



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

APRIL, 2024

www.maraisdescygnnes.ksu.edu

# What's Growing On.....

The latest news from the Marais des Cygne Extension Master Gardeners

Paola Office: 913 N Pearl (Old KC Road), Paola, KS 66071 ~ 913-294-4306

Mound City Office: 115 S 6th St., Mound City, KS 66056 ~ 913-795-2829

## 2024 PLANT SALE

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### ADVISORY BOARD

- Chairman - Janette Everhart
- Vice Chair - Carol Vandenberg
- Secretary - Susan Rogers
- Treasurer - Billie Lenz
- Members at Large:
  - Helen Kloeppe
  - Stephanie Myers
  - Rena Tedrow

In the event you haven't heard...we have a plant sale in less than 2 weeks! Many people have been energetically crafting the upcoming plant sale.

If you have not yet volunteered to help, no worries...you still have time and your help is needed to fill many open slots. You can either refer to Katelyn's email (April 1st) for the link or...here it is for your convenience...

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49ABAC22A6F58-48541199-2024#/>

When you go to the sign-up page, first review what days/positions are still available--you can easily see where help is needed. After that, go thru and select your options and choose 'save' *after* making all your selections. Now you are set!

A volunteer training meeting is scheduled for **April 18th, 6:30p** at the Extension office.

This year, plants will be set up by groups for ease of locating them. A full plant list will be distributed at the training meeting. A map of the grouping list is on page 9.

Additional detailed information is included in the newsletter article on page 3.

Hope to see you at the training this week!



**Committees****Courthouse Garden**

Phyllis Benedict

**Trial Garden**Dennise Fink-Morse, Chair  
Chet McLaughlin, Shirley New,**KSU Extension Office Garden**2024 Class (monument sign)  
Deb Kitchell (planters by door)**Linn County Courthouse Garden**

Larraine Crawford

**Advanced Training**

Barbara Shropshire

**Awards Banquet**Donna Cook, Betsy Hasselquist,  
Susan Thompson**Symposium - 2024**

Janette Everhart

**Plant Sale**Sue Burns, Stacie Campbell,  
Lenora Larson**Garden Tour (2025)**

TBD

**Seeds for Kids**

Betsy Hasselquist

**Miami County Fair**Dennise Fink-Morse, Hort. Supt.  
Betsy Hasselquist, Seeds4Kids  
Supt.  
Bill Vandeberg, Flori. Supt.**New Recruits/Mentors**

Becky Thorpe

**Other****Publicity**

Lenora Larson

**Newspaper Articles**

Katelyn Barthol, Extension Agt.

**Social Media/newsletters**

Rena Tedrow, Editor

**Reminder...** All articles, photos, etc. that you want included in the EMG Newsletter should be sent to Rena T. at [wordet01@gmail.com](mailto:wordet01@gmail.com) by the **second Thurs. of each month**. This includes any type of upcoming event that might take place before the next newsletter is distributed.

**Advisory Board--Vision Exercise...** We have been working on a vision statement that represents our EMG group. It has been finalized... *We are recognized as a welcoming, knowledgeable, focused gardening volunteer team. We grow, communicate with, and educate our community and ourselves. We build lasting connections and friendships.*"

**Hotline...** Please read the note on page 5 on the calendar page.

**Annual Awards Banquet...** Please see the email that Katelyn sent that included a link to a survey for you to complete to gather input on the Awards Banquet.

**Garden Symposium...** There is consideration for holding a Symposium in 2025. If you were not at the General Meeting and wish to volunteer as a leader or a co-leader for a sub-committee, please contact Janette E.

**Trial Garden...** Watch for the spirit pole, donated by Scott C. to appear. Sue B. will contact Scott to pick up and deliver to the garden soon!

**Extension office (entrance) flower pots...** Debbie K. did a lovely job of arranging the plants in the pots last week. If you are near the extension office, please stop by to check to see if they are dry 2" below the soil line. If so, a pitcher is sitting just inside the door. Let's all help keep them looking great!

**LaCygne Community Garden...** The beds have been tilled and on April 10th, a few industrious workers planted asparagus, potatoes, cabbage, broccoli, red & white onions, carrots, radishes and 2 varieties of lettuce and spinach. Need volunteers even if it's an hour or two on Wednesday or Friday mornings (8a-11a). You can follow the FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1626475517539149>

**Extension office monument sign...** Stephanie M. will be guiding the 2024 class to spruce up this area in the near future.

