



November 2019

News & Information



Polygonatum odoratum 'Variegatum'
Variegated Solomon's Seal

Plants change throughout the seasons and the variegated Solomon's Seal is beginning its autumn dormancy. It is beautiful even with the absence of green from the leaves and a sure sign that winter is coming.

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www.shadyacres.com

Herb Treasures to Grow Indoors During the Winter Months



Mrihani basil

Typically it is not a good idea nor recommended to grow basil indoors during the winter months. The short days with limited sunlight are not at all what basil requires but I am giving it a try with an established Mrihani basil and I hope for the best. Stay tuned for my results.



Shady Acres rosemary

For the past three years I haven't been heating a greenhouse and I had no alternative but to grow rosemary in my home. The best spot I have is in the living room in front of the

patio door facing south. It's a little cooler there and whenever the sun is out it's full sunlight. The rosemary is potted in a fifteen-inch container and it does so well. When the leaves begin to droop, water enough so water shows in the container saucer. Let it dry out until leaves droop again. How often? Depends on your sunlight, temperature, and size of container.



Bay plant

Bay plant is an excellent choice to grow indoors in cold winter months. It is a woody shrub that should be cut back $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ before bringing indoors. Imagine whenever you want to flavor a stock or soup pot you can just pick your own fresh bay – it doesn't get any better than that! Occasionally scale might appear but it is easily controlled with a commercial insecticidal soap. Spray the top and bottom side of the leaves, three days apart, for three applications.



View of my plants near the basement window

Food and Fun at a Book Club

In early October I was invited to a book club that meets in St. Paul. It's a small group of 8 or so that meet several times a year. The highlight was a dinner that featured recipes from

my book. The recipes were chosen and prepared by each member and were so very herbally tasty! It was a fantastic idea that any one could do whether it be a garden club, social event, or family gathering. It was a fun and lovely evening.



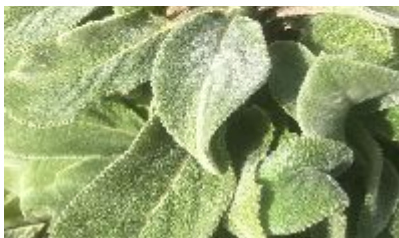
What's Growing in Theresa's Garden



Red Shrub Rose

A solitary rose flowering in the garden. This summer the roses produced a multitude of flowers that I dried. In the upcoming week the dried roses, peonies, and lemon verbena will be mixed together to make a fragrant and colorful potpourri. Orris root and essential oil will be added to enhance the aroma and keep the fragrance long lasting!





Lamb's Ears

The gray fuzzy leaves remained intact after several evenings of low 20's. Lamb's ears is a tough plant that not only endures freezing temperatures but the hot and humid degrees of summer. This variety is sold as a non-flowering Stachys cultivar but I still cut several flowers off during the growing season. It is, however, a preferred variety to grow. The lamb's ears grown from seed flower prolifically and reseed in the garden freely.



Bronze Fennel

So many leaves can be harvested at this time of year from fennel. Fennel stems are hollow with an anise flavor and scent. When you bite into a fennel seed the licorice flavor is from the volatile oil antehole, the same compound that gives anise its licorice-like flavor. It holds up in cold temperatures. Although it's a sun-loving perennial, bronze fennel is grown as an annual in northern climates. On occasion I have seen it reseed the following spring.



Kudos Red Agastache

Kudos Red is a recent hybrid selection that is easy to grow. It flowered nonstop from midsummer – and as you can see, even flowering now. It forms a low, bushy mound bearing upright spikes of red plumes.

as you can see, even now. It forms a low, bushy mound bearing upright spikes of red plumes that attract both hummingbirds and butterflies.

