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## Plant Sale to Benefit MSU Horticulture Gardens!

**Friday May 15<sup>th</sup> 5 pm to 7 pm 2015 MSU Garden Members Only**  
**Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> 7 am to 2 pm Open to the Public**

The MSU Horticulture Gardens' plant sale will be open to the public on Saturday, May 17. MSU Garden Members can get in early to this annual event to search for the special treats on Friday evening, May 16. To become a garden member online, [click here!](#) All proceeds are used to support the ongoing activities of our largely self-funded MSU Horticulture Gardens. Support our gardens and fill your yard with plants!



### Plants Available for Purchase

- **Annuals** – a wide range of common and exotic, seed and vegetative, new and old.
- **Herbaceous perennials** – an eclectic collection of common, select and rare plants. Renata has also included generous divisions from our perennial displays .
- **Ornamental grasses** – a range of tender and hardy, short and tall, common and eclectic.
- **Vegetables** –tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, kale, broccoli, cabbage, Brussel spouts, squash, melons and many more. Many heirloom and difficult-to-find treasures
- **Herbs** – a wide selection of common and rare herbs.
- **Trees and shrubs** – a few should be available.

*Some plants may sell out more quickly than others.  
Come early for the best selection!*

For a list of plants for sale this year (though we cannot guarantee availability!)- visit our website at <http://www.hrt.msu.edu/plant-sale-201/> or [Click here!](#)

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## More Information on the 2015 Plant Sale

### Location

Our popular plant sale will be located in the Plant and Soil Sciences Building at 1066 Bogue Street, MSU Campus, adjacent to our MSU Horticulture Gardens. Park in the Garden lot next to the 4H Children's Garden or in the Vet Med across the street if it is full. For maps – <http://www.hrt.msu.edu/visitor-and-tour-information/>

### Visit the Michigan State University Horticulture Gardens while you are here!

There will be plenty of early action in the gardens. For more information go to our website <http://www.hrt.msu.edu/our-gardens/>

### Visit the East Lansing Art Festival – May 16 and 17

An added benefit for you, our Spring Sale is the same weekend as the East Lansing Art Festival, so it's a good excuse to combine a trip to both events and make a weekend of it! For information, go to <http://elartfest.com/>



Our staff and dedicated volunteers work hard to make your shopping experience a happy one!



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## Upcoming Events in the MSU Horticulture Gardens

### Yoga in the Gardens – **FREE!**

**June 3, 10, 17, 24 (Wednesdays) 12:10-12:50 p.m.**

Join us in June for our Lunch Hour Chair Yoga Class under the wisteria at the Entrance Pavilion. We'll be using the benches as our place to meet, relax, stretch, and connect. Friends of the Gardens, MSU Faculty, Staff, and Students are all welcome to participate in these free classes taught by Rebecca Kegler, Assistant Director of Recreational Sports and Fitness Services, and Registered Yoga Instructor. The event is free but requires registration available on our Garden web site ([click here](#) to register).

### 2015 Bee Palooza – **FREE!**

**Sunday, June 7: 1-4 p.m.**

A fun event for the entire family including exhibits on bees, plants and pollinators. The bumble bee exhibit will include a live observation colony. At the honey bee observation hive, Michigan bee keepers will be on hand to talk about what it takes to keep honey bees. Information will be available for planting gardens to attract native bees and how to build a native bee hotel. There will be even more exhibits and fun activities for kids and adults, including face painting. For more information

[www.facebook.com/events/846087465462409/](http://www.facebook.com/events/846087465462409/)

### 2015 Garden Day

**Saturday, August 1**

We are very excited to host **Rick Darke** as the key-note speaker for our 2015 Garden Day. Rick has recently teamed with Doug Tallamy to co-write "The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden." The book has just been released and reviews are excellent. Rick is an amazing photographer and plant expert (what a combination of talents!) and Doug's story of increasing our home biodiversity to support our local ecosystems is inspiring.

We will also offer 12 workshops.

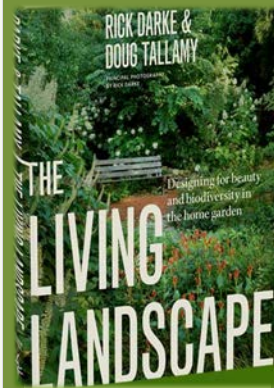
For a complete program, a list and description of workshops, other information and online registration – [click here](#)



Yoga in the Gardens



Bee Palooza



Garden Day

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## Garden News

### Bulbs in Bloom now!

The tulips in our MSU Horticulture Gardens are in full bloom this week! Annual Garden Manager Daedre Craig, Perennial Garden Manager Renata Reibitz and a host of volunteers planted thousands of bulbs last fall. Some beautiful cultivars were planted in mass display and are now in full color following the recent "heat wave". Come soon to see them when you are on campus.

### Successful Spring Conference! Can You Dig It!

Last weekend, we hosted another successful spring conference entitled "Can You Dig It?". West Virginia Nurseryman Barry Glick taught us about some of his favorite woodland wonders, while MSU Horticulture Garden Director Art Cameron took us on a journey of Thailand, Vietnam and beyond looking for garden ideas. In the afternoon, Barry gave us a workshop on plant propagation with many plant parts on display. Jessica Albright and her mother Val Wright ended the day with a rousing food demonstration. Yummy! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this event a success!

