

'THE SAGE'--SEPTEMBER 2009

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

This Month's Highlights: **HUGE SHIPMENT OF HOUSEPLANTS HAS ARRIVED**

Most Beautiful Garden Contest Winners Announced

Mixed Fall Containers by Design

Favorite Edamame Recipes

12 Months of Fresh Flowers from Klein's

Fall Is a Great Time To Plant & Divide Perennials!

Spring Bulbs from Van Bloem Gardens Are Here!

Notes from Rick's Garden Journal-- from August 2009

--Growing Common Ginger

--Success with Endless Summer Hydrangeas

--Viewing the Garden With a New Perspective

Plant of the Month: Flowering Kales & Cabbages

You Asked the Mad Gardener About Late Blight

September in the Garden: A Planner

Gardening Events Around Town

Become a Friend of Klein's on Facebook

Delivery Information

The City of Madison Recycles Used Plastic Pots

Related Resources and Websites

Plants Harmful to Kids and Pets

Our 2009 semi-load of gorgeous houseplants has arrived! Quality and selection are now at their peak. Some of our more interesting items include a selection of carnivorous plants, air plants and unique succulents, in addition to indoor tropicals in all shapes and sizes.

During September, get **25% OFF** all in-store houseplant purchases. Sale does not apply to items being delivered or in conjunction with other discounts or promotions. The sale applies only to green plants and not blooming plants or outdoor material.

And during September, enjoy these end of season savings:

50% OFF all remaining Perennials and Shrubs

50% OFF all remaining Tropicals

50% OFF all Mixed Containers

Buy One, Get One Free on all remaining Summer Annuals & Herbs

(Sales do not apply to fall annuals, vegetables, mums, asters or mixed mum containers)

MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDEN CONTEST WINNERS ARE:

Grand Prize Winner: Sherry Schneider (\$75 Gift Card)

2nd Place: Cindy Van Pelt (\$50 Gift Card)

3rd Place: Barb Fehling (\$25 Gift Card)

Most Beautiful Container: Betty Lee-Borchert (\$50 Gift Card)

Thank you to everyone for entering and we look forward to our 2010 Most Beautiful Garden Contest. We'll post our entry form and contest rules next April. Stay tuned!

THE MAD GARDENER

"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"

Ask any of your gardening questions by e-mailing them to us at madgardener@kleinsfloral.com. Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. We've also posted a link to this e-mail address on our home page for your convenience. Your question might then appear in the **"You Asked"** feature of our monthly newsletter. If your question is the one selected for our monthly newsletter, you'll receive a small gift from us at Klein's. The **Mad Gardener** hopes to hear from you soon!

Sorry, we can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

SEPTEMBER STORE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00
Saturday: 9:00-5:00
Sunday: 10:00-4:00

Open Labor Day, Monday, September 7: 10:00-4:00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Throughout September watch for great season's end savings on all remaining perennials. Check out our selection of spring bulbs. Tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocus, alliums and much more have arrived for fall planting.

September 4--Full Moon

September 7--Labor Day. Special Store Hours: 10:00-4:00.

September 13--Grandparents' Day

September 19--Rosh Hashanah

September 21--Eid-al-Fitr

September 22--Fall Begins

September 28--Yom Kippur

'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':

Gardening need not end with the onset of autumn. In some respects, it's just beginning! After all, fall is when we begin to plant next spring's garden as the tulip, daffodil and crocus bulbs make their appearance on store shelves. And fall is the season when many of our favorite annuals and perennials put on their finest show. Geraniums, salvias, asters, mums and grasses all glow in the garden as the days shorten and the weather cools.

And what easier way to extend the season's beauty than to enjoy a **Mixed Fall Container** from Klein's. Fall containers can extend your garden's color long after hard frosts have killed off your in-ground annuals and perennials. In fact, a **Fall Container** can look beautiful until Thanksgiving or even beyond. Unlike flowers planted in your beds, containers can be moved indoors during cold snaps, only to reappear on those lovely autumn days. Some annuals, like flowering kales and cabbages and pansies, are at their peak as the weather cools. It's not unheard of for these diehards to look good even through Christmas!

Choose from one of Klein's own pre-made containers, filled with mums, grasses, kales, pansies, snapdragons, heucheras, ajuga, etc. Or, better yet, plant up your own in our cozy **Potting Shed**. Choose from our extensive selection of containers and we'll get you started, using our famous, homemade potting mix. Design your own, or have one of our talented staff work with you to create that perfect mix for your porch or patio. What better way to greet trick-or-treaters or Thanksgiving Day guests!

For more information or to set up a "planting time", give us a call at (608) 244-5661 and ask for Jen, Rick or Jamie.

Klein's "12 Month Blooming Plant or Fresh Flower Club"

Send or receive a whole year of seasonal blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements and save!!

There's no easier way to give gorgeous blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements, month after month. Each month a seasonal blooming plant or fresh arrangement will arrive on yours or a loved one's doorstep. You choose the start date and we'll make your special delivery the very same day each month.

For just \$300, we'll send a year's worth of seasonal blooming plants--perhaps a bulb garden or azalea in the spring, one of our famous large geraniums or a tropical hibiscus in the summer, a chrysanthemum or Thanksgiving cactus in the fall or one of our homegrown poinsettias or cyclamen for the holidays and winter months. Selection of the blooming plant will be based on availability.

And for just \$350, receive one of Klein's lovely fresh floral arrangements. All arrangements will be seasonal and will contain only the freshest flowers. All arrangements are **Designer's Choice**, but are sure to satisfy the most discerning lover of fresh flowers.

Prices include delivery within our delivery area. For delivery details click on "**Delivery Information**" on the left side of our home page. If your chosen delivery date happens to fall on a Sunday or holiday, we will deliver it on the next available delivery day. All regular delivery conditions apply.

