

Project Title: Education of the Public in the Use of Native Woodland Plants and
Wildflowers in the Home Garden

1) Our goal for this project was to produce information to be made available to the public on how they may best incorporate native plants into their home gardens. We believed that these plants were being overlooked mainly because the public was unaware that by following a few simple gardening procedures, they could enjoy a new facet of gardening. We also wanted to instill the thought that by using these plants, studying and supplying their needs, they would be helping to preserve a beautiful portion of our natural world.

2) We are still working with the original 14' by 96' shade house with 3 raised beds of varying PH, as well as our 4' by 96' forcing bed/ holding house. We have added one 8' by 24' shade house for newly potted crops as well as rooted cuttings. In our storage building we installed a 22" by 96" heated propagation mat for starting seeds and rooting cuttings. We also purchased a large quantity of shade cloth to cover a larger area outside so that we may expand our varied PH beds, which appear to be working very well.

In this time Chris has changed her full-time employment. In late 1997 she accepted the position of Head Grower at D.S.Cole Growers in Loudon, N.H. However she is still actively involved in Grow Wild.

3) Our collaborators were:

a) Dr. Leonard Perry. Plant and Soil Science Dept. U.V.M.

He continues to encourage us when we meet- especially to write an article.

b) Steve Elliott. Elliott's Greenhouses, Lyndon Center, Vt.

Steve has been helpful in allowing us to set up a display bed for our plants. He has also passed the word around about our project to various people in the industry.

c) Tena Starr. North Star Nursery (formerly Mustang Mtn.) Barton, Vt.

Very supportive in displaying our plants and discussing our project with her customers.

d) Carol Millar, C.P.A. Orleans, Vt.

Carol has assisted us immeasurably. Neither of us had been in business before and she has been very helpful with both bookkeeping and tax matters.

e) Heidi Freizell. Lyndon Center, Vt.

While not originally listed as a collaborator, she is an extremely talented graphic artist and she aided us immensely in the design and computer layout of our catalog and handout.

4) In 1997-1998 we wrote and revised our free handout which both introduces Grow Wild and gives general information on gardening with native woodland plants.

Our catalog and cultivation guide of native woodland plants, ferns and wildflowers was completed by late spring of 1998. It was jointly written by us with drawings done by Chris. We included notes from personal experiences observing and growing these plants whenever possible. A comprehensive bibliography was also included. We employed a computer specialist to format it and then had it printed. This publication along with the free handout is available to garden centers and nurseries selling our plants as well as by private order.

We have both spent a great deal of time taking photographs for our slide collection. We now have over 100 slides and from these we have compiled a collection available for loan. Lists are enclosed.

This spring we presented a slide program to the Weed and Seed Garden Club of St. Johnsbury, Vt.-Priscilla Mayo, President. Our program included an introduction of ourselves and Grow Wild. We explained the involvement of S.A.R.E. in our project. Our slide presentation was accompanied by an explanation of each slide as it appeared. We had handed out a plant list prior to the presentation so that members could make notes if they so desired. We were well received by the 30+ members of the club. One member, Rebecca Reynolds, who is an officer in the Retired Teachers Assoc. has reserved us and our slide program for their annual meeting in June of 1999.

Also, throughout the year of the project we have continued to research and practise various propagation techniques on our collection of native plants. We have been collecting articles pertinent to the subject to further aid us in bringing information to the public.

5) We found that the public was a lot more immediately interested in both our project and using these plants than we had expected. There is growing concern among people in finding nursery propagated plants and we hope that we are fulfilling that need.

A small collection of our plants were used in a section of new gardens at the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury, Vt. planted by Elliott's Greenhouses. Great interest was shown by the museum people involved as well as support for our slide program.

Last summer we supplied native ferns to the Balsams Grand Resort Hotel in Dixville Notch, N.H. for a native planting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tillotson who were previous sole owners of the resort. Since that planting we have been approached to possibly supply native plants for Mr. Tillotson's memorial area on the hotel property.

6) Site information relevant is that we continue to expand our propagation area and facilities. We hope in the future to have display gardens available on a limited basis to people in the gardening industry and possibly the general public.

7) N/A

8) One of the new ideas generated would actually be the above mentioned display beds. If garden centers are agreeable we will arrange to do small beds for illustration of how to use these plants alone and in mixed gardens.

Our next step is to visit garden centers further afield. We are in the process of making arrangements to visit a small number in early July. Horsford's, Four Seasons and Spates have all expressed an interest as well as area landscapers. We also will continue to attend seminars on propagation and usage of our plants, as well as researching ways to make it easier for the public to enjoy our native plants in their own gardens.

We will also be printing an annual update to our cultivation guide which will be available upon request. We also plan to submit articles to the VAPH newsletter as well as the Green Mountain Grower.

9) Yes. We are extremely encouraged by the response of both people in our industry and the public in general. The response to our slide presentation was most rewarding. In fact the president (whose letter we enclose) of the club mentioned to us that she will be recommending our program to all other Vt. garden clubs at their annual meeting.

10) We explain to other growers our propagation methods- successes as well as failures- and how we approach the option of using native plants, woodland and wildflowers. We explain that this is something that can be easily promoted as a solution for shaded garden areas as well as natural wooded areas on the homeowners property. We promote the various seminars on the subject that we hear about, and we also explain about S.A.R.E.

