



Native Plant News

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Native Plant News

June-July 2011
ISSN: 2151-2159

12th Annual NCNPS Picnic at Hagan Stone Park

Saturday, June 11, 2011
10:00 ~ 3:00

Hagan Stone Park, Greensboro, NC

We will be in the same park, but at a different shelter this year, so watch for signs to guide you to the correct area. The shelter is larger, has power, and is closer to restrooms.

2011 PICNIC FEATURES

- I. 10:00 A special feature of the picnic this year will be a Propagation Workshop, conducted by Mark Rose and Lynda Waldrep. Start saving 2-liter soft drink bottles (clear plastic) and bring them with you. Bring 2-3, and any extras you might have to share with **those who don't have any. NCNPS will provide soil and cuttings—and you will take home at least three containers to grow out your cuttings and/or divisions.** Mark and Lynda plan to bring *Cephalanthus occidentalis* (buttonbush) cuttings, perhaps some aster, and one other.
- II. 12:00 Great Food. As has been our habit for the past several years, Tom will stop at **Smithfield's on his way to the picnic for chicken and bbq.** YOU will bring your favorite side dish(es) with enough to share. Salads, vegetables, fruits, desserts—whatever is your favorite. NCNPS will also provide beverages (bring your favorite if you think we might not have what you want), ice, and paper products. The variety, quantity and quality of the food is always enough to make us want to linger over lunch, but we are lured from the table **by.....**
- III. 1:00 **PLANTS!** This is the auction that fills our coffers with scholarship money and our

gardening appetites with exquisite variety. Pot up a few plants that you would like to **donate (don't use fancy pots) and bring** them for the auction, clearly labeled with botanical and/or common name and a short description for the auctioneer. To reduce the time that the auction requires, smaller items or duplicates may be placed on a sale table, with larger or more unusual plants held for auction.

JOIN US FOR THIS EASY-GOING, LAID BACK, SUMMER PICNIC WITH A PURPOSE

Bring:

Clear plastic 2-liter soft drink bottles, labels removed
Gardening gloves
Small clean, sharp garden clippers and/or sharp knife
Food contributions for the lunch table
Comfortable chair (unless a picnic bench is ok)
Sunscreen and hat
Cash or checkbook!

Directions to Hagan Stone Park:

For specific directions, Google **5920 Hagan Stone Park Rd, Pleasant Garden, NC 27313**

From northeast of Greensboro, follow I-40 toward Greensboro. Just outside Greensboro, I-40 and I-85 will split. Stay to the left and follow I-85 south for 12 – 13 miles. Take exit 126A to merge onto US-421 S. Follow 421 S toward Sanford for a little more than 3 miles. Turn right at Hagan-Stone Park Rd/NC-3411. Drive for a little more than 2 miles, and turn right into the park. Look for signs to our shelter.

NCNPS Calendar

Saturday, June 11th
June Picnic at Hagan Stone Park

Sept. 31, Oct. 1, 2nd
Fall Trip
Shaken Creek Preserve





President’s Message

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Rita Mercer

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Wow! What a wonderful spring walk! Every time we go on these Society walks, I come away more knowledgeable and pumped up. I think most of you know that my botanical learning curve is a spike so I really love seeing a new NC native in the wild. I wish I could absorb, no, retain just half of what James Padgett, Ed Schwartzman and Larry Mellichamp pass out.

If we could get more folks out to see these wonderful plants I think we could get more folks happy to use them in their landscape.

But this brings me to a sad subject. I have been told that Lowe’s is selling “wildflowers” for very low prices. Lowe’s did this several years ago and in response to public outcry, they stopped but apparently they are selling them again. Now while I can’t prove where these plants came from, it’s a good bet that some unscrupulous person has dug them from the wild. They are not a good buy because a majority of them will not survive so I encourage you to ask the store managers where the plant material came from and tell them how our natives are being poached out of areas that should not be touched. On our website, we have listed nurseries that sell our natives and they do not accept plants that have been poached.

Speaking of our website, did you know that the list of folks who will talk about native plants is impressive. I’m sure that there are all kinds of clubs that are looking for meeting activities and what better way to spread the word? Please check out <http://www.ncwildflower.org/speakersbureau/presentations.htm> and refer it to your friends.

