



JUNE 2011

## Gardening Q&A

**Q: I moved here from New England last fall and planted tomatoes in mid May. They have flowered but never had fruit. What's wrong?**  
– B.R.T., San Antonio

**A:** In our climate, it's best to plant most tomatoes as soon after the last frost as possible, usually around March 15. Otherwise – except for some indeterminate varieties, such as cherry tomatoes – they don't do well in the heat. You might also try applying Green Light Tomato Bloom Spray to increase the time that blooms stay on the plant and increase the potential for fruit set.

*E-mail your questions to help@schulznursery.net and we'll answer them in Gardener's Gazette.*

## June Is Fruit Month at Schulz

**20% off Citrus and Fruit Trees, Grapes and Berries**

**Throughout the month of June**  
(Good while supplies last. No other discounts apply.)

**Father's Day Weekend Special**  
June 18-19

**Bring Dad to Schulz for 20% off trees, shrubs and perennials**

**Shady Deal Plus Weekend**  
June 18-19

**Buy any regularly priced tree of \$100 or more and we will plant it for free and give you a 10% discount off the retail price. We guarantee any tree that we plant for one year from the day it was planted. Delivery and staking fees may apply. Call stores for details.**

## Crape Myrtle: A Sure Sign of Summer

By Peter Garza



Crape myrtles bloom all summer long and can take the heat. Sometimes called “the flowering tree of 100 days,” blooming crape myrtle is a sure sign of summer. They come in sizes from knee high to 30 feet or more and colors ranging from white through a variety of pinks and reds to lavender and purple.

Crape myrtles also have attractive bark that exfoliates for added color and textural interest. And they are among our region's few reliable sources of fall color, with leaves turning yellow, orange, red or maroon.

Plant crape myrtles where they get full sun, and mulch around them. To enhance blooms, fertilize March through September with Carl Pool food for crape myrtles. Look for varieties with good resistance to powdery mildew, and avoid watering the foliage. Prevent aphids with Merit or Safari and clip off spent blooms to promote new ones.

Some popular varieties include Natchez (white blossoms, 25-30 feet), Tuscarora (dark pink, 15-plus feet), Basham's Party Pink (light lavender, 25-plus feet) and Muskogee (light lavender, 25-plus feet).



*Tuscarora is among many crape myrtle varieties bringing summer blooms and fall color to our region.*

Others to consider include Yuma (lavender, 15-20 feet), Acoma (white, 6-10 feet), Catawba (violet purple, 12-15 feet), White Chocolate (white flowers, chocolate-bronze leaves, 8-10 feet), Sioux (pink, 12-15 feet) and Mandi (dark red, 6-12 feet).

*Peter Garza is the store manager for Schulz Nursery on Broadway. Ask him which crape myrtles are best for your landscape needs.*

## Vitex is Beautiful, Tough, Heat-loving Bloomer

By Kristy Hoffman



Known as purple or lilac chaste tree, Mexican lavender, monk's pepper, hemp tree, sage tree, Abraham's balm, Indian spice and other names, *Vitex agnus castus* can be grown as a gorgeous small tree or large shrub that attracts butterflies and hummingbirds with spikes of lavender blooms from

May to September. It's deer resistant, too.

Its name, *agnus castus*, means “chaste tree,” and it was supposedly placed in the robes of young monks in medieval times to suppress the libido, although this effect is not supported by modern science. In the 4th Century B.C., Hippocrates recommended the plant for injuries, inflammation and swelling of the spleen.

Native to China and India, this favorite of the South is reported to have been cultivated in America since 1670. Deciduous *Vitex* likes full sun and any well-drained soil and is drought hardy. About the



*Vitex, also called chaste tree, is a Southern favorite.*  
Photo by Aggie Horticulture

only requirement for prolific bloom is to clip off spent flowers.

*Kristy Hoffman is the store manager for Schulz Nursery in Marion. She will be glad to help you learn about Vitex and other garden plants.*

## Farmers' Almanac: Father's Day

"Father's Day was the idea of Sonora Louise Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington. Sonora, one of six children, wanted to pay tribute to her father, who after the death of her mother, raised Sonora and her five siblings on his own."



