Region 1 Texas Nursery & Landscape

Newsletter January 2014

A new year is upon us and I hope you can find time to attend our Business Management Workshop in San Marcos. Here is the link to register for the BMW which runs January 9-10. http://www.tnlaonline.org/uploaded_files/2014_BMW_Reg_Form.pdf

We will not be hosting a meeting in January so stay tuned for details about the February meeting in the next newsletter. According to the Farmer's Almanac 2014 is to be a drier than normal year so please be prepared for our new norm. Region 1 has been supporting the activities of the Green Industry Alliance and their local advocacy efforts in the San Antonio area for water use and governance so look for ways that you can help support our mutual benefit at one of our upcoming meetings as we will regularly provide GIA updates. Here is to a prosperous New Year…

Clayton

New peach varieties available in January for home gardens across Texas

December 30, 2013

- Writer: Kathleen Phillips, 979-845-2872, ka-phillips@tamu.edu
- Contact: Dr. David Byrne, 979-845-9500, dbyrne@tamu.edu

COLLEGE STATION — If ever there was a peachy idea for a New Year's resolution, this is it: plant one of the new varieties of peach or nectarine trees developed specifically for Texas.

In January, 14 new varieties will be available at more than 30 garden centers in Midland, Odessa, Lubbock and the Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and Austin-San Antonio areas, according to Dr. David Byrne, Texas A&M AgriLife Research peach breeder in College Station.

"The new trees include a cornucopia of cultivars, from very low chill to medium chill types, peaches and nectarines," Byrne said, "and flat or donut peaches as well as white and yellow flesh and acid and sub-acid flavors."

Chill requirements can be a factor for whether a tree is able to grow and produce fruit in much of Texas where the winters are mild.

Flat Delight One is a white flesh, donut-shaped peach that yields in mid-May. It is one of several new varieties available in Texas beginning January 2014. (Photo courtesy of Texas A&M AgriLife Research).

Peach trees have to go through a dormancy brought on by chilling hours in order to produce fruit, Monte Nesbitt, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service horticulturist in College Station, explained at the recent Texas Fruit Conference in Bryan. Trees that have not had enough chilling hours starting in October or November will make less fruit or fruit that is of poor quality.

This need is measured as chilling hours generally as hours of temperature less than 45 degrees, Byrne noted.

"Variety selection is important, so if possible, plant trees that have a diversity of chilling hours to include the years above and below the average chilling hours for your area," Nesbitt said.

A chart showing the typical chilling hours accumulated across Texas can be found at http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/fruit-nut/files/2010/10/peaches.pdf.

Byrne's stone fruit breeding program has successfully developed peach and nectarine varieties to fit a range of climate zones across Texas, from needing as few as 150 hours of chilling – adapted as far south as the Rio Grande Valley – to as many as 600 hours for more northern areas.

Additionally, the new varieties offer a range of taste and harvest periods to fit specific desires, he said.

"A low acid peach is the typical peach preferred in Asia. As the acidity is lower, it tastes sweeter than a normal acid peach," Byrne noted.

These are the peaches and nectarines, and their descriptions, that will be available for home gardens in January:

Peaches

- Flat Delight One – a white flesh, low acid, donut-shaped peach. Yields in mid-May. Needs 550 chill hours.
- Flat Delight Two – a yellow flesh, very sweet and low acid, donut-shaped peach. Yields in late-May. Needs 550 chill hours.
- White Delight Two – low acid, white flesh, semi-freestone peach. Yields in mid-June. Needs 500 chill hours.
- Royal Zest Three – yellow flesh, semi-freestone, tangy-sweet peach. Yields in mid-June. Needs 550 chill hours.
- White Zest One – semi-freestone, tangy-sweet peach. Yields in mid June. Needs 550 chill hours.
- TexPrince – a tangy-sweet, yellow flesh, freestone peach. Yields in late May. Needs 550 chill hours.
- TexKing – a yellow flesh, clingstone, tangy-sweet peach. Yields in mid to late May. Needs 450 chill hours.

- Tropic Zest Four – yellow flesh, tangy-sweet peach. Yields in early June. Needs 150 chill hours.
- TexFirst – yellow flesh peach. Yields late April to early May. Needs 150 chill hours.