I’m happy to report that we gave three Shinn Grant awards this year and four scholarships to the Cullowhee Native Plant Conference. That’s good use of the funds you have entrusted us with. Who knows what these students will be inspired to seek out or the discoveries they might make. I’m really amazed how they take others work, add to it and open up our knowledge just a bit more.

Keep in mind that our annual picnic is coming in June and the fall walk is shaping to be another good one!

See you in the woods.
Tom



Marshallia obovata

Kathy Schlosser



2011 Shinn Grant Awards

Robert Thornhill

The Vascular Flora and Soils of Shaken Creek Savannas (Pender County, NC)
Requested \$1,000

Advisor: Dr. Alexander Krings, Alexander_Krings@ncsu.edu

Aline M. Waguespack Claytor

Plant defense research using *Passiflora incarnata*
Requested \$700

Advisor: Dr. William F. Morris, wfmorris@duke.edu

Lindsay D. Leverett

Seed ecology of the native species *Packera tomentosa* (Asteraceae)
Requested \$ 697.39

Advisor: Dr. Claudia L. Jolls, jollsc@ecu.edu

2010 Grant Application Review Committee

David McAdoo, Chairman – ncorchid@Yahoo.com
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Col. Tom Harville - tomhar@bellsouth.net
Dr. Paul Hoiser - hosier@uncw.edu
Dr. Larry Mellichamp - timellic@uncc.edu
Dr. Zack Murrell – murrellze@appstate.edu
Mark Rose - trilliumboy@yahoo.com
Dr. Jon Stucky - jmstucky@ncsu.edu
Dr. Alan Weakley - weakley@unc.edu



Jorge Viguera



Kathy Schlosser



Stefan Bloodworth

SALE !!!

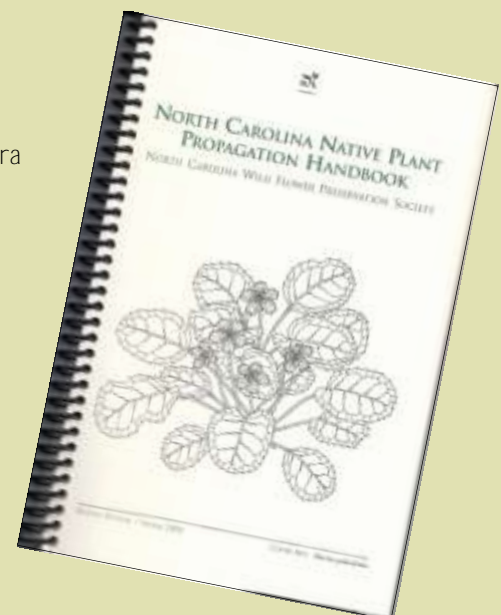
Our famed 115 page *North Carolina Native Plant Propagation Handbooks* are on sale for \$5.00 each, plus shipping.

This is the second edition, published in 2001. At the time, Ken Bridle, who acted as editor, had this to say about the book:

“We dedicate this edition to the NCWFPS members who compiled their records of both success and failure and were able to produce a valuable and useful manual about the propagation of North Carolina native plants. The contributors to both the original and the new edition have shared a wide range of information and expertise unavailable from any other source.”

Order your copy, and a few extra to keep on hand as gifts, from:

Marlene Kinney
4900 Richland Dr.
Raleigh NC 27612-3522
919-787-5384
mkinney3@nc.rr.com





News around NCNPS...

The *Charlotte News & Observer* recently (April 18th) ran an article on Larry Mellichamp and Paula Gross, featuring his work on carnivorous plants and their recently published book, *Bizarre Botanicals*.

"Carnivorous plants are more exciting to me than petunias, wildflowers or roses," said Mellichamp, ... "There is just more to talk about."

Larry has spent 35 years as a professor of botany and director of the botanical garden and McMillan greenhouse at UNCC. Paula is assistant director of the botanical garden.