**Garden Tour 2025...** Would you be willing to chair this event? Contact one of the board members.



## Plant Sale Progress

Lenora Larson, Apr 3, 2024

**Set-up on Wednesday the 24th. Sale runs Thursday, Friday & Saturday a.m. - All hands-on-deck for working and personal shopping.**

Advertising has appeared in the KCG and Gardeners Connect. Sue is organizing the team to place fliers in our community business establishments. Rena has posted on FB and will repeat every week. YOU are our best marketer: Please share on your FB page each week!!!! Katelyn has set up the information on our website, as well as sending our flier to the other EMG programs and emailing the PDF Plant List to all our EMGs. She also has created a Sign-up Genius and spots are rapidly filling. Cashiers are a special category, plus several of our EMG Experts will work all 3 days in their area of expertise, i.e., Janette Bennet for butterflies and Scott Catton for pollinators and Michael Poss for the used book exchange. We hope to identify more special volunteers before the sale. You could volunteer! Just contact Sue or me. Tom de La Cruz is again collecting cardboard boxes. We always run out, so please bring beer flats from home! And we need used garden books, so please empty your book shelves to bring unwanted gardening books and magazines.

2024 innovations include 3 checkout lines, a Friday morning inventory re-stocking, magazines added to the free book exchange and more signage on the tables to designate the Plant Group. Shoppers should appreciate new resources such as the "Plant Group designations" on the back of the tally sheets, and posters showing the Table Layout and a Pie Graph illustrating how we spend the profits. An expected issue: inflation. VVN has regrettably raised their prices per pot by \$0.50. Any one who has bought groceries recently should not be surprised! It should be a wash for us since we'll pass this increase on to the customers.

### ***Plant Sale Training: April 18, 6:30 at Extension Office - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!***

This training is for all workers registered on the Sign-up Genius Online Scheduler. Topics will include the table map & tally sheets (pots and pricing) and plant groupings by type. We'll also discuss how to download/use the PDF Plant List on your smart phone for plant searches by common or botanical name. Plus, information on how the set-up will be conducted and the check-out process including cashier duties and sales tax and credit card processing. Fortunately, most of our customers pay by check or credit card so our cashiers won't have to handle much cash. Katelyn will be sending out more information about the training.

### ***Set-up, Wednesday April 24/Re-stocking Friday a.m.***

**Please arrive at 9:00a.** We'll set-up 80 tables and two large tents. Please refer to the Table Map in this Newsletter to visualize the logistics. The VVN truck will arrive at approximately 10:30a and again at 2:30p. I'll again act as triage for plant placement as we unload the truck. Harley Davison has designed and constructed metal racks to hold the trees and shrubs as well as the hanging basket racks. For overnight, hanging baskets and patio pots will be placed in Sue's trailer and flats will be placed on the ground under their respective tables. The sheriff's office will be notified to provide extra vigilance for the duration of the sale.



## Plant Sale Progress - continued

Donna Cook has volunteered her box truck for a re-stocking run to VVN early Friday am. We'll do an inventory Thursday afternoon and notify them so we can replace when possible from VVN's inventory. This should significantly increase sales since we have frequently run out of favorites by noon Thursday.

### Come Ready to Work!

The sale starts at 9:00a, Thursday the 25th. No early shopping! We will be open until 5:00p on Thursday and 6:00p Friday night. On Saturday we will be open 9a to 1:00p and our MdC EMGs will receive a 10% discount on plants purchased from 11 am to 1 pm closing on Saturday! Please arrive at 8:30am if you are in the first shift each morning to help move flats up to their tables and water if needed. Sue will bring a water tank in her truck. We will be offering about 550 species of plants. The new signs will help with finding requests and a hard copy of the 11-page inventory list will be at the Lucy Booth. Six "Price by Pot-type" posters will be displayed throughout the area and checkout.

There will be 3 shelves for order-holding outside the checkout area. One lane is reserved for "Express", no more than 5 items, check or cash. Two lanes under a tent will have credit card capability as well as cash and check. Tally sheet(s) will be filled out by the cashier or helper for each order. A second tent will protect the "services" area with Seeds for Kids, the Lucy Information Booth and our FREE, USED GARDENING BOOKS and gardening magazines.

Will this be our best Plant Sale ever? It's in Mother Nature's hands. Could we please have four days of perfect weather?!



Photo from Vinland Valley Nursery's webpage. A sample of one of the plants available at the sale. Can you guess what it is? I know Lenora will know...

