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10TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST MISSOURI FOOD FEST TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPT. 18TH IN KIRKSVILLE

The 10th Annual NEMO Food Fest will be held in conjunction with the Kirksville Farmers’ Market, Saturday, September 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the square in Kirksville. Food Fest is an event to showcase locally grown food, to inform the public on what foods are available from local producers, and to share the advantages of buying and eating locally grown foods. Walk through the Farmers’ Market and visit with local producers of meat, fruits and vegetables, baked goods and more. Learn what products are grown locally and how you can purchase them.

Local producers will be displaying and discussing their products as well as providing free samples. There will also be cooking demonstrations by local producers including Primmer’s Pork, Lost Branch Blueberry Farm, Hollenbeck Honey Farm, and Cole Farms. The first cooking demonstration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the second demonstration will start at 10:30 a.m. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the morning with the grand prize drawings at 11:45 a.m.

This year, in celebration of our 10th year, we will be hosting a youth talent show, highlighting local youth 18 years and younger from Northeast Missouri. For more information or an entry form for the talent show, please visit our website at http://extension.missouri.edu/adair/foodfest.aspx.

Come join us Saturday September 18th and bring a friend! This event is held in cooperation with the Kirksville Farmers’ Market and is sponsored by University of Missouri Extension. For more information please contact Darla Campbell at 660-457-3469 or Jennifer Schutter at 660-665-9866.

JIM WILSON, HONORARY MASTER GARDENER DIED AUGUST 1
Missouri’s first honorary Master Gardener, author and former co-host of “The Victory Garden” on PBS, Jim Wilson died Sunday, August 1, 2010.
THE WEEKLY WEEDER ON BUTTERFLY HILL FARM:
LISTENING TO THE VOICES OF THE “WEEDS”
Glinda Crawford, Kirksville Area Master Gardener

Barnyard grass: “means inadequate calcium and phosphorus levels, the 2 nutrients that roll back more weeds than all the poisons put together. Potassium registers high when this grass takes over. There are other high readings that can be expected in magnesium, manganese, sulfate, boron, chlorine, selenium, zinc and copper. This grass also likes low organic matter soils and inadequate humus levels, all a consequence of sedimentation and eventual crusting.” (page 195-96)

Dandelion: “the dandelion is a friendly weed. Its roots penetrate some 3 feet deep, transporting calcium and other minerals to the surface. Earthworms like the vicinity of the dandelion. Each time such a plant dies, remaining root channels become a conduit for worm travel and also a colloidal source of worm nutrition. The dandelion is a monoculture weed, an index of sedimentation, a biography of rain, root webby, organic material forever in place and unstirred. In every case calcium is colloidally weak or absent. The dandelion simply says organic matter residues are musty and are barricading the warehoused supplies of food.” (page 210)

Fleabane: “Very low calcium and phosphate levels provide the enabling situation, with high zinc and boron the likely trigger mechanism. Potassium and magnesium juxtapose against calcium and phosphate by being very high. These conditions are present in many weed situations, and therefore we have to conclude that we’re only guessing at the details, albeit not at the main premise.” (page 215)

Yellow Nutsedge: “soils seriously out of sorts with very low levels of calcium and phosphate and very high levels of potassium and magnesium. Iron, sulfate, boron, selenium, salt and aluminum levels are likely to be high. Soils are also likely to have a low humus and porosity, high moisture, anaerobic bacteria, and poor drainage and residual decay.” (page 241)


MISSOURI MASTER GARDENER COORDINATOR RESIGNS
Missouri’s Master Gardener Coordinator, Mary Kroening, resigned effective July 31, 2010. Mary has been a valued employee of the University for many years and has provided leadership for the Missouri Master Gardener Program that has impacted so many Missourians. Budgetary restrictions will require that the position be frozen for the foreseeable future.

TOUR OF LOCAL FRUIT FARMS TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 15
A tour of local fruit farms will take place Wednesday, September 15 starting at 9:30 am. There is no cost to attend the tour, but you must pre-register. A boxed lunch will be available for $2.50. The Missouri Vegetable Growers Association is picking up the other half of the cost of the lunch. When you register please indicate if you would like a lunch and if you want a meat sandwich or a vegetarian sandwich. Carpooling is strongly encouraged. More information and directions to each stop can be found on our website at http://extension.missouri.edu/adair/fruittour.aspx.

