



THE PLANT PRESS

9120 Blowing Tree Road • Louisville, Kentucky 40220 • ph:502-491-6305 • www.thienemans.com • Winter Vol.7, No. 1

Happy New Year from Thieneman's!

"What do you **do** all winter?"

We hear that a lot from our customer friends. The answer? *Everything* happens over the winter! Our greenhouses full of plants don't just arrive that way - someone has to plant the seeds, take the cuttings, transplant the babies at just the right time so that they'll be ready in the spring. That all starts happening as soon as the summer starts winding down, and it continues right through the winter. Once Christmas is over and the last bits of greenery are cleared out, we start *cranking*.

So, how about you? What are you going to do for the rest of the winter? You could curl up with a cup of something hot and plan your best garden ever. Maybe you'll browse through that growing stack of seed catalogs (you can see Peggy's picks on Page Two). Or, how about the chance to actually get some dirt under your fingernails, smell some lovely green-growing-plant smells, and pretend that February...just...isn't?

If you'd like an early taste of April, come on back to the farm. Our Winter Classes can help you get motivated and ready for Spring.

Hope to see you soon!

Thieneman's Hours of Operation: (March)

Monday - Saturday, 9am - 5pm
Sunday "by chance"!

Chamomile

Latin Name: *Matricaria recutita* (German or "True" Chamomile)

Meaning: From the Greek "kamai", for "on the ground" and "melon", for "apple"

Uses: Tea, medicinal, cosmetic

Care: Well-drained soil, sun to part shade

Legends: Several different plants are known as Chamomile, with small, daisy-like flowers and bright green, feathery foliage. Dedicated to the sun by the Egyptians, it is one of the oldest known medicinal plants. Tea made from the flowers has been used to calm the nerves and soothe the stomach, and the herb has been used in prosperity charms to attract money. "True" Chamomile is a short-lived annual with a lovely apple scent and a bushy habit. It blooms profusely and then dies, but reseeds readily.

Greenhouse News



Driveway Maintenance...

Please note that our Bunsen Way entrance will be closed until March 15th. You can still use the Blowing Tree Road entrance off of Taylorsville Road. (Just call us at 491-6305 if you need directions.)

Perennial of the Year for 2008 is hardy Geranium 'Rozanne'. Long-blooming and energetic, 'Rozanne' features large, blue-purple flowers with violet-purple veins and small white centers. Although it's hardy from Zones 5 to 8, 'Rozanne' is also recommended for patio containers, window boxes, and hanging baskets. It prefers moist but well-drained soil, and sun to part shade (afternoon shade might be a good idea in our region). Plants grow from 20-24 inches tall, and 24-28 inches wide, and reportedly bloom non-stop from spring to mid-fall.

Herb of the Year for 2008 is Calendula. This cool-season annual bears daisy-like flowers in a variety of yellow shades, with the "standard" color being a sunny orange-yellow. Bushy plants can grow from 8 to 30 inches tall, depending upon the variety. Calendula prefers fertile, well-drained soil and some afternoon shade in our region. The flower petals have been used mainly for medicinal purposes, but are edible and can be used in cooking. Known as "poor man's saffron", calendula petals can add color to broths, rice, cookies, and salads.

It'll be here sooner
than you think!
We open for the
Spring Season
on March 15th!



www.thienemans.com

Winter Classes



Nothing chases winter's chill better than spending time in a warm greenhouse! With each year's Winter Classes, we invite you to come out, play in the dirt, and get a head start on your spring garden. Just be advised that these classes tend to fill up, so **advance registration and payment is required**. There's a registration form on Page 3, and you can find one at www.thienemans.com to print out for all of your friends.

Sowing Seed and Taking Cuttings

Friday Feb. 8th, Saturday Feb. 9th, Friday Feb. 22nd, or Saturday Feb. 23rd, 10:00 a.m. to noon each day

Back again by popular demand! Get hands-on experience with guidance from our staff. Sow seed and take cuttings from our stock plants, and keep what you plant. We'll even grow your baby plants till April in one of our greenhouses. \$30.00 fee includes all materials.

Sow Your Own Salad

Friday Feb. 29th or Saturday March 1st, 10:00 a.m.

Celebrate Leap Year with a treat for springtime - fresh, home-grown salad. Come learn about growing container greens at home and what to do with them for your table. \$30.00 class fee includes all materials, including a 12" planter that you will plant and take home, plus samples of and recipes for spring salads and dressings.

Previews of Coming Attractions

Here's a new idea for Easter: Tablescaping! That's all we're going to say here, but you can stop by the nursery or keep a watch on thienemans.com to see our mini-landscaping for your holiday table.

