

Trent Woods Garden Club

February 2025

Fellow Garden Enthusiasts,

As the cold winter months gradually give way to spring, I am filled with excitement and anticipation for the vibrant blooms and lush greenery that lie ahead. I certainly enjoyed the snow, especially as it was coming down. It is always so beautiful! I was also glad that it didn't last too long! It is with pleasure that I write to you to share in the joy and responsibilities that this month brings.

As always, our Garden Club has an exciting lineup of events and activities planned for the month of February. Here are a few highlights to look forward to:

Guest Speaker: We are thrilled to welcome David Hite from Tryon Palace, back to TWGC, who will be giving a lecture on, Rotating Garden Crops, maintaining the Kitchen Garden at Tryon Palace and answering your questions.

Garden Therapy: Annette Daugherty will lead the program at Homeplace, making pinecone bird feeders. I'm sure everyone will have fun helping the residents make their bird feeders.

Garden Bees: Lead by Karen Powers they will be continuing their partnership with Boys and Girls Club of New Bern to nurture future gardeners in our community.

State Meeting: Let's not forget that our 100th celebration of the GCNC will be May 4th-6th in Winston-Salem. It would be great to have several members there to represent us. I have always enjoyed these meetings and have learned a lot. As I have said before, the fall meeting inspired me to start raised beds for wildflowers. We'll see how successful I'm going to be when spring finally arrives.

Seed Swap: I would like to encourage all of you to bring seeds to swap next month, March 13th. Please have them in something, labeled, so each member can decide what they like to have in their gardens. I thought it would be fun to have flowers growing in our gardens that we can identify as a plant that came from a certain garden club member. Be sure to label each bag, envelope, etc. with the name of who it is from.

Spring Tea: Let's remember the date for our tea is March 29th. Tickets for our members will be on sale, first, through the middle of this month. Get yours, if you'd like to attend, so no one will be left out. If you have a group of friends that you'd like to attend with, get with one of the table hostesses and see if they have room for your group at their table.

As we embark on this new gardening season, let us remember the joy that comes from nurturing our gardens and connecting with nature. I encourage you all to get involved, share your knowledge, and support one another in our gardening endeavors.

Wishing you all a productive and enjoyable February in your gardens!

Raye Lynn Longhini

President, TWGC

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
And
Garden Clubs of North Carolina, Inc.

TWGC Executive Board 2024-25

Raye Lynn Longhini
President

1st Vice President, Debbie Durham

2nd Vice President, Ann G. Hall

Recording Secretary, Marcia Sproul

Treasurer, Rhona Beadle

Corresponding Secretary, Gail McLamb

Historian, Kathleen Marty

TWGC 2024-2025 Standing Chairs

Awards Chair-Paula Hartman – paulamhartman1947@gmail.com 252-670-3233

Beautification and Civic Development Chair- Sue Wyatt – swyatt@suddenlink.net 252-636-0278

Communications Chair-Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846

Environmental Concerns/Conservation Chair- Maureen Loomer – bee27534@aol.com 252- 638-5502

Finance Chair- Rhona Beadle - rhonab451@gmail.com 862-266-7888

Floral Design Chair – Ann Simpson simpsonann@suddenlink.net

Fundraising Chairs- Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846 and Rhona Beadle-rhonab451@gmail.com 862-266-7888

Garden Therapy Chair- Karen Kimball Karenkimball1@gmail.com (603)438-1839

Horticulture Chair-Maureen Loomer– bee27534@aol.com 252-638-5502

Hospitality/Liaison with New Bern Golf & Country Club Chair- Judy Boyd – judysboyd@embarqmail.com 252-638-6597

Memorials Chair- Frances Eder – minfrances@gmail.com 252-634-4114

Parliamentarian/By-Laws Chair-Deb Tallman - deborah_t_07760@yahoo.com 732-539-8846

Photographer Chair-Kathleen Marty - martykathleen558@gmail.com 207-350-6031

Seasonal Design Chair—Mary Florence mflorence@suddenlink.net

Scholarship, Sharon D. Quill Chair-Karen Powers – kpowers913@gmail.com 585-797-8209