9:30—Lost Branch Blueberry Farm and Lost Branch Lodge
10:45—Leave Lost Branch Blueberry Farm for winery
11:00—Jacob’s Vineyard and Winery
11:45—Leave for Truman State Farm
12:00—Truman State Farm (Hy-Vee boxed lunch for those who registered)
1:45—Leave for West Orchard
2:30—Arrive at West Orchard
3:30—Leave on own from Orchard

The tour is sponsored by University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri Vegetable Growers Association. For more information contact Jennifer Schutter at the Adair County Extension Center at 660-665-9866 or schutterjl@missouri.edu.
MISSOURI APPLE HISTORY

Early records state that ‘Genetin’ apples were produced and shipped by rail car in Missouri to Cheyenne, Wyoming and then transported by wagon to gold miners in Central City, Colorado in 1869.

In 1897, 9 million barrels (30 million bushels) were grown in Missouri, which is the largest crop on record in the state. The main summer varieties grown were Yellow Transparent, Early Harvest, Red June, Benoni, Early Pennock, Duchess and Lowell. Fall apple varieties grown were Maiden Blush, Wealthy, Jeffries, Grimes Golden, Jonathan, and Rome Beauty. Late season varieties that were stored in cellars and eaten during winter and spring included Gano, Winesap, York, Black Twig, Ingram White Winter Pippin, Huntsman, and Ben Davis.

By 1900, Missouri was the center of activity for growing apples in the U.S. as production shifted from the eastern states to the midwest. Apples were transported in wooden barrels by rail cars and boats to such destinations as Sioux City, Minneapolis, Detroit, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Birmingham, Mobile, New Orleans, Galveston, as well as European ports.

In 1904, there were 25 million apple trees planted in Missouri that produced a crop worth $30 million (worth about 501 million in today’s dollars). Census figures of 1913 reported nearly 15,000 apple growers with most of them producing their crop on less than 10 acres of land.

In the 1920’s and 30’s many insects and diseases invaded Missouri orchards. Without effective control measures to combat these pests, apple production declined. The Great Armistice Day freeze (November 1940), in which there was an unseasonably warm fall followed by a rapid drop in temperature, killed many thousands of trees not only in Missouri, but also in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Illinois. After the freeze, apple production moved westward to states with less erratic climatic conditions and lower pest populations.

Source: http://plantsci.missouri.edu/apple/history.htm

MISSOURI APPLE FACTS

- Missouri orchards have many varieties, so visit or call, and ask about their varieties and when those apples will be ready.
- The warm days and cool nights of August and September, usually experienced in Missouri, equals apples of rich flavor and good color.
- Our Missouri climate and soil combine to give Missouri apples a superb flavor!
- In 1890, Missouri produced 25,000,000 bushels of apples and was the leading apple producing state. Dry years, early hard freezes, insects, and diseases caused a big loss of apple orchards. Financial losses also had a serious effect on the orchard industry.
- The big three in Missouri apples are Jonathan, Red Delicious, and Golden Delicious.
- In Missouri Jonathan harvest starts about the first of September. Red Delicious usually follows shortly after and Golden Delicious are picked toward the end of September.
- Missouri has about 3,000 acres of bearing apple trees that produce an annual crop of 1 million bushels.
- The Missouri State Horticulture Society, established in 1859, is the oldest agricultural organization west of the Mississippi river. Each year this organization of commercial fruit growers has an educational and business meeting the third week in January.
- The Missouri Apple Merchandising Board with regional representatives promotes the sale of apples, distributes promotional materials, and sponsors apple research.
- Jonathan is the leading Missouri variety apple. No wonder! Did you know that the Jonathan apple has been grown for over 150 years in Missouri? It cooks, bakes, and fits easily in lunch sacks for everyday eating.
- Golden Delicious is mild flavored, yet spicy and juicy. As a naturally sweet apple, it’s a great apple for pies, apple sauce, and fresh salads.
- Gala is an early variety that is ready in mid August and is a juicy crisp and sweet apple. If you have not eaten this variety, we suggest you try some.
- Fuji is our best keeping apple. It will retain its crisp juicy texture for several months in cold storage. Fuji is very sweet and ready around mid-October.