## Aggie Horticulture: Pick a Hot One

"Harvest most hot peppers when they turn red or yellow, depending on the variety. Jalapeños are mature when they reach good size and develop a deep, dark green sheen. If you pick the peppers as they mature, the yields will be greater."

## Nature's Guide

GO GREEN  
TODAY FOR  
A BETTER  
TOMORROW

Try these fine products, now available at Schulz Nursery. Visit [natures-guide.com](http://natures-guide.com).

Kid, pet and planet friendly! Just look for the Nature's Guide family of products. Here are a few products to get your garden off to the start it needs. Veggies love organic!

**Nature's Guide Tomato & Pepper Insect Spray** can be used on tomatoes, peppers, squash, okra and all veggies to control tomato horn worms, caterpillars, mites, aphids, whiteflies, leaf hoppers, thrips, mealy bugs and many more insects. New from Nature's Guide, this product is safe to use around children and pets. Vegetables can be harvested the same day they are sprayed.



**Nature's Guide Diatomaceous Earth (DE)** is 100% pure with no additives. Labeled for use indoors to control roaches, fleas, ants and other crawling insects, DE can be used outdoors, as well, for insects on patios and lawns along with areas where pets are active, including kennels and in their bedding. Also for use in grain-storage bins.

**Nature's Guide Natural Mosquito Repellent** is made from pure dehydrated garlic. Apply outdoors at the rate of 2 ozs. per 100 sq. ft. to repel mosquitoes, chiggers, gnats and many other insects. The odor of garlic repels the insects while giving your back yard an aroma everyone will enjoy.

**Nature's Guide Turf Food 4-3-2** provides a simple, responsible way to naturally nourish plants with macro and micro nutrients they need to thrive. A premium formulation based on dried heat pasteurized poultry litter. Apply with a broadcast spreader. Will not burn!

**Nature's Guide CedarCide** insect repellent granules is an all natural insect repellent for mosquitoes, fleas, roaches, flies, gnats, chiggers, ants and many more. This is a chemical-free repellent, consisting of 100% red cedar granules, which leaves a pleasant scent as it repels insects. CedarCide is safe to use around kids and pets, easy to apply and long lasting.



When used as directed, these products will not burn or harm beneficial insects, soil organisms, aquatic species or wildlife in your landscape.



## What's Not To Love?



**New Location**  
447 W. Hildebrand  
Suite 107

**Opening In Early July**  
*Home of the Deep-Fried Twinkie!*



**NEW LOCATION**  
**OPENING IN EARLY JULY**  
447 W. Hildebrand  
Suite 105

## Think Gardening Gear for Dad for Father's Day

Whether Dad is a seasoned gardener or is just beginning to cultivate his green thumb, Father's Day on June 19 is a fine time to recognize his favorite activity.

We all know fathers like tools. Consider getting Dad new shears and clippers, water and soaker hoses, good-quality gardening gloves, spades, forks, rakes and hoes, and a hat to keep his head cool.

Encourage Dad to eat healthy with a gift of citrus or fruit trees, grapevines or berry bushes. Or, he might like to add some color to the landscape with zinnias, portulaca, periwinkle, salvia, marigold or other summer annuals.

Plant a tree in Dad's honor for Father's Day – a beautiful crape myrtle or purple chaste tree would brighten his summers. He also might like a dramatic garden statue, a beautiful fountain or a pot that reflects his sense of humor. The staff at Schulz will be glad to help with suggestions.



*It might be hard to find a magic shovel for Dad, but he'll be glad to have high-quality garden tools for Father's Day.*

Photo by DaMongMan

If your father is the type who knows exactly what he wants – but you're not sure what that is – a gift certificate from Schulz Nursery might be perfect for him.

## Control Sticker Burrs in Four Steps

By Trace Hazlett



Nuisance alert: Sticker burrs, grass burrs, cockle burrs, sand burrs or goatheads are all names for the same nasty weed. Let's get rid of it in four steps.