Nectarines

- Smooth Texan Two – a tangy-sweet nectarine. Yields late May. Needs 550 chill hours.
- Smooth Texan Three – a low acid nectarine. Yields in early June. Needs 600 chill hours.
- Smooth Delight Two – a low acid, yellow flesh nectarine. Yields in mid May. Needs 400 chill hours.
- Smooth Zest One – a tangy-sweet, white-flesh nectarine. Yields in early to mid May. Needs 250 chill hours.
- Smooth Zest Two – an acidic, yellow flesh nectarine. Yields early to mid May. Needs 250 chill hours.

The trees are being grown by Tree Town USA, a Texas-based wholesale grower that grows over 1 million fruit, flowering and shade trees annually. The trees will be fully established in 5-gallon containers. To find a business that will be selling these new varieties, please check http://www.treetownusa.com/.

-30-

Article by Kathleen Phillips

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View all articles by Kathleen Phillips →

Category: Lawn & Garden

Topics: Gardening and Landscaping

Agency: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M AgriLife Research

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Help support the Palo Alto College Horticulture Club by registering your team of four for a day of golf, or by becoming an honored sponsor. Please fill out the form on the right and submit by Friday, January 17, 2014.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

11:00 AM ..... Registration
1:30 PM ..... Shotgun Start
6:30 PM ..... Dinner and Awards Program

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Four-person scramble. All golfers receive take-home bags, and dinner. Individual and team prizes will be awarded.

AWARDS

First Place, Second Place, Third Place, Longest Drive, Straight Drive, Closest to Pin, Hole in One, and Last Place

LOCATION

The Quarry Golf Course | 444 E. Basse Road | San Antonio, TX 78209

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MAIL IN FORM

Deadline: January 17, 2014

Registration Information:

Name _____
Company _____
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City _____ State ___ Zip _____
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Player Info:

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Questions?

Please call Clayton Leonard

At (210) 661-5180

Questions about something you saw here? Want to find out more about what's going on in our region? Visit the TNLA Homepage.

EVENTS:

Check out some of the following links for some exciting events going on in our community!

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Bexar County Master Gardener's Events
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CODE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

The New Year's Eve song "Auld Lang Syne" originated from what country?

19 3 15 20 12 1 14 4

Why do the Chinese celebrate the New Year with firecrackers?

20 15 23 1 18 4

15 6 6 5 22 9 12

19 16 9 18 9 20 19

To ring in the New Year in Spain, it is traditional to do what on each chime of the clock?

5 1 20 1

7 18 1 16 5

In the United States, where do they lower a huge crystal ball on New Year's Eve?

20 9 13 5 19

19 17 21 1 18 5

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

NEW YEAR'S EVE

K	F	I	B	B	I	E	W	R	M	F	D	J	E	A	T	L	X	H	B
E	C	N	A	S	R	N	I	S	E	I	P	H	T	Q	O	E	V	G	A
M	Z	O	L	I	K	T	D	G	Y	S	E	O	A	U	H	Y	L	N	B
I	R	F	L	R	Z	D	T	O	E	N	O	I	L	H	Y	G	W	L	Y
T	Y	B	D	C	Z	L	V	D	Y	W	R	L	P	N	X	O	Z	E	N
R	X	K	R	R	U	D	T	S	W	X	X	K	U	J	D	F	X	T	E
E	B	L	O	W	I	N	G	H	O	R	N	S	G	T	M	V	T	Q	W
H	Y	M	P	V	I	N	Y	T	R	A	P	M	N	B	I	I	R	Y	Y
T	N	O	I	T	A	R	B	E	L	E	C	U	I	E	O	O	L	N	E
A	D	Q	O	L	P	D	I	N	D	M	O	S	Y	D	F	P	N	J	A
F	I	A	D	V	V	A	V	H	N	C	T	M	A	B	N	J	A	S	R
F	S	L	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S	J	T	I	R	I	Z	H	B
T	U	E	O	R	U	N	G	P	F	C	F	U	S	V	Z	Q	G	O	M
A	F	O	Y	B	S	S	V	N	B	Q	T	H	T	A	N	N	S	H	L
M	B	Y	G	S	M	M	Q	T	D	P	C	D	Y	I	Y	X	X	Y	T

Auld Lang Syne
Baby New Year
ball drop
blowing horns
celebration
clock
countdown
Father Time
fireworks
midnight
party
resolutions
staying up late
toast

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