

WVNLA NEWS

West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association, Inc. www.wvnla.org March · April 2012

2011 Award Winners

The WVNLA announced its 2011 Landscape Awards during the 2012 Winter Symposium, held in Charleston, West Virginia at the end of January. Awards went to the following Association members in the noted categories:

Residential Design/Build over \$10,000 →

· First Place Winner: Creation Gardens and Design, Lesage, West Virginia -

Designer, Janie Carpenter for work on the Ferguson Residence

· Honorable Mentions:

Scots Landscape Nursery, Vienna, West Virginia

for work on the Crooks Residence; and

Flowerscape, Sissonville, West Virginia-

Designer, Lynne Schwartz-Barker for work on the Jones Residence

Unique Projects →

· First Place Winner: Biafore Landscape Development, Morgantown, West Virginia - Designer, Michael Biafore for work on the Shafer Residence

· Second Place: Scots Landscape Nursery, Vienna, West Virginia for work on the Dills Residence

· Honorable Mention: Creation Gardens and Design, Lesage, West Virginia -

Designer, Janie Carpenter for work on the Kanawha City Veterinary Hospital

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Emerald Ash Borers

EAB have been found in ten counties in West Virginia. The destructive insects, which have killed an estimated 25 million ash trees in North America, were found this past summer. Emerald ash borers (EAB) attacks only ash trees. These devastating insects have also ↗

been found in Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio and several other states. Questions can be directed to West Virginia Department of Agriculture's Plant Industries Division, 304-558-2212, or visit www.emeraldashborer.info. Maps on page 7.

Tidbits, Updates, Etc.

PANTS, Penn Atlantic Nursery Trade Show
July 31-August 2, Philadelphia
www.pantsshow.com

Visit lowergreenbrierriver.org to find out updates regarding one of West Virginia's best rivers.

Mike Osborne has been promoted to Landscape Manager at Aspen Corporation.

2012 OFA - Association of Horticulture ↗

Professionals: Short Course and Perennial Production Conference, ofa.org

· Interior Plantscape, April 19, Kennett Square, PA

· OFA Short Course, July 14-17, Columbus, OH

· OFA Perennial Production Conference, Sept. 10-12, Grand Rapids, MI

Turf Grass Research Field Day, Virginia Tech, August, 28-29, Blacksburg, Va.





The Winter Symposium

The 2012 Winter Symposium went off without a hitch - well, except for a short in a patch cord to the projector, but we solved that. All the amazing speakers had a great crowd and the attendees thoroughly enjoyed the program. The 90 WVNLA members who gathered in Charleston heard a variety of speakers and experts from all over the U.S. There was a full photo essay on all of the awards entries and a museum style presentation of the entries on the conference center walls.

Attendees were treated to visual (power point) presentations and lectures about Landscape Architects work in urban areas, Garden Center programming ideas, the economy, "green" roofs and walls, turfgrass education, pest management, photography, pruning and a whole lot more.

The two day event ended with the WVNLA Awards presentation. Please see that story on page one.

Swap Shop Session 2012

· Brett Merritt introduced QR Codes, how to make them and their benefits. There are many sites to help you generate them. Here is one: <http://qrcode.kaywa.com> They can be used along with your smart phone to go immediately to a website, send a text or dial a phone number. The person with the smart phone must also get a QR Code reader app which are free. This QR Code will take you to the WVNLA website Awards page. Try it out.



· Chris Chanlett presented the idea of using empty store fronts for promotional window displays. He negotiated with a building owner in a town close by his garden center. He is allowed to use the display windows to promote his business. It also makes the empty store front look a lot better.

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USDA Zone Map Update

It's official: we can count on warmer weather. It might be a good time to rethink those flower and vegetable beds for this year's growing season.

That's the word from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which recently released a new version of its "Plant Hardiness Zone Map", the first update since 1990. The color-coded zones on this map of the United States are widely used as a guide for what perennial flowers will survive in a particular area, or when to plant your vegetables.