## UPCOMING:

- **Hotline sign-up:** Don't forget to recruit a buddy and sign up for the hotline. EMGs are required to complete 4 hours of Hotline hours. Hours for hotline are underway and run thru Oct. on Thursday's at the Paola Extension office from 8-noon. Shifts are two-hour sessions - 8-10a and 10a-noon. You can complete all your hours on one day, or select another day.  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49ABAC22A6F58-48540259-2024#/>
- **Miami County Courthouse Garden...** Regular work days are Wednesday's from 9a - 11a. Still quite a bit of clean up to do before additional annuals are planted.
- **April 18, 6:30p - Plant Sale Volunteer Training...** at the Extension office. Please come so we can service our community garden better. And of course, sell more plants!
- **April 20, 3:00p - Bird Program...** Vinland Valley Nursery (see the calendar next page)
- **April 24-27 - Plant sale set up and Plant sale...** See article page 2 for details
- **May 7, 11a - Pop-up Social at the O.P. Arboretum...** free admission. Lunch at the Arboretum's new 'Long House Visitor Center.' *If attending, please RSVP to Billie Lenz 816-225-7151. Refer to Cafe Celeste's page for menu:* <https://www.opkansas.org/recreation-fun/arboretum-botanical-gardens/longhouse-visitor-center/cafe-gift-shop/>
- **Miami County Farm Tour...** May 11-12th over Mother's Day weekend.
- **Garden Tour - Save the Date... June 25., 9a-12p .** Garden Tour & Tea at Lori Stottlemire's. Hollyhocks are the highlight. Light refreshments and a few added attractions. Opportunity to make an herbal craft. Details to come, so save the date. In the event of rain, we will meet at the extension office and tour Lori's garden another time.



# ADVANCED TRAINING SCHEDULE

## 2024 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training Calendar

Note: Additional trainings will be added throughout the year as they are scheduled

MO	DATE	TIME	# HRS	TOPIC	SPEAKER	LOCATION
APR	24-27	Set up 9a 4/24		Paola Plant Sale	See article and 'upcoming' for details	913 N Pearl (Extension Office)
APR	20	3:00p	1	Planting for Backyard Birds	Dr. Roger Boyd, Emeritus Prof. of Biology, Baker University	Vinland Valley, 1606 N. 600 Rd., Baldwin City KS. Learn how to attract more birds to your backyard by what you plant.
APR	23	12:00p	1	Seed Saving - The Pros and Cons	Sherri Carter, MGGKC EMG	Leawood Garden Club, Cure of Ars Catholic Church, 9401 Mission Rd., Leawood KS
MAY	14	7:00 PM	1	"Everything I Learned From a Tomato - the Taste of Summer"	Sky Kurbaum	Gardeners Connect (free speaker series), Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater, Merriam, KS
MAY	17-18	9a - 5p	?	JoCo EMG Garden Tour	JoCo EMG Garden Tour	Early bird tickets available online <a href="https://www.johnson.k-state.edu/">https://www.johnson.k-state.edu/</a> April 1 for \$25, After May 1, \$30.
JUN	4	10:00a	1	'Doolin's Extraordinary Vegetable & Flower Garden	Lana Doolin, member of Louisburg Garden Club	Doolin's, 29885 Antioch, Louisburg KS. Tour a beautiful property in the country with a large, fenced raised bed vegetable garden. Gorgeous flower beds are mixed in along with in-ground plantings. Learn about Lana's methods for growing her bountiful produce. (Rain date, Jun 18th)
SEPT	27-29	See website Track each session, workshop & tour you attend	and consult with Katelyn regarding AT hours	"Gardening With a Purpose"	Garden Conference by NW MO Master Gardeners	MOMGA '24 - Registration open - \$135 MO Western State University <a href="https://momga.org/momga-conference/">https://momga.org/momga-conference/</a> Friday - St. Joe Garden Tours - addtn'l cost Sat. eve. - Keynote Speaker, Doug Tallamy Choose from 20 speakers on Sat. & Sun.
<b>MdC Training Hours</b>			Other Training Hours		<b>Red text denotes new training or updated information</b>	

Additional AT information on the next page....



