

COLOR IN THE MIXED BORDER

APRIL
THE MIDST
WONDERFUL
TIME OF THE
YEAR... IN THE
GARDEN

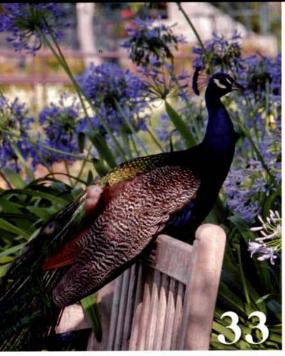
DIY ORGANIC PEST CONTROL

FOUNDATION PLANTING DONE RIGHT

\$3.95 April 2013 arkansasgardener.com



Contents Vol. 13, No. 3, April 2013



Features

- Foundation Plantings Grounding the design
- 17 Soul Food Gardening
- 20 Greenhouse/Henhouse Combo A two-in-one building to implement sustainability
- 24 Aprils Remembered Looking at past Aprils reminds us why it is the heart of the spring season
- Color in the Mixed Border The practical application of color theory in the landscape
- 37 Container Recipes Great container combos one for shade and one for sun
- 40 Whitefly Woes If you have them, you've got troubles
- 44 The Evolution of Gardening Practices: Part 2





Departments

- Ask the Expert Advice for gardeners all over Arkansas
- **Arkansas Tidbits** 8 Gardening news and info from around the state
- 9 Region Reports Gardening information specifically for your area
- How To Do That 28 Tailoring fruit trees to your landscape
- The Conscientious Gardener DIY organic pest control
- Garden Profile Home in a garden
- 60 **Hot Plants** Creeping thyme Rose campion
- Only in Arkansas A stitch in time saves nine



Visit our website: arkansasgardener.com Facebook: search 'Arkansas Gardener Magazine'



On the Cover

Foundation plantings help soften, shape and beautify the front of any residence. When created and maintained correctly, foundation plantings provide year-round interest, minimal maintenance and enhancement of the architectural style of the residence. Featured on page 12. Photo courtesy of Garry V. McDonald.

ARKANSAS ARDENER

GREAT GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

Steve Giddings

er/Managing Editor

Jennifer Estes

Holly Cope Ann Patterson

Shane Darby

Christopher Kilpatrick

Doug Futch

Lesley Joi Rocque

Kathy Hogrefe

Ann Sanders

Jim Vincent ccount Executive

Regina Buggs

Danielle Gray

Tina Beckel

rculation/Subscription Manager

Cheryl Lindsey

Listomer Service **Amy Skinner**

Candace Smith

Distribution Manager

Jessica Darden office Manager

Maria Lucca

Rosemary Arnold, Stacey Arnold, LeeAnn Barton, Yvonne L. Bordelon, Sharon Bowen, Janet B. Carson, Marilyn H. Collins, Stuart Gauthier, Stephanie Hudak, Gerald Klingaman, Blake Layton, Troy B. Marden, Lisa D. Martin, Garry V. McDonald, Joyce Mendenhall

Arkansas Gardener (ISSN-1539-4816)

Arkansas Gardener is published monthly except January, August and December by The Team Advertising and Publishing Inc. Copyright 2013 by The Team Advertising and Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or parts is prohibited without permission from the publisher. The views and opinions of the writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the magazine's management or owners. We will consider, but assume no responsibility for, unsolicited manuscripts, art and photographs. All such materials must be accompanied by a selfaddressed, stamped envelope or it will not be returned.

Periodical Postage rate paid at Ruston, Louisiana and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Arkansas Gardener, 106 W. Alabama Ave. Ruston, LA 71270.

Subscriptions: \$24.95 for one year (nine issues) Our address: State-by-State Gardening PO Box 13070 Ruston, LA 71273-3070 www.arkansasgardener.com Call us at (318) 255-3149 or toll-free at 1-888-265-3600 Fax us at (318) 251-8882 or email contact@statebystategardening.com

Shade

LOVELY IN LAVENDER

The striking container was, again, the inspiration for this arrangement. Its soft purple color and bold, raised design required that the plants complement it, rather than contrast. The strong, dark purple of the shamrock (Oxalis) was the perfect starting point, and its white flowers draw the eye into the arrangement. Another touch of purple is found in the leaves of the foamy bells (x Heucherella) and the blooms of the wishbone flower (Torenia) was added to the other side, for an additional pop of color. The bright, lime-green of Hosta 'Sun Power' echoes the green of the foamy bells and at the same time,

draws your eye toward the variegated Tasmanian flax lily (Dianella tasmanica). Tucked between the two, the begonia brings a different leaf texture. Creeping wirevine (Muehlenbeckia complexa) adds softness and a spilling effect.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Start with a good potting soil and add the appropriate amount of slow-release fertilizer. Depending on your climate, this arrangement can provide six to eight months of pleasure, so it will need the extra food. As the season progresses, add a weekly dose of liquid fertilizer, diluted to half strength. When the hosta goes dormant and the annuals are finished, add violas for color; however, in Zones 8-11, the tender plants may continue to grow. The foamy bells, hosta, creeping wirevine and potentially the oxalis, are perennials, so the container will give you a good start on the next season.

RECIPE

- A. Charmed* Wine (Oxalis 'JROXBURWI')
- B. x Heucherella 'Sunrise Falls'
- C. Hosta 'Sun Power'
- D. Begonia 'Gryphon'
- E. Catalina® Gilded Grape Torenia (Dancat266)
- F. Dianella tasmanica 'Variegata'
- G. Muchlenbeckia axillaris



Stephanie Hudak specializes in designing container gardens. Currently she is working with the city of Madison, Ga., designing, installing and maintaining drought-tolerant, but unique, plant combinations for the street-side containers.