Here's how it works: The map is based on the average annual minimum winter temperature, divided into 10-degree F zones. The higher the zone number, the warmer your average low temperature during wintertime.

Now the zones have shifted northward. The new map shows that in much of the country, winters aren't as cold as they used to be, and spring planting comes earlier.

The nationwide shift in the planting season provoked lots of questions about just how much to attribute to climate change. USDA officials, while introducing their new map to reporters, insisted that they were making no claims about global warming.

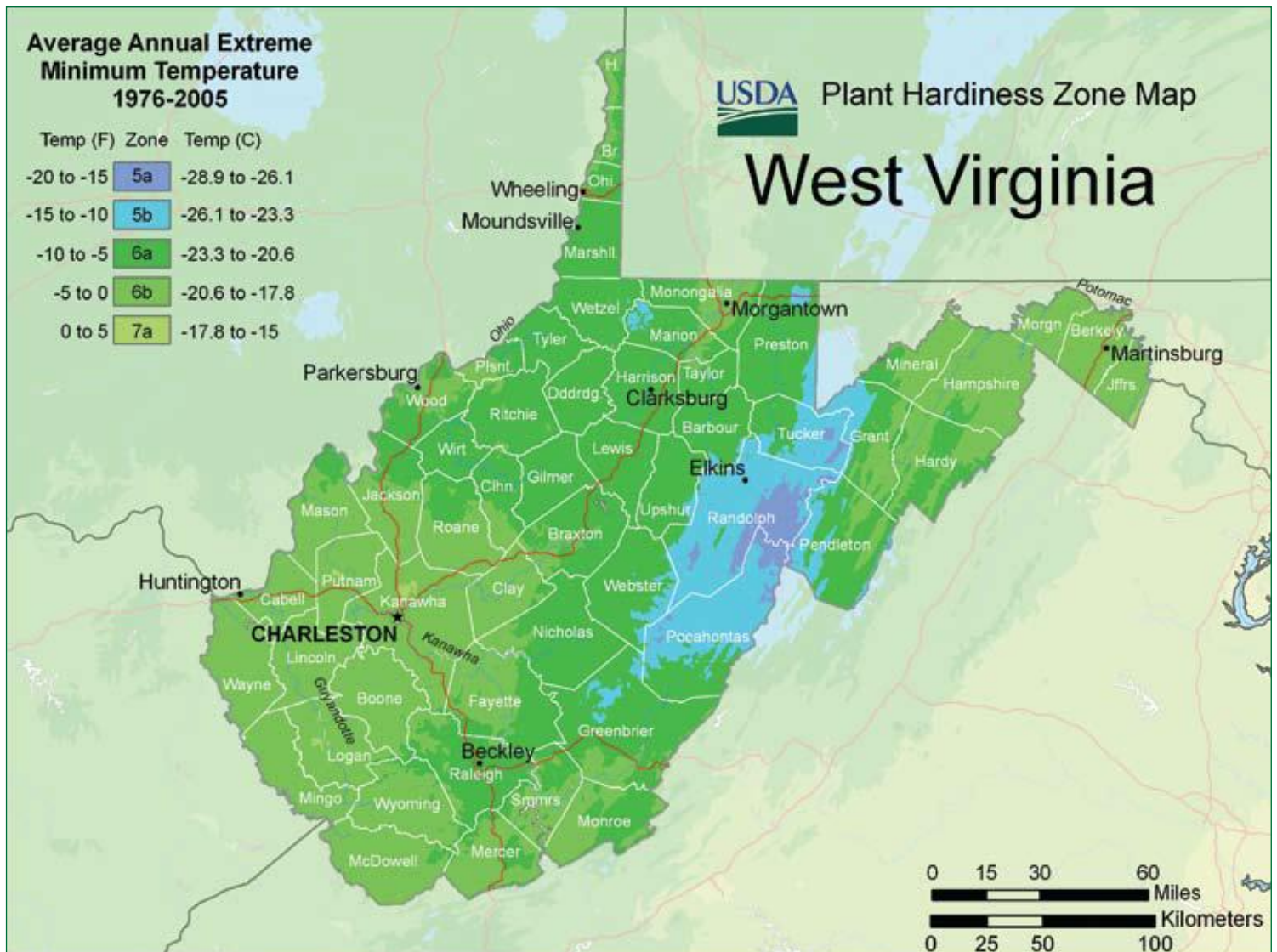
In the 2012 map, many zone boundaries have shifted significantly. Some of the shifting zone boundaries, they said, were the result of more sophisticated mapping. For the first time, the new map takes into account the effects of elevation, large lakes, and whether a place is located in a valley or on top of a ridge. They admitted, however, that most of the changes were due to using temperature data from recent years, which have been relatively toasty.