Service Recognition Award Chair– Paula Hartman paulamhartman1947@gmail.com

Yearbook Chair-Judy Lott – judylott@netzero.com 252-665-1352

Youth Gardeners Chair– Karen Powers kpowers913@gmail.com

Trent Woods Garden Club Members' Meeting

February 13, 2025

New Bern Golf & Country Club 4301 Country Club Road,
New Bern, NC 28562

10:00 am – Coffee and Social 10:30 – Meeting and Program
12 Noon – Lunch

Program

“Rotating Vegetable Crops”

A presentation about maintaining the Kitchen Garden at Tryon
Palace Presented by David Hite Tryon Palace

Menu

1. Cobb Salad – Crisp iceberg, hard boiled eggs, diced tomatoes, grilled chicken, scallions, avocado, Swiss & cheddar cheese, topped with apple-wood smoked bacon, with choice of dressing
or
2. Pecan Crusted Chicken with mashed potatoes and chef's choice of vegetable

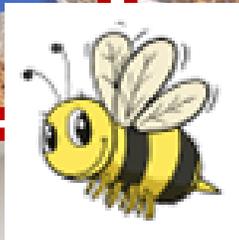
Please contact Judy Boyd to make a reservation by
Tuesday February 11th and indicate your choice to
judysboyd@embarqmail.com

Lunch cost \$25. due before start of meeting.

Meeting only \$10.

Amidst an unseasonably cold day, the Garden Bees gathered at JT Barber school to start learning about pollinators. The club members viewed a short slideshow that prompted a vigorous discussion on how birds can function as pollinators and ways that they can spread seeds. Janet Jonah and Sheila Kahramanian demonstrated the day's project of making pinecone bird feeders. After donning their aprons and disposable gloves, the group coated large pinecones with lard and then covered them with bird seed under the help and guidance of Sheila, Janet, Ann Hall, Sue Wyatt, and Karen Powers. Each club member packaged their pinecone feeder to safely take home and hang in their own yards. Extra pinecone feeders were hung at their garden plots at Broad Street Christian Church.





Bank of the Arts

January 2024 Jan Cahoon & Mary Ann Keffenberger

“Transitions”



Trentwoods Garden Club

“Transition”

By: Jan H. Cahoon

Materials:

Williamsburg Cone,

Camellias, Magnolia

Leaves, Hemlock tree,

Nandina.

Bank of the Arts 2024-2025 Schedule

February– Paula Hartman

March-Debbie Durham

April-

May-

Please contact Gail McLamb to complete this list!

Garden Therapy Schedule 2025

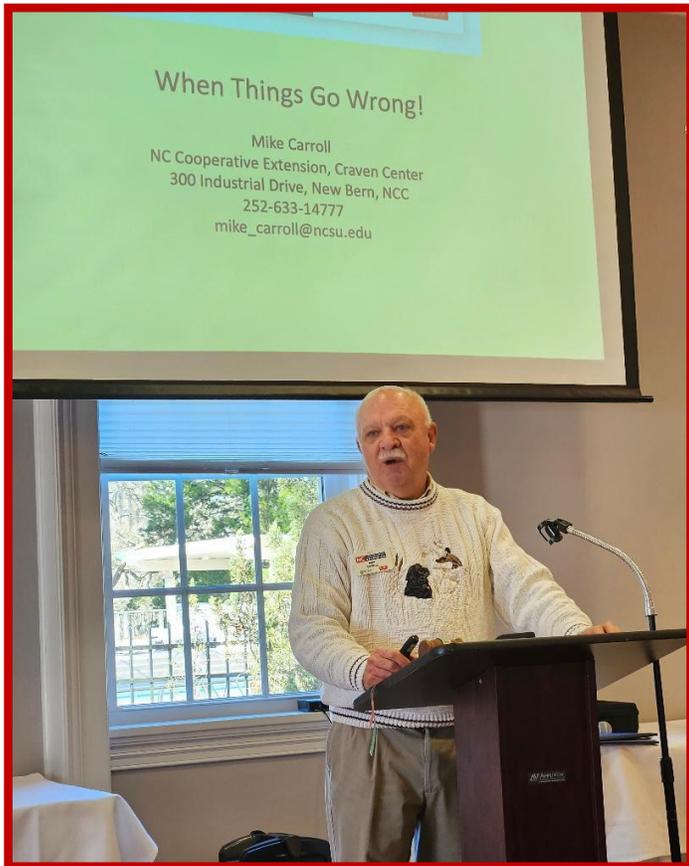
Monday, January 13, 2025 Canceled due to COVID!