Order your **12 Months of Flowers** by calling Klein's at **608/244-5661** or **888/244-5661** or by stopping in. We request that payment be made in full before the first delivery and the prices do not include sales tax.

DID YOU KNOW. . .

. . . that fall is one of the better times of the year to plant and/or divide perennials?

Not only is fall the best time to go to garden centers to get some great deals on remaining perennials, it's one of the better times to work outside in the garden; creating and prepping new beds and also dividing and reinvigorating tired and overgrown perennials. Autumn in the garden is a time for reflecting on the past season and to dream about next spring. It's enjoyable to work outdoors in the cooler weather and with a minimum of bugs to bother you.

Perennials planted in the fall, tend to fare better than those planted during the hot days of midsummer. The soil remains a bit moister, with far less watering required for vigorous root growth. Instead of baking in the hot sun, the cooler days are far less stressful on the new transplants. Though May and early June are considered the optimum time to plant or divide perennials, September and early October come in a close second. In fact, it's well known that some perennials, like irises and peonies, do best when planted or divided in the fall, rather than in the spring. And nearly all perennials can be planted all the way until the ground freezes in late November. The earlier in the fall they are planted, the greater the chance for success as the plants need a bit of time to root out before the ground freezes solid.

Visit Klein's during September and early October and save 50% on all remaining perennials and shrubs. Shop early for best selection!

NOTES FROM MY GARDEN JOURNAL--Tips and Observations from My Own Garden by Rick Halbach.

ENTRY: AUGUST 6, 2009

Planned a great dinner for tonight, but it almost turned out to be a disaster. Ginger is one of the key ingredients for my marinated tofu recipe and I wrongly thought I had some in the refrigerator. With no time to run down to Woodman's, I remembered that I had ginger growing in a pot just outside the kitchen door. I had never harvested my own ginger before, so I didn't know what to expect.

A number of years back, I had read in a gardening magazine that common ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) makes a lovely foliage plant, both on it's own and in mixed containers. The accompanying photograph looked great! I simply took a piece of ginger that I had purchased at the supermarket and planted the rhizome just below the soil surface in a 12" clay pot. It took many months for the first sprouts to appear and then only during the heat of summer. All in all, until this year, I had been pretty disappointed by my measly pot of ginger. As a foliage plant, it never met my expectations. Not until the very end of each summer would the foliage fill the pot and with the slightest hint of cool weather the foliage would yellow and wither away. I'd store the pot semi-dormant at the greenhouse, hoping it would fill the pot sooner and more lushly the next season. This season, as always, the many sprouts were a mere 3-4" tall and it's nearing the end of summer--again.

But to my surprise, when I dug into the soil surface, the entire pot was a mass of ginger root with more layers of rhizomes beneath the uppermost layer. Not only do I have more ginger than I could use in an entire year, the quality of the fresh ginger is equal to or better than than ginger purchased at the store. I harvested a number of roots for this and a few upcoming meals and then broke off and replanted the pieces with sprouts. I'm no longer disappointed with pot of ginger!

ENTRY: AUGUST 8, 2009

Until this season, I had not been all too happy with my highly touted Endless Summer hydrangea. I was beginning to think the plant was all hype and I had become a sucker of the sales pitch. No more! After four years in the garden, my Endless Summer hydrangea is now not only of substantial size, but its living up to its reputation as a nonstop bloomer .

As with many perennials and shrubs, it often takes a few years for plants to get established. There's some old saying about first year something (??), second year creep and third year leap. The first year I planted my Endless Summer, I kept it well watered and it leafed out beautifully. I knew it probably wouldn't bloom the first season, so no need to apply the acid fertilizer required for blue flowers. At the beginning of the second year, I applied a couple of cups of aluminum sulfate to the soil around the base of the plant and worked it into the surface. This one yearly application should be enough for blue flowers, instead of pink. I watered the hydrangea with Miracid once in a while (just in case). But no flowers the second season either.

Season three began. The plant had died back to the ground. But because Endless Summer hydrangeas bloom on new wood, that's not a problem. Hydrangeas are oftentimes treated as herbaceous perennials here in the North. The new growth was thick and lush. I applied my annual dose of aluminum sulfate. Then suddenly, we were hit with a late killing frost. The hydrangea froze back to the soil surface. Though the foliage came back just fine over the course of the summer, it never bloomed last summer.

Now at season four, and after reapplying my two cups of aluminum sulfate, my three foot Endless Summer hydrangea is finally loaded with huge pompoms of the most heavenly blue. From my own experience, I can now recommend this wonderful plant to our customers with confidence.

ENTRY: AUGUST 9, 2009

After getting out of the shower today, I glanced at the garden below without my glasses and made an interesting discovery. With my glasses on, I focus on the details of the garden, of course; I notice the heights of the plants, the textures of the leaves or which birds or animals are visiting, etc. It's easy to become distracted and visually stimulated by the detail . On the other hand, without my glasses, I saw only the colors with no detail. I became aware which color combinations and groupings work best together and where there are

empty spaces of color in the garden that have gone unnoticed . It was an eye-opening experience and highly recommended for all nearsighted, glasses-totin' gardeners. It was fascinating to see my garden from a completely different perspective.

KLEIN'S RECIPES OF THE MONTH--These are a selection of relatively simple recipes chosen by our staff. New recipes appear monthly. Enjoy!!

