

Garden Clinic

N. C. State University Answers
Timely Gardening Questions

Q. Can we grow apricots in the Raleigh area? (G. F., Raleigh)

A. You would be growing the trees just for shade. Apricot blooms early and the blooms freeze nearly every year. So your chances of getting fruit are small. (Mel Kolbe, extension horticulturist)

Q. Which species of maples are recommended for landscape trees in North Carolina? (H. T., High Point)

A. The sugar, red and Norway maples. All provide excellent shade in summer and brilliant colors of red, orange and yellow in the fall. The Silver maple, on the other hand, is not recommended as a landscape tree. The wood is brittle, and the root system often causes problems with sidewalks, drives and septic tanks. (Bill Stanton, extension forest resources specialist)

Q. Can I transplant a native dogwood at this time of year? (P. B., Arcadia)

A. Yes. Dogwoods should be transplanted during the dormant season. Be sure to dig plenty of soil and roots when you move it. Have the new planting site ready and plant the tree immediately. This will prevent the roots from drying out. I would limit the size of the tree to five or six feet, and would try to have a rootball of 20 to 24 inches in diameter. Always handle the tree by the rootball, never by the stem. Dogwood prefer full sun and good drainage. (Kim Powell, extension landscape horticulturist)

Q. Please give me some tips for caring for the lovely poinsettia I received at Christmas. (Mrs. E. C., West End)

A. Place your poinsettia in the sunniest portion of the room. Avoid cold drafts. Keep the temperature under 70 degrees during the day and above 50 degrees at night. Punch a hole in the foil to let excess water escape. Water your plant thoroughly, making sure a small amount of water drips through the drainage hole. Fertilize the poinsettia if you plan to keep it a couple of months. Use a soluble, complete fertilizer, such as 20-20-20, twice each month. (Joe Love, extension horticulturist)

To Meet In Asheville

The Thirty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts will be held at the Inn on the Plaza Hotel, Asheville, North Carolina on January 4-7.

District Supervisors representing Polk County are Hubert McEntyre, Arthur Pack, Bernard Womack, Dock B. Wilson and Gilbert Smothers.

Highlights of the meeting include discussions in the area of education and information; research, as it applies to conservation; land-use planning; recreation and natural environment; watershed development; district operations and other areas. — District Reporter

Wilkins Rites

Services for Lena Padgett Wilkins, wife of John Wilkins of Rt. 3, Campobello, S. C. will be held today at 3 p.m. at Smith Chapel Baptist Church with the Rev. J. C. Kern and Bishop Randolph Jackson officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Cannon and Sons Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

From England

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Bonner and sons, Timothy and Christopher, of Waltham Chase, England are visiting Mr. Bonner's mother, Mrs. Gene Milsteen and Mr. Milsteen in Landrum.

Pecans, native to America, are members of the hickory nut family.

Carson-Henderson

Miss Lisa Carson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Carson of Tryon and Timothy James Henderson, also of Tryon were married Dec. 19th in an 8 p.m. ceremony at the Tryon First Baptist Church.

The bride was attended by Sherry Gilbert of Mill Spring.

The groom was attended by Dean Pace of Tryon.

Mrs. Henderson is an employee of The Village Restaurant and Mr. Henderson is employed by Tryon Exxon.

Following the wedding the couple was honored with a reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Smith, uncle and aunt of the groom.

The couple will make their home on Grady Avenue in Tryon.

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