Monday, February 17, 2025 10am – Pinecone Arrangements Homeplace,
1309 McCarthy Blvd Annette Daugherty 252-671-7112

Monday, March 17, 2025 10am – Pinecone Bird Feeders Monarch, 1320
Health Drive Dawn Staats 215-577-4576

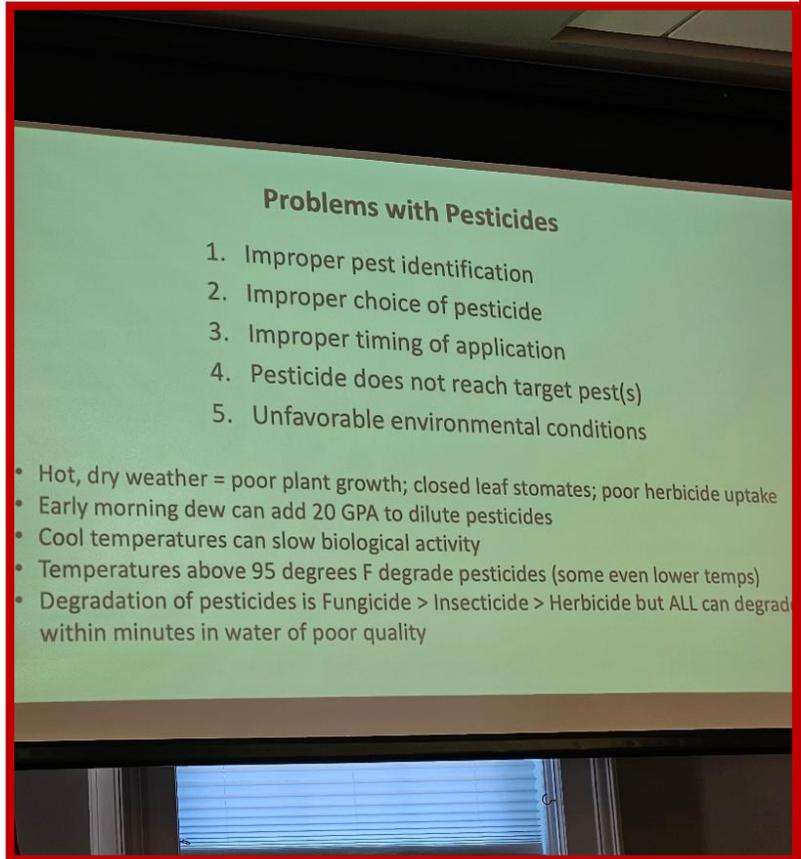
Monday, April 14, 2025 10am – Plant Vegetable Garden River Point
Crest, 2600 Old Cherry Point Road Karen Kimball 603-438-1839

TWGC members enjoyed an interesting and instructive program given by Mike Carroll, the Craven County Director of NC Cooperative Extension.