We know Larry as a generous contributor of **plants to our auctions, our "auctioneer extraordinaire," and a superb hike leader.**

You can read the full article at:

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/04/18/1136630/flora-dines-on-unwary-fauna.html#ixzz1MKffD7xE>

Members of the Triangle and Triad chapters visit Bill and Jennifer Cure at their nursery for a pot luck supper and good conversation.

www.curenursery.com

Photo courtesy of Trena McNabb

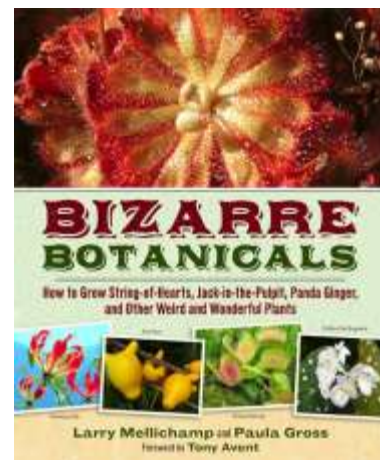
Bizarre Botanicals

Timber Press, 2011.

Gardeners love tulips, lilies, and pansies — the common, but beautiful, plants found in the average garden. But there are realms in the plant world far beyond these familiar favorites. In *Bizarre Botanicals*, plant experts Larry Mellichamp and Paula Gross take readers on a curious botanical journey of weirdly wonderful plants that can be grown at home.

Bizarre Botanicals features over 75 astonishing plants that have extraordinary abilities — from pyrotechnic spores that can burst into flame when ignited to flowers that lure insects to their deaths. Each plant profile includes essential care and cultivation information. A difficulty scale alerts gardeners to how easy (or difficult) it is to grow the plant at home.

There's no reason to forsake lilies and petunias. But after reading *Bizarre Botanicals*, gardeners will want to take a walk on the weird side and try a few of these peculiar plants for themselves.





Southeast Coast Chapter

Orchid Walk at Green Swamp with David McAdoo

Saturday, May 21, 2011

The SE Coast Chapter and the Triangle Orchid Society will host a walk with orchid expert, David McAdoo. We will visit Green Swamp and nearby areas. Details to be announced.

Propagation Workshop with Alistair Glen

Sunday, June 05, 2011, 2 - 4 PM

Alistair Glen, from Growing Wild Nursery in Pender Co, will teach techniques for the propagation of SE Coast native plants. Location: Halyburton Park Visitors Center, 4099 S. 17th Street in Wilmington. Pre-registration required. Limited to 20 participants. Fee is \$20.

B.W. Wells Savannah Walk

Sunday, June 12, 2011

Dr. John Taggart, Assistant Prof. of Environmental Studies at UNCW, will lead a morning field trip to B. W. Savannah. This is the culminating activity for his Introduction to Plant Identification classes and will focus on identifying native plants. You do not need to have taken the class to join us. The Savannah is noted for orchids such as Pale Grass-Pink (*Calopogon pallidus*) and Rosebud Orchid (*Cleistes divaricata*), carnivorous plants and interesting grasses.



Lara Berkley
Cary Paynter

For details, contact: lara@ncwildflower.org

Triad Chapter

Judy West, Terry Ball and Anna Katherine Wulf hosted a table at Greensboro's Earth Day Celebration, engaging children in up-close studies of our native plants.

May marks the beginning of the Triad Chapter series of monthly walks, which will this year include a visit to Watauga county in July.

A schedule will soon be posted on the website: www.ncwildflower.org

For additional details, contact

LyndaWaldrep@aol.com



Photos courtesy of Dennis Burnette



Southern Piedmont Chapter

Sunday, May 22: Laurel Hill Nature Preserve
2pm – 4pm
Spencer Mountain, Gaston County, NC

If you've never experienced the beauty of a Bigleaf Magnolia forest, this is the outing for you. We will join members of the Catawba Lands Conservancy on this hike where we'll see plants and landscapes more often found in our mountain counties.

Numbers are limited so you'll need to make a reservation! Email me if you want to reserve a spot. Specific meeting place will be posted on our website or sent by return email to reserves.

Spencer Mountain is located just north and east of Gastonia off of I-85.

Lisa Tompkins
lisa@ncwildflower.org

2011 Reedy Creek Preserve Hummingbird Festival
Saturday, August 27th, 10am – 4pm
Reedy Creek Nature Center

We will have a booth again this year providing information and native plants for **hummingbirds. You'll have a chance to see hummingbird banding and support our friends at Reedy Creek Nature Center. Please let me know if you can help with this event!**



More of Tom's Spring Trip photos...





