

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

- **Announcements:** Invincibelle Spirit campaign
- **New Products:** Pond Plants and Patio Pond planters
- **Gardening Tips:** Algae in the pond? The 60% solution
- **Plants of the week:** Garvinea gerberas, Tami G grape tomatoes
- **Features this week:** Terrific savings in the Greenhouse

**MAY 25th E-NEWS**

**Open 9-6 daily, 1-5 on Sunday**



**Hydrangea arborescens 'INVINCIBELLE SPIRIT'**

Across North America, every sale of an Invincibelle Spirit hydrangea contributes \$1.00 to Breast Cancer Research. The publicity campaign is in full swing but we are currently out of stock. We sold out within days of featuring them in the April 26<sup>th</sup> newsletter. The good news is that more 'Invincibelle Spirit', 'Incrediball' hydrangeas, and Bloomerang lilacs are coming in August. Place your orders now.



Hydrangea 'Incrediball'



Syringa 'Bloomerang'

James and I are so very fortunate to have our amazing staff. Our group includes 4 horticulturists (one of whom is a retired Professor of Horticulture); a certified arborist; an orchardist; a former greenhouse operator, and a full complement of keen, experienced gardeners who love what they do and love to share their passion with others. Fifteen of them are Proven Winner certified and nine are Certified Pesticide Dispensers (with Organics always the first line of defense). Three are talented garden designers. The combined experience in this group of people, many of whom have gained their gardening experience locally, is staggering, and taking a quick tally, numbers more than 300 years!! YIKES! Well at least you know that our advice is backed by experience! **Look to us for good garden advice that you know you can trust!**

Last year we made the decision to put our resources into staffing rather than glitzy advertising. I think it was the right decision and I think we have a wonderful group of people working here, but it does mean that our newsletter is our main form of advertising. We depend on your good will and your willingness to spread the word about what we have to offer here. Our aim is to be a full-service garden centre with knowledgeable staff, excellent service, and a selection of plants that is second to none. Please tell your friends and share the newsletter with anyone who may find it interesting. Have you told them about the benefits of our V.I.P card? To subscribe to the newsletter, go to [www.hannaorchards.com](http://www.hannaorchards.com)

## **GARDENING TIPS: Algae in the Pond? The 60% Solution.**

Years ago, when I was asked to teach a course on water gardening and pond installation, I refused to do it until James and I had actually installed a pond ourselves and gained experience in water gardening. Twelve years ago, during the infamous Eden Fire summer of '98, we put in our water garden and it has been a source of much gratification, **and not much work**, ever since. Alga in the pond is a fact of life but we have found that it's best to allow the pond to **find its own balance** with minimal interference from us.

**The KEY TO CLEAR WATER is to have plenty of submerged plants (oxygenators), good surface coverage, and relatively few fish.**

These are the rules for a balanced pond:

1. Six hours of sunshine will ensure adequate growth and bloom of most water plants.
2. 60-70% of the water surface should be covered with floating plants. This will provide sufficient shading to the water to curtail algae growth. Algal blooms usually occur in early spring when the plants haven't grown enough to provide the required shading.
3. Add 1 bunch (6 stems) of oxygenator cuttings per 2 ft<sup>2</sup> of water surface.
4. Add 2 scavengers (frogs, snails, toads, tadpoles) per 5ft<sup>2</sup> of surface area.
5. Add 1 x 6inch goldfish per 100 gallons of water volume (more will result in excessive production of nitrates that will result in more algae.)

When your pond produces algae (and it will):

A. DO NOT DRAIN THE WATER AND REFILL! Fresh water brings a fresh influx of nutrients and is only a temporary solution.

B. DO NOT RELY ON POND PRODUCTS to clear the water. They're expensive and, in most cases, not necessary. Barley straw and Barley Straw extract are very useful however to reduce on the incidence of algae. I've found that it works best if you add the straw (stuffed into a black crate or pillow case) in the autumn so that it has time to start decomposing to work properly in the spring.