Also for the first time, the map is available as an interactive GIS-based map, for which a broadband Internet connection is recommended, and as static images for those with slower Internet access. Users may also simply type in a ZIP Code and find the hardiness zone for that area. Ours is featured here.

No posters of the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map have been printed. But state, regional, and national images of the map can be downloaded and printed in a variety of sizes and resolutions.

You may go to: <http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/Default.aspx> for the entire U.S. map or for other states.





Swap Shop continued

- Mark Springer spoke about the benefits of using and/or hiring a tow truck to pull out tree stumps in moments.

- Bill Mills presented the idea of using rigid plastic mesh as a tree bark protector. It can be cut to a custom fit with sharp scissors or shears and virtually disappears when wrapped around the bottom of tree trunks. The deer will hate it.

- Mike Book thought outside the box before sending employees to gas up their trucks in the morning. Those early gas runs usually included a coffee break, breakfast, etc. He suggests doing it in the evening - at the end of the workday. Gas-up at the end of the day eliminated the time draining errands and employees just want to go home.

- Tim Forren mentioned selling *Forren Soil* t-shirts. When a person is out wearing it, it's free publicity and when they stop by the garden center wearing it, they get 20% off any purchase.

Both Tim and Cary Levinson touted the

four day work week. Cary uses it with his maintenance crews. The days are a bit longer, but the savings are substantial.

- Norman Cole described a boxwood that grows 24" a season.

- Pat Biafore takes the used oil from all his maintained equipment and uses it on the under side of his trucks to deter the effects of salt and other corrosive agents on the roads.

- Steve Saunders uses the Xora gps tracker (www.xora.com) to keep track of his fleet. This company also offers a variety of time management tools.

“Like” Our Facebook Page



The WVNLA now has a Facebook page! You can visit it on Facebook by searching for WVNLA. “Like” it and visit it often. Add your own posts and photos. Have something to sell or news to spread? This is a great place to let a whole bunch of people know about it.





Artillery Fungus

Mushroom Compost vs Artillery Fungus

Mushroom compost is one top enhancer for existing soils. The compost restores soil structure by improving quality, nutrient content and beneficial soil microbe population and activity.

It decreases the cost of liming by using a low cost, consistently high quality organic fertilizer. It improves water retention during drought conditions and in poor soils. Plus, it suppresses sporulation of the artillery fungus in landscape mulch.

Mushroom compost is the composted result of a rich medium for growing mushrooms. It is made from agricultural materials such as hay, straw, straw horse bedding, poultry litters, cottonseed meal, cocoa shells and gypsum.

After mushrooms are harvested, the mushroom compost is steam treated prior to eliminate any pests, pathogens and weed seeds resulting in a PDA accepted fertilizer product.

Mushroom compost has high water and nutrient holding capacity and exhibits no nitrogen draw down. Addition of the compost reverses soil organic matter depletion, providing improved turfgrass and plant production.