USFWS Recovery Champion: Misty Buchanan

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Champion Awards are intended to recognize those who have made significant contributions toward the recovery of threatened and endangered species. Last year we recognized Richard LeBlond and Hervey McIver for their work to protect Golden sedge and Cooley's meadowrue in the savannas of southeastern North Carolina. This year, Carolyn Wells and I talked about all the good folks doing good things for rare plants in North Carolina. While there is a long list of people who deserve recognition, one particular person seemed most appropriate because of all the work she's done toward rare species recovery and her recent changes in her career path and the potential that she may be less involved in recovery related projects in the future. We nominated her with hopes that she would be recognized at the Regional level, but our Regional Office staff were so impressed with our nominee that they forwarded the nomination to the Washington Office.

So, on Thursday, March 17, 2011, Acting USFWS Director Rowan Gould, announced that Misty Buchanan was one of the 2010 National Recovery Champions.

Following are some excerpts from our nomination along with a couple of links to links about the award. Please join me thanking Misty for all of the work that she's done for all of the listed species in North Carolina.



"Misty Buchanan's interest in rare species began as a graduate student at North Carolina State University. While earning her Master's of Science in the Department of Botany, she studied the pollination ecology and seed development of conducted research on the federally endangered Rough-leaf Loosestrife (*Lysimachia asperulaefolia*), a North and South Carolina endemic.

Following graduate school, she worked as a conservation ecologist at the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill, NC where she determined which rare species were under-represented in their seed collections and developed a plan to increase those collections with more current acquisitions from throughout the range of each species. This conservation seed collection continues to evolve and

expand in size and it is being used for research, restoration and recovery efforts for several federally protected species.

Since 2002, Misty has worked as the Botanist with the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. As the State Botanist, her responsibilities include surveying and monitoring rare plant species, including the 26 federally threatened and endangered species known from North Carolina. Her rare plant survey work has contributed greatly to our knowledge of the number of populations, distribution, status and health of each species.

Misty is always willing to provide assistance to the Raleigh and Asheville Field Offices as requested, often on short notice. She has contributed so many Service efforts that it is difficult to mention them all here. For example, she has provided technical assistance toward the preparation of all Five Year Reviews completed by the Raleigh and Asheville Field Offices over the past five years (and surely several other Field Offices, too). She has served as a peer reviewer for many Five Year Reviews, the *Carex lutea* draft recovery plan, proposed critical habitat rule and many other technical documents.

She revises the state list of rare species (including state and federally listed species) every other year. Misty works closely with many conservation partners throughout North Carolina including Plant Conservation Program, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Resources Commission, various different land trusts, etc. Serves on the NC Plant Conservation Scientific Committee which advises the NC Plant Conservation Board on issues related to the biology and ecology of endangered, threatened and special concern species. The Plant Conservation Board provides oversight on the management of the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Plant Conservation Program. Misty is committed to educating others about **North Carolina's flora and teaching others about** the rare plants known from the State. She helps conduct rare plant workshops for environmental consultants and leads field trips for the NC Native Plant Society."

Dale Suiter, Endangered Species Biologist
US Fish & Wildlife Service



Misty discusses *Yucca gloriosa* with Paul Hosier at a Friends of Plant Conservation meeting.



A Wonderful Spring in North Carolina

David McAdoo

This has been an exciting spring with some great orchid discoveries in North Carolina. The first came through an emailed photo. Out of the blue I got a request from a guy wanting help with an ID. It turns out that he had found a new location for *Calopogon multiflorus* in the Holly Shelter area along the North Carolina coast. That is only the second or third location for this rare species in the state and puts it close to its northern limit. As I sent the photo around to confirm my ID there were some excited folks. One of them is a new resident of Greensboro. Doug Goldman who did the *Calopogon* section of the [Flora of North America](#) has just moved here to join the USDA Plants organization that is being set up in the city. It is **great to be able to access that organization's expertise.**

The second round of excitement came from a location east of Greensboro. Several years ago a lady called a friend who does a short native plant column in a local Sunday paper. The caller said that she thought that she had found several plants of *Isotria medeoloides* in her back yard and wanted someone to confirm her find. Needless to say when we were told Mark Rose and I were in our cars the next day to see the plants!