Edamame: Japanese for "beans on a branch". If ever you've received this delectable edible soybean from one of our many local CSA's, you surely know this to be an accurate description. Typically one receives the entire plant, literally dripping with these fuzzy, podded beans. Only recently have edible soybeans made their appearance at nearly all supermarkets. They are most commonly found in the frozen vegetable aisle--both whole and shelled. The best way to describe the flavor is "naturally buttery". Shelled beans are delicious on their own per package instructions. However, the best way to experience edamame is fresh, in the pod, and as the natives do. Simply drop the edamame, shell and all, into a pot of salted, boiling water for five to eight minutes. Drain well, dump them into a bowl and slip the tender beans out of the pod between your front teeth, disposing of the shell. It's great fun for young and old alike and makes for a great and very healthy snack.

SOYBEAN HUMMUS--From Cooking Light magazine, July 2006

2 cups frozen edamame
1/2 cup water
6 TBS. olive oil
4 TBS. fresh lemon juice
2 tsp. salt
2 cloves minced garlic
1/4 tsp. Tobasco sauce
4 TBS. chopped parsley
Pita, crackers or fresh veggie dippers

Combine the edamame and water in a saucepan and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer 10 minutes. Drain. Combine the cooked beans, oil, juice, salt, garlic and Tobasco in a food processor and process until smooth. Add the parsley and process until just blended.

EDAMAME & BARLEY SALAD--Another recipe from the same issue of Cooking Light magazine as above.

Dressing:

5 TBS. olive oil
1 TBS. lemon zest
2 TBS. lemon juice
1 TBS. Dijon mustard
1/2 tsp. pepper

Salad:

1 cup pearled barley
1 cup chopped red bell pepper
3/4 cup chopped red onion
1/4 cup chopped cilantro
1/4 cup chopped fresh mint
1 1/4 tsp. salt
1x 16 oz. bag frozen edamame, thawed

Whisk together the dressing ingredients and set aside. Cook the barley per package instructions. Combine the cooked barley, bell pepper, onion and the rest of the ingredients in a large bowl and toss well. Add the dressing and toss gently to coat. Allow to rest 15 minutes or chill before serving. Serves 8.

SOY WASABI SPREAD--This recipe appeared in Martha Stewart Living from July of 2005.

16 oz. frozen, shelled edamame
8 oz. silken tofu
1 tsp. lemon zest
2 TBS. fresh lemon juice
1 TBS. Chinese hot mustard
2 tsp. wasabi paste
1 tsp. coarse salt
Crackers, cucumber slices &/or carrot sticks for serving

Bring a pot of water to a boil. Add the edamame and cook 5 minutes. Drain and rinse in cold water. Drain again. Puree the edamame, tofu, zest, juice, mustard, wasabi and salt in a food processor and serve. Makes 3 cups.

EDAMAME WITH ASIAN SAUCE--And yet another delicious recipe from From Asparagus to Zucchini: A Guide to Cooking Farm-Fresh Seasonal Produce.

1 lb. fresh edamame in the shell
2 TBS. soy sauce

1 TBS. sesame oil
1 TBS. canola oil
1 TBS. rice vinegar
2 cloves minced garlic
1 tsp. brown sugar or honey
2 TBS. sesame seeds

Boil the edamame in salted water 5-8 minutes. Combine the other ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a simmer, stirring, to dissolve the sugar or honey. Toss with the hot, cooked and drained edamame. Serve immediately. This sauce also works well tossed with cooked, shelled edamame. Serves 6.

NEW PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT--Each month we will spotlight some new product that we already carry or one that we've taken note of and plan to carry in the near future. Likewise, if you would like to see Klein's to carry a product that we don't currently, please let us know. Our goal is to be responsive to the marketplace and to our loyal clientele. If a product fits into our profile, we will make every effort to get it into our store. In addition, we may be able to special order an item for you, whether plant or hard good, given enough time.

This month's spotlight features Spring Bulbs from Van Bloem Gardens.

It may seem a little premature to be talking about the spring bulbs (tulips, daffodils, crocus, etc.), but in reality the first of our shipments will be arriving in just a few short weeks and Klein's is happy to announce that we will be drastically improving and expanding our bulb program and selection this fall season in hopes of becoming an area leader for both choice and quality. As part of that process, Klein's is switching to a new supplier for the 2009 fall planting season.

Van Bloem Gardens is one of the world's leading wholesalers of flower bulbs, perennials and horticulture products for the home gardener and the professional grower. They are a marketplace leader with new introductions, outstanding varieties and a comprehensive selection. Klein's began ordering "finished" tropicals from Van Bloem's in the spring of 2008 and added not only the tropicals, but many of our summer bulbs in the spring of 2009. We are not only impressed by their selection and excellent quality, but clear and colorful packaging and presentation for the consumer.

The first of the bulbs to arrive will be the bearded iris and the fall blooming crocus in mid-August. Iris, in particular, are best planted in the fall so take advantage of early selection. The bulk of our spring bulb collection will then arrive in the week just after Labor Day. Though many of our competitors receive their spring bulbs earlier than we do, experience has taught us that most gardeners don't even think about fall until Labor Day has passed. Years back, when our bulbs arrived earlier than early September, we found that some simply withered in the heat of our greenhouses.

In addition to the bulbs, Klein's also carries a complete selection of forcing supplies, hyacinth glasses, bulb boosters and fertilizers, tools and holiday gift bulbs including amaryllis (which arrive mid-October) and paperwhites. And new in 2009, Klein's will be offering garlic bulbs for fall planting (arriving in October).

For more about Van Bloem Gardens, check out their website at www.vanbloem.com.