**Step 1:** Mow stickers regularly. A bag-type mower will pick up the seed so fewer can germinate.

**Step 2:** Fertilize and irrigate the lawn regularly. Stickers grow in poor soil conditions, so if you increase the microbial action in the soil, stickers won't thrive. The better care you take of your grass, the worse the stickers do.

**Step 3:** Use pre-emergent weed killer. Try Amaze for small areas and XL-2G for large areas. These will stop the seeds that that make it past Step 1 from ever sprouting. (Apply June, October and February for yearlong control.)

**Step 4:** Apply post-emergent control. Image



*Sticker burrs can be controlled with diligence in mowing, using herbicides and taking care to keep the lawn healthy.*

will kill off the existing sticker plants in all turf grasses.

If you follow this four-step plan, you will be sticker-free in less than a year.

*Trace Hazlett is the operations manager for Schulz Nursery. He can help with your lawn and garden questions.*



## Garden-Ville

ORGANIC SPECIALIST SINCE 1957

Try any of these great products now available at both our Marion and San Antonio stores. Visit [www.garden-ville.com](http://www.garden-ville.com).

Organically grown herbs, fruits and vegetables are more nutritious than their chemically grown counterparts and have superior taste. Organic gardeners don't want to ingest or feed their family foods that contain chemicals from pesticides. A plant grown organically and in the proper balance will naturally repel pests and diseases.



time. \$3.99 for 2-cubic-ft. bag.

**Garden-Ville Greensand** – Rich in iron (17%) and used for more than a century to amend iron-deficient, high alkaline soils. \$9.99 for 40 lbs.

**Garden-Ville Manure Compost** – All-purpose blend of vegetative material and manures. Ideal for conditioning the soil. A blend of stable bedding, horse manure, hay horse feed, vegetable matter and liquids. \$5.99 for 1-cubic-ft. bag.



**Garden-Ville 7-2-2 Fertilizer** – Not just for lawns! A wonderful tree and plant fertilizer. Premium Lawn Fertilizer 7-2-2 is a time-tested formulation with Houactinate, bat guano, urea, feather meal, K-Mag, molasses, humate and other natural ingredients. \$19.99 for 40 lbs.

**Garden-Ville Potting Soil** – Evolved over 30 years of use by many growers, each making suggestions for how to make it drain better, last longer, cost less, grow better, useful for a broad variety of plants. Contains peat moss, coir, rice hulls, compost, iron-rich red sand, orange sand and granite sand. Use for potting, flower beds and raised-bed gardens. \$9.99 for 1-cubic-ft. bag.

## Learn to Grow!

Join us for our free seminars in June.

**Crape Myrtle Crazy:** Choosing and caring for crape myrtles, with David Rodriguez, the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Horticulturist and Master Gardener Coordinator for Bexar County; 1-3 p.m. June 4 at Schulz Nursery in Marion; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. June 11 at Schulz Nursery on Broadway.



Schulz Nursery is pleased to offer Soil Mender Products at our stores. Visit [www.soilmender.com](http://www.soilmender.com).

With Soil Mender Products, growing natural is more than a fad, it's simply the best way to grow. Safe for your family and pets, our products build a strong soil foundation to grow healthy plants. Feed the soil that feeds your plants.

**Soil Mender Raised Bed Mix** In 1.5 cu ft bags. Soil Mender Raised Bed Mix is a specially formulated soil for raised beds and large containers. These versatile gardens allow you to choose the soil that supports your plants. Consisting of topsoil, composted cotton burrs, coir, expanded shale, lava sand, granite sand, basalt, humate, montmorillonite and diatomaceous earth, Soil Mender Raised Bed Mix is your "bed in a bag."

**Yum Yum Mix** In 4.5 lb shakers, 5 lb, 12 lb, 25 lb and 40 lb bags. Specially formulated for nutrient-hungry soils, Yum Yum Mix develops fertile, living soil and a balanced pH creating vibrant, healthy lawns, vegetable gardens, flowers, shrubs and trees. Yum Yum Mix is composed of a banquet of nutrients that will relieve those relentless hunger pangs in your garden's soil. It nourishes beneficial soil micro-organisms and boosts the soil's humus content, improving its ability to nurture and sustain healthy, beautiful and colorful plants.



