

June 16, 2023



Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.

~ Robert Lubbock

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**SOW app available for Kentucky gardeners**

Dr. Rick Durham, UK horticulture extension specialist

Kentucky gardeners have a new tool available in Apple and Google Play app stores to assist with planting, sowing and harvesting decisions for their home garden.

SOW—A Planting Companion is a free app based on University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension’s [publication ID-18 Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky](#). The app also incorporates information for Alabama and North Carolina and other areas in U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Hardiness Zones 6a-9a. Kentucky is primarily in zone 6b, with a few areas in 6a or 7a. After downloading

the app, enter your state and county to get customized plant information based on your hardiness zone. You can always change the information later in the settings menu.

The app has three main sections: My Garden, Journal and Library. The library currently has information and photos of about 36 popular home garden vegetables. You may sort the vegetables alphabetically, by harvest date or by planting date. Clicking on a vegetable in the library will open information about that vegetable, including estimated days to harvest, expected yield, plant spacing, planting depth, soil pH range and average number of plants per person you need to include for a good harvest.

You can add vegetables to the My Garden section. You can develop more than one garden, for example, a spring garden, a summer garden and a fall garden, and keep them separate. My Garden helps you keep track of

*Susan M. Fox*

Susan Fox  
Lyon County Extension Agent For ANR



Bruschetta Gardens: Dwarf tomato, pepper, basil and annual flower planting class at Lyon County Housing Authority.

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## Replacing or Rescuing Damaged Shrubs

Dr. Rick Durham, University of Kentucky Horticulture Specialist

The extreme cold spell at the end of December 2022 caused severe damage to many shrubs and bushes around Kentucky homes. With plants greening up this spring, you may be wondering what to remove and what to attempt to rescue in your landscape.

The cold is just one part of the puzzle when shrub health declines. Other factors include soil pH, soil volume, too much or too little water and light availability.

Some shrubs may just need a good pruning and time to recover from the winter stress. If you want to try to revive the shrub through pruning, you'll need to trim it down with sturdy pruning shears. Don't remove more than one-third of the plant in a season. If the plant is healthy, it will soon produce new green shoots. If your shrub has more brown branches than green at the core, it may be time for you to remove it. When shrubs become too woody in the middle, start over with another plant.

Well-established shrubs may have large, complex root structures. Make sure to completely remove them before planting something new. Use the transition time to do a soil test so you know what amendments it will need before you bring home new plants.

If you must replace landscape shrubs and plants, Kentucky has more than 1,200 nurseries and retailers selling hundreds of types of trees, shrubs, groundcovers and perennials. With 120 counties of resources, you can buy locally without driving very far. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Kentucky Proud program allows individuals locate local retail garden centers that market Kentucky-grown trees and shrubs. Search the garden center database at <https://www.kyagr.com/agbus/products.aspx?group=19&category=112>.

Retailers looking to stock their garden centers with Kentucky-grown trees and shrubs may use the Landscape Plant Availability Guide <https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/plant/common-name-search.aspx>.

Kentucky also has many qualified nursery growers, retailers, landscapers and arborists. The Cooperative Extension Service offers many green-industry classes throughout the year. Kentucky nursery growers and retailers are a very well-trained group of horticulturists. They are familiar with Kentucky soil types, weather and other factors playing a role in plant performance.

When you visit a local nursery to choose new plants, make sure and read the tags and note the light, water and soil requirements. Ensure the new plants fit your landscape.

To learn more about transplanting container plants, check out the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension publication *Planting Container-Grown Trees and Shrubs in Your Landscape*, HO-114. You can find it online here: <https://tinyurl.com/24fx9j9p>.

## Identifying Tomato, Pepper, Eggplant and Potato Pests

Dr. Rick Bessin, University of Kentucky Entomologist

Many Kentucky gardeners grow tomatoes, peppers, eggplant and potatoes for their own use or for sale in local farmer's markets. Pests are sometimes challenging to identify and even more challenging to manage.

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment advocates for a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health and environmental risks. A key part of that is to continually scout and monitor your garden to identify problems before they result in a significant loss.

The UK Cooperative Extension publication ID172—*An IPM Scouting Guide for Common Pests of Solanaceous Crops in Kentucky*—may help you identify common pests. The publication has a variety of photographs that show exactly what to look for in your crop.

Some of the items the publication covers include:

1. Physiological and nutrient disorders such as vivipary, gold fleck, catfacing, zippering, sunscald, blossom end rot, blotchy ripening, yellow shoulder, white core.
2. Insect pests such as aphids, leafminer, greenhouse whitefly, silverleaf whitefly, tobacco flea beetle, potato flea beetle, margined blister beetle, stink bugs, leaf-footed bugs, western flower thrips, two-spotted spider mite, Colorado potato beetle, tobacco hornworm, pepper maggot, beet armyworm, yellow-striped armyworm, tomato fruitworm, European corn borer.
3. Tomato, pepper, eggplant and potato diseases and management.
4. Herbicide injury.
5. A list of resources for further study.

To view the publication, visit <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/id/id172/id172.pdf>.

Horticulture  
Webinar  
Wednesdays



University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

# Talking Phalaenopsis - Easy Orchids

**June 21, 2023**

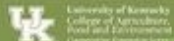
**12:30 p.m. ET/11:30 a.m. CT**

Register at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/23JunHWW>

[visit kentuckyhortnews.com](http://kentuckyhortnews.com)

Horticulture  
Webinar  
Wednesdays



University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service

## JUNE CLASSES

Wednesdays

12:30 p.m. ET / 11:30 a.m. CT

**June 7**

**Blooming Wildflowers**

**June 14**

**Japanese Beetles**

**June 21**

**Talking Phalaenopsis**

**June 28**

**Tropicals for Zone 6**



Register Here:

<https://tinyurl.com/23JuneHww>



# Painting with *Vibrant* Alcohol Inks: The Basics

*Class Taught by Don Hershman*

Thursday, June 29, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Lyon County Extension Office, 231 Main St., Eddyville, KY

Cost is \$25/person, participants will receive 3 bottles of  
alcohol ink. Payment required at registration.

Class size is limited. Call 270-388-2341 for information.



## Spanish and English Language Club!

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Looking to practice your Spanish or English language skills? Join our Language Club! Connect with others and improve your language fluency in a fun and engaging way. No need to be an expert, all levels are welcome. Participation is free. Activities will be led by Lisa Stewart, she is fluent in conversational Spanish.

Let's become bilingual together! Club meetings will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Lyon County Extension Office. Please come if you are interested in working on your English or Spanish language skills! Call 270-388-2341 for reservations!