NATURAL NEWS--

Within the past few weeks, the **2010 Wisconsin Garden Journal (15th Edition)** put out by the Madison Area Master Gardeners Association hit area garden centers and bookstores. Always a favorite of ours here at Klein's, the current edition is of particular interest in that it focuses on 'The Natural Garden', offering loads of information regarding natural landscaping, use of native plants, tips about recycling, reducing waste and protecting our environment. And because the journal is written for and about Wisconsin gardening, it's a must have for all area gardeners' bookshelves. The **Wisconsin Garden Journal** is more than just a lovely day planner. The book is a single source for valuable and pertinent gardening information. Each monthly calendar opens with a list of garden tasks to do during that particular month. Interspersed throughout are brief articles regarding garden plants, techniques, tips and fun facts. The last section of the book is filled with charts and assorted resource and reference information. Colorful and beautiful photographs fill many of the pages in between. At just \$14.95, the **2010 Wisconsin Garden Journal** makes the perfect birthday or holiday gift.

Of great interest to us here at Klein's is an introductory article written by one of our past employees, Kate Heiber-Cobb. Her fascinating and enlightening article deals with a relatively unknown life and design philosophy known as *permaculture*. **Permaculture**, as defined by Bill Wilson (Midwest Permaculture), is "a creative and artful way of living, where people and nature are both preserved and enhanced by thoughtful planning, the careful use of resources, mimicking the patterns found in nature (bio-mimicry) and a respectful approach to life. Thus embraced, these attributes create an environment where all may thrive for untold generations."

To learn more about permaculture and 'The Natural Garden', pick up your copy of the **2010 Wisconsin Garden Journal** at Klein's while supplies last.

SEPTEMBER'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

FLOWERING KALES & CABBAGES

Often surviving well into December, the flowering kales and cabbages are usually the last garden annuals to succumb to winter's grasp. Their colorful leaves in shades of pink, red, lavender, purple, cream and blue-green combine perfectly with fall mums, grasses and pansies in mixed fall containers. Though of the exact same species as edible kales and cabbages, the flowering varieties are used primarily for decorative purposes and are oftentimes referred to as 'ornamental kales' or 'ornamental cabbages'. Leaves are completely edible, but have a slightly more bitter taste than their "edible" counterparts. In fact, the brightly colored leaves are a festive garnish at the Thanksgiving Day dinner table. Many of the edible kales, especially Redbor, Red Russian and the Lacinato kales, are in themselves quite ornamental and are oftentimes used in mixed borders and containers.

Foliage on the kales tends to be looser and frilly, whereas, like its cousins, the cabbages tend to be head-forming.

The flowering kales and cabbages are planted both in the spring and in the fall. Those planted in the spring will naturally be larger, given the longer growing season. But either way, neither spring nor fall planted kales or cabbages will put on their best show until daytime temperatures fall consistently below 50° and nighttime temperatures fall into the mid-20's.

Cool weather intensifies the colors. Like their relatives, flowering kales and cabbages are prone to a few pests, namely cabbage butterfly caterpillars. A regular application of garden dusts while the butterflies are laying their eggs easily eliminates the problem.

Listed below are a few of our favorite ornamental kale and cabbage varieties. Most are available at Klein's in cell packs in the spring and again in the fall. Larger pots of the most popular varieties become available during September and are sold alongside the garden mums.

FLOWERING CABBAGE, Brassica oleracea:

Dynasty/Osaka--Tight, compact heads of semi-waved leaves that grow to 12" tall. Available in red and white.

FLOWERING KALE, Brassica oleracea:

Chidori--Dwarf plants with fringed, ruffled leaves color up in warmer temperatures than most kale varieties. Available in red and white.

Crane Series--A unique cut flower series whose heads resemble large roses up to 6" in diameter. Stems are long and long lasting in fresh arrangements. 24-28" tall. Available in a bicolor of rose with a creamy white edge.

'Dinosaur' (Lacinato Kale)--Interesting puckered blue-green leaves on plants that grow 2-3 feet tall. An edible heirloom variety that is making a strong comeback as an ornamental and in the vegetable garden.

Emperor Series (Nagoya Series)--Heavily fringed, very uniform leaves. Available in red, rose and white.

Peacock Series--Deeply serrated, feathery foliage. Available in red.

'Redbor'--Very deep red-purple, frilly leaves. Color and curling is enhanced by cold weather. Beautiful ornamental variety is also one of the better edible varieties. Can grow to 36".

Russian Series--Dark green oak-leaf cut leaves. The red/purple hues intensify with frost. Has a tender and sweet taste when cooked and raw. Available in red. 16-20" tall.

YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER. . .

I found late blight on my 15 tomato plants this weekend, some worse than others. Is it too late to treat them with a fungicide? So far the fruits look fine, but the growing shoots are all affected. I live in rural southeast Dane county away from any potato-growing fields as far as I know. Thank you, Pete

Hi Pete,

The current strain of late blight is causing a major amount of concern throughout Wisconsin and much of the upper U.S. This is, in fact, a very close relative to the strain that caused the infamous potato famine in Ireland during the 19th century. This is the very first time this strain of late blight has shown up in Wisconsin. Information that I've received indicates that it may have appeared first on tomato plants in Georgia that were then shipped around the country this past spring for sale in retail outlets. Since first detected earlier this summer, the spread has been fast and furious.

Late blight is a fungus and is spread by spores. The spores are wind borne and can travel many miles. The cool and damp summer we've experienced is the perfect condition for this fungus to take hold. Once a plant becomes infected, symptoms include not only the typical yellowing of the leaves, but lesions on both the stems and the fruits themselves. Under the right conditions, the infestation then spreads quickly to neighboring plants. In a relatively short amount of time the plants begin to shut down and eventually die. In large gardens and fields, the infestation seems to spread from the "hot spot" like the ripples caused by a pebble dropped into a calm pool. There's some disagreement on how to eliminate infected plants. Some say it's best to burn the plants. Others say the plants should be chopped up and tilled into the soil. The general consensus, however, seems to be that it's best not to compost the infected plants in that the fungus could survive and reappear in the future. On the other hand, it's believed that the fungus can't survive our cold winters and with proper management, the fungus should be killed off and not reappear.