Eggplant Lasagna

If you have eggplant in the refrigerator from the garden and want to make an easy dish – this is it! It doesn't require a recipe because it can be made with ingredients you have and you can adjust ingredients as you need. For my lasagna I use:

- Eggplant, Japanese variety cut into long slices, not peeled, about 1/2" thick
- Goat cheese, crumbled, or mozzarella
- Basil, shredded
- Olive oil as needed
- Salsa (I use my own homemade or you can use marinara sauce)

Spread a little olive oil in a 13" x 9" baking dish and layer the sliced eggplant to cover the bottom. Spread goat cheese (or mozzarella) over the eggplant and cover with salsa or tomato sauce. Sprinkle shredded basil over sauce. Repeat another layer just as the first one. Your pan should be fairly full. Top with more goat cheese or Parmesan cheese. Bake at 350°F for 30-40 minutes. Eggplant should be soft when pierced with a fork. Let sit for 10 minutes and enjoy!

**This is usually my style of cooking the main meal – using ingredients I have on hand. Look at a recipe and use it as a guideline. If you are baking desserts or breads then I suggest using a recipe.*



Gardening Links

Following are several links with valuable gardening information. Just click on the source below to take you to the website.

[Yard and Garden, U of M Extension](#)

[Gardening and Horticulture, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum](#)

[Soil Test Lab, U of M](#)

[Gardening in the Midwest, Better Home and Gardens](#)

Shop Shady Acres Gift and Garden Store for Theresa's Book

We make it easy for you to shop. Your gardening and cooking friends will enjoy Theresa's book, *Beyond Rosemary, Basil, and Thyme*. It makes a perfect gift for the holidays. All it takes is a few clicks and your order is complete. We'll ship it to you in a timely fashion.

[Beyond Rosemary, Basil, and Thyme - click here to order online at shadyacres.com](#)

Sites and locations to purchase Theresa's book:

- [shadyacres.com](#) (lesser postage fees than Amazon)
- [amazon.com](#)
- Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Gift and Garden Store, 612-301-7619
- [Kowalski's Markets](#)
- [Lakewinds Food Co-op](#)
- [The Golden Fig St. Paul](#)
- [Excelsior Chiropractic](#)
- [Terrace Horticultural Books St. Paul](#)
- [Harvest Home Wayzata](#)
- [Mackenthuns Waconia](#)

- [GrowHaus](#)



Upcoming Events

Visit the Event Calendar on Shady Acres Website

February 24, 2020, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

[Carver County Horticulture Society](#)

VFW meeting room, Chaska, MN

Contact information in November newsletter

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 9:30 - Noon

[GrowHaus](#), Corcoran, MN

763.420.2909

"Get Growing Herbs" workshop and book signing

Saturday, March 14, 2020, Shorewood, MN

Spring Garden Fair – all day event

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Contact information in November newsletter

Thursday, March 19, 2020, 2 pm, [North Carolina Unit of the Herb Society of America](#)

Paul J Ciener Botanical Gardens, Kernersville, NC

For further information contact Kathy Ramsay, klamsay1623@hotmail.com

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 6 pm - 8 pm

[Chicago Botanic Garden](#), Glencoe, IL

847-835-6801

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Thursday, April 16, 2020, 10 am - Noon

[Morton Arboretum](#), Lisle, IL 630-968-0074

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Saturday, April 18, 2020, 9 am - 4 pm

[Fernwood Arboretum](#), Niles, MI 269.695.6491

A day long herb event with Susan Betz, Pat Crocker, and Theresa Mieseler

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 6 pm - 8 pm

[Cleveland Botanical Garden](#), 11030 East Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44106

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Sunday, April 26, 2020, 2 pm - 3 pm

[Richters Herbs](#), 357 Highway 47, Goodwood, ON L0C 1A0 Canada

905.640.6677

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Wednesday, April 29, 2020, 6 pm - 8 pm

[Olbrich Botanical Gardens](#), 3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison, WI

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing

Monday, May 18, 2020, 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

[Garden Club of Ramsey County](#), St. Luke's Lutheran Church at 1807 Field Ave., Saint Paul., MN

Further Information: Cyndy Syme-651-253-4846

"Unusual, Interesting, and Uncommon Herbs to Enjoy" presentation and book signing



Questions?

Get in touch with us!

herbs@shadyacres.com

[Previous newsletters are available on the website OR click here](#)



Jim & Theresa Mieseler

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