PPGSA

The Plant Pathology Graduate Student Association (PPGSA) is a non-profit organization. Funding of the activities are provided through volunteer-based activities, such as charities. PPGSA is not an official part of the Ohio State University, but will nonetheless respect many of the bylaws laid forth by the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) when appropriate.

These fliers are brought to you by our Outreach Committee. The main function of this committee is to both create a greater student awareness and understanding of plant pathology in order to broaden the numbers of future plant pathologists in our department and across the country as well as to increase community awareness of the general nature of plant pathology.

All of the plants we sell are native to the Ohio area. That means they are adapted and ready to be a beautiful, worry free, addition to your yard!

Black-Eyed Susans make wonderful cut flowers, lasting 6-10 days, and represent encouragement. Because of their low maintenance, quick growth, and drought resistance; they are the perfect flowers for beginner gardeners! Black-Eyed Susans are pioneer plants; meaning that they are the first plants to grow in an area damaged by fire or natural disasters. In addition, they are the plant host of the Silvery Checkerspot butterfly caterpillar.

Black-Eyed Susan
These plants are perfect additions to any garden.

**Plant Requirements and Description**

**Mature Height and Spread:**
- 2 feet tall

**Growth Rate:**
- Fast

**Light Requirement:**
- Full Sun or partial sun

**Other Requirements:**
- Wet – Dry Mesic soil
- Spacing 10-12”

**Description:**
This flower is easily distinguished by its almost black centers and bright yellow daisy-like petals. Black-Eyed Susans will bloom profusely between June and October. They will bloom more frequently if their spent flowers are removed. One warning is that this flower can become invasive into the rest of your garden! Be sure to give them plenty of space to grow as they will crowd out other flowers. They abundantly reseed themselves, which makes them perfect for gardeners who do not want to plant year after year.

**Sources**
- [http://www.theflowerexpert.com/content/aboutflowers/stateflowers/maryland-state-flowers](http://www.theflowerexpert.com/content/aboutflowers/stateflowers/maryland-state-flowers)

**Common Problems**
It is important to know the common problems different plants in your garden may experience so that you can better manage the issues and ensure your plants are providing the ascetics you desire.

There are two main diseases that Black-Eyed Susans can succumb to; and both are caused by fungal pathogens. The first is powdery mildew which is characterized by brown twisted lower leaves and white powdery fungal growth on the upper surfaces of the leaf. The second is Rust whose symptoms are yellow or white spots on the upper leaves and orange or yellow spots on the undersides of leaves. These plants are also a favorite food or slugs, snails, aphids, deer, and other small mammals.

**Management**
- Keep plants well-spaced & weed free. Spacing helps reduce humidity in the foliage which prevent fungal growth.
- Planting plants in a sunny location. In addition, to photosynthetic health of your flowers, this also helps dry out any moisture and prevent fungal growth.
- Water the plants from the bottom. Watering plants from the bottom is a wise practice no matter the plant. This prevents excess moisture on the leaves which can lead to fungal growth or scotching from the sun.
- Remove any & all infected plant parts. Make sure not to compost any infected plant parts as the fungal spores can be spread by wind or water.
- Divide every three or four years for healthy plants and to prevent excessive spreading.