Tomatoes were the first members of the nightshade family in which the blight appeared this season. More recently, it has been showing up on potato plants throughout the state. Unlike tomatoes, the potatoes are far enough along that the blight should have little effect on the crop. By this part of summer the plants have usually dried up anyway and the potatoes themselves are of substantial size. So far, there have been no reports from the other tomato relatives, namely peppers and eggplants. And what about other tomato relatives (petunias, flowering tobacco, daturas, angel's trumpets)? Will the fungus be harbored in overwintered plants?

As for your plants, if the plants are showing symptoms, it's already too late. It's also likely that any neighboring plants have already been infected even though they may not be showing symptoms. Unblemished fruits on the plants may ripen normally before the plant shuts down. Pick any fruit you can and allow them to ripen on your countertop. If you have any plants not showing symptoms, a fungicide may be helpful, but not likely at this point. This has not been a very good tomato season to begin with (given the fact we had the coolest July ever) and this late blight seems to be the final nail in the coffin.

Good luck to you and hoping for a better tomato season in 2010! Thanks for your question!

The Mad Gardener

And a reminder from the Mad Gardener with a question from September 2008:

I put many of my houseplants outdoors during the summer months. Should I do anything to them before I bring them indoors?

This is far and away one of our most frequently asked questions, but usually after it's already too late. The phone call for advice comes in March when one of our customers is faced with an aphid and whitefly infested, 10 foot ugly hibiscus that's now shedding all of its leaves. Yes, there are very simple things you can be doing now to avoid this situation come winter.

Our suggestions include:

1. Repot any plants that need it while they're still outside, the days are still long and the weather is still relatively pleasant. Repotting is less messy outdoors and many houseplants go through a small growth burst in the fall before they want to go somewhat dormant.
2. Prune your plants (if applicable) to a desirable shape and size for the same reasons. Because your plants have been outdoors loving the sun and rain, they've probably outgrown their indoor spot. In addition, they've probably got far more foliage than they need for the dark and short days of winter. This is one of the main reasons many plants drop foliage during the winter months (the other being the artificial heat and low humidity in our homes). The plant simply can't support all the greenery it put on during the summer months.
3. Cut back gradually on fertilizing. Because the days are shortening, your plants are wanting to go into a dormancy of sorts. Fertilizing in order to promote vigorous growth is counter to what the plant is wanting to do at this time of the year. In fact, from November until February, indoor plants in Wisconsin should not be fertilized at all, or with a very dilute solution (such as Miracle Gro drops).
4. Eliminate insect pests BEFORE you bring the pests into your home. We recommend applying a systemic insecticide about 6 weeks before you plan on bringing plants indoors. A systemic is drawn up into the plant via the root system and makes the plant essentially undesirable to eat. By applying the systemic while the plant is still outdoors, you also eliminate the mess and the smell with that first application. It's very important to follow the manufacturer's instructions. The amount mixed into the soil is based on pot size rather than plant size. We recommend Labor Day weekend as the perfect time to apply your first round of systemic and then every 6 weeks throughout the winter. In doing so, your plants should remain insect free until they go outside again next spring. As with all pesticides, keep your treated plants away from children and pets.

AROUND TOWN:

For neighborhood events or garden tours that you would like posted in our monthly newsletter, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661 or Sue at sue@kleinsfloral.com. Please include all details, i.e. dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Events must be garden related and must take place in the Madison vicinity and we must receive your information by the first of the month in which the event takes place for it to appear in that month's newsletter. This is a great opportunity for free advertising.

Dane County Farmer's Market

Saturdays, April 18 thru November 7, 6:00-2:00
On the Capitol Square

Wednesdays, April 22 thru November 4, 8:30-2:00
In the 200 block of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

For details visit www.madfarmmkt.org

Olbrich's Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit - Beasts in the Conservatory: Carnivorous Plants

September 2 through January 3, 2010
Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

See the carnivorous plants living in the Bolz Conservatory up close! Learn how carnivorous plants attract and eat live insects. This walk-through exhibit will explain how each plant has its own tricks to attract prey. Some carnivorous plants are brightly colored or sweetly scented, while others have parts that are sticky, making it difficult for prey to escape. The Bolz Conservatory is home to more than 650 species of tropical plants. Enjoy a stroll through exotic plants, bright flowers, a rushing waterfall, fragrant orchids, and free-flying birds.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

The Wisconsin Gardener

"Weeds, Wine & Chocolate"

Thursday, August 27, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 5, 10:30 a.m.
on Wisconsin Public Television
Check local listings for the station nearest you.

Host Shelley Ryan travels to Pardeeville to learn how to control the noxious weeds buckthorn and honeysuckle. Her guest Neil Diboll then shows how to replace those weeds with something more attractive, wild ginger. In Green Bay we plant gorgeous containers with plants that go with the colors of wine and chocolate. The program also highlights the versatility of butternut squash with a five-course meal.

For more information, visit www.wpt.org/garden

4th Annual Garden Festival

Sunday, September 12, 1:00 p.m.-4:00p.m.

Rotary Botanical Gardens
1455 Palmer Drive
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-3885 or www.rotarygardens.org for details

Fall Plant Sale

September 12-September 20, 9:00 a.m.-5:00p.m. daily
At the Horticulture Center

Featuring:

- Hundreds of varieties of perennials for all garden situations
- Huge garden mums
- Spring blooming bulbs
- Shrubs
- Roses
- Bagged Mushroom Compost

Call Mark at (608) 754-1779 with any questions

Rotary Botanical Gardens
1455 Palmer Drive
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-3885 or www.rotarygardens.org for details

The Wisconsin Gardener

“Harvest Traditions”

Saturday, September 12, 10:30 a.m.

on Wisconsin Public Television

Check local listings for the station nearest you.

