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June 2012

Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Monthly Web Magazine

Alien invaders

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New mystery plants

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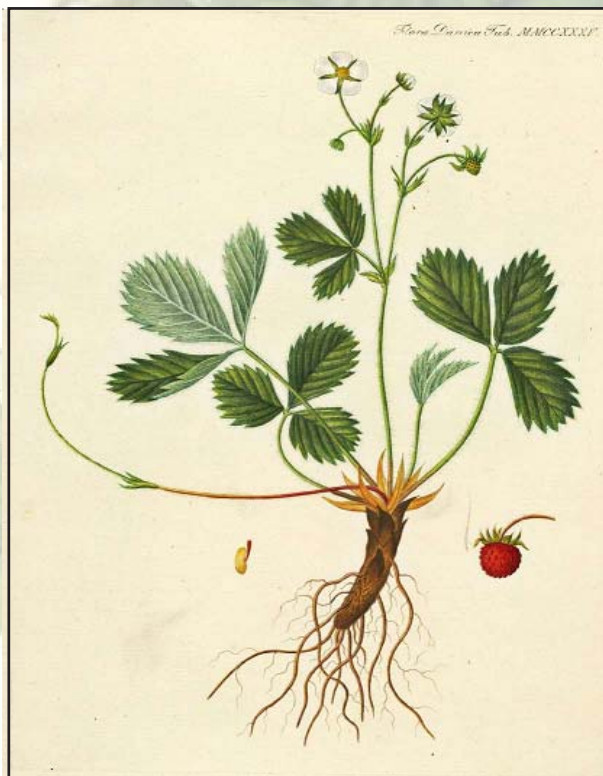


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Feature Articles

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About this Journal

This Journal was created under the direction of Wally Hansen – a dedicated Grower, Aficionado and Passionate Lover of Northwest Native Plants.

This Journal is not 'commercial.' Our goals are:

A — To generate interest, even passion, concerning the magnificent Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest.

B — To help you create your own Native Plant Gardens, large or small, for home or work.

C — To help you propagate and "grow on" those species that interest you the most.

D — To inform both Home Gardeners and interested Professionals of many disciplines concerning trends and news items from my little corner of the world.

E — To help the reader enjoy native plants more by understanding the historical and cultural role of native plants (i.e.—use by Native Americans, pioneers, early botanists, etc.).

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

After the flowers have gone by, this bush will be the most popular element in the garden as far as the wildlife population is concerned. Be sure to pick some of those delectable fruits for yourself!



On the Cover:



The Faerie Garden

Native and hybrid plants living in harmony

- Violets
- Ferns
- Rhododendron
- Azalea
- Paper Birch



June in the native garden

Chores that must not be put off until tomorrow

1 – Weeds! A lot of sun and plenty of rain make a very happy garden. Hooray! Those two elements also make for very happy weeds. Ono! My garden is so well designed (all done by the previous owner, I cannot claim a single leaf or flower) that I really believed it would be weed-proof. I said to myself “tut-tut” whenever I saw a yard full of weeds, thinking, “not me, my garden is allergic to weeds.” All that barked pathways paved with moss, groundcovers over every spare inch, all the neighbors keep their places pristinely free of weeds so there aren’t seeds coming over. Guess what? I had weeds! They snuck into the raised garden bed. I thought they could be some kind of flower so I let them grow. No way would the wonderful gardener who created my landscape allow a weed to live an entire day, let alone go to seed. Nope, not in my backyard (NIMBY doncha know). Huh!

Well, my face is red. I am humbled. Last evening I found a really bad nasty awful weed in the fairy garden. This area is a little bit concave with native rhodies underplanting the Paper Birches, very tall ferns in the back, the slight bowl shape in the center completely covered in violets. The rest of the perimeter is thickly planted in various smaller ferns and a selection of non-native perennials. And right there about 1 1/2 feet from the edge was one of my very least favorite weeds. It’s the one with a tight flat rosette of furry leaves with long whip-like stems coming from the center with small yellow daisy petal flowers that turn to small fluffy seed heads like little bitty dandelions. I saw one single yellow flower among the violets, very out of place. On closer look there were more whippy stems and a flower bud on every one of them. I have never properly identified this nasty thing, refusing to give it the courtesy of a name but you know what I’m talking about I think.

So today I went to change my ways and actually googled ‘weeds in Oregon.’ And found, once again, a whole bunch of info (no surprise there) and an article by Kym Pokorny titled “Weeds: You’ve got to identify the enemy before you can win the war.” She starts this piece with “You can deny it all you want, but I’ll bet a buck the weeds are coming up in your garden.” Reality arrived right before my eyes.

Learn from my mistakes: ID those stinking weeds and remove them. Right now! There is probably one ready to go to seed this very minute. When you come in for a break, read Kym’s column here http://blog.oregonlive.com/kympokorny/2011/02/weeds_youve_got_to_identify_th.html



Mystery plant puzzle



This is Tori's plant #1. Here's what she said about it:

A little spiky thing I've been watching; just noticed the lower petal pattern on one today so I snapped this just a few minutes ago.