**Back to Earth Composted Cotton Burrs** In 2 cu ft bags. With the ability to break down quickly, Back to Earth Composted Cotton Burrs put valuable organic matter back into soil. Adding structure to sandy soils or breaking up heavy, clay soils is necessary to increase moisture retention. Back to Earth Composted Cotton Burrs help build a strong support system to prevent water from running through sandy soils or running off clay-like soils.



SCHULZ  
NURSERY

# Gardener's Calendar

June 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Photo by Stephen Ausmus	Last day to plant Malabar spinach.	Seed okra all month.	WaterSaver Gardening Walk, 10am, SA Botanical Garden	Crape Myrtle Crazy, David Rodriguez, 1-2, Schulz Marion
		Plant hot-weather-loving salvia, purslane, vinca, copper plant, lantana and firebush.	Shakespeare in the Park, 8pm, SA Botanical Garden, through June 4, free. <b>1</b>			
			Houseplant foliage will look great if fed with Miracle Gro Miracid every other week. <b>8</b>		Texas Folklife Festival, Institute of Texan Cultures, through June 12	Crape Myrtle Crazy, David Rodriguez, 11-1, Schulz Broadway <b>11</b>
Chase away mosquitoes with Nature's Guide Natural Mosquito Repellent. <b>12</b>	SA Rose Society member meeting, 7:30pm, SA Garden Center <b>13</b>	<b>Flag Day</b>	Last day to plant pumpkins. <b>15</b>		Plant coleus, caladiums, impatiens and begonias in shade. <b>17</b>	Father's Day Weekend Special at Schulz <b>18</b>
<b>Father's Day</b> Father's Day Weekend Special at Schulz <b>19</b>	Use Osmocote Potting Soil in pots for patio flowers. <b>20</b>		Fertilize houseplants with Miracle Gro Miracid every two weeks. <b>22</b>		Square Foot Gardening, 2 pm, San Antonio Food Bank, register by June 17, 210-431-8347. <b>24</b>	Feed all garden plants with Soil Mender's Yum Yum Mix. <b>25</b>
	Maintain 3-4 inches of Garden-Ville Living Mulch in beds and around trees to conserve water. <b>26</b>			Keep birdbaths and hummingbird feeders clean and full. <b>29</b>	<b>By the moon, best planting dates</b> Above-ground crops: 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 Root crops: 17, 18, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30 Flowers: 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 30 Kill weeds, pests: 5, 6, 7, 8, 19, 20, 21	

## Vitex

Reg. \$24.99. **Now \$9.83**  
(Limit 4)

Void after June 30, 2011. One coupon per household. No photocopies. No other discounts apply.

## 4" Bedding Plant Free With Purchase

**\$1.29 Value**

Void after June 30, 2011. One coupon per household. No photocopies. No other discounts apply.

## Osmocote Potting Soil

Reg. \$12.99. **Now \$6.88**  
(While supplies last)

Void after June 30, 2011. One coupon per household. No photocopies. No other discounts apply.

### Mulberry Avenue is Open

Mulberry Avenue is now open between U.S. Hwy. 281 and Broadway. Hildebrand Avenue is set to close for construction. Once Hildebrand is closed, remember to take Mulberry to get to Schulz from U.S. 281.



Open Daily 9am-6pm

**Schulz San Antonio**  
**3700 Broadway**  
**210.804.0600**

Take 281 South to Hildebrand Ave., turn right on Broadway. We're across from the Witte Museum.



Open Daily 9am-5pm

**Schulz Marion**  
**100 W. Huebinger**  
**830.914.2384**

Take 10 East to FM 465. Take the Marion exit and turn left at the fork. Go 1 block past the middle school. We're on the left.

## Plant of the Month



## Crape Myrtle

Assorted Varieties

Reg. \$24.99

**On sale for**  
**\$14.77 each**

**Or buy two for \$25.00**