white bugs fly away, they are white flies. If they don't fly away, they are snow scale. Snow scale starts on stalks, and prefers bark. White flies start on leaves and prefer leaves. With bad infestations, both bugs will cover the entire plant, so always use the shaking test to be sure.

If your plant has too many scale bugs to treat one at a time, you will need to buy **Horticultural Oil**. Take your plants to a shady spot, or wait until evening, when there will be no sun on them for many hours. Use undiluted, or barely diluted hort oil, and paint or spray it only where the scale is. Avoid spraying or painting leaves if possible, since undiluted hort oil is hard on leaves.

Check your plants at least once a week, and keep treating until you don't find a single scale bug anywhere! When you get down to a few bugs, switch to the Q-tip method so you don't stress the plant.

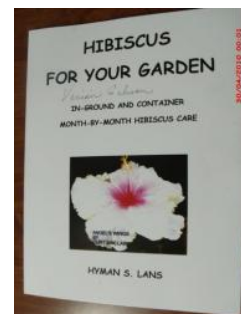
Scale thrives in tropical locations, so if you live in a tropical place like Florida or Hawaii, or if you buy hibiscus plants from a tropical place, check your plants frequently for scale. Treating a few scale bugs is easy. But treating a severe infestation is very, very difficult. Knowing what to look for is the key!

INFORMATION FROM HIDDEN VALLEY HIBISCUS
news@hiddenvalleyhibiscus.ccsend.com

HY'S WAY FOR OCTOBER

- (1) Check plants at least weekly for pests/disease
- (2) Examine both sides of leaves
- (3) Determine what pest is present -a 10 power-magnifying lens helps
- (4) Use a systemic control as preventative. Bayer Tree & Garden Granule once a year is a good product.
- (5) Sooty Mold is not a disease. It is an indication of pest. Get rid of pest, wash leaves with stream of water.
- (6) **Correctly fertilized plants resist pests better**
- (7) Prune dead blooms and branches

HY LANS was our resident hibiscus advisor. Hy passed away in June of 2013 but his advice lives on. Our chapter has a book published "HIBISCUS FOR YOUR GARDEN" that contains all the advice Hy offered over the years. We sell the book for \$10 and it is a real bargain for the hibiscus gardener. Pick it up at the October meeting or contact barbara at barbaramo@earthlink.net for a mail order copy.



Turk's Cap Mallow UF/IFAS

Turk's cap mallow is a Florida-Friendly shrub related to hibiscus. Well, actually "Turk's cap mallow" is the common name used for two different hibiscus relatives. Both *Malvaviscus penduliflorus* and *Malvaviscus arboreus* sport lovely flowers, usually red, that perpetually appear as if they're just about open fully, but never do.

The confusion between *M. penduliflorus* and *M. arboreus* indicates the trouble with common names: you're talking about one plant while your conversation companion may be thinking of a plant of another species or even genus. To add to the confusion, these shrubs go by additional common names such as sleepy mallow, sleeping hibiscus, wax mallow, or cardinal's hat.

Characteristics

Like hibiscus, these shrubs are members of the Malvaceae (mallow) family, which also includes okra and cotton. Either shrub is a great choice for Florida gardeners; they start blooming at the beginning of the summer and will keep going until the first frost. A staple of "old Florida" landscapes, they will add a cheerful pop of color at a time when many summer-flowering plants have fizzled out and cooler season plants haven't yet peaked. In both *M. arboreus* and *M. penduliflorus*, the most commonly found flower color is red, although pink and white cultivars exist for both species.

Both *M. penduliflorus* and *M. arboreus* can be grown throughout Florida, although neither is native to the state. Most commonly, when people are talking about Turk's cap mallow, they mean *M. penduliflorus*. Thought to originate from Central or Southern Mexico, this plant is distinguishable by its downward-pointing, pendant flowers that are about 2.5 inches long.

Described by many as looking as if they are just about to open, the folded flowers are a favorite of hummingbirds.

When discussing *M. arboreus*, the name "wax mallow" is often used. Another hummingbird favorite, *M. arboreus* is native to Texas, Mexico, Central America, and northern South America, as well as parts of the West Indies. One easy-to-spot characteristic that sets apart *M. arboreus* is that flowers of this plant are upright to lax. Additionally, the flowers on *M. arboreus* measures 1.25 inches long, about half the length of those of *M. penduliflorus*.

Planting and Care

These shrubs can reach up to ten feet tall and spread ten feet wide, so be sure when selecting a site that you give them the space to grow. Hardy in zones 9-11, these shrubs can be also grown in zone 8; they will typically freeze to the ground, but return in spring.

These easy-care shrubs requires little maintenance and are drought tolerant once established. A spring-time pruning that removes half of the previous year's growth can help keep your plants healthy and looking great. In tropical areas, these plants do best in light shade, while in more northern areas, a site in full sun with afternoon shade is best.

AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY LOST A VERY WONDERFUL MEMBER, VAL LONGSON this past month. She was past secretary of the AHS. Many of you will remember her from our annual show where she sold her beautifully hand made products, mostly sewn from hibiscus themed material.



DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR HIBISCUS GROWING ABILITY?

ARE YOU PLAGUED BY FALLING BUDS, APHIDS, YELLOWING LEAVES?

WHEN YOU JOINED, YOU WERE WISHING TO HAVE BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS. MAKE THAT COME TRUE.

WE'D LIKE TO SEE YOU AT THE MEETING TO HELP YOU SOLVE YOUR GROWING PROBLEMS



ON OCTOBER 13th WE HAVE A FABULOUS SPEAKER, KATHY GRANDOFF, WHO WILL TRY TO ANSWER ALL YOUR CONCERNS. SHE IS KNOWLEDGEABLE AND A GREAT SPEAKER. PLAN TO BE THERE TO BE ENLIGHTENED AND ENTERTAINED.