We have three new plants to identify, all from reader Tori. Can you put a name to them? Send me an email (star@chillirose.com) with your answers-
-botanical names, please.

Correct answers will get your name added to the Official Plant Detectives.

Good luck!

P.S. Do you have a plant you'd like to identify? Email it to us and we'll show it here on our Mystery Plant Puzzle page.

Official Plant Detectives

Jerry Murray
Sabrina Kis
Carol Hiler
Mike Burns
Nancy Whitehead
Pat Opdyke
Luke Kishpaugh
Dave Whitehead
Elaine Sawyer



[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Mystery plant puzzle, continued



This is Tori's plant #2.
Here's her description:

It's a HUGE 3 leaf (swirl shape/pattern) about 1 to 2 FEET across, about a foot tall... they look like a giant alien lilly, lol. BEAUTIFUL leaves; I haven't seen a flower on one yet.

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Mystery plant puzzle, continued



This is Tori's plant #3. Her description:

Two pics of some things that are growing in all of our flower beds; are these flowers or weeds? We've been preserving them, but I'm afraid they're going to take over.

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Mystery plant puzzle, continued

Photos from you, our readers



This is the coolest picture!

Danette sent this with the following note: *"We have found this gorgeous plant in the Salmon Creek Trail and would love to find out what it is. Can you identify it?"*

For sure--it's Red Columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*) voted best native perennial by hummingbirds!

More from reader Tori:

I just moved here from the east coast WV Appalachia was my birthplace and home. I LOVE the forests here, especially the proliferation of forest floor plants and flowers.

One in particular is puzzling me for I can't find it in my flora references but it seems so very common in my mossy woods. I don't think I even need to include a photo (I haven't taken one yet), for it is probably SO common here is the reason it isn't listed in books... Would you have time to point me to a name and information on this very conspicuous dark-woods dweller?

Without a photo it is all but impossible to properly identify a plant, so Tori sent the photos on page 7, one of our new mysteries, Tori's plant #2.

We swapped a few more emails and she sent photos of another plant--#3. See pics on page 8.

Welcome to Oregon, Tori. Glad you are enjoying your new home!



Wildlife Corner

Out back with the animals

Big doings in the garden. One of the birdbaths is quite shallow so I decided to use it for a feeding platform. It's well visited by birds and squirrels and so far no stray cats have bothered to investigate. I cut down one of the rhodies that was ill when I began my stewardship here and placed the birdbath there atop a big flat rock.



Two jays have become the most frequent partisans of the suet feeders as well as the wildlife restaurant area. This morning they came down to stroll about on the upper desk. I meet this eventuality with mixed feelings. The small birds are staying away for the most part--have the jays crowded them out? Must learn more about this species. The philosophy Ms. Pokorny espouses for weeds applies here as well.

There are swallows in the garden! I first saw them swooping around the shrubs at a neighbor's and now they are here! Do you think they followed me home? So graceful, little daredevils are quite sure of themselves. What magnificent design they are made from!

I bought a new bird food made from peanuts that is to be mixed with other foods. This is a big hit. It's high protein and was the first part of the current assortment on the birdbath feeder to completely disappear. Squirrels and birds are loving it.

Huckleberries will be planted next and strawberries for sure.

One of the neighborhood squirrels enjoying thr new feeder and food mixture. Feeder needs trueing up but it words fine.



Alien Invaders

Hitchhikers and Bad Ideas

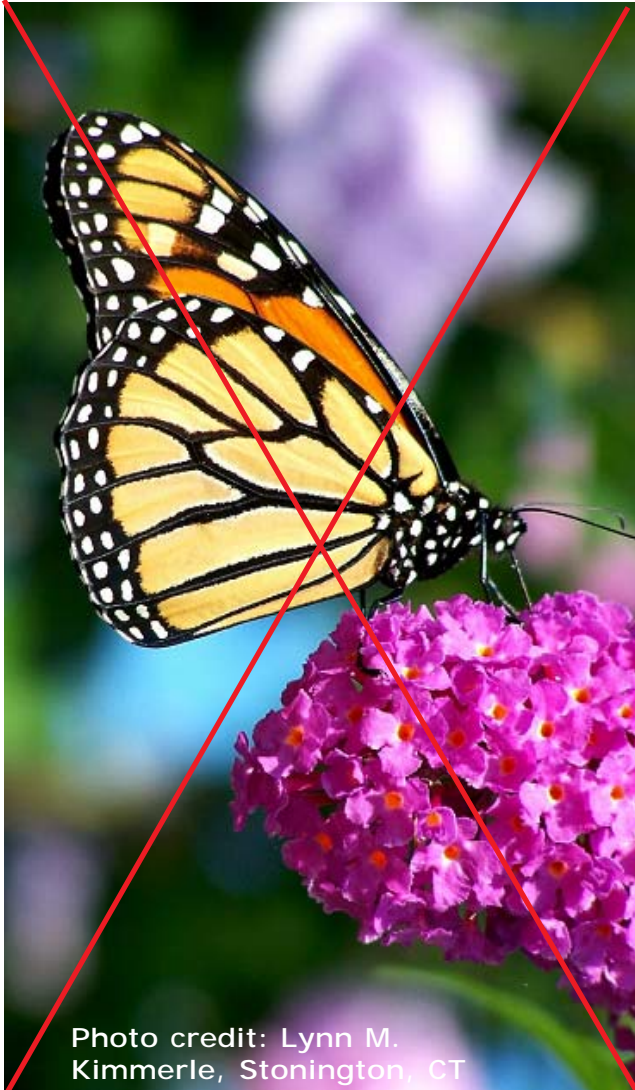


Photo credit: Lynn M.
Kimmerle, Stonington, CT

We see them every day. We might admire them as delicious purveyors of good things to eat, or for their speedy growth, their excellence as ground covers or their exotic flowers.

