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May 2007: Gardening with the Department of Agriculture

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Did you know that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has gardening tips on the Internet? The USDA has a huge website filled with useful information and web links covering a wide range of gardening needs, including information for the large-scale farmer down to the apartment dweller. The following are a few of the resources available to you:

Plants Database
http://plants.usda.gov/index.html

Lawn and Garden Care
http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/highlights/homegarden/lawn.html

Wildflowers

Native Plant Finder
http://www.enature.com/native_invasive/

Invasive Plant Finder
http://www.enature.com/native_invasive/invasives.asp

Backyard Conservation (includes printable tip sheets)
http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/backyard/
The USDA also operates the U.S. National Arboretum which was established in 1927. This 446 acre living museum located in Northeast Washington, D.C. cultivates trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants for localities throughout the United States. The primary functions of the National Arboretum are research and education. Admission is free and the Arboretum grounds are open every day of the year except for Christmas Day. The Arboretum receives 500,000 to 600,000 yearly visitors.
U.S. National Arboretum home page:  

U.S. National Arboretum gardening links:  

Come visit us in the U.S. Government Documents Department located on the second floor of Dacus Library. Our summer hours are Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 5:00 pm and Friday 8:30 am – noon.

Have a safe and happy summer!

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Iris sanguinea  Lycoris squamigera (Magic Lily)  Anemone hupehensis 'King Henry'