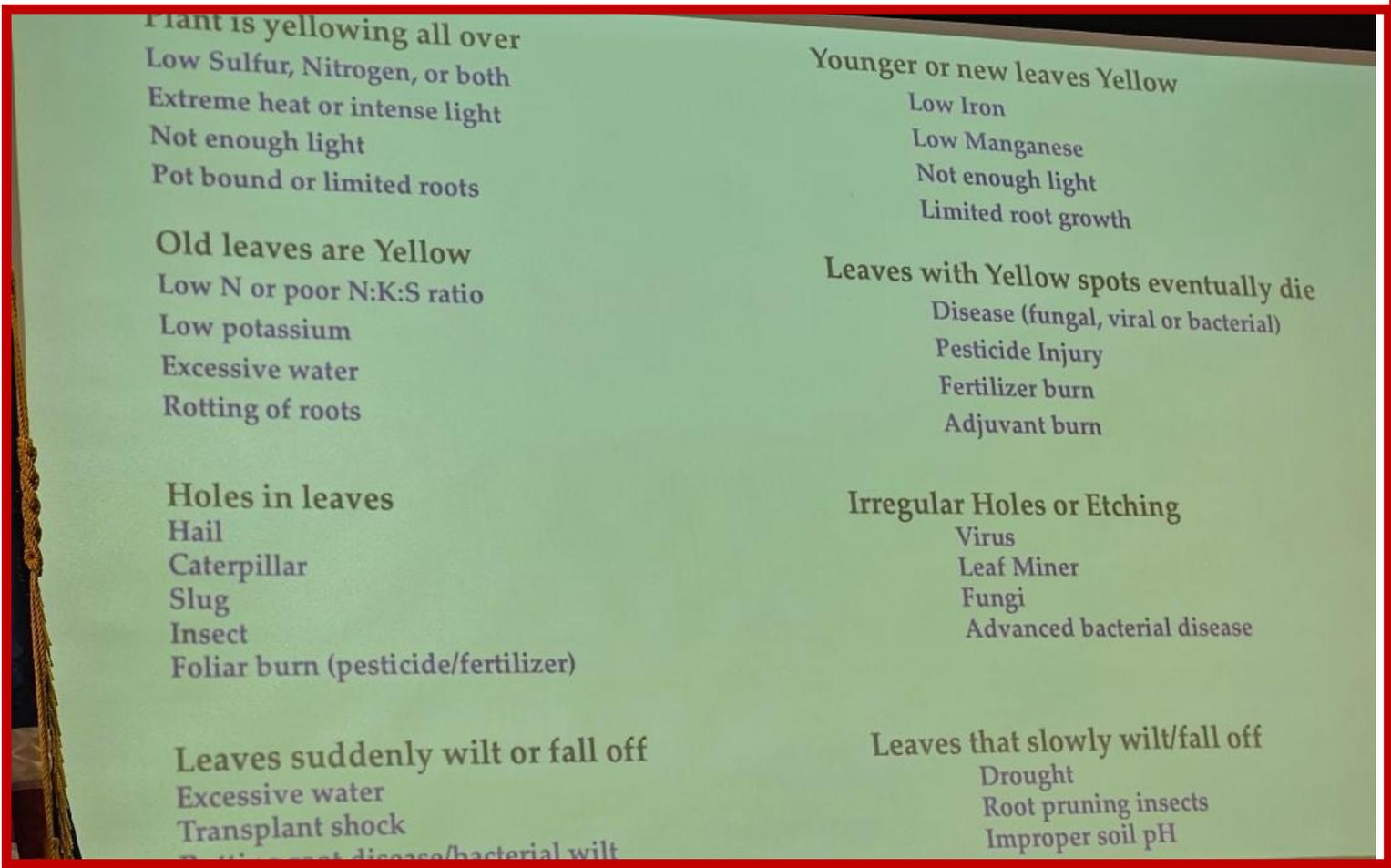
When Things Go Wrong!

Mike Carroll
NC Cooperative Extension, Craven Center
300 Industrial Drive, New Bern, NCC
252-633-1477
mike_carroll@ncsu.edu



Problems with Pesticides

1. Improper pest identification
 2. Improper choice of pesticide
 3. Improper timing of application
 4. Pesticide does not reach target pest(s)
 5. Unfavorable environmental conditions
- Hot, dry weather = poor plant growth; closed leaf stomates; poor herbicide uptake
 - Early morning dew can add 20 GPA to dilute pesticides
 - Cool temperatures can slow biological activity
 - Temperatures above 95 degrees F degrade pesticides (some even lower temps)
 - Degradation of pesticides is Fungicide > Insecticide > Herbicide but ALL can degrade within minutes in water of poor quality



Plant is yellowing all over

- Low Sulfur, Nitrogen, or both
- Extreme heat or intense light
- Not enough light
- Pot bound or limited roots

Old leaves are Yellow

- Low N or poor N:K:S ratio
- Low potassium
- Excessive water
- Rotting of roots

Holes in leaves

- Hail
- Caterpillar
- Slug
- Insect
- Foliar burn (pesticide/fertilizer)

Leaves suddenly wilt or fall off

- Excessive water
- Transplant shock
- Root rot disease/bacterial wilt

Younger or new leaves Yellow

- Low Iron
- Low Manganese
- Not enough light
- Limited root growth

Leaves with Yellow spots eventually die

- Disease (fungal, viral or bacterial)
- Pesticide Injury
- Fertilizer burn
- Adjuvant burn

Irregular Holes or Etching

- Virus
- Leaf Miner
- Fungi
- Advanced bacterial disease

Leaves that slowly wilt/fall off

- Drought
- Root pruning insects
- Improper soil pH

Seasonal Design January 2025

By Judy Lott, spring flowers to counter the cold!