Sometimes we even bring them here to enjoy as we did as kids 'back home.' We ask Uncle Bob or Aunt Mary to send us a few or we pick some up when we go back for a visit. We plant them in our gardens. We are proud of our resourcefulness and enjoy reminiscing about the good old days.

Sooner or later (usually sooner) we forget about them or we discover there's a northwest native that fills the same need or we notice that they've spread to neighbor Joe's yard and we are delighted to be sharing our wonderful 'heritage' with our friends.

My father loved hunting jackrabbits in the south as a child. It's what his friends did, it's what he grew up with--a tradition to put some good old country eating on the table.

When he moved to Oregon, he could not find any jackrabbits. He bagged some Oregon rabbits but they didn't have the toothsome qualities of those favored jackrabbits. So when a friend from childhood planned to come visit, Dad asked him to catch some jacks and bring them to Salem in cages. The day they got here was an answer to a prayer. Finally that missing piece of back home was here in Oregon and life was good. Dad and his pal released them into the woods in the back acre of our property. Pretty soon we were going to see little baby jackrabbits all over the place.

It was not to be. Those rabbits scampered off into the woods and were never seen again. Dad said the owls probably got them. I'm sure Mother Nature breathed a sigh of relief.

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleja davidii*) and Monarch Butterfly

[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Alien Invaders, continued

Often, we attach importance to plants or animals that are not just like the folks next door have. We value the exotic, the unusual. We do it because we don't know any better.

But as our planet 'shrinks,' we are becoming more aware of living things that are taking up more than their share of our resources, things that are not living in harmony with everything else. Plants and animals that have been here for centuries are being crowded out by these alien invaders.

We learned that Himalayan blackberries have bigger fruit than native blackberries. With these exotics, the same amount of acres yields many more times the amount of fruit and line our pockets so much better. What's wrong with that? Now we know the answer: plenty is wrong with that!

English Ivy grows fast, a quick and easy ground cover. It is evergreen, it is hardy and gives a very 'cottage' feel to the landscape. I know of a mom who dropped the ivy from her daughter's bridal bouquet near the back door only to discover a few days later that the stuff had rooted. Good? No--bad on both counts!

Oregon Invasive Species Council (www.oregon.gov/OISC/) tracks micro-organisms, plants, invertebrates, fish, birds, mammals and reptiles. There are strict criteria for placement on the invasive list and for removing from the list.

It is interesting to note that the Oregon law under which the council was established (ORS 561.685) dictates that humans, domestic livestock and nonharmful exotic organisms are not invasive species. Likewise, diseases of humans and domestic animals are also not included in the purview of the Council. Hmmm, this could be up to some discussion from a personal standpoint.



Photo credit: Ikai

A mature Butterfly Bush (*Buddleja davidii*), locked and loaded

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Alien Invaders, continued

This is the criteria for inclusion:

- Species prohibited by regulation are eligible including species listed as weeds on the state "A" list; pest species for which the state maintains an external quarantine or is protected by a federal quarantine; and species prohibited by the wildlife integrity rules.
- Species which meet at least three of the following additional criteria are also eligible:
 - Has a history of invasiveness in the Pacific Northwest or similar Ecoregions
 - Likely to cause ecological harm to native species or their habitats in Oregon
 - Likely to cause significant economic loss in Oregon
 - Capable of harming the health of humans or beneficial plants and animals in Oregon
 - Reasonably susceptible to intentional or inadvertent introduction into Oregon
 - Capacity to spread via natural reproduction in Oregon
 - Difficult to eradicate based on past global history

100 Most Dangerous Invaders To Keep Out of Oregon in 2010 Land Plant entries (21 in total)

Species in bold have had risk assessments completed.

*Detected previously in Oregon, eradicated/did not establish.