It turned out that the plants were the Small Whorled Pogonia, and it is the second colony that has been discovered in **someone's yard in North Carolina over the past 15 years.** This is the first Piedmont location for the state. Most of the other NC populations are found in the mountains. Her colony consisted of three plants at the edge of the wood line in her back yard. Over the years the location has had mostly one plant and for the past several years the plant has had two flowers. This year there is only one plant again, but it has three flowers! I have been searching the internet for any other known triple flowering plants but have not been able to find any records for one. This plant got another round of people very excited also.



If these two finds are any indication of how the year will turn out, I can hardly wait to see what comes next. I hope that you too have great orchid hunting this season.

Last Year's Plant in Seed with Prior Year Pod

Triple Flower on this Year's Plant



Another View of this Year's Flower



Close-up of Last Year's Flower



Article and photos by David McAdoo



Mitchell's Mill State Natural Area: River & Flatrocks in Wake County

Gary Perlmutter, Herbarium Associate (Lichens)
UNC Herbarium (NCU)
North Carolina Botanical Garden

On Sunday, 17 April 2011, I visited Mitchell's Mill State Natural Area in northeastern Wake County with the Margaret Reid (Triangle) chapter of the North Carolina Native Plant Society. It was a beautiful, sunny day; a far cry from the violent storm that spurred a record 28 tornadoes in North Carolina just the day before. On my drive to the site I passed a section of Mitchell Mill Road in Wake Crossroads where clean-up crews were busy removing fallen trees and other debris left by one tornado that passed that way from Raleigh to Rolesville. I wasn't sure if anyone else would show up.

However, a dedicated few -- Hughen Nourse, Alice Zawadzki, Marlyn Miller and Paula LaPoint -- convened at the meeting place of Mitchell's Food Mart, where I arrived. Hugh acted as trip leader, representing not only the plant society but also the B. W. Wells Association.

Off of highway NC-96 we first visited a broad section of flatrock, where we saw patches of thin soil covered with sandwort (*Arenaria*) as well as bare rock colonized with rockshield lichens (*Xanthoparmelia*) and peltula lichens (*Peltula*). This flatrock is part of the Rolesville pluton, a tongue of granitic bedrock that stretches from Johnston County to the Virginia state line, the largest of its kind in the eastern US. Among the lichens, I recognized the yellow-tongue cladonia (*Cladonia robbinsii*). At the UNC Herbarium we have a specimen of this species that was collected at Mitchell's Mill by eminent botanists William Coker and Henry Totten back in 1932. It was refreshing to see that this flatrock lichen is still at Mitchell's Mill 80 years later.



Granite flatrock of Mitchell's Mill State Natural Area



Yellow tongue cladonia, *Cladonia robbinsii*

We followed trails that weaved through trees of the wooded edge to an opening of more flatrock stretching under the Cedar Fork of the Little River. In the forest we saw in bloom a pinxter flower (*Rhododendron periclymenoides*) being pollinated by a clear-winged moth cleverly disguised as a carpenter bee. Back into the woods I became more aware that the vegetation is not of a typical Piedmont forest. It consisted of an open canopy of oaks, hickories, elms, pines and red cedars with an unusual understory of Carolina Yucca (*Agave filamentosa*). These drier woods are called Granitic Flatrock Border Woodland according to state Natural Heritage Program ecologist Mike Schafale.

Continued on page 10



Mitchell's Mill State Natural Area continued...



Cedar Fork of the Little River



Granite flatrock border woodland

To explore the other side of Cedar Fork we drove to an access point on Pulley Town Rd. I was first stunned by a boulder that was carpeted with little brown trumpets of the lichen *Cladonia grayi*, looking like a miniature forest a la Dr. Seuss. These pixie cups were growing not only on the bare rock, but also on mosses and on a rockshield lichen that were also growing on the boulder. We then toured flatrocks laced with cladonia-moss mats and red ribbons of elf orpine (*Diamorpha smallii*) down to where the river slowed behind the mill wall.



Pixie cup lichens, *Cladonia grayi*



Elf orpine and thorn cladonia, *Cladonia caroliniana*

Mitchell's Mill State Natural Area is a special place of globally rare granitic flatrocks, associated border woodland, made more distinct by having a creek run through it. It is listed as a state-wide natural significant area by the NC Natural Heritage Program and has been of scientific interest for many years. It is also home to two lichen species that were described as new to science in the 1970's: *Gomphillus americanus* (Esslinger 1975) and *Peltula zahlbruckneri* (Wetmore 1970). While I was able to find the gomphillus, I couldn't find the peltula, despite colonies of a close relative being common there.