Seasonal Design Schedule

February - Annette Daugherty

March –Ann Simpson

April –Karen Kimball

May—tbd

Black-necked Stilt



Bird of the Month- February 2025

Stilts

by Michael Creedon

Stilts are aptly named birds. They are among the most stately of the shorebirds, with long rose-pink legs, a long needle like black bill, with elegant black and white plumage, Stilts are unmistakable at a glance. At times these long legs seem too fragile to support the body above. They are almost always found in or near shallow water, both salty and

fresh, especially mudflats and salt marshes.

They move deliberately when foraging, walking slowly through wetlands using its long bill to probe for tiny aquatic prey. Its long legs allow it to forage in



deeper waters than many other wading birds, giving it access to a unique range of food sources.

Pied Stilt



(continued)

The genus has five recognized species, colorization is the only distinguishing feature. They have the second longest legs in proportion to their body, exceeded only by the Flamingo.

The Black-necked Stilt is the only species native to the Americas, it is also the most widespread

and easily recognizable. The oldest recorded Stilt was at least 12 years old. They are particularly known for their defensive behavior during breeding, engaging in aggressive displays to pro-



tect their nests from predators. They nest on the bare open ground in loose colonies.



(continued)

The nest may be a simple scrape in the soil, or a mound of vegetation built up above water level and lined with pebbles, shells and debris. In very hot weather, they may soak their belly feathers to carry water to the nest to keep the eggs cool, sometimes

making more than a hundred trip in a day. The chicks leaving the nest within 1 to 2 hours of hatching. Although both parents tend to the chicks, they can feed themselves.



Black-winged Juvenile

Black-winged Stilt



These beautiful birds can easily be found right here in Eastern NC. Just take a ride down to the shore and take a hike around almost any of our wetlands. Enjoy the show!

Bulletin Board

Spring Tea

March 29, 2025

Tickets are \$25. per person

Reservations (with payment) open to TWGC members only 2/15 –3/1

Reservations will open to general public March 2nd.

Your check (made out to TWGC) or cash must be received by Rhona Beadle to hold your reservation.

We need Hostesses, Please see Ann Hall.

We need floral designers, Please see Paula Hartman

Kitchen Aids, Please see Karen Powers

Thank you everyone! Let's make this fundraiser even better than last year!

Garden Therapy

Please contact Karen Kimball to volunteer for Garden Therapy!

Seasonal Design

Please contact Mary Florence to sign up!

Bank of the Arts

Please contact Gail McLamb to sign up!

Beautification

Please contact Sue Wyatt to volunteer!

Garden Bees

Please contact Karen Powers to donate old garden tools for the kids to use and volunteer!

Horticulture and Environmental Concerns February 2025

Researched by Maureen Loomer, MS, PhD

Meteorological winter is dictated by atmospheric temperature and extends from December 1 until February 28 (29 in leap years). Astronomical winter, dictated by the sun position relative to Earth, extends from December 21 until March 22. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted a WARMER and DRIER than average winter for our region.

How's that workin' out for ya?

They weren't counting on that pesky Polar Vortex.

As of this writing, the nation's groundhogs are divided on the issue of six more weeks of winter versus early spring. The Pennsylvania contingent appears to favor later spring, but Midwesterner's and New Yorker's are evenly divided. The North Carolina groundhogs have yet to express an opinion on the matter.

Snarky comments aside, I hope that everyone got through our unusual snow and cold without mishap. Strawberry farmers were among those warned by the Ag Extension to use row covers in advance of the event. I saw row covers out in White's fields on the way out to Vanceboro. Fingers crossed for them and other farmers. On the other hand, EVERYONE knows that frost makes collards sweet, so we have that going for us!

Andy at the New Bern Farmer's Market will have his baby spinach in March.

If you have feeders up, you likely saw lots of hungry birds. Sis and I had FIVE Baltimore Orioles, a pair of Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Pine siskins, and Pine Warblers in addition to the usual cast of characters. To deter squirrels and raccoons, I put out hot pepper suet and Fiery Feast seed.

If you can, take advantage of the more temperate days to visit New Bern's Martin Marietta Park for some delightful walking and bird watching (ruddy ducks, teals, cormorants, herons, and mergansers).