**Currently under eradication/restricted to small area in Oregon.



Photo credit: Dan Sharratt

African Rue
(*Peganum harmala***)

Camelthorn
(*Alhagi pseudalhagi*)



Photo credit: Kurt Stuber

[↔ More ↔](#)

Alien Invaders, continued



Coltsfoot (not
Petasities frigidus)
(*Tussilago farfara* **)

Photo credit: Andreas Trepte

Giant Hogweed
(*Heracleum
mantegazzianum* **)
[www.mipn.org/
MDA_Hogweed_Brochure.pdf](http://www.mipn.org/MDA_Hogweed_Brochure.pdf)



Goatgrasses (barbed, ovate)
(*Aegilops triuncialis*, *A. ovata*)

Goat's Rue
(*Galega officinalis*)



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Alien Invaders, continued



Hawkweeds (King-Devil, Meadow, Mouse-Ear, Orange, Yellow)
(*Hieracium piloselloides*, *H. pratense***, *H. pilosella*, *H. aurantiacum***, *H. floribundum*)

Japanese Dodder
(*Cuscuta japonica*)

Photo credit: Aomorikuma



Kudzu
(*Pueraria lobata***)

Photo credit: Peggy Grebb



Matgrass
(*Nardus stricta***)

Photo credit:
Daderot at the Berlin
Botanical Garden



[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Alien Invaders, continued



Oblong Spurge
(*Euphorbia oblongata*)

Paterson's Curse
(*Echium plantagineum* **)
Photo credit: Alvesgaspar



Purple Nutsedge
(*Cyperus rotundus*)



Photo credit: V. Davis

Silverleaf Nightshade
(*Solanum elaeagnifolium*)



Photo credit:
Jerry Friedman

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Alien Invaders, continued



Skeletonleaf Bursage
(*Ambrosia tomentosa*)

Squarrose Knapweed
(*Centaurea virgat***)

Photo credit: Steve Dewey,
Utah State University



Starthistles (Iberian, Purple)
(*Centaurea iberica***, *C. calcitrapa***)
Photo credit: Eitan F

Syrian Bean-Caper
(*Zygophyllum fabago*)



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Alien Invaders, continued



Texas Blueweed
Helianthus ciliaris
Photo credit: Russ
Kleinman & Bill Norris

Thistles (Plumeless,
Smooth Distaff, Woolly
Distaff, **Taurian**)
(*Carduus alanthoides***,
Carthamus baeticus,
*Carthamus lanatus***,
Onopordum tauricum)
Photo credit: T Voekler



White Bryonia
(*Bryonia alba*)



Photo credit: Sanse



Photo credit: H.Zell



Photo credit:
Magnus Mansk



Photo credit: H.Zell

[➔ More ➔](#)

Alien Invaders, continued

Each state has its own list of invasive plants. California's Invasive Species Council is inter-agency, chaired by the Secretary of California Department of Food and Agriculture, vice-chaired by the Secretary of California Natural Resources Agency. Members include four other state agencies. See their website at www.iscc.ca.gov/.



Photo credit: Jim F. Bleak

An illustration of the attraction the Butterfly Bush holds for the wild things and the plant's beauty. But it is an illusion. All is not well in this artificial microcosm. The Peacock and Painted Lady butterflies are perched on an extremely invasive plant. Oregon now includes all cultivars of *Buddleja davidii* in the invasive list. And the trump card? Not only does this invasive bad boy lure the butterflies and choke out native plants that feed the caterpillars, it does nothing to nurture the would-be butterflies!

Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office chairs the Washington Invasive Species Council. Their homepage is at www.invasivespecies.wa.gov/

In Canada, the Coastal Invasive Plant Committee (www.coastalinvasiveplants.com/) serves some geographic areas near the ocean.

It is a small world. Councils, committees and groups of people worldwide who act cooperatively to control plants traveling around, as Canada's CIPC describes:

These plants have the ability to establish quickly and are highly competitive due to prolific seed production, deep taproots, or early flowering. Because they arrive in Canada without their natural predators to keep them in balance, they can spread rapidly, forming dense patches over large areas and often displacing native plants.

Since animals rarely eat these species, infestations can impact wildlife habitat and rangeland. Invasive plants can have huge economic impacts by competing with desirable agricultural crops and forest plantations. They can also pose significant threats to human health and safety by causing skin irritation or burns and reducing visibility along transportation corridors.

[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Alien Invaders, continued

The US federal invasive list, available at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Plants Database, <http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious?rptType=State&statefips=41>, can be searched by state as well--there are 221 entries for Oregon. All but 24 of these plants are under Quarantine status.

Some of these species may come as a surprise, some we know all too well. This is a sampling:

Yellow Flag Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)

Native to Europe, western Asia and northwest Africa, this iris is all about wetlands. The Coffin Butte Landfill just north of Corvallis, Oregon, on Highway 99 is all but surrounded by this invasive alien.