So what is artillery fungus? It is a moderately spreading fungus that has become a serious problem in landscape mulch, particularly in wood-based mulches. The fruiting body of this fungus orients itself towards bright surfaces, such as light-colored houses and cars. The fungus "shoots" black, sticky spore masses, sometimes 20' plus into the air. Once in place, the spore is very difficult to remove without damaging the surface to which it has attached. ↗

Mushroom compost suppresses growth and sporulation of artillery fungus. According to research studies at Penn State by Dr. Donald Davis, when mushroom compost is mixed with mulch in proportions of just 20 to 40 percent, the artillery fungus is inhibited.

For further information visit:
www.mushroomcompost.org

Do You Know?

The West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association is extremely fortunate to have a member like Aaron Helmick. As the WVNLA President in 1995, he was instrumental in completing a history book of our Association. To understand the present and future, it is valuable to know and acknowledge the past of our Association.

In 1995, Aaron Helmick, Betty Price, and Lenora Riley started working on a book, titled "Down Nursery Row". Atlee Conner, Waldo Craig, and James Monroe also played a role in the development of the book.

Below are some of the highlights of "Down Nursery Row".

The nursery industry in West Virginia traces its beginnings to March 18, 1774. On this date, George Washington leased one hundred and twenty-five acres of land to William Bartlett in Mercer County for the purpose of establishing apple and peach orchards. Twelve years later, Jacob Kelly plants fifty acres of apple and peach trees in Hancock County and makes the northern panhandle famous for the production of winter apples.

West Virginia's early nursery industry was primarily involved in fruit tree production. However, by the time the West Virginia Nurserymen's Association organizes, an interest and desire for shade trees and foundation plants is emerging. Plus, as the state is recovering from the effects of the Great Depression, most homes have at least two porch boxes for planting.

Members approve purchase of a War Bond for a cost of thirty-seven dollars at the February 17, 1943 winter meeting. While the country was at war with Japan, at the 1944 winter meeting, West Virginia nurserymen focus on the problem of the Japanese Beetle, which by then had spread to the state.

In 1949, the French government sent railroad cars loaded with French artifacts, including plants, to each of the forty-eight states. It was a people to people method of saying thanks for *continued on page 8, bottom*



← **Awards cont. Trade Show Display**

- First Place Winner: Creation Gardens and Design, Lesage, West Virginia - Designer, Janie Carpenter for work on the Home and Garden Show in Huntington, West Virginia

Container Gardening

- First Place Winner: Flowerscape, Sissonville, West Virginia- Designer, Lynne Schwartz-Barker for work on the Jones Residence
- ← · Honorable Mention: Biafore Landscape Development, Morgantown, West Virginia - Designer, Michael Biafore for work on the Buzzo Residence



Garden Center Display in West Virginia

- First Place Winner: Groundworks Garden Center, Hinton, West Virginia - Chris and Torula Chanlett-Avery for work on the information signage at the Garden Center.
- bottom photo*

The Awards Program was established to recognize outstanding performance and business practice in the green industry from a WVNLA member.

Judges for the program were Carter Giltanan, Charleston (noted gardening expert), Tracy Bradley (University of Charleston's Interior Design Program), and Joseph Byrd, ASLA (Landscape Architect with Chapman Technical Group, Charleston). Judging criteria was based on overall appearance (design quality, principles and appropriateness), degree of difficulty, quality and appearance of materials, and a written narrative describing project scope, difficulty, and other points of interest. Each first place winner received a \$1000.00 award except in the areas of Container Gardening and Trade Show Display, where each first place winner received \$500.00.



Email Addresses

We want to make it as easy as is possible to contact your organizational leaders. If you do not have email capabilities, we will be pleased to pass along any letters sent to Board members. Here are email addresses for everyone on the Board of Directors.
 Patrick Biafore patrick@biafore.com ↗

- Bill Mills terraSalis@gmail.com
- Mark Springer Mark@lavalette.net
- Tim Forren forrensoil@aol.com
- Brett Merritt brett@gandgnursery.com
- Chris Chanlett ground@hughes.net
- Norman Cole III thecoles1@suddenlink.net
- Scott Barnitz scott.barnitz@bobsmarket.com
- John Jett john.jett@mail.wvu.edu
- Bud Cottrill westvirginiagardening@yahoo.com
- Beth Loflin, Director wvnlassoc@gmail.com





West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association, Inc.