Keep warm, all...

<https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/us-winter-outlook-warmer-and-drier-south-wetter-north>

<https://www.groundhog-day.com/groundhogs-in-usa>

<https://strawberries.ces.ncsu.edu/2025/01/awis-weather-advisory-polar-vortex-affects-north-carolina/>

https://www.newbernnc.gov/departments/martin_marietta_park.php

How can I protect my landscape plants during cold snaps this winter?

By Judi Lloyd

Winters in North Carolina are predictably unpredictable (as we are well aware of now!!). Spells of mild, frost free weather in January, February and March are commonly interrupted by plunges into arctic cold, when high temperatures struggle to reach above freezing and lows fall into the teens. This roller coaster ride of ups and downs is often more damaging to plants than actual minimum temperatures. Cold snaps that occur later in winter, for example in March as opposed to January, are often more damaging because plants are more likely to have started growth or blossoming.

The good news is there are steps you can take to minimize damage to garden and landscape plants. Here are my top tips for helping your cold sensitive landscape plants and cool season vegetables survive winter cold snaps:

If soils are dry, water the garden or landscape well a few days before extreme cold sets in. Moist soil holds heat longer and is more insulating than dry soil, but take care to not over water in winter – wet soils increase root and crown rot diseases.

Plants growing in containers are more sensitive to cold than plants growing in the ground. Move containers to protected locations such as against the house under the eaves, into a garage or shed, or under dense trees. If containers cannot be moved, wrap the entire container in thick layers of insulating materials such as bubble wrap or old blankets. If you have camellias, blueberries or other early blooming shrubs with open flowers and wish to protect the blossoms, completely cover the bushes with row cover or blankets. Make sure covers extend all the way down to the ground and that they are staked down. Blueberries do not open all their blossoms at one time so even if you lose some blooms in a freeze, your entire crop will not be lost.

Cover vegetables and cold sensitive landscape plants such as figs and gardenias during cold spells. Cold hardy vegetables should be covered when temperatures are expected to fall below 25 degrees F. Wait until temperatures return to more moderate levels before removing covers even if this means keeping plants covered for several days.

For larger shrubs such as figs or gardenias, you can build a wire cage around individual plants and fill it with loose, dry mulch such as hay, pine straw or pine bark. Deciduous shrubs such as figs can be left this way for the winter, though evergreens such as gardenia should be uncovered when the cold spell ends.

Not sure of your landscape plants' hardiness? Plants that are not rated as hardy in your zone will likely be damaged during cold snaps. Find out your plants' USDA hardiness rating and much more by going to the site below. Even when the entire top is killed many shrubs, such as this gardenia, will re-sprout from the base. Don't give up on cold injured landscape plants. Even if the entire top is frozen, some cold sensitive woody plants will recover by sprouting from the base or roots. This is common with figs and gardenia, though it may be May or even June before new growth emerges and flowering/fruitletting for that season will be delayed.

This information is cited from an article by Charlotte Glen, Chatham County N.C State Extension <https://chatham.ces.ncsu.edu/2016/02/protecting-landscape-and-garden-plants-during-cold-snaps/>

Chocolate Kalua Trifle

Serves 8

Ingredients

1 (19.8 ounce) package brownie mix

¼ cup water

½ cup vegetable oil

2 eggs

½ cup coffee-flavored liqueur (such as Kahlua®), or to taste

1 (3.9 ounce) package instant chocolate pudding and pie filling mix

2 cups cold milk

1 (12 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Mix the brownie mix, water, vegetable oil, and eggs together in a mixing bowl until smooth, and pour the batter into the prepared baking dish.

Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the middle of the brownies shows moist crumbs, 25 to 30 minutes. Set the brownies aside, and cool completely. Use a chopstick or the end of a wooden spoon to poke holes all over the brownies, about 1/2-inch apart; drizzle the coffee liqueur all over the brownies. Let the brownies stand 5 minutes to soak up the liqueur.

In a bowl, whisk the chocolate pudding mix with cold milk until thickened, about 2 minutes; allow to stand 5 more minutes to set.

To assemble dessert, cut the brownies up into small cubes. Layer 1/3 of the brownies into the bottom of a glass trifle bowl, and top with a layer of pudding, then a layer of whipped topping. Repeat twice more, ending with whipped topping. Chill at least 4 hours before serving