We carry Barley Straw Extract: 6oz. - \$10.99

C. DON'T ADD TOO MANY FISH and don't over-feed the ones you have. The main reason for having fish in the pond, other than the joy of watching them, is to provide mosquito control. If you over-feed them, they won't need to eat the mosquito larvae.

By the way, other great ways to keep the mosquito population to a minimum is to empty any containers that collect water after sprinkling or rainfall and use a biological larvacide product that contains Bt.I (Bacillus thuringiensis ssp. Israelensis). Not only does this work well in ponds (contained to your property with no outflow) and water features, it's effective for up to 30 days in any standing water such as in eaves troughs and bird baths and poses no risk for animals or birds.

**'Kills mosquitoes before they're old enough to bite'.**

We have it available in two forms:

Aquabac granules: 500g - \$29.99

Mosquito Dunks: 2 paks - \$10.99

6 paks- \$17.99





## PLANTS OF THE WEEK:



### Gerbera 'Garvinea' series

This is a new series of garden gerberas that has been bred for bloom performance and disease/insect resistance. They're also hardy to about -5°C (not hardy enough to grow them as a perennial here unfortunately) but they bloom from early summer through fall. With fourteen colours in the series, this is a marvelous addition to the annual garden or in containers, flowering profusely over many months and providing long-lasting cut-flowers as well.



### Tomato 'Tami G'

Grape tomatoes have taken the garden scene by storm and one of the best tasting varieties is Tami G. Tami G is a staking variety that ripens in 62 days and produces heavy yields of 1 - 1¼ inch, half oz. fruit that grow in clusters of 10 to 16 fruit and is disease resistant. With a sugar content of 8-11%Brix, this tomato sets the standard for sweetness.

## New Products:

Put a Pond on Your Patio!

In Just 3 Steps

- Maintenance Free
- No Dirty Water
- No Mosquitos\*

\*Just Add Fish

Check out our **NEW Pond Plant area** including the **Patio Pond planters**. They're gorgeous and so easy!

At this point we are not stocking pond liners or filter systems but we do have a great selection of marginal plants; floating pond plants, including hardy waterlilies and tender water hyacinths and azolla; and other plants that can be grown in water or wet soil. You have to check out the Giant Dwarf Cyperus (Papyrus). This is one is **HOT, HOT, HOT!!!**



## WARNING

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION:



This afternoon we learned from a customer that she found pieces of broken utility knife blade in the Garden Pro Shrub and Evergreen Slow Release 18-6-12 fertilizer that she had purchased from us. I checked several other containers of this product and found nothing amiss but thought you should know so that you can check yours.

## **FEATURES THIS WEEK:**

**All 4 pak annuals: \$1.29 ea.**

**All 2" veggie singles: 99¢ ea.**

**Buy 2 pond plants get 3<sup>rd</sup> one of  
equal or lesser value **FREE****

**Tibetan Wonder Berry (Goji berry)  
1 gal pots: \$15.00**



**Lycium barbarum (Goji)**

- Used for centuries in traditional Chinese medicine
- Hardy to about -25°C. May be treated as an annual.
- Grows 36-60" tall with similar spread

**All fruit trees: 50% OFF**

**All Hawthorn varieties: 15%off**



**'Crimson Cloud'**

- large, showy red blooms with white eye
- better disease resistance than Paul's Scarlet
- produces lots of berries for winter interest

**LOOK FOR OUR COUPON IN LAST  
FRIDAY'S LAKESHORE NEWS.**

Happy gardening,  
*Harriet*

**HANNA ORCHARDS MARKET  
& GARDEN CENTRE**

3181-11<sup>TH</sup> Ave. NE., Salmon Arm, BC

**Open Mon.-Sat. 9-6:00**

**Sunday afternoons- 1-5pm**

(250) 832 4574

*If you are receiving this newsletter in error or would  
like to have your name removed from our mail-out list,  
please go back to the weekly email notice and click on  
UNSUBSCRIBE.*