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11) For our outreach program we have produced and made available our handout and cultivation guide. Our slide program will also be made more available over the next year as well as loan of our slide collection. We have collected articles on the subject of native plant useage and have reproduced some of our own photographs to be made into informative signs at interested garden centers and nurseries.

SLIDES ENCLOSED: (We did not receive an ID form from you)

- #1- 1997- New Display Bed at Elliott's Greenhouses.
- #2- 1997- Shade House with Pink Ladyslippers and Foamflower in bloom.
- #3- 1998- Long view of shade house in spring.
- #4- 1998- Forcing bed / Holding house.

GROW WILD
Tentative Plant List for 1998

<i>Actaea spicata (rubra)</i>	Red Baneberry
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Northern Maidenhair Fern
<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	Wild Leek
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Columbine
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Jack-in-the-Pulpit
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	Wild Ginger
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold
<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	Blue Cohosh
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Turtlehead
<i>Chimaphila umbellata</i>	Pipsissewa
<i>Circaea alpina</i>	Dwarf Enchanter's Nightshade
<i>Claytonia virginica</i>	Spring Beauty
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virgin's Bower
<i>Clintonia borealis</i>	Bluebead Lily
<i>Coptis groenlandica</i>	Goldthread
<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	Bunchberry
<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>	Pink Ladyslipper
<i>Cypripedium parviflorum pubescens</i>	Large Yellow Ladyslipper
<i>Dalibarda repens</i>	Dewdrop
<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>	Hayscented Fern
<i>Dentaria diphylla</i>	Toothwort
<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>	Squirrel Corn
<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>	Dutchman's Breeches
<i>Epipactis latifolia</i>	Stream Orchid
<i>Erythronium americanum</i>	Trout Lily
<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>	Creeping Snowberry
<i>Goodyera tessellata</i>	Rattlesnake Plantain
<i>Habenaria fimbriata</i>	Larger Purple Fringed Orchid
<i>Hepatica americana</i>	Roundlobe Hepatica
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	Jewelweed
<i>Lilium superbum</i>	Turk's Cap Lily
<i>Linnaea borealis</i>	Twinflower
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	Ragged Robin
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Moneywort
<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>	Canada Mayflower
<i>Medeola virginica</i>	Indian Cucumber-Root
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Fern
<i>Mitchella repens</i>	Partridgeberry
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon Fern
<i>Oxalis montana</i>	Wood Sorrel
<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>	Small Solomonseal
<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>	Rock Fern
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern
<i>Pyrola elliptica</i>	Shinleaf
<i>Rubus odoratus</i>	Flowering Raspberry
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	Bloodroot
<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Blue-eyed Grass
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	False Solomonseal
<i>Streptopus roseus</i>	Rosy Twisted-stalk

Tiarella cordifolia
Trillium erectum
Trillium grandiflorum
Trillium undulatum
Viola sp.

Foamflower
Red Trillium
White Trillium
Painted Trillium
Violets

For further information and availability please contact:

Grow Wild
RFD 2 Box 16
Glover, Vermont 05839

Mary Cockburn

Chris Schlegel



GROW WILD

Grow Wild is owned and operated by
Chris Schlegel and Mary Cockburn.

The business was established in the summer of 1996 in Glover, Vt. for the purpose of propagating native woodland plants and wildflowers. Our intent is to practice different propagation techniques to supply home gardeners with these underutilized native plants.

We are honored to be the recipients of a Grant from the Northeast Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. Our Project entails education of the public in the use of native plants in home gardens. This year we will be developing a detailed catalog, slide show and discussion, and handouts as guides for using native plants.

A catalog is available in the store which explains the descriptions, uses and cultural requirements of the native plants we have for sale.

We plan to offer you a more extensive selection of native plants in future years as we refine our propagation techniques.



*Native Plants from the Northeast Kingdom
Propagators & Wholesale Growers
Woodland Plants * Ferns * Wildflowers*

GROW WILD

*RFD 2 Box 16
Glover, Vermont 05839*

*Mary Cockburn Chris Schlegel
802-525-3958 603-267-6899*

Woodland plants can be relatively easy to care for in your garden. They have a few requirements:

- 1) Shade to part-shade
- 2) Soil that is moist, not soaking, humusy, and on the acid side.
- 3) Mulch with a light layer of leaves and/or needles for the winter

Our Wildflowers, mostly sun-loving, are very easy to care for in any sun to part-sun location.

The labels with each plant give fairly specific descriptions of the plant and its needs. They can live quite happily in your perennial shade garden or on their own. For their acid requirements you may use MIRACID® or the following procedures.

To Lower pH Around Specific Plants

1/2 cup commercial superphosphate to 1 gallon water

One week later: Dust area around plant with one level teaspoon of equal parts powdered sulphur and ammonium sulphate.

Do not use more than the recommended amounts and do not get solutions on the foliage.

For Larger Areas:

Test your soil to determine its pH

To lower the pH 1 point (say from 6.5 to 5.5): 1 cup powdered sulphur and
1 cup ammonium sulphate per square yard.
Sprinkle evenly over soil and rake or dig in.

Peat moss should also be mixed in as well as shredded leaves if available.

MIRACID® may also be used when watering.

Partial funding for the work reported here was provided by a grant from the USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE, formerly LISA).