The **K-State Garden Hour**, is at 12:00 PM on the 1st Wed. of each month. Register online at <https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/consumer-horticulture/garden-hour/>

- May 1 - Understanding Water Sources for Your Garden
- June 5 - Growing Cut Flowers for the Home & Farmer's Market

**Lunch and Learn**, 12:00 PM, Every 1st Thursday of the month. Native Plants at Noon, 12:00 PM, Every 3rd Thursday  
Register for both webinars at [deepproofs.org](http://deepproofs.org) (past recordings available on website)

IF YOU HAVE THOUGHTS, OR IDEAS FOR TRAINING, CONTACT BARB SHROPSHIRE

## A little humor...

("Borrowed" from Theresa Barr's FB page)

*I don't know who needs to hear this,  
but you're a great gardener.  
That plant really should have  
tried harder...*



# Paola Plant Sale

April 25, 26, & 27 2024

Thursday 9:00 - 5:00

Friday 9:00 - 6:00

Saturday 9:00 - 1:00

Pesticide-free, Locally Grown  
More Butterfly Host Plants than ever!



- Native Plants
- Pollinator Plants
- Herbs
- Annuals
- Perennials
- Veggies
- Succulents
- Hanging Baskets
- Trees
- Hypertufa Gifts!

FREE Gardening Book Exchange!  
Bring some, take some!

913 N. Pearl, Paola, KS, 66071

The sale will be held in the parking lot of the Extension Offices  
located at 913 N. Pearl, (Old KC Road) Paola, KS



Cash, Credit Cards & Checks Accepted

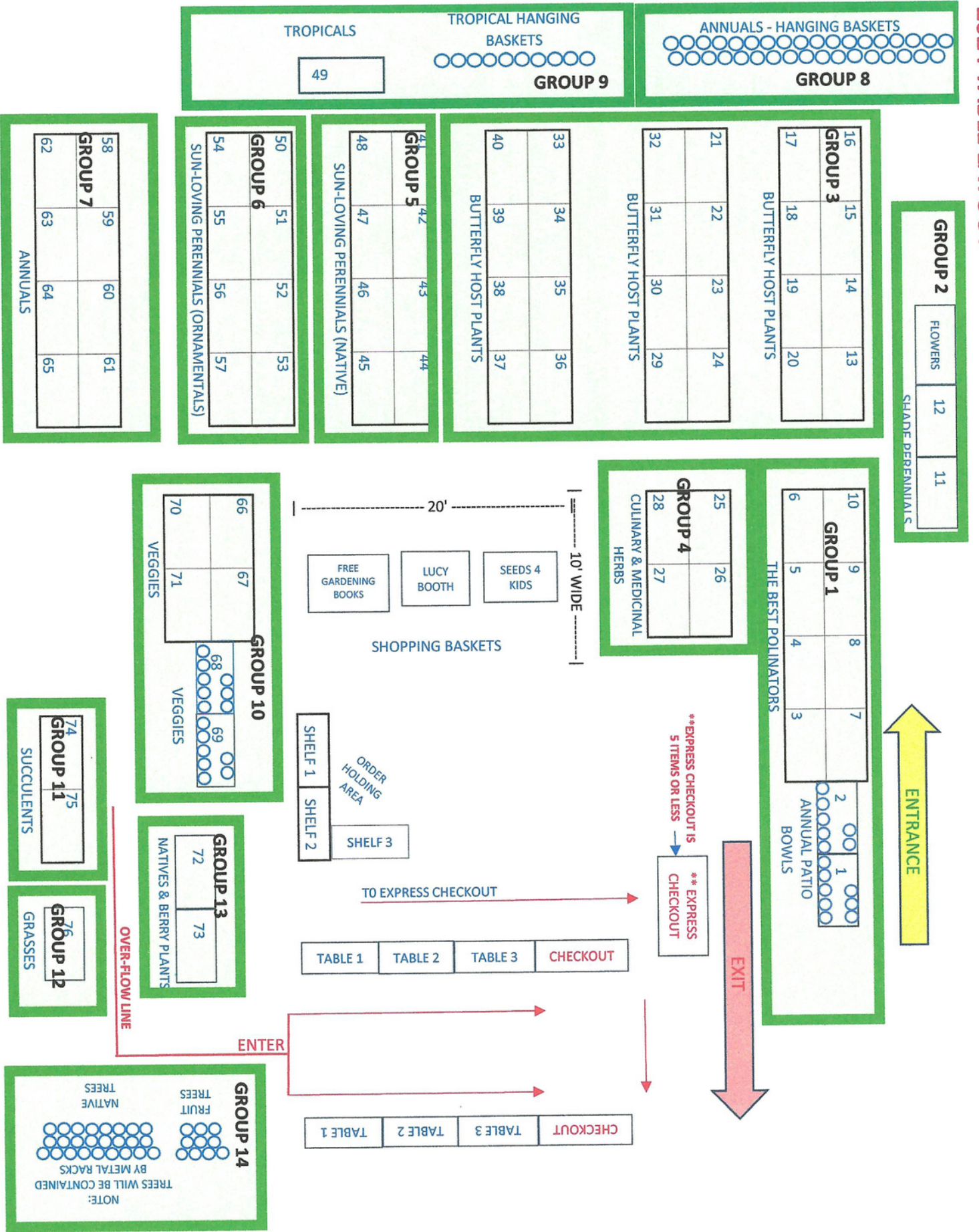
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Marais des Cygnes District