Host Shelley Ryan travels to Monches Farm to learn how to make a fall wreath using plants and grasses. At Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa the focus is heirloom squashes and gourds. The program also looks at how to naturalize bulbs in a lawn setting and two autumn holidays are honored, the Mexican Day of the Dead and Halloween.

For more information, visit www.wpt.org/garden

Native by Design--A How-To Conference for Gardeners

Sunday, September 13, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Using the Arboretum's Wisconsin Native Plant Garden as an outdoor classroom, seminars are combined with expert advice and living examples to guide those wishing to become successful native gardeners. Fee: \$50 (\$43 for Friends of the Arboretum; \$25 for students). Registration required.

University of Wisconsin Arboretum

1207 Seminole Highway

Madison, WI 53711

608/263-7888 or www.uwarboretum.org for details

Cover Crops for the Home Garden

Tuesday, September 15 at 5:30 p.m.

West Madison Agricultural Research Station

8502 Mineral Point Road

Verona, WI 53593

608/262-2257

Learn about buckwheat, clover, oats, peas and soybeans to grow as a cover crop to enhance your soil and prevent erosion. Free.

Visit their web site @ www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/ for details.

The Wisconsin Gardener

“Focus on Foliage”

Saturday, September 19, 10:30 a.m.

on Wisconsin Public Television

Check local listings for the station nearest you.

Host Shelley Ryan explores the colorful world of coleus at **Klein's Floral and Greenhouses featuring our own Rick Halbach**. Now there are varieties for both shade and sun making this a versatile foliage plant. Plant pathologist Brian Hudelson takes us on a tour of "fungus among us" and shows us which plant diseases we need to worry about and which ones are just cosmetic. Also on the program, we'll start getting ready for fall by planting cover crops. Known as green manure, cover crops can control weeds, enrich the soil and slow erosion. Speaking of green, there are some new and unusual evergreens available to the home gardener. Roy Klehm of Song Sparrow Farm and Nursery in Avalon shares his favorites. The program will also feature an interesting look at insects through the eyes of Wisconsin artist Jennifer Angus.

For more information, visit www.wpt.org/garden

The Wisconsin Gardener

“Celebrate Fall”

Saturday, September 26, 10:30 a.m.

on Wisconsin Public Television

Check local listings for the station nearest you.

Host Shelley Ryan celebrates fall with a visit to the La Crosse area for a look at ornamental grasses, perfect plants for the autumn garden. Chef Wave Kasprzak of The Dining Room at 209 Main in Monticello shares favorite fall recipes using onions, leeks and garlic. Learn about viruses and how they can affect garden plants with UW-Extension Plant Pathologist Brian Hudelson. The program also visits some colorful autumn garden displays in Baileys Harbor in Door County, WI.

For more information, visit www.wpt.org/garden

Butterflies and Flowers

Sunday, October 4, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Grady Tract

Butterflies make stops for nectar on fall-blooming asters, adding to the beauty of the prairie. We will look for the five species of gentian that grow here as well as asters and goldenrods. Meet at the Grady Tract parking lot located at the southeast corner of the West Beltline and Seminole Highway.

University of Wisconsin Arboretum
1207 Seminole Highway
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888 or www.uwarboretum.org for details

SEPTEMBER IN THE GARDEN--A checklist of things to do this month.

**Although the average first frost date for Madison is about Oct. 6, killing frosts have occurred as early as September 12 (1955). Be aware of quick weather changes this time of year. Be prepared to cover tender plants at any time.

- Pick up a copy of the 2010 Wisconsin Garden Journal at bookstores & Klein's
- Continue sowing lettuce, endive, escarole and spinach.
- Plant garlic now! This is the best time in Wisconsin.
- Plant bearded iris and transplant peonies.
- Harvest pumpkins and winter squash.
- Apply a systemic pesticide to plants to be wintered over indoors.
- Continue planting shrubs and trees.
- Plant grass seed. September is one of the best times as nights cool.
- Aerate your lawn.
- Divide and plant perennials as desired.
- Stop deadheading perennials for winter interest, i.e. sedums, grasses, etc.
- Dig tender bulbs as the foliage yellows.
- Give the garden at least 1" of moisture per week.
- Collect seeds for next year's garden.
- Make notes in your garden journal for changes, improvements, etc.
- Take pictures of your garden for record keeping.
- Keep an eye on the weather. Water as needed.
- Shop for spring bulbs, mums and winter hardy pansies.
- Bring dormant amaryllis bulb indoors for 3 mo. of rest.
- Begin checking out the garden centers for spring bulb selection.
- Take cuttings of geraniums, coleus and other plants to winter over.
- Late in the month, begin planting spring bulbs, but wait as long as possible.
- Begin moving houseplants back indoors.
- Visit Klein's---Great selection of mums, kales, cabbages, pansies & more!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT KLEIN'S--This is a sneak peek of what is going on each month behind the scenes in our greenhouses. Many people are unaware that our facility operates year round or that we have 10 more greenhouses on the property in addition to the 6 open for retail. At any given moment we already have a jump on the upcoming season--be it poinsettias in July, geraniums in December or fall mums in May.