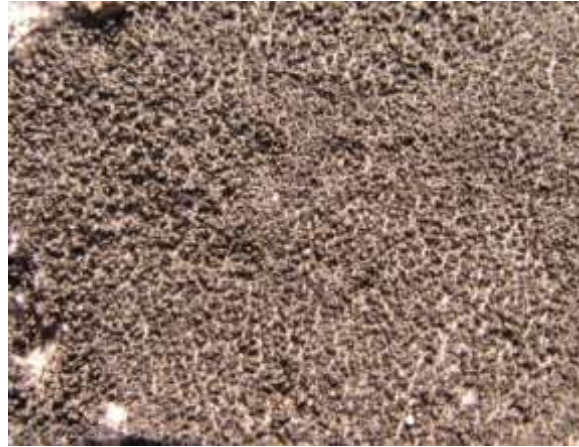
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Mitchell's Mill State Natural Area continued...



Gomphillus americanus



Peltula cylindrical, a relative of *P. zahlbruckneri*

Being a state natural area, Mitchell's Mill is under-patrolled by rangers of Falls Lake State Recreation Area, who are stretched thin under normal circumstances, and especially so now in this climate of budget crisis. As a result, it has received more damage through improper use and invasive plant species than better-managed parks. Hugh pointed out scars in the rock where mosses were recently harvested illegally; we saw other scars resembling the tracks left by ATVs. Perhaps Mitchell's Mill could be better managed by local citizens or a municipality like Hemlock Bluffs State Natural Area is by the town of Cary.

Gary Pelrmutter, Herbarium Associate (Lichens)
UNC Herbarium (NCU)
North Carolina Botanical Garden

References

- Esslinger, T.L. 1975. A new North American species of the lichen genus *Gomphillus*. *Mycotaxon* 1:189–192.
Wetmore, C.M. 1970. The lichen family Heppiaceae in North America. *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* 57(2): 158-209.



An uninvited guest has joined the party for Invasive Species Awareness Week

This is notification that redbay ambrosia beetles and the fungus that causes laurel wilt have been identified and isolated/confirmed in the Colly area of eastern Bladen County. There are indications that it may also be present in as many as four other nearby counties, but at this time we are awaiting confirmation before we can say for sure. However, even without proper confirmation we are sure that near future natural spread to nearby counties is imminent. Laurel wilt has been found to move about 20 miles/year naturally, but can move faster with assistance from humans moving redbay/swampbay firewood, wood chips, tree trimming debris and wood products.

RAB and laurel causes mortality in all Lauraceae species including bays (*Persea spp.*), *Sassafras*, pondspice and pond-berry. Information about the insect/disease can be found at the bottom of this email. In addition, a comprehensive website about laurel wilt can be found at: www.fs.fed.us/r8/foresthealth/laurelwilt/index.shtml

Though it appears that the spot activity is pretty recent, eradication and control of natural spread is not possible. We have discussed regulatory approaches (quarantines) with NCD, but agreed that that also would not be feasible. Education and awareness, including the need to restrict the movement of infested/infected wood, are our most valuable tools for dealing with this forest health concern that is here to stay.

One of our main priorities is to notify and educate natural resource professionals about the disease, its impacts. In addition, we will be working with various interests to restrict movement of redbay wood during forestry, tree maintenance/removal, and right-of-way clear-

ing operations. Media releases are forthcoming but we need to make sure local folks are ahead of the curve prior to release because of the potential for generating phone calls/questions.

Management options on state and private lands are extremely limited. There may be some benefit on lands we all manage to cut down wilting and dead redbay and swamp bay and disposing of them on-site (burning, burying, and chipping, piling and covering) immediately when detected. This will not eradicate the pest from the property, but will reduce the amount of insects, inoculum, and brood sites, thus helping to slow the spread. In another state, it was found that even transporting yard tree debris from affected trees to a landfill spreads the pest along the highway and RAB then can infest areas around landfill. In states to the south where bays were pretty much **wiped out after the “head” moved through**, there is an effort to find unaffected trees and determine if there is any potential resistant trees (or if trees were just missed)