Source: http://plantsci.missouri.edu/apple/facts.htm
**GARDENING TIPS FOR SEPTEMBER**

**ORNAMENTALS**
- Plant evergreens now.
- Take cuttings of annuals to have vigorous plants for over-wintering.
- Plant spring bulbs except for tulips as soon as they are available. Keep tulips in a cool, dark place and plant in late October.
- Divide perennials, especially spring bloomers. Enrich the soil with peat moss or compost before replanting.
- Divide peonies now. Replant in a sunny site; avoid planting deeply.
- Lift gladiolus when their leaves yellow. Cure in an airy place until dry before husking.
- Begin forcing poinsettias to bloom at the end of the month. Place plants in a cool, dark room or closet from 5 p.m. until 8 a.m. for about 8 weeks or until top leaves turn red.

**VEGETABLES**
- Sowing seeds of radish, lettuce, spinach, and other greens in a cold frame will prolong fall harvests.
- Pinch out the top of brussel sprout plants to plump out the developing sprouts.
- Keep broccoli picked regularly to encourage additional production of side shoots.

**FRUIT**
- Pick pears before they are fully mature. Store in a cool, dark basement to ripen. Discard any spoiled or fallen fruits.
- Paw paws ripen in the woods now.
- Check along peach tree trunks to just below the soil line for gummy masses caused by borers. Probe holes with thin wire to puncture borers.

**TURFGRASS**
- Begin fall seeding or sodding of cool season grasses. Seedbeds should be raked, dethatched, core-aerified, fertilized, and seeded. Keep newly planted lawn areas moist, but do not wet.
- If soils become dry, established lawns should be watered thoroughly to a depth of 4-6 inches.
- Cool season lawns are best fertilized in fall. Make up to 3 applications between now and December. Do not exceed rates recommended by fertilizer manufacturer.
- It is not uncommon to see puff balls in lawn areas at this time.
- Newly seeded lawns should not be cut until they are at least 2-3 inches tall.

**MISCELLANEOUS**
- Fall is a good time to add manure, compost, or leaf mold to garden soils for increasing organic matter content.
- Monitor plants for spider mite activity. Reduce their numbers by hosing off with a forceful spray of water.
- Seasonal loss of inner needles on conifers is normal at this time. It may be especially noticeable on pines.

-Missouri Botanical Garden-

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**September 7:** Salt River MG mtg, 7 pm, Palmyra Sesquicentennial Building. Program—John Graham (Callaway Fields, Auxvasse) will present the evening’s program, Making a fall container garden for your front porch that will WOW your neighbors

**September 9:** Tomato Festival, 4-7:30 pm, Bradford Research Farm, Columbia. [http://aes.missouri.edu/bradford/events/tomato-festival.php](http://aes.missouri.edu/bradford/events/tomato-festival.php)

**September 13:** Fabius MG club mtg, 7:00 pm, Presbyterian Church, Memphis.

**September:** Heartland MG mtg

**September:** Sullivan County MG mtg.

**September 14:** Magic City MG mtg & tour of member’s garden.

**September 15:** Tour of local fruit farms. Pre-registration required. No cost to attend. Lunch cost is $2.50.

**September 18:** NEMO Food Fest; 9-12:00, Kirksville Square. There will be a talent show for kids 8-18; prizes awarded. Call Schuyler Co. Extension, 660-457-3469 for details

**September 21:** Kirksville Area MG mtg,

**September 27:** Macon-Shelby MG mtg, presentation-recipes promoting good health with your garden produce, 7 pm, Macon Extension Ctr

**October:** Adair County Lady Landowner workshop. Watch for details in the Oct. newsletter.

**October 9:** Sandhill Farm Sorghum Festival, 1-4 pm, Rutledge. Garden & greenhouse tours, hay wagon ride to sorghum fields, sorghum pressing and cooking, and sorghum treats! West of Rutledge off Hwy M-look for the Sorghum sign by a gravel road.