# 2024 TABLE LAYOUT



### 3-Why Botanical Names?

**Botanical nomenclature** assigns a plant's formal, unique scientific name in two words, the *Genus* and the *species*. The same scientific name is used all over the globe, which eliminates confusion and promotes consistency. Taxonomy, the science of classifying and identifying plants, is used to establish each plant's identity and botanical name. Be very, very glad that you live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and don't have to learn taxonomy to identify plants! Although true plant nerds LOVE doing taxonomic keys, I prefer an app like, "Picture This", to check my IDs and learn new plants.

Common names are "nicknames", varying by country, region or even city versus rural! A plant may have many different common names. Or, adding to the confusion, many different plants may have the same common name. If the exact identity of a plant is important to you, you must know the botanical name. For example, if you tell a gardener that you bought some Bluebells, we still don't know which plant you have because so many plants are called "Bluebells".



*Mertensia virginica*, Borage Family



*Campanula rotundifolia*  
Bellflower Family



*Lupinus texensis*, Pea Family



*Phacelia minor*, Borage Family



*Hyacinthoides hispanica*  
Lily Family

The botanical name is an elegant, organized system that provides vast information. For instance, *Echinacea* is the genus for Coneflowers. *Angustifolia* means "narrow leaves", and any plant with *angustifolia* as the species name will have narrow leaves. (I hope you know the wonderful *Zinnia angustifolia*, sprawling 12" tall and NEVER gets mildew. Zinnia is both the common and botanical genus name. Common zinnias are *Zinnia elegans*.) You already know Coneflowers like the purple *Echinacea purpurea*. *Echinacea angustifolia* is a coneflower with narrow leaves and it is the *Echinacea* in western Kansas where the pitiful rainfall favors narrow leaves as a strategy to survive droughts. Our MICO prairie *Echinacea* is *Echinacea pallida*, a pale pink Coneflower. *Echinacea* X 'Cheyenne Spirit' is a naturally occurring hybrid (hybrids are the result of two species crossing), discovered in a field at a nursery. Many would consider it a native or nativar because it's not "man-made." But now it's reproduced for sale in nurseries by cloning. Is it still a native? Botanists argue. What do you think?

There are many other yellow, orange and red *Echinacea* cultivars, like *Echinacea* X 'Tomato Soup', an orange-red Coneflower, and considered a "cultivar" because it's a man-made hybrid. There are ten native species of *Echinacea* for breeders to mix and match and create unique hybrids, but only one is yellow, *Echinacea paradoxa*, which has been crossed and re-crossed to produce the multitude of wonderful warm hues. A breeder chooses his favorite hybrid, names it, and then uses cloning to reproduce for sale. (You tomato growers already know that a hybrid *Echinacea* would probably not breed true.) Yellow? Native plant lovers may object: "What about the Grey-headed Coneflower? It's yellow." Yes it is, but Google to discover to its botanical name, *Ratibida pinata*. Grey-headed Coneflower isn't a Coneflower at all! Common names are so misleading, but the botanical name is beautiful, unique and informative.

Unless you had the advantage of Latin-speaking parents or have botanically-minded friends, learning this new language requires dedication. If you don't use it, you lose it. When I joined MICO EMG in 2010, many of our most devoted members used botanical nomenclature plus Ken O'Dell and Judy Moser. And I also belong to KNPS, Kansas Native Plant Society, surrounded by botanical name users because most native plants don't have a common name. Pedants may declare that if you are serious about gardening, you MUST use the botanical names, but I don't agree. So, why add this knowledge to your overloaded brain? For me, it's the beauty and precision of botanical names. If you MUST be sure of the identity of a plant, you need the botanical name. Are you an herbalist? The wrong plant could kill somebody! For butterflies the wrong plant means no food for caterpillars. Native plant lovers have no common names for most plants.

**Why do you want to learn botanical names? It's a personal decision, but I'm here to help.**

**A first step: Research the botanical name of 10 plants in your garden and call them by that name when you walk by.**