### MSU Horticulture Club Finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in National Competition

This year, a team of students from Horticulture and the Institute of Agricultural Technology finished in second place at PLANET (Professional Landcare Network) Student Career Days hosted by North Carolina State University in March this year. The four-day event consisted of educational workshops, a career fair, and 28 competitive events which have been termed the Landscape Olympics. Team members competed against nearly 800 students representing 65 colleges and universities from across the United States and Canada. Other Big Ten schools competing included Penn State (11th), Ohio State (33rd), Illinois (59th), and Purdue (64th). Team coaches were Marcus Duck and Brad Rowe. Faculty members Bridget Behe and Tom Fernandez also attended and assisted with the event.

While the team placed in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, senior Zach Van Dyke finished first place overall amongst all students. Our congratulations to Zach!

### Horticulture Club Spring Show and Plant Sale a Success

The Horticulture Club held its annual Horticulture Spring Show and Plant Sale on April 18 and 19 this year. Horticulture Club President Bethany Troy confirmed that the Plant Sale was a huge success this year! The dollars earned are used to support scholarships and Hort Club activities throughout the year including travel to national competitions.



Bulbs in Bloom



Hort Club Award



Spring Show and Sale

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## Honey Bee Hives in the Gardens

*A conversation with Dr. Walt Pett*

*Apiculture and Pollination Specialist & Undergraduate Advisor  
Department of Entomology, Michigan State University*

Dr. Walt Pett has been tending honey bees in the MSU Horticulture Gardens for several years now. Recently I found him on a beautiful spring day while he and Ben Phillips (MSU Extension) were checking the colonies to see if the queens were healthy and laying eggs. He answered a few questions and here I paraphrased his answers.

### Do you use these colonies for teaching?

Yes, I use these colonies for my ENT 410 class "Apiculture and Pollination". It is great to have the bees in the MSU Horticulture Gardens since it provides easy access for me and my students when we are working the hives.

### How much honey do you get from the hives and how often do you harvest?

You don't usually harvest much honey from first year colonies but I did manage to harvest about 5 gallons or 60 pounds of honey last year and it tasted pretty good ☺.

### How often do you need to replace queens and colonies?

I've had to start new colonies every year but this one. This past winter one of the two colonies perished while the other survived. My class did a "colony autopsy" we discovered that the one colony had plenty of food but the winter cluster of bees didn't move up to it and consequently starved. In the winter, bees form a cluster and try to keep the temperature at ~54 °F. Once spring arrives and the brood is present (first of the year) they keep the temp at 94 °F.

### I know you were looking for evidence of the two queens.

### Can you tell me just a bit more about that?

I was checking both colonies for the queen just to make sure everything was ok. The queen in the overwintered colony was healthy and actively laying eggs. The newly established queen had been accepted and was also actively laying eggs.



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## Two Facebook Pages for MSU Horticulture Gardens

- MSU Horticulture Gardens - Programs
- Michigan State University Horticulture Gardens - Weddings & Events

If you are a Facebook person, please “like” us to learn more about our Weddings and Events, details about our upcoming programs, or to see what has been flowering in our gardens! Help to promote and support our great gardens – pass the word!

### MSU Horticulture Gardens-Programs



A recent post by Renata Rebitz featuring some of our delightful spring treasures: snowdrops and hellebores



### Michigan State University Horticulture Gardens - Weddings & Events



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## Become a Garden Member Now

### for Early Admission and Discounts at Our Plant Sale

Garden members support our programs and gardens. You will gain VIP earl-bird admission to our Plant Sale, 10% discount on all purchases and discounts on our MSU Horticulture Garden Programs and free or discounted admission to AHS Reciprocal Gardens (which is a huge benefit if you travel), . Those who join at the family level and above are invited to our ever popular VIP Wine and Chocolate reception in December!

Go to <http://www.hrt.msu.edu/2014-garden-memberships/> where you can join online, or print out a paper copy.

Your continued support of our gardens helps support garden staff, student interns and new garden development! Help keep us growing!



## Support the Gardens - Sponsor a Brick or a Bench

Our endowment supports a good portion of our on-going salaries and maintenance costs in the gardens. This endowment grows yearly from direct gifts and donations or one of the many donor opportunities in the MSU Horticulture Gardens. A \$250 donation to the Gardens will sponsor a 4" by 8" brick, a \$1,000 donation to the Gardens will sponsor a 8" by 8" brick, and a \$10,000 donation to the Gardens will sponsor a garden bench. Larger donations can sponsor individual garden beds or completely new gardens. Inscriptions can honor special person(s) or occasion(s) in your life. Benches can be placed in many locations throughout the gardens.

Contact: Art Cameron, MSU Horticulture Gardens Director, [cameron@msu.edu](mailto:cameron@msu.edu)  
Samantha Adler, Assistant Director of Development, [adlersa2@msu.edu](mailto:adlersa2@msu.edu)

