



Helping
Carolinians
Increase Their
Knowledge of
Gardening,
Manage Their
Landscape
Investment &
Protect the
Environment

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

JC Raulston Arboretum Plant Focus

Corinthian Peaches Perfect for Small Landscapes

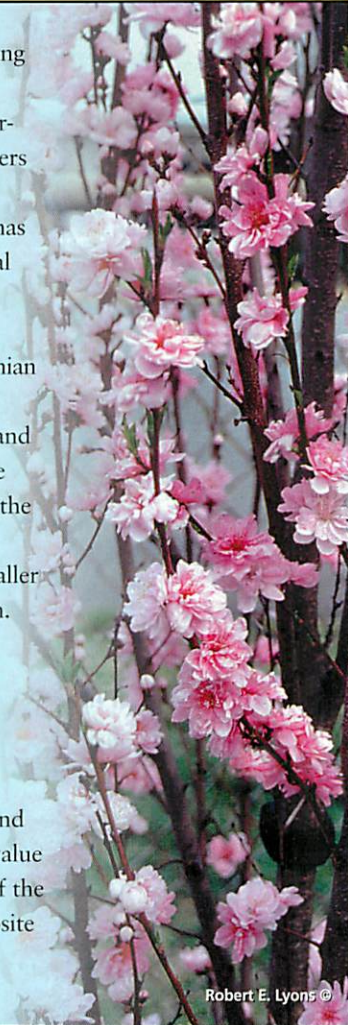
The idea of having a peach tree can be tempting. Not only are they stunning in full bloom, they also bear tasty treats. Unfortunately, getting these beauties to produce tasty peaches that are insect- and disease-free is labor-intensive. My recommendation? Leave the peach growing to the peach growers and plant one of the new ornamental Corinthian peach trees!

Dr. Dennis Werner, NC State University horticultural science professor, has taken the hard work out of growing a peach tree. His hybridized ornamental trees ensure a gorgeous flowering display without the need to mess with weekly pesticide applications.

Corinthian peaches (*Prunus persica*) are available in four cultivars: 'Corinthian White', 'Corinthian Pink', 'Corinthian Rose' and 'Corinthian Mauve'. All demonstrate columnar growth habit and double flowers. 'Corinthian Pink' and 'Corinthian Rose' have purple-leaf foliage similar to purple-leaf plum. These trees can grow up to 20 feet tall and 5 feet wide. Like ornamental cherries, the Corinthian trees require good soil drainage, and a borer spray on the lower trunk in late August is recommended. The fast-growing tree is ideal for a smaller landscape. For the best double-flower production, plant your tree in full sun.

This JC Raulston Arboretum Selections™ plant is patented and is being propagated by a number of nurseries. Trees are available currently through these popular mail-order nurseries: Stark Brothers Nursery, Henry Fields Nursery and Spring Hill Nursery.

It is a bit unusual to find one of the JC Raulston Arboretum Selections™ available on a limited basis. However, the JC Raulston Arboretum (JCRA) and the N.C. Association of Nurserymen believe so strongly in the ornamental value of this new line of introductions that they decided to include them as one of the selection plants. Learn more about these and other plants at the JCRA's website at www.arb.ncsu.edu and visit frequently for updates! **Ben Dungan**



Robert E. Lyons ©

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TOP AWARDS RECEIVED FROM:

- International Association of Business Communicators
- National Association of County Agricultural Agents
- Southern Extension Forest Resource Specialists
- N.C. Association of County Agricultural Agents
- Mecklenburg County Priority Awards
- Printing Industry of the Carolinas



'Corinthian Pink'
Dennis J. Werner ©



'Corinthian Mauve'
Dennis J. Werner ©



'Corinthian White'
Dennis J. Werner ©



Plan a Beautiful Landscape

The key to a beautiful landscape is planning. Many landscapes today are the result of no planning or spur-of-the-moment planting. Before visiting the nursery, consider the following tips for creating your landscape.

- Develop a plot plan that includes boundary lines, all utility lines and meters, air conditioning/heating units, water spigots, septic tanks, drainage pipes and any easements. This includes placing the house on the plot plan showing all doors, windows, patios, decks, driveways, walks and any existing trees and shrubs.
- Conduct a site analysis of the lot showing north, south, east and west exposures. Include winter and summer sun path and winds. Note any pleasant views and any objectionable views. A site analysis also requires assessing the soil and noting drainage areas.
- Assess your family needs as to whether you want outdoor entertaining areas, children's play areas, recreation areas and gardening areas. Include any needs for walks, driveway, parking, deck or patio. Assess storage areas you may need for gardening equipment, garbage cans, clothesline, firewood, dog pens and dog houses. Develop use areas and family needs into public, private, service or utility areas.
- The public area of your landscape is the area most often seen by guests and passersby. This includes your front entrance, guest parking, front walk and the foundation plantings. Create a focal

point in the public area and do not overplant this area. The private area is where the family gathers and includes outdoor living areas such as decks, patios and porches. It also includes recreation areas and children's play areas. Consider hedges, screens or fences to provide privacy. You may want to provide screening for service/utility areas but remember to keep these areas accessible. If your service area includes vegetable or herb gardens make sure you have adequate drainage and sunlight.