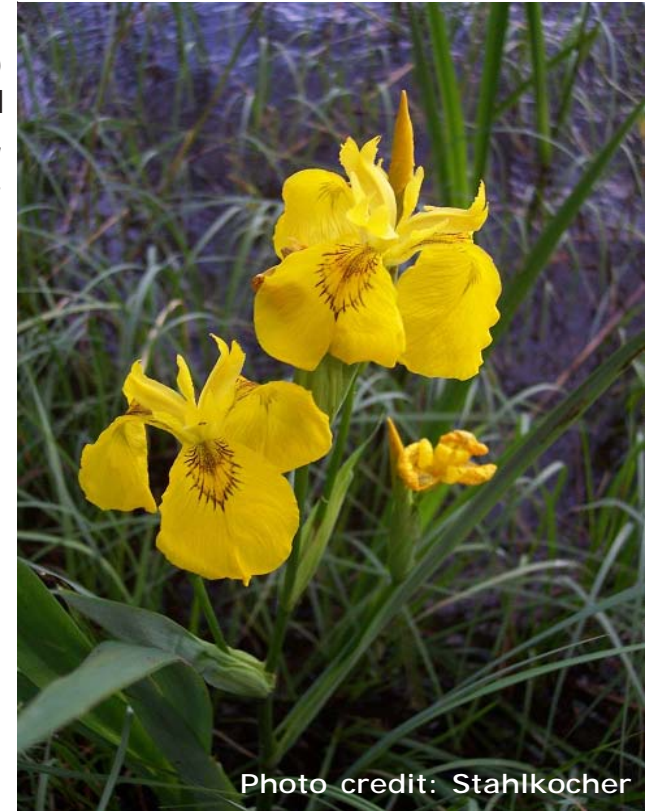


Photo credit: Stahlkocher



Photo credit: Les Tanner,
North West Weeds,
Bugwood.org

UGA1294050

Jointed Prickly Pear (*Opuntia aurantiaca*)

A native of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, now considered invasive in Africa, Australia and many states.

[⇒More⇒](#)

Alien Invaders, continued



Photo credit: William & Wilma Follette

Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)

This plant is about the same height as Cow Parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*) which often grows in the same community. It is similar to the Cow Parsnip but flower clusters are more separate and the leaves are more 'ferny.' See details in the Lacy White Flower Comparison page at www.nwplants.com/information/white_flowers/white_comparison.html

If there were a contest for 'most universally hated' plant, Scotch Broom could be a shoe-in here in Oregon. In disturbed sites such as timber harvested spaces and utility right-of-ways, this plant jumps right in and takes over inhibiting reforestation by crowding out seedling trees. Attributed to Scotch Broom: Estimates of \$47 million timber losses in US and \$90 million in New Zealand. Farmers in NZ estimate an additional \$10 million loss. That is a lot of revenue!



Sally Long, USFS



Photo credit: MPF Newcastle,

Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)

Note the Himalayan Blackberry in Sally Long's photo

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Alien Invaders, continued

Butterfly Bush (Buddleja davidii)

This is my favorite plant to hate. Not long ago it was readily available from nurseries, roadside stands and on shelves outside of grocery stores and pharmacies. I even bought one, but luckily it died before settling in. Here is an excerpt from an Oregon Live article by Lisa Albert, November 17, 2008 (http://www.oregonlive.com/hg/index.ssf/2008/11/butterfly_bush_the_state_adds.html):

The butterfly bush has all of the attributes of a dream plant. It is easy to grow, produces an abundance of fragrant blooms that bring in hordes of butterflies and is drought-tolerant.

But it also has a dirty secret. Every year each of its flower clusters releases tens of thousands of seeds, which are carried far from home by nature and humans to create fast-growing seedlings. These invasive bullies out-compete economically important Douglas fir seedlings.

Betraying even its namesake, the butterfly bush (Buddleja davidii) and its cultivars also choke out native plants that feed the caterpillars that would become butterflies. (The butterfly bush does nothing to nurture the caterpillars.)

Behave that badly and you get noticed.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Oregon State Weed Board began clamping down on sales and propagation by listing the species as a noxious weed in 2004. That same year, James Altland, assistant professor of horticulture and nursery crop extension agent for Oregon State University, and student Julie Ream began an independent four-year study that documented the plant's invasive nature.

This year, the Department of Agriculture went a step further and added to the noxious weed list all cultivars — including such widely available forms as 'Harlequin,' 'Black Knight,' 'Purple Prince,' 'Nanho Purple' and 'Royal Red.'



Photo credit: Tommy Oates

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Alien Invaders, continued

More progress was made two years after Lisa's article. On February 10, 2010, Eric Mortenson's article for Oregon Live heralded this news:

The Oregon Department of Agriculture announced Wednesday it is banning the sale, transport or propagation of English ivy, a creeping scourge that threatens to smother much of Forest Park.

In announcing the ban of English ivy and butterfly bushes, the agency officials called them invasive, noxious weeds that are a threat in Oregon because they out-compete native plants.

Let me tell you, there were hats and horns around my house when this occurred. My cries of "yay, yippee, yahoo" were so loud it scared the dogs. By this time I knew the nature of the beautiful butterfly bush. Just the year before, one showed up in the corner between the front porch and side of my house. That little dickens came up smack against an old azalea and reared it's purple bloom almost inside the front door. I think the slugs brought it. Just like the slimy suckers to do such a deed. I pulled it out carefully, not even an inch escaped, and into my trusty Gettye, to be seen nevermore.

Just like all the other invasive aliens, this is a bad bad bad plant. And it is sneaky.

Learn the invaders and protect your yard and your environment.

"When you know better, you do better."

~ Maya Angelou

Butterfly Bush and English Ivy: Birds of a feather...