OCTOBER 13, 2019

1:30 to enter blooms in mini show & refreshments

2:00 short meeting: introduction of new members, vote on by-laws, installation of 2019-2020 officers and any necessary reports

THEN ON TO OUR HONORED SPEAKER!

Kathy will talk about rooting hibiscus the easy way. She will suggest a good rooting hormone. She will also address ants & aphids and yellow leaves. All very timely info! Be sure to come.

Meeting will be held at 2188 Virginia Avenue in the Garden Council Meeting Room. This building is next door to the Edison-Ford Estates.

Plenty of parking.

NEW MEMBERS: PLEASE EMAIL IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO THAT WE HAVE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF PLANTS. EACH NEW MEMBER WILL RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY HIBISCUS and a SURPRISE OR 2

barbaramo@earthlink.net

Lately, I've noticed people my age are so much older than me

THE FACT THAT THERE IS A HIGHWAY TO HELL AND ONLY A STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN SAYS A LOT ABOUT ANTICIPATED TRAFFIC NUMBERS

"Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering why I'm there

Weeds are simply plants in the wrong place, but invasive plants are harmful to Florida's ecology. Invasive Plant info from UF Master Gardeners and FYN Programs [jsykes@ufl.edu]

Invasive Plants

Air Potato
 Australian Pine
 Brazilian Pepper-tree
 Camphor Tree
 Cat's Claw
 Chinaberry
 Chinese Tallow
 Cogongrass
 Coral Ardisia
 Invasive Sword Fern
 Japanese Honeysuckle

Kudzu - this horrid plant is an experiment gone bad. Imported to hold banks, it has no natural enemy and is covering trees and native plants from Carolin to Florida The vine kills all vegetation under it

Melaleuca
 Mexican Petunia
 Mimosa Tree
 Nandina
 Old World Climbing Fern
 Surinam Cherry
 Tropical Soda Apple
 Wedelia
 Wild Taro
 Wisteria

More on Kudzu:

Kudzu is a group of plants in the genus Pueraria, in the pea family Fabaceae, subfamily Faboideae. They are climbing, coiling, and trailing perennial vines native to much of eastern Asia, Southeast Asia, and some Pacific islands. The name is derived from the Japanese name for the plants, kuzu, which was written "kudzu" in historical romanizations. Where these plants are naturalized, they can be invasive and are considered noxious weeds. The plant climbs over trees or shrubs and grows so rapidly that it kills them by heavy shading. The plant is edible, but is often sprayed with herbicides.



LOOKING AHEAD

WHAT A FINE IDEA FOR
 CHRISTMAS OR CHANUKAH GIVING.

IDEA COPIED FROM FACEBOOK
 THE SEASON WILL BE ON US BEFORE WE KNOW IT. DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY AT FAMOUS DAVE'S. **DECEMBER 14**

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
 ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
 FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

STATE TREE OF FLORIDA - SABAL PALM

CARE INFO

This information comes from the FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATIVE NURSERIES

Green fronds are the palm's source of nutrients! Cutting green fronds stunts growth, invites disease, and reduces the palm's natural resilience to high winds. Harsh pruning takes away food and shelter from native and migratory songbirds, woodpeckers, butterflies, honey bees, treefrogs, bats, anoles, squirrels, and other wildlife. Over-pruned palms develop weakened trunks, which will eventually cause them to break off and die. Work boots with climbing spikes incur wounds in the trunk, leaving the palm prone to disease.

Small white fragrant flowers are produced in large clusters and are a good nectar source for bees and butterflies. The black berries which follow are critical food source for a variety of birds and small mammals.

Say NO to landscapers who want to prune green fronds, spring flowers and berries. Exclude annual harsh pruning from your yard.



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JACK BERNATZ

Once Again September- October finds us in a new beginning; or recovery mode.

This year Dorian presented a threat then very quickly went north, unlike Irma who had to make a statement prior to moving on. I feel blessed with our weather experiences this year.

With each year we expect change, and I hope we can stay positive so there will be many more positive changes to look forward to.

We all have many things in the planning and implementation mode. I request all to be good stewards, receptive to finding something you like to do and are willing to help with.

I look forward to seeing all of You at our first meeting, Sunday, October 13th!

Thank you much, Jack Bernatz



A WORD ABOUT SPIDER MITES from HIDDEN VALLEY

Spider mites pop up in hot, dry growing conditions, such as a very sunny window inside a house or outside in high heat in a dry climate. Spider mites don't tolerate rain or plants that get wet frequently. They need dry plants in high heat to survive. If you are seeing yellow leaves on your plant and it is raining every day, this is not spider mites! Spider mites die in that kind of rain. Rain alone can cause leaves to turn yellow if it goes on and on. But if you are seeing an increasing number of yellow leaves and your plant is inside a house in a sunny window, or outside in a hot dry summer, then chances are that your hibiscus does have spider mites. In these kind of perfect, hot, dry conditions, spider mites can reproduce rapidly and eventually kill off every leaf on your plant, so it is important to deal with them as early as possible.

As the spider mites spread, their webs start to take over your plant, and you will eventually see them with the naked eye. The webs will show up on the tips of the branches with yellow leaves, or in the crook between a leaf and a branch. By the time you see spider mite webs like this though, you have a severe infestation. So keep your magnifying glass or super strong reading glasses handy, and try to catch them at an earlier stage! If you don't treat your plant, it will start to look sick and droopy, lose more and more leaves, and eventually become totally defoliated.

For solutions, go to hiddenvalleyhibiscus.com



