

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

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# BIRDS & BLOOMS

BEAUTY IN BACKYARD



*Bluebirds*

*welcome spring!*



## You Don't Say!

"I was not sure what was going on when I first saw this behavior," writes Liezel D'souza of Falls Church, Virginia. "The male would tilt over slowly until he was flat against the hot decking while the female just looked on. Experts told me this is how bluebirds get parasites off themselves."

Send your caption for this photo to "You Don't Say!" at *Birds & Blooms*, 5925 Country Lane, Greendale WI 53129. Or submit it through the "You Don't Say!" section of our Web site, [www.birdsandblooms.com](http://www.birdsandblooms.com).

We'll publish the best suggestions in the next issue, along with another photo that deserves a clever caption. Below are our favorites for last issue's photo from Albert Dudley of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

"Sorry for the new wakeup call, folks, but the rooster has the flu. I'm his fill-in." —*Angus Mac Donald*  
Dracut, Massachusetts

"I'm nuts about notes!"  
—*Gena Vasilakis*  
Morgantown, West Virginia

"Hey, stop complaining! Who else do you know who will play for peanuts?"  
—*Linda Nagy*  
Fort Pierce, Florida

"Attention all squirrels. New feeder on back deck." —*Nancy Luther*  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

"Yes, I just started taking trumpet lessons. When I told my mother,

she thought I was a little nuts."  
—*Sarah Dell'Aringa*  
West Dundee, Illinois

"For an encore, I only take peanuts and sunflower seeds. I have no use for cash."  
—*NaDeane Smith*  
Midland, Michigan



## Find the Acorn Yet?

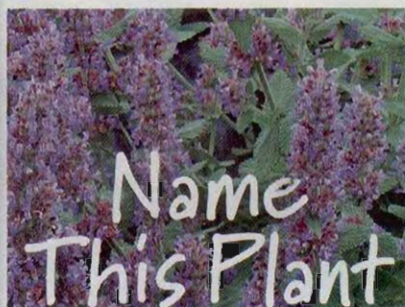


In every issue of *Birds & Blooms*, we hide an acorn (like the one pictured above).

If you find it, jot a note that says, "I found the acorn on page \_\_\_\_" and mail it to "Acorn Search," *Birds & Blooms*, 5925 Country Lane, Greendale WI 53129, or enter through the Contests area of our Web site at [www.birdsandblooms.com](http://www.birdsandblooms.com).

We'll randomly draw the names of 50 readers who correctly find the hidden acorn and send them a \$25 merchandise certificate to our *Country Store* catalog.

The 50 winners who spotted the acorn in the December/January issue (on page 46) receive a \$25 merchandise certificate to our *Country Store* catalog. Check our Web site under the Contests section for a list of the winners.



Did you help "Name This Plant" last year? Terra Nova Nurseries asked us to help name its new coreopsis cultivar, and our readers came up with the fitting name Ruby Frost. (To find out how to purchase Ruby Frost for your own garden, visit [www.terranovanurseries.com](http://www.terranovanurseries.com).)

This year, Terra Nova is asking for our help once again. It has a new catmint (above) with silver-green foliage and spikes of blue blooms.

Do you have a clever name for this beauty? Go to the Contests page of our Web site, [www.birdsandblooms.com](http://www.birdsandblooms.com). We will accept entries through Feb. 15, 2010, so hurry!

On or around March 1, we will invite you to vote for your favorite name at [www.birdsandblooms.com](http://www.birdsandblooms.com). (*Birds & Blooms* and Terra Nova staff will narrow down the top names.)

Voting ends around April 5, and Terra Nova will announce the new name in its summer catalog. In spring 2011, the newly named plant will be available for purchase. And here's the best part—if you come up with the name, not only do you get bragging rights, but you'll also get the plant FREE from Terra Nova! For complete details and to enter your suggestion, visit our Contests page.