Plant Catalog Order Form

Northeast Trees & Shrubs (200/box)	Perennials (200/box)	Ideas (Hardscapes) (100/box)
\$145	\$135	\$35

Step 1: Quantity (office use)

_____ boxes of **Northeast Trees & Shrubs** at.....\$145 per box.....\$_____

_____ boxes of **Perennials** at.....\$135 per box.....\$_____

_____ boxes of **Ideas for Outdoor Living/Hardscapes** at \$35 per box \$_____

Step 1 – Subtotal.....\$_____

Step 2: Shipping (WVNLA to cover all shipping costs)\$28 per catalog box

Step 2 – Subtotal.....\$ No Cost

*Check Enclosed _____

***Grand Total\$_____**

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Deadline for ordering is Tuesday, May 15. *Payment is needed at time of placing order. Catalogs will be mailed directly to members. Additional forms may be accessed at www.wvnla.org

Please submit form and payment to: WVNLA P.O. Box 20284 Charleston, WV 25362

Questions? **304-553-1234** or **wvnlassoc@gmail.com**



Plant Catalogs – On Sale Now Through May 15

It's that time of year again to order and purchase plant catalogs for our region. The "Plants for Outdoor Living" Catalog series continues to be a favorite among customers who enjoy the full color pictures and descriptions. The catalogs are useful for generating new ideas for your customers' homes and outdoor living spaces, while generating sales for you.

This year, we are making it easier. Place your orders directly with WVNLA, and once we receive your payment, we will forward your order onto the publisher (see order form with pricing details at the right). **WVNLA will cover all shipping costs**, and the catalogs will be mailed directly to you. The order form is also on our website www.wvnla.org

Available items include Trees & Shrubs, Perennials, and Ideas for Outdoor Living (hardscapes-focused). Deadline for placing orders is May 15. Please send in your completed order form with payment to: WVNLA, P.O. Box 20284, Charleston, WV 25362

Welcome New Members!

The following individuals or businesses joined the WVNLA since the first of the year. We are pleased to welcome them to our organization.

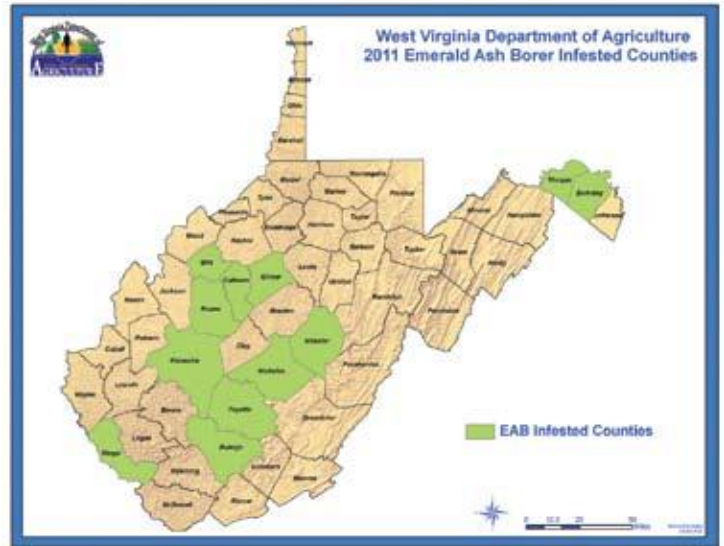
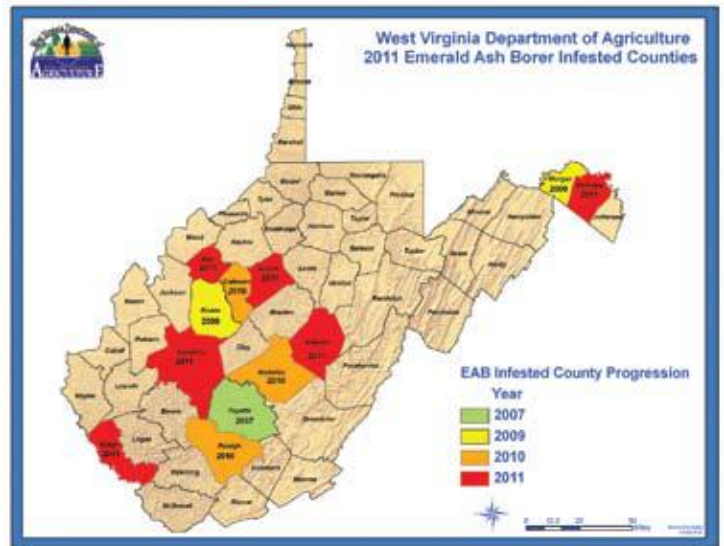
Sloping Acres
Donna and Myke Myles
HC66 Box 300 Renick, WV 24966