- After planning your landscape you are ready to design, construct and plant. Remember to think about conservation and the environment when completing your plan. Consider the amount of time you have to spend on maintenance. Study plant material before choosing your design and think about using some native plants. The most important factors to consider in plant selection are mature height, spread and light preference. You also need to consider time of flower, color of flower, fall leaf color, bark color and other features. Plant to give your landscape color in all four seasons.
- For more information on planning your landscape, and to learn more about plants that grow well in North Carolina, attend one of *Extension's Successful Gardener*™ Regional Seminars offered throughout the state (see page 3 for listing) or contact the Cooperative Extension Center in your county.

Emily Revels

gardentalk

“Won't you come into my garden? I would like my roses to see you.”

— Richard Sheridan

You Can't Lose with These Rose Winners

The 2001 All-America Rose Selections (AARS) are truly exceptional, selected after being evaluated for two years for such traits as disease resistance, hardiness, color and novelty.

AARS Winners for 2001 are 'Glowing Peace', 'Sun Sprinkles' and 'Marmalade Skies'.

'Glowing Peace' is named after its grandparent, 'Peace', the world's most renowned rose. 'Glowing Peace' is beautiful and novel with large, round buds that open to full, 3-inch blooms. Each bloom is composed of 26 to 42 golden petals with blended hues of yellow and cantaloupe. 'Glowing Peace', a round, bushy grandiflora, grows to 4 feet by 3 feet and is resistant to disease.

'Sun Sprinkles' is only the fifth miniature ever to win AARS honors. A prolific bloomer and an excellent example of disease resistance, 'Sun Sprinkles' produces bright yellow blooms set against petite foliage. Buds open in a spiral fashion to reveal 2-inch, double blooms each with 25 to 30 petals and a spicy fragrance. Upright and



'Glowing Peace'



'Sun Sprinkles'



'Marmalade Skies'

rounded, 'Sun Sprinkles' will grow to 18 to 24 inches. Miniatures such as this are among the most versatile of rose classes, ideal for lining walkways, growing in containers or accenting formal rose beds.

Now, gardeners across the country can experience the fantasy of 'Marmalade Skies', just like the Beatles in the '60s. Tangerine orange blooms engulf 'Marmalade Skies' from beginning to end of the blooming season with a backdrop of olive green foliage. This floribunda produces clusters of 5 to 8 blooms on each stem. Buds open to reveal 2 1/2- to 3-inch double blooms with 17 to 25 petals. The plant grows to 3 feet by 3 feet, making it the perfect rose for a hedge or the high point in an existing rose bed. **Carl Matyac**

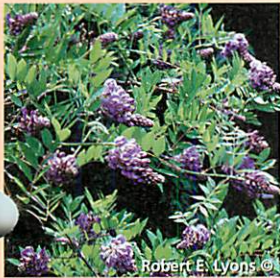
Do pruning paints work?

Pruning paints seem to make people feel better

but they don't do anything for the plant. The new pruning paints reduce healing rates by 7%. Plants will heal faster with no treatment. Homemade concoctions of roofing tar may slow the healing rate down by 50%. There is currently no pruning sealant on the market that will speed up the healing rate. In addition, the pruning paints will not prevent insect or disease

attacks on the pruned part. Thankfully, that doesn't matter. The tree will naturally separate the living part and any decay caused by the pruning. Any insects and diseases attracted to the decayed part will not move across into the living part of the tree. The black-colored paints will tone down the color of freshly pruned wood. That may give you an aesthetic reason to use a pruning paint but there is no horticultural reason.

David Goforth



'Amethyst Falls' wisteria

JC Raulston Arboretum Selections™ Guarantee Quality

The JC Raulston Arboretum Selections™ program is a joint effort of the JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University and the N.C. Association of Nurserymen. These special selection plants are proven winners for Carolina gardeners and they are sold with tags that explain the plants' desirable features, cultural needs, size at maturity and USDA zone rating. Look for JC Raulston Arboretum Selections™ at your local garden center or nursery.

ENVIRO- TIP

For Safety and Success, Read the Label!

For many of us, it has become second nature to read the nutrition label before tossing anything into the grocery cart, but do you exercise the same care with garden chemicals? Fact is, pesticide labels are packed with great information that will not only keep you safe, but will also help you get better results in the yard and garden.

The first thing I like to check is the signal word, which will be Caution, Warning or Danger, listed here in order of increasing toxicity. If you have a choice, select a product with a Caution label. And since garden chemicals aren't cheap, I like to be sure I'm getting the right product for the job. I read the label carefully to make sure that the insect, weed or disease problem I have will actually be controlled by the product. But that's only half the story, because I also want to be sure

that it's safe to use on the plants where I want to spray it. That lawn herbicide may work great on dandelions, but spray it on your flower or vegetable garden and you'll regret it!

After I've brought the product home and am ready to apply, it's time for another close look at the label. The important questions are how to apply it and what kind of safety precautions to take. Follow the instructions carefully for the benefit of you, your family, your pets and your plants. There's even more important information to be found on a pesticide label. Become a label reader, and you'll be a safer, smarter and more successful gardener!