Photo credit: Michael West



Fraise des Bois

Wild strawberries

"Wild Strawberries" is a very popular name. All these entities share it:

- An Ingmar Bergman 1957 film
- Canadian pop music group
- Scottish band
- Song by Australian group Pnau, 2007
- 1986 English-language music album by Divlje jagode
- A student protest movement in Taiwan

Cottage gardens began because fresh produce was a ways away from the homes of most folk. The gardens contained fruits, vegetables and perennial edibles. The idea of planting annuals for fun or beauty was unheard of--who had time or space for such frivolities? Practicality was key back in the 1400's, and each plant had more than one use. Not only did the woman of the house cook and clean and maintain the home, she was also in charge of everyday medicinals which were combinations of herbs and parts of plants they either grew for convenience or gathered wherever they were found. The English Cottage Garden, the French Un jardin potager, in early American homes they were Kitchen Gardens and during World War II we called them Victory Gardens.

One plant was consistently included in the home garden: strawberries! Fruit and leaves may be used fresh or dried. The high vitamin C content is valuable for beefing up the immune system. Fruit is delicious in jam, jelly, wine, compotes. The leaves are excellent in tea either hot or cold. Roots are used for diarrhea. Fruit and leaves are good as astringent for skin. Pain of sunburn may be eased by rubbing on cut fruit gently immediately after washing. If the burn is severe, rub the juice over skin, leave for 30 minutes, then wash with warm water and benzoin. Fresh fruit can whiten teeth by coating the teeth with juice, leave on about five minutes and rinse with warm water with a pinch of bicarbonate of soda.

On one point about strawberries, we will all agree: They are very fragile and get mushy quickly so handle carefully if they must be transported. Otherwise, eat them immediately!



[↔ More ↔](#)

Fraise des Bois, continued

Growing Wild Strawberries From Seed

Ordinary strawberries are hybrids and will not grow true from seed. But wild strawberries are naturally perfect, untamed by modern science and seed-grown plants are exactly like those that mature plants put out on runners.

There are different varieties of wild strawberries, two common types are wild or woodland strawberry, and alpine strawberries. All wild strawberries are easy plants to grow from seed. They are packed full of flavour and have a very strong fragrance. Walking through wilderness areas, you will probably smell them before you see them. They are much smaller than grocery store berries, but their flavor is intense.

Sometimes you can find either woodland or alpine wild strawberries in nurseries that specialize in native plants. I am going to try growing them from seed instead. There is a small seed nursery in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada that sells true wild strawberry seeds of both types and their website says growing them is easy. I am very good with container grown plants, dismally awful with seeds but I am going to try this.

The requirements for growing delectable berries fit my area--hardiness zone from 4 to 9, a dormant season where the temperature will fall below freezing, and some sun. The seeds can be planted outside in late summer or early spring but can be sown inside anytime. They need to be watered at least once a week. Some sun is necessary for germination.

Wild strawberries will fruit the first year in limited amounts and beginning the next year they will give their all--not just once but continuously from spring to late fall.

I will be ordering seeds from Seed Nursery, a small Canadian business in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. "Gardening has always been fascinating to me, so I decided to start a business focused on my passion. Seed Nursery is a small internet based business. I sell my seeds mostly to Canada and the United States, but worldwide as well." See www.seed-nursery.com for full details. Care to join me?

"Doubtless God could have made a better berry, but doubtless God never did"
~ William Allen Butler



Wild strawberry seeds



Alpine strawberry seeds

[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Fraise des Bois, continued

Right about now, strawberry season is within touching distance. If you can find wild strawberries, I suggest a taste test. Prepare a few grocery store berries and a similar amount of the wild ones. Close your eyes and taste each bowl. You will find those store-bought fruits defective in every way. It takes quite a bit more picking to get enough wild berries for a recipe but never will you get that flavor from ordinary berries. And speaking of recipes...

Baked Strawberry Pancakes

Soft, light and creamy, and with a fine lightly crisped golden exterior, these baked strawberry pancakes are one of my most popular recipes

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 4 large eggs, separated
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 pint strawberries, hulled and halved (or quartered if they are very large)
- icing sugar (optional)

Heat an oven to 425°. Place 1 tablespoon of butter in each of two deep 9-inch pie plates. Put in oven to melt.

Beat the egg whites until stiff. In a medium mixing bowl, beat the egg yolks with the milk, flour, sugar and vanilla.

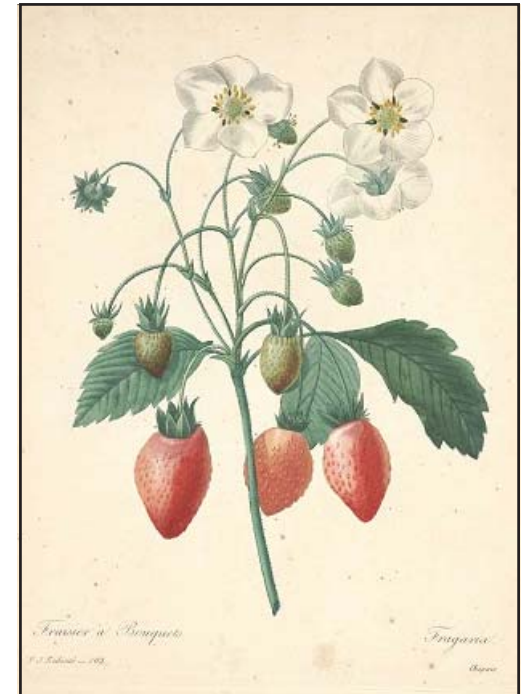
Fold the egg whites into the batter. Remove the pie plates from the oven and pour half of the batter into each. Arrange the strawberries on top.