Honeysuckle Hill Gardens
Terri Johnson
Terry Avenue Oak Hill, WV 25901

North Hills Nursery
Martha Cochran
2110 Millstone Run Road Napier, WV 26631

Perennial Favorites LLC
Donna Rumbaugh
2202 Madison Avenue Huntington, WV 25704

Mountaineer Lawn Care
Dan Cheslock
2300 Smittown Rd. Morgantown, WV 26508



Emerald ash borer progression maps

JC Professional Lawn and Landscaping
Jerry Cheeseman
127 Winding Height Rd.
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Tom Vasale
P.O. Box 5238 Charleston, WV 25361

Three Trees Design and Landscaping Inc.
David Hill
P.O. Box 8845 South Charleston, WV 25303

Thomson's Landscaping
Mr. Thomson
26130 St. Rt. 7 Marietta, Ohio 45750

Premier Professionals, Inc.
Michael Bartholomew
3328 River Avenue Huntington, WV 25705



Christopher Higgins
Plant and Gnome Charleston, WV

Did You Know? continued from page 4 the United States participation in freeing the French from the German occupation in World War II.

In 1957, West Virginia nurserymen were talking about plastic greenhouses, granular herbicides, long last nitrogen fertilizers, and mist propagation.

Short courses during the January 20, 1961 meeting included Nematodes, Design Possibilities in Plantings, and Chemicals Available for the Control of Weeds in Nurseries.

Problems plague the state nursery industry in 1969: the Cereal Leaf Beetle was found in Hancock and Wood County. The Gypsy Moth pest is in surrounding states and can be expected in West Virginia.

In the February 1971 Minutes, the Mid-Atlantic Trade Show is mentioned. Several members attended the Williamsburg, Va. trade show and felt that West Virginia should join this group.

At the February 1972 Winter Meeting, Norman Cole, Jr., discussed the trade show and the advantages of being a member. Also during this meeting, Treasurer Norman Cole, Jr., made the Treasurer's Report, showing a balance of \$529.40. West Virginia becomes a member,

along with Maryland and Virginia.

In 1982, West Virginia received a check of \$5000.00 from the Mid-Atlantic Nurserymen's Trade Show.

West Virginia Nurserymen's Association reflected on their 50th year .

- The Association had awarded over \$10,000.00 in scholarships to West Virginians enrolled in higher education.

Greenbrier Nurseries was honored in 1990 by President and Mrs. Bush. Greenbrier Nurseries was asked to provide a white redbud for the White House Lawn to kick off the Global Relief Tree Program in the country.

The decade of the nineties brings a new threat to the state nurserymen. Large retail chains are invading West Virginia and selling plants through their "garden centers".

At the June 28, 1994 Summer Meeting, Norman Cole Sr. reported the Association had \$117,046.12 and 1500 shares of MANTS stock.

Officers of the West Virginia Nurserymen's Association in 1939 were President: B. L. Potter and Treasurer: Atlee Conner.

Future notes and a compilation of facts after the last dates in Down Nursery Row will occur in future months.

