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March 2011: Gardening with the Department of Agriculture

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Government Documents at Dacus Library

March, 2011



Gardening with the Department of Agriculture



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/wps/portal/nrcs/home>

Wildflowers

<http://www.enature.com/fieldguides/intermediate.asp?curGroupID=11>

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/wps/portal/nrcs/main/?ss=16&navtype=SUBNAVIGATION&navid=220120000000000&pnavid=220000000000000&recid=null&actid=null&groupid=null&ttype=main&pname=Features%20|%20NRCS>

Backyard Wildlife Habitat (certification)

<http://www.nwf.org/backyard/>

University of Illinois Extension Program – Horticulture Corner

<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/hort/index.html>

Gardening Resource Links

http://riley.nal.usda.gov/nal_display/index.php?info_center=8&tax_level=1&tax_subject=7&want_id=1291&topic_id=0&placement_default=0

Vegetable Gardening Resources

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/gardening.html>

Vegetable Gardening in Containers

http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/publications/guides/E-545_vegetable_gardening_containers.pdf

Common Pests and Diseases

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/index.shtml

Composting

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/homecompost/>



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.



Iris sanguinea



Lycoris squamigera (Magic Lily)



Anemone hupehensis 'King Henry'

U.S. National Arboretum home page:

<http://www.usna.usda.gov/index.html>

U.S. National Arboretum gardening links:

<http://www.usna.usda.gov/Gardens/index.html>

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