IN SEPTEMBER:

- The poinsettias continue grow and thrive in our back greenhouses. They're almost ready to bring into our retail greenhouses before the weather gets too cold.
- Crops arrive for winter sales: cyclamen, azaleas.
- We begin weatherizing the greenhouses for winter.
- All remaining perennials are cut back, cleaned up and put into winter storage.
- We continue stocking fall mums as they go into bloom. We'll continue to have a good selection into November.
- Ordering plants for spring 2010 is going on fast and furious. Our growers order early to ensure best selection. They pore over stacks of catalogs containing the newest plant material for 2010.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE--CARLY THIEL

An absolutely glowing ear to ear smile greets both customers and coworkers alike when Carly Thiel graces Klein's retail area. She's one of those rare people who can brighten the worst of days with her sheer presence. And like all of us at Klein's, Carly was bitten by

that infectious gardening bug early in her young life. She says, "I just can't help myself" when talking about her extensive and ever-growing houseplant collection (that ever-present smile lighting up her face as she speaks).

Some of Carly's earliest and fondest memories are helping her mom and dad in their family garden in North Freedom, Wisconsin, a small town located between Reedsburg and Baraboo. Like many families, Carly says that it was her mother who did much of the flower and vegetable gardening, while her father was more interested in the landscaping and the lawn. Though a "country kid", Carly did not grow up on a farm. Yet the experience of growing up in a rural setting has shaped who Carly is today. A hard work ethic and a sense of honesty emanates from this invaluable employee.

Carly says that she has many wonderful memories working in the garden; helping plant, weed, water and harvest. One not-so-fond memory from kindergarten that stands out from all the rest involved a single watermelon that she had nurtured from seed. Carly says that she was completely devastated to find that an animal had taken a bite from her perfect softball-sized fruit that she had pampered for ever so long. Today, Carly says that her mother grows primarily flowers, rather than vegetables, and that one of her personal goals is to learn more about vegetable gardening.

Carly graduated from Reedsburg High School in 2005 and moved to Madison where she attended MATC (Madison Area Technical College) and received an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts in the spring of 2009. She says that it was while adding to that extensive and ever-growing houseplant collection and, therefore, shopping at Klein's in the spring of 2008 that she casually asked if we were hiring. Good fortune was on her side and within days, Carly became Klein's then newest sales associate. For the immediate future, Carly is hoping to take a break from school and would like to work in the Madison school system as a teachers' aide and ultimately hopes some day to get her B.S. in Education with a focus in Special Education. In the meantime, she continues to work at Klein's, a job she says she loves for a lot of different reasons. First and foremost, Carly says she loves the "feeling of family" she has with her coworkers--"a big and wonderful dysfunctional family", she was quick to point out. Secondly, Carly says she loves our customers. She loves listening to them and absorbing from them their vast amount of gardening knowledge. Carly says she tries to be resourceful when helping our customers with gardening questions, utilizing every bit of technology available at our fingertips. "Success for our customer is important," she says.

Lastly, Carly says she wants to learn more about all aspects our business here at Klein's. Though Carly's primary responsibility to date has been working in the retail area, she had a few opportunities this past spring to dabble behind the scenes in our back greenhouses; for the most part transplanting seedlings. She says emphatically that she absolutely loved the experience! She says she hopes that some day she can use gardening and everything she's learned at Klein's as a teaching tool in her classroom. In addition to work and school, Carly has volunteered at Sandburg Elementary School here in Madison and would like to volunteer at the Humane Society. She says that animals are another of her many passions.

PERMANENT FEATURES-- **KLEIN'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Have our monthly newsletter e-mailed to you automatically by signing up on the right side of our home page. We'll offer monthly tips, greenhouse news and tidbits, specials and recipes. . .everything you need to know from your favorite Madison greenhouse. And tell your friends. It's easy to do.

THE MAD GARDENER--"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"

Ask us your gardening questions by e-mailing us at madgardener@kleinsfloral.com. Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. The link is posted on our home page and in all newsletters.

We can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

FACEBOOK

Klein's has joined the Facebook frenzy. Become a friend of Klein's by visiting us at www.facebook.com.

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

We offer a 10% Off Senior Citizen Discount every Tuesday to those 62 and above. This discount is not in addition to other discounts or sales. Please mention that you are a senior before we ring up your purchases. Does not apply to wire out orders or services, i.e. delivery, potting, etc.

BUCKY BOOK COUPON

Klein's is again showing our proud support of community UW athletics and academics with advertising and coupons in the 2009 edition of the Bucky Book. Visit www.buckybook.com for more information and to order your copy.

RECYCLING POTS & TRAYS

The City of Madison will recycle rinsed out hard plastic pots and trays when brought to their drop-off locations at 4602 Sycamore Ave. and 1501 West Badger Rd. They do not accept light plastic or multi-celled packs. White plastic #5's are also not accepted in city recycling bins or at the drop-off sites. For more information call 267-2626 or visit www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RigidPlasticRecyclingDropOff.cfm

DELIVERY INFO

Klein's Floral and Greenhouses delivers daily, except Sundays, throughout all of Madison and much of Dane County including: Cottage Grove, DeForest, Fitchburg, Maple Bluff, Marshall, McFarland, Middleton, Monona, Oregon, Shorewood Hills, Sun Prairie, Verona, Waunakee and Windsor. Current delivery rate on 1-4 items is \$6.95 for Madison, Maple Bluff, Monona and Shorewood Hills, slightly more to the surrounding communities and for more than 4 items. We not only deliver our fabulous fresh flowers, but also houseplants, bedding plants and sundries. A minimum order of \$25.00 is required for delivery. Delivery to the Madison hospitals is \$4.95. Deliveries to the four Madison hospitals are made during the early afternoon. There is no delivery charge to funeral homes in the city of Madison, although regular rates apply for morning funeral deliveries to Madison's west side. Regular rates also apply for funeral deliveries in the surrounding communities.

