

Guayule Bounces Back

Just as with many other things in the human environment, there are ups and downs in the popularity of plants. Guayule (*Parthenium argentatum*) is currently in an up phase again. This native of the deserts of southwest Texas and Mexico is a source of latex. During World War II, 32,000 acres were planted when the *Hevea* rubber supply from Southeast Asia was cut off. The end of the war was the end of the project because guayule could not compete economically with *Hevea*. About 20 years ago there was a research project here at the Arboretum on increasing the rubber yield of guayule. Now, ongoing research at the U. S. Department of Agriculture and other places brings guayule into prominence again. Because its latex does not contain the allergens that are in *Hevea* latex, gloves and other items made with guayule latex do not cause the severe reactions seen in 10% of the population. If you would like to know more about guayule, read the article in *Agricultural Research* 47(5):18-20, May 1999, or go to the Internet at www.uswcl.ars.ag.gov/epd/newcrops/guayule.htm. 🌿

People Stopper

It's not weird and malodorous like *Amorphophallus titanum*, but we have our own striking plant in bloom. It is the *Pachypodium lamerei* just outside the Library door. With spines spiraling up its trunk and beautiful white flowers on top, this Madagascar native stops passersby dead in their tracks as they stop to admire it. 🌿

CAF Annual Meeting

The California Arboretum Foundation held its annual meeting on Wednesday, June 2, 1999, at which time the names of the five individuals nominated for a three-year term as trustees were announced: Marcia Bent, Sierra Madre; George Brumder, Pasadena; Gary Jones, North Hollywood; Janie Malloy, Pasadena; Steve Mann, Pasadena. The officers for 1999-2000 are Donivee Nash, President; Esme Gibson, 1st Vice President; George A. Brumder, 2nd Vice President; Alexander Mallace, Secretary/Treasurer. 🌿



Plant Quiz

1. The estimated acreage of green lawn in the U.S. is about equivalent to the size of a) Connecticut b) Pennsylvania c) Texas.
2. A sago palm is a a) sago b) palm c) cycad.
3. The genus name of a tree and the brand name of a computer are the same. What is it?
4. What was the tree in *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*?
5. Of a silk oak, holly oak and she-oak, which one is a true oak?

Answers: 1. b 2. c 3. Acer 4. *Allanhus* tree of heaven. 5. Holly oak.

Turn Your Membership Benefits into Blossoms in Your Garden!

JUST IN TIME FOR FALL PLANTING ... all members of the Foundation receive a 10% discount at the following nurseries:

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1968 N. Lake Ave., Altadena

BURKARD NURSERIES, INC.
390 N. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena

DESERT TO JUNGLE NURSERY
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FOUR SEASONS ORCHID CO.
823 S. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel

GARDEN VIEW NURSERY
12900 Lower Azusa Rd., Irwindale

LAS TUNAS NURSERY
1155 E. Las Tunas Dr., San Gabriel

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PRESENT PERFECT
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2301 San Joaquin Hills Rd.,
Corona del Mar

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SMITH & HAWKEN
519 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena

SOUTH PASADENA
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3838 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City
3376 Foothill Rd., Carpinteria 🌿



1999. "Plant quiz." *Arboretum News* 1999:fall, 7.

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