If you are interested, our branch staff is available to provide training opportunities for you, your staff, or other interested parties—including site visits to explain identification of signs and symptoms, and how the host, insect, and disease interacts.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Robert P. Trickel
Pest Control Branch Head
NC Registered Forester No. 1071
919-857-4858





Redbay ambrosia beetle

Redbay ambrosia beetle (RAB), *Xyleborus glabratus*, and laurel wilt, caused by the fungus *Raffaelea lauricola*, together constitute an insect-and-disease threat. The redbay ambrosia beetle serves as an insect vector for the fungus causing laurel wilt, a destructive disease of redbay (*Persea borbonia*) and other trees in the laurel family, including swampbay (*Persea palustris*), sassafras (*Sassafras albidium*), spicebush (*Lindera* spp.), and pondspice (*Litsea aestivalis*). *Lindera melisifolia* is a federally listed endangered plant, and *Litsea aestivalis* is listed as a threatened plant in multiple states.

The non-native redbay ambrosia beetle was first detected in Georgia in 2002; the associated pathogen, a highly virulent, invasive, wilt-inducing fungus, is believed to have arrived in the United States along with the beetle. Investigators believe that RAB was introduced into the United States in wooden crating material from Southeast Asia. Both RAB and laurel wilt have been observed as far north as Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Mortality has been documented to spread about 20 miles per year on average. Neither threat has been detected in North Carolina, but its arrival in North Carolina is imminent within the next few years.

Redbay and swampbay are prominent species in North Carolina's coastal plain. In addition, pondspice and spicebush are found in the coastal plain and sassafras is found throughout the state. Laurel wilt has the potential to extirpate (cause local extinction) of any of these species in the Lauraceae family from much of the coastal plain. As the insect and pathogen go through an area, all affected plants eventually wilt and die. Dead foliage persisting on plants in areas with high

densities of bay species will create fire hazards due to dead, dry aerial fuels. Because redbay trees resemble young live oaks, they are popular choices for retention during development in urban areas along the coast.

Various species of wildlife would also be impacted by the reduction or elimination of laurel wilt host species. Songbirds, bobwhite quail, and turkeys often feed on the fruit, while deer and bears frequently feed on foliage and fruits of redbay and sassafras. Several rare species of swallowtail butterflies rely heavily on redbay, sassafras, and spicebush for completion of their life cycle. At this time, no reliable controls exist for either the *Raffaelea lauricola* fungus or the *Xyleborus glabratus* insect vector.

Excerpted from: North Carolina Forest Assessment, 2010

Robert P. Trickel
Pest Control Branch Head
NC Registered Forester No. 1071

New email address is: rob.trickel@ncdenr.gov





Spring Trip Report



Mark Rose

Friday night attendees at the spring outing saw great landscaping photos and heard ideas for working with nature as part of Randy Burroughs' presentation. But it was not all pretty pictures.

Randy emphasized checking soil with tests and using plants appropriate for each site. He told the audience about his recent studies concerning the microbes in the soil and how new studies indicate a better understanding of the role of microbes in gardening.

Those who were not able to attend can benefit from reading more about microbes in the soil and the possibilities for gardeners with their

use. Two books he recommended are as follows:

Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, Revised Edition, by Wayne Lewis.

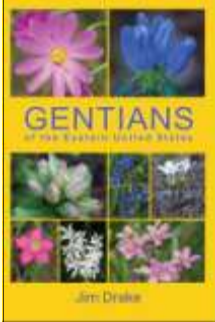
Mycelium Running: How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World by Paul Stamets.



Photos courtesy Tom Harville



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This book by author Jim Drake covers the family Gentianaceae occurring within the Eastern United States. It is possibly the most comprehensive text covering the vast range of genera within the family Gentianaceae.

Jim has attempted to provide descriptions of all members of this family within his very broadly defined “eastern” U.S. Text descriptions along with ample photographs help the reader to understand and enjoy the range of wildflowers included within this diverse family.

Beginning with *Bartonia* and finishing with *Voyria*, this text attempts to fill the genera in between including, *Gentiana*, *Sabatia*, lesser-known genera such as *Centaurium*, *Halenia* and many others. Not only focusing on the blue gentians, this 220 page guide gives equal treatment to the rest of the eastern gentian family including both common and less well known members.

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V. Many land management agencies prohibit pets in natural areas, even on leashes.

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Clematis crispa ?



Kathy Schlosser

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