Paul McKenzie



Announcing Extension's



Learn about annuals, perennials, lawns, trees and more from Extension horticulture experts and guest lecturers!

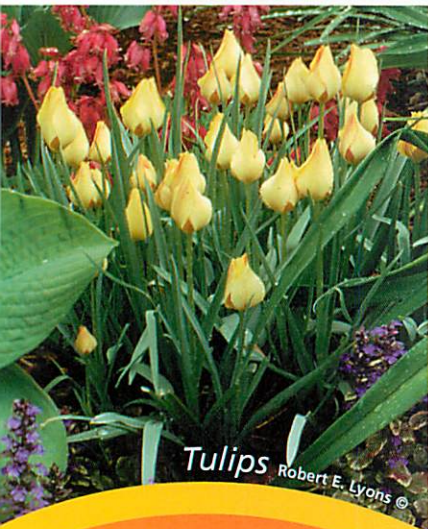
- ▶ **Friday, March 2**
 - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 - Southern Spring Show
 - Charlotte Merchandise Mart, Charlotte
 - Details: (704) 336-2561
- ▶ **Saturday, March 10**
 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - Southern Ideal Home Show
 - Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro
 - Details: (336) 375-5876
- ▶ **Saturday, March 17**
 - 8:30 a.m. to Noon
 - 11th Annual Spring Symposium
 - Wilson County Agricultural Center, Wilson
 - Details: (252) 237-0113
- ▶ **Thursday, March 29**
 - 9 a.m. to Noon
 - N.C. Arboretum, Asheville
 - Details: (828) 697-4891 or (828) 255-5522
- ▶ **Saturday, March 31 & Sunday, April 1**
 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Noon to 5 p.m., respectively
 - Currituck Flower & Garden Show
 - Currituck County High School, Barco
 - Details: (252) 232-2262
- ▶ **Saturday, April 1**
 - 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., various times
 - Southern Ideal Home Show
 - State Fairgrounds, Raleigh
 - Details: (919) 560-0525

In addition to regional seminars, several counties offer Successful Gardener™ workshops. Check with your county Cooperative Extension Center for details.

CAUTION: Fertilizers and eye irritant. Precautions should be used. For use on lawns and when in contact with skin. Inhalation nuisance dust. Keep out of reach of children.

FIRST AID SUGGESTIONS:
If in contact with eyes, flush immediately with water for 15 minutes and repeat as necessary.

HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:
Superphosphates, Sodium Chloride, etc.



Gardening in March

Ornamentals

- Plant containerized roses between March and May.
- Now is the beginning of the next best time to plant ornamental shrubs and trees, with the best time being during the fall.
- Spring-flowering shrubs such as quince, spirea, forsythia, azalea and Indian hawthorn flower on old growth, so prune them after they bloom.
- Prune roses before bud break.
- Now is the time for heavy pruning and rejuvenation pruning of summer-blooming shrubs.
- Check for tea scale on camellias, scale on euonymus and spider mites on juniper. To control sooty mold, scale, mealybugs and spider mites, use insecticidal soap or horticultural oil. Always check label recommendations.
 - Spray roses for black spot every seven to 10 days.
 - Divide and transplant perennials such as chrysanthemums, primroses, irises, violets, shasta daisies and daylilies.

Edibles

- If you have not already fertilized pecans, do so now.
 - Plant spring vegetable transplants such as cabbage, broccoli and onions. Plant seeds for lettuce, carrots, beets, spinach, radishes and peas.

Lawns

- If preemergent herbicides were not applied in late February, apply before the dogwood bloom.
 - Irrigate during warm, dry and windy weather with low relative humidity levels to prevent turf grasses from dehydrating. Do not irrigate every day since overwatering can lead to many different problems.
- Mow lawn at appropriate height as grass begins to green up.

David Barkley

Tanglewood Park

Arboretum is a work in progress and well worth a visit. Extension's Master GardenersSM in Forsyth County acquired this garden in April last year after some years of neglect. There are 25 themed gardens planned, many of which are under way. Cooperative Extension in Forsyth County plans to use this facility as a major educational outreach center. The outreach effort will focus on a mentoring program for school-aged children and Master Gardeners, a recreational venue for senior citizens and an educational facility for homeowners and plant professionals. Four new gardens are being developed this year and will include herb, friendship, fragrance and shade gardens. The gardens, open to the public every day from 8 a.m. until dark, are free with park entrance fee of \$2. The arboretum is located in Tanglewood Park, off Highway 158 in Clemmons. Call (336) 778-6303 for more information.

Karen Neill



Tune in to "Making It Grow!" – a gardening show featuring Extension agents from the Carolinas. Saturdays, noon, WTVI 42, Charlotte

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All Agents of N.C. Cooperative Extension

Ask for Extension's *Successful Gardener*SM newsletter at one of your local garden centers each month!

For a list of garden centers where you can find *Successful Gardener*SM, please call (704)336-2561 or visit Cooperative Extension on the web at <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu>

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