Bake for 15-20 minutes, until golden on top and a cake tester or toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean.

Remove from the oven and run a rubber spatula around the edges of the pan to loosen the pancake. Sprinkle with icing sugar if using, and cut into slices for serving hot or warm.

From Lisa's Kitchen

<http://foodandspice.blogspot.com/>



[↔ More ↔](#)

Fraise des Bois, continued

Strawberry Squares



Photo credit: 4028mdk09

1 cup flour
1/2 cup crushed pecans or walnuts
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
1 1/2 cups whipping cream
2 cups sliced, hulled fresh strawberries
1 cup sugar
2 tablespoons lemon juice

Crust: combine flour, nuts, brown sugar. Add melted butter. Toss to combine. Spread in shallow baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 min. or until golden, stirring occasionally. Spread 2/3 of crust mixture in a 13x9x2 pan. Set aside.

In a bowl, beat 1/2 cup of whipping cream until soft peaks form. Add strawberries, sugar, lemon juice. Beat well. In another bowl, beat remaining 1 cup whipping cream until stiff peaks form. Fold into strawberry mixture. Transfer to prepared pan. Top with remaining crust mixture. Cover, freeze for at least 6 hours. Let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before serving. Makes 9-12 servings. Garnish with additional berries if you wish.

Strawberry Jam Turnovers

One 8-ounce package refrigerated crescent dinner rolls
1/3 cup whipped cream cheese
1/4 cup strawberry preserves
1 egg white, beaten
confectioners' sugar

On cookie sheet, separate dough into 4 triangles; pinch seams closed. Sprinkle with 1 T confectioners' sugar. Spoon 1/4 of cream cheese, 1/4 of preserves in center of each rectangle. Brush edges with egg white. Fold corners to center; press. Brush tops with egg white. Bake 15 to 20 minutes in preheated 375 degree oven. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Serves: 4

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Fraise des Bois, continued

Strawberry Syrup

8 cup. strawberries, crushed
1/4 cup. lemon juice
3 cups. sugar
1 cup. corn syrup

Requires: 3 hot sterilized pint jars

Place strawberries in a 4 to 6 quart pot and bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Pour berries into a damp jelly bag set over a bowl covered with a double thickness of cheesecloth. (To keep cheesecloth from slipping, fasten with clip clothespins to rim of bowl.) Let juice drip for at least 2 hours. There will be 3 to 4 cups of juice. Return juice to pot and combine with remaining ingredients. Stir constantly and bring to a rolling boil over high heat. Boil 1 minute. Pour syrup into 3 hot sterilized pint jars, leaving 1" headspace. Wipe rim of jar with damp cloth. Attach lid. Process in water bath for 10 minutes. Recipe can be halved and refrigerated without processing, when used within a few weeks.



Photo credit: H. Zell

Hand-rolled Wild Strawberry and Pink Peppercorn Truffles

This recipe calls for French or Scottish wild strawberries but our own wild strawberries native to the Pacific northwest will surely be at least as good and probably way better than berries from across the pond. Rather than copy the recipe and photograph here, copy this address to your browser and see the original: <http://www.ocado.com/webshop/recipe/hand-rolled-wild-strawberry-and-pink-peppercorn-truffles/3641>