Also, we've got some fun in the making for all of our friends, and your girlfriends, and their girlfriends...

Watch for "Girlfriends Day" details in our Spring newsletter!

Are you online?

If so, you can cut down on some of the paper in your life by getting [The Plant Press](#) via e-mail. And as a "thank-you" for switching, we'll send you an e-coupon for a free herb plant! Just send an e-mail to finchhouse@ka.net, with "Thieneman's Mailing List" in the subject line. **Please be sure to tell us your name & street address** as well as your E-mail address. (This offer is good through 5/31/08.)



The Finch House needs
More room for Spring!

We've got lots of new garden goodies on the way, and only so much space. So, from February 8th until March 1st, we're marking down a lot of great stuff. Come brave the cold, and you could take home a "find" or two!

It's Catalog Time...

We order a lot of our seed from wholesale sources, but I love cruising through different catalogues that offer smaller amounts of seed but loads and loads of odd, wonderful and potentially delicious varieties. This year I've ordered some seed from most of the following but maybe you'd like to check them out for yourself. Enjoy! - P.J.T.

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

www.RareSeeds.com | 417-924-8917

Johnny's Selected Seeds

www.Johnnyseeds.com | 877-564-6697

Richters www.Richters.com

| 905-640-6677 ex.240

Seeds from Italy

www.growitalian.com | 781-721-5904

Seeds of Change

www.seedsofchange.com

| 888-762-7333

Tomato Growers Supply Company

www.tomatogrowers.com

| 888-478-7333

Patio & Garden Planters...

They keep growing in popularity and we keep looking for more plant choices for you. It's fun to mix and match. It's the best of both worlds maximum creativity, minimum amount of time and space.

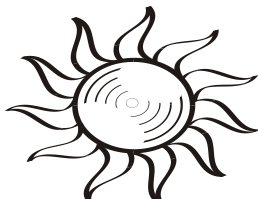
In the garden center this year look for dwarf variegated ginger, new varieties of cannas, larger pots of eucalyptus and heliotrope (for instant impact) and all of those great Proven Winner varieties that do so well in containers. They say "what goes around comes around", and petunias have made the trip. New varieties like 'Bubblegum' and 'Baby Duck Yellow' will give you big puddles of color all season long!

And don't forget the shady spaces! We have some nifty new miniature ferns to pair up with small hostas, tiarellas (smells sooo sweet) and begonias.

All in all it's shaping up to be a great growing season!

Peggy's Corner

Thoughts from the farm



On December 21st many, many years ago I remember my Dad telling us kids that this was the shortest day of the year. On those grey winter days he would drop us at the bus stop and I would feel cheated because I KNEW that that school day was going to last just as long as the other ones did. Shortest day, my foot!

But that was then and this is now. Now I celebrate December 21st. The Winter Solstice marks a change: one that even global warming can't alter. The Earth groans and shifts its great bulk and our part of the world begins to turn its face toward the Sun. Each and every day from now until June 21st has a bit more daylight.

It will be weeks before perennials begin to stir in their sleep and even longer before impatiens seeds become drifts of color in the garden, but it will happen! What a reason to celebrate! Let's dig out those seed catalogues buried under a jumble of mail and the remnants of holiday litter and start planning that garden! It's time! Yeah!

- P.J.T.

Don't Miss This One...

It's come to our attention that Yew Dell Gardens will host a talk by Tony Avent of Plant Delights Nursery as one of their spring events. If you've never heard Tony speak, let's just say that it's a real treat! The date is Saturday, March 8th at 10:00 a.m., and there is a fee to attend. For more information, you can visit www.yewdellgardens.org or call 241-4788.

A Mailing List Note

Have we misspelled your name? Would you prefer an e-mail? Or to be removed from our mailing list entirely? Please just call, drop us a line, or send an e-mail to finchhouse@ka.net with "Thieneman's Mailing List" in the subject line. And as always, we never sell our mailing lists to anyone else.

CLASS REGISTRATION

(Please print clearly)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

(Daytime) _____

I am interested in:

CLASS: DATE: COST:

_____ \$

_____ \$

_____ \$

_____ \$

_____ \$

TOTAL COST: \$

All classes must be prepaid in full. If you need to cancel after registering, please be kind enough to notify us as early as possible so that someone else can fill your spot. Your full class fee will be refunded only if we receive your cancellation notice two days prior to your scheduled class. Thank you!

Method of payment (Please circle one):

Check or money order

MasterCard Visa AmEx Discover

Your card number: _____

Exp. date MO/YR: ____ / ____

Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to:

Thieneman's
and mail to: **9120 Blowing Tree Rd.**
Louisville, KY 40220
Attn: Peggy