Morning delivery is guaranteed to the following Madison zip codes, but only if requested: 53703, 53704, 53714, 53716, 53718 and Cottage Grove, DeForest, Maple Bluff, Marshall, McFarland, Monona, Sun Prairie, Waunakee and Windsor. We begin our delivery day at 8:00 a.m. and end at approximately 4:00 p.m. Except during holidays, the following west-side zip codes and communities can be delivered only during the afternoon: 53705, 53706, 53711, 53713, 53717, 53719, 53726, Fitchburg, Middleton, Oregon, Shorewood Hills and Verona. During holidays (Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc.) we are able to make morning deliveries to all of the above areas. We are not able to take closely timed deliveries on any holiday due to the sheer volume of such requests. It's best to give us a range of time and we'll try our absolute hardest. Orders for same day delivery must be placed by 12:30 p.m. or by 2:30 p.m. for Madison zip codes 53704 and 53714. We do not deliver to Cambridge, Columbus, Deerfield or Stoughton.

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Please refer all questions, concerns or feedback in the following departments to their appropriate supervisor. Phone: 608/244-5661 or 888/244-5661

Floral Department Manager Kathy Lehman
kathy@kleinsfloral.com
Head Grower & Horticulturist Jamie VandenWymelenberg
jamie@kleinsfloral.com
Retail Manager
Jennifer Wadyka
jennifer@kleinsfloral.com
House Accounts & Billing Barbara Foulk
Delivery Supervisor
Rick Halbach
Owner Sue (Klein) Johnson
sue@kleinsfloral.com

RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES

University of Wisconsin Extension
1 Fen Oak Ct. #138
Madison, WI 53718
608/224-3700
www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/
www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort

Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic
Dept. of Plant Pathology
1630 Linden Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
www.plantpath.wisc.edu/

Insect Diagnostic Lab
240 Russell Labs
1630 Linden Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
www.entomology.wisc.edu/

State Soil Testing Lab
5711 Mineral Point Rd.
Madison, WI 53705
608/262-4364
www.soils.wisc.edu

American Horticultural Society
www.ahs.org

Garden Catalogs (an extensive list with links)
www.gardenlist.com
also www.mailordergardening.com

Invasive Species

www.invasive.org

Friends of Troy Gardens
Rm. 171, Bldg. 14
3601 Memorial Dr.
Madison, WI 53704
608/240-0409

www.troygardens.org

Community Gardens Division (Madison area)
Community Action Coalition
1717 N. Stoughton Rd.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4730

www.cacscw.org/gardens/

Madison Area Master Gardeners (MAMGA)
www.madison.com/communities/mamga/

Wisconsin Master Gardeners Program
Department of Horticulture
1575 Linden Drive
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Madison, WI 53706
608/265-4504

www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/

The Wisconsin Gardener
www.wpt.org/garden/
Has a list of garden clubs and societies

Allen Centennial Gardens
620 Babcock Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
608/262-8406
www.horticulture.wisc.edu/allencentennialgardens/Index.html

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4550
www.olbrich.org

Rotary Gardens
1455 Palmer Dr.
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-3885
www.rotarygardens.org

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888
www.uwarboretum.org

University of Wisconsin-West Madison
Agricultural Research Center
8502 Mineral Point Rd.
Verona, WI 53593
608/262-2257
www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/

PLANTS POISONOUS TO CHILDREN:

Children may find the bright colors and different textures of plants irresistible, but some plants can be poisonous if touched or eaten. If you're in doubt about whether or not a plant is poisonous, don't keep it in your home. The risk is not worth it. The following list is not comprehensive, so be sure to seek out safety information on the plants in your home to be safe.

- Bird of paradise
- Bull nettle

- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Crocus
- Daffodil
- Deadly nightshade
- Dieffenbachia (dumb cane)
- Foxglove
- Glory lily
- Hemlock
- Holly berry
- Indian tobacco
- Iris
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Lily of the valley
- Marijuana
- Mescal bean
- Mexicanes
- Mistletoe
- Morning glory
- Mountain laurel
- Night-blooming jasmine
- Nutmeg
- Oleander
- Philodendron
- Poison ivy
- Poison sumac
- Pokeweed
- Poppy
- Potato
- Privet
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Water hemlock
- Wisteria

PLANTS POISONOUS TO PETS:

Below is a list of some of the common plants which may produce a toxic reaction in animals. This list is intended only as a guide to plants which are generally identified as having the capability for producing a toxic reaction. Source: The National Humane Society website @ www.hsus.org/

- Aconite
- Apple
- Arrowgrasses
- Autumn Crocus
- Azaleas
- Baneberry
- Bird-of-Paradise
- Black locust
- Bloodroot
- Box
- Buckeye
- Buttercup
- Caladium
- Carolina jessamine
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Chockcherries
- Christmas berry
- Christmas Rose
- Common privet
- Corn cockle
- Cowbane
- Cow cockle
- Cowsliprb
- Daffodil
- Daphne
- Day lily
- Delphinium (Larkspur)

- Dumbcane
- Dutchman's breeches
- Easter lily
- Elderberry
- Elephant's ear
- English Ivy
- European Bittersweet
- Field peppergrass
- Foxglove
- Holly
- Horsechestnut
- Horse nettle
- Hyacinth
- Iris
- Jack-in-the-pulpit
- Jerusalem Cherry
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Laurels
- Lily of the valley
- Lupines
- Mayapple
- Milk vetch
- Mistletoe
- Monkshood
- Morning glory
- Mustards
- Narcissus
- Nicotiana
- Nightshade
- Oaks
- Oleander
- Philodendrons
- Pokeweed
- Poinsettia
- Poison hemlock
- Potato
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Rosary pea
- Sago palm
- Skunk cabbage
- Smartweeds
- Snow-on-the-mountain
- Sorghum
- Star of Bethlehem
- Wild black cherry
- Wild radish
- Wisteria
- Yellow jessamine
- Yew