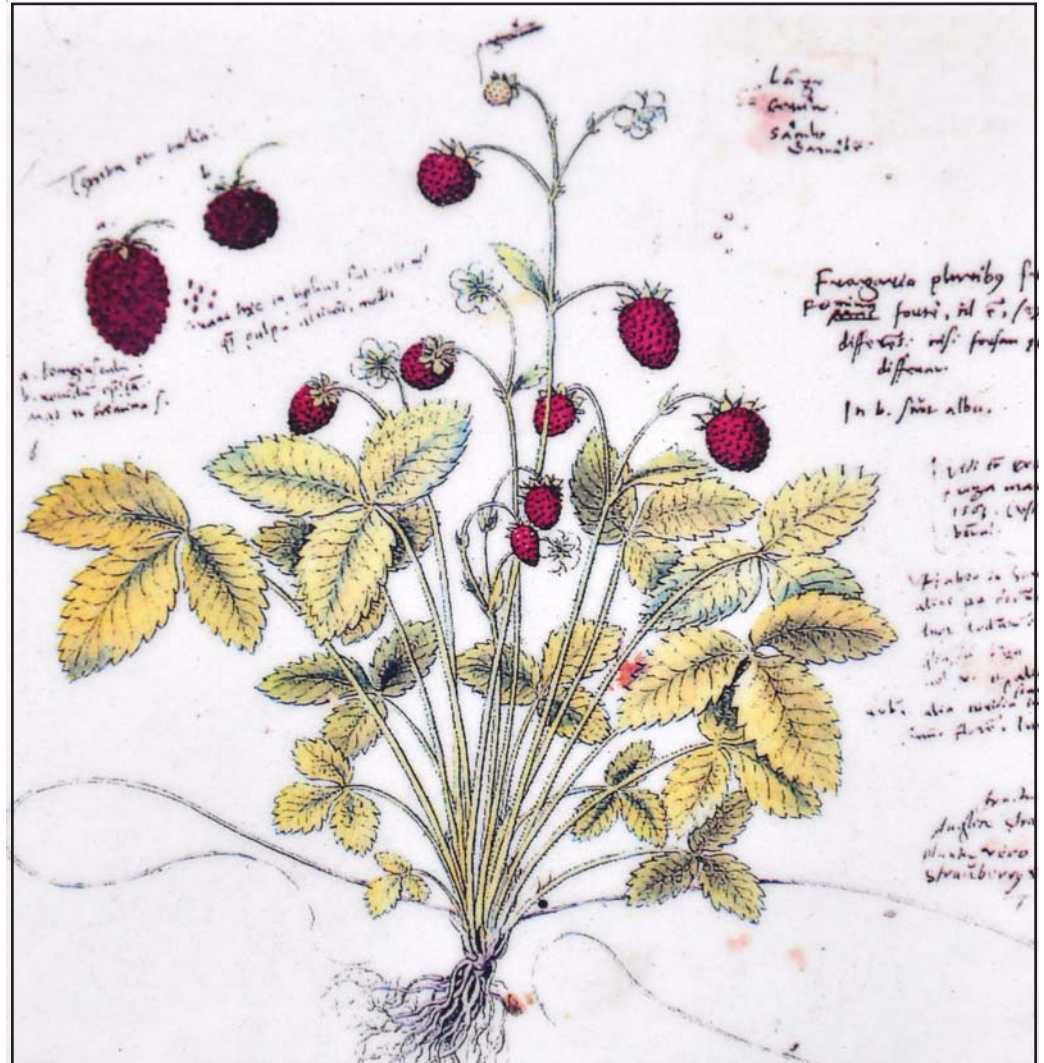
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Fraise des Bois, continued

Strawberry Cobbler

- 4 cup. sliced strawberries
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 3/4-1 cup sugar
- 1 tbsp. corn starch
- 2 cus . buttermilk biscuit mix
- 3 tablespoons butter melted
- 1/2 cup. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 tbsp. sugar
- 1/8 tsp. ground cardamon

Oven 400F Combine strawberries, lemon juice, sugar and corn starch in saucepan. Heat and stir until boiling and thickened. Pour into an 8" square baking dish. Combine next 5 ingredients for dumpling batter, and drop by tablespoons onto strawberry mixture. Combine sugar and cardamon and sprinkle over top. Bake at given temperature about 25 minutes, or until dumplings are done. Serves six.



Conradi Gesneri Historia plantarum Walderbeere

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Fraise des Bois, continued

Strawberries native to the Pacific northwest:

Coastal Strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*) is evergreen, likes sun or part shade.

Wood's Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) deciduous, prefers shade.

Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana* var. *platypelata*) is deciduous, wants full sun.



A HAIKU GUIDE TO WILD STRAWBERRIES

- 1. Always pick the day
before the berry;
try the first day of summer.*
- 2. Then fall to your knees
and follow your nose
in a field the sun favors.*
- 3. Yes, bring a bucket
but to eat your fill,
you must be lucky or small.*
- 4. And to bring them home,
even to loved ones,
makes you a strawberry saint.*

by Terry Hayes

Whether you include wild strawberries in your garden for a robust & colorful groundcover, a tooth whitener & calming tea & diuretic, a delicious & toothsome belly filler, or a bird & wildlife magnet, I bet you will be pleased and delighted with your choice.



Photo credit: Pearlman



This & That

Notes from Jennifer

My favorite things since the last journal are the emails from you all. I love reading about the plants you find intriguing and the gardens you are making and why. I gain so much from researching the questions you ask, every day brings a lesson to be learned.

Memorial Day reminded me of the special gardens or plants we have to honor and remember important people, events in our lives, the memories we want to keep. I planted a willow for my dear friend, Sharon, because she swayed with life's breezes instead of breaking. She offered an ear to listen, a shoulder to cry on, arms to hug when needed. When she lost the battle with her disease, it seemed to me she could continue her good works through the ways the willow provides.



Irene, one of our readers, sent this photo of her pond. What an enchanting place! Note the duck boxes on the island. Read about these in a coming issue of the journal.

When a long time co-worker found the woman he wanted to share his life with, we gave them two seedlings of Giant Sequoia and a poem about marriage by Khalil Gilbran where he wrote,

"And stand together yet not too near together:
For the pillars of the temple stand apart,
And the oak tree and the cypress grow not in each other's
shadow."

Thank you for your emails, for sharing your thoughts and your photos. Each one is a little gift, making my life a little richer through our mutual joy in the plants native to the Pacific northwest.

Until next time,
Jennifer

