

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

September Clearance Sale **Continues**

Plant daffodils now!

Fall workshops?

Green manure/cover crops

Sept. 15th E-NEWS

SEPTEMBER CLEARANCE SALE

All Nursery Stock Buy 2 of the same variety & size for the price of one* (perennials, shrubs, trees, conifers, fruit trees)

All Garden Décor 50% off
(except tuned Wind chimes, Masserelli fountains & statuary, and consignment items)

**If you only need one item, discount is 35%.*

As you can see, I've put our 'September Clearance Sale' details *front and centre* in this week's newsletter. Apparently there was some confusion last week in that some people thought all the nursery stock items were now half price. As you can clearly see above, the 50% discount only applies when two regular priced plants of the same variety, in the same size pots, are purchased together. This is a great opportunity to get multiples of plants for the perennial border, hedge or whatever other project you have on the go. **Individual plants are discounted at 35%.** Considering that these plants have grown beautifully all growing season and many are *not commonly available*, a 35% discount on these prime specimens is a **terrific deal!**

And remember to use a Transplanter 5-15-5 with rooting hormone for all your fall planting. We need fall transplants to settle in

quickly before the onset of deep soil freezes. The old standby, bonemeal, is too slow-acting to enhance rapid root development. (It must be broken down by soil microbes into a form that plants can use and this is entirely soil-temperature dependent). It is, however, useful as a long term nutrient when applied in the root zone. Applying both the Transplanter liquid and the bone meal will cover both requirements.

When planting fall bulbs the same principle as outlined above applies to explain the difference in using **Bulb Fertilizer 10-9-6** instead of Bone Meal 2-11-0. Bulb Fertilizer has been proven in numerous field trials to enhance bulb performance significantly more than does bone meal. This doesn't mean using bone meal is 'wrong' but it isn't the ideal choice for best performance (larger flowers, better flower colour, and bulb longevity).



A little known fact about daffodils is that **they grow their root system early each fall and the bulbs must be well-rooted in order to withstand freezing temperatures.** If you intend to plant daffodils this fall, do it **SOON.** I can't tell you how many daffodils I've planted in November

(after apple harvest), *not having this crucial tidbit of info*, only to have **none** push through the soil the following spring! By the way, if you have existing daffodils in the garden, apply a top-dressing of bulb fertilizer to the soil NOW to get the best flowers possible next spring. Include a handful of Epsom salts (magnesium sulphate) on varieties with pink cups; it will enhance the depth of colour.

When you plant bulbs, plant them in groups; they love company. I think it's sad to see daffodils or tulips planted so they look like a row of soldiers marching single-file.

Fall workshops

I've decided that I **won't** be teaching any workshops this fall~ my garden needs my attention and while I've gotten a lot done this past month, much more remains. Instead of classes, I'll try to get as much pertinent fall gardening info into the newsletters as possible. I'll also add some great info to the FAQ section on our website www.hannaorchards.com If you have any specific fall/winter gardening questions you would like answered, please email them to me hanna@sunwave.net

Plants of the week: Ornamental Grasses



Molinia a. 'Skyracer'

The most dramatic ornamental grasses are stars in the fall garden. They are classified as **warm-season grasses** because they're late to start growing in spring, waiting until the soil has warmed before they go into active growth. Warm season grasses tend to be medium to tall plants and are useful in the garden to hide the foliage of spring bulbs after blooming has

finished. While they are best *divided in spring*, new container-grown plants can be **planted now** for colour, interest and instant gratification!

The warm season grasses we regularly stock (many we still have) are the **Andropogon** (Blue stem), **Bouteloua** (Blue gamma), **Buchloe** (Buffalo), **Chasmanthium** (Northern Sea Oats), **Miscanthus** (Maiden grass), **Molinia** (Purple Moor grass), **Panicum** (Switch), **Pennisetum** (Fountain grass), **Schizachyrium** (Little blue stem), **Sorghastrum** (Indian grass), **Sporobolus** (Dropseed), and **Stipa** (Feather Reed). There's not enough space in this newsletter to provide information on all these plants but check out the **Bluestem Nursery website** <http://www.bluestem.ca>.

Garden Tip: Green Manure / cover crops

As you harvest your flowers and veggies, sow a 'green manure' like **fall rye**. Fall rye seeds germinate quickly and provide a **cover crop** that will help trap snow, thus preventing wind and water erosion over the winter months. Furthermore, it helps prevent the establishment of soil and wind-blown annual weeds. Fall rye also serves as a **catch crop** when sown into soil that has had aged manure or compost incorporated into it before seeding. The fall rye will soak up the nutrients in the manure/compost and store them so they don't leach away. Once the fall rye is tilled in or turned under the following spring, those stored nutrients become available to the next crop as the residues decompose. We've also used fall rye as a **break crop** in our orchards. A break crop breaks the life cycle of pests, weeds or diseases and usually requires an entire growing season, rather than just the winter, to most effective. **Fall rye is applied at a rate of 2.5 lb. per 1000 sq. ft.** Fall rye must be tilled in or turned over in early spring, as soon as the soil can be worked.

Green manures are an easy way to increase soil fertility, organic matter, and beneficial soil microbes.

Healthy soil = healthy plants

NEW ITEM Red neck wineglasses

We've all heard them. They go something like this:

You know you're a redneck when...

-a tornado hits your neighbourhood and does \$100,000 worth of improvements.

-you know how many bales of hay your car will hold.

-you believe you've got a set of matched luggage if you have two shopping bags from the same store.



Now, just for the redneck in your life, we have the **Original Red Neck Wineglasses**. They are just so much fun but so practical, too. There's no need to worry about wasps getting into your drink~ these wineglasses come complete with lid!

FEATURED THIS WEEK:

Fall rye seed: 89¢/lb (in bulk)

Steer manure: 2.00 per 9 kg bag
(Reg. 2.99/bag. LIMIT OF 10 BAGS PER CUSTOMER.)

Black oil sunflower seed:

31.99 / 50 lb. bag

(F.Y.I: Prices on sunflower seed will be going up soon due to continent-wide crop failures.)

Fresh B.C Fruit in stock this week:

Apples: Earligold, Gala,
McIntosh, Hanna Special

(Because of the cold spring weather and poor pollination, some of our apple varieties are in short supply this year. Please place an order if you're looking for less common varieties.)

Crabapples: Whitney

Nectarines Flavortop

Peaches GloHaven free-stone, Harbrite free-stone,

Pears Bartlett

Plums Early Italian Prune, Gold

Field crops: corn (Peaches 'n' Cream & King Arthur) tomatoes, peppers, summer squash and garlic

Happy gardening,
Harriet

HANNA ORCHARDS MARKET & GARDEN CENTRE

3181-11TH Ave. NE., Salmon Arm, BC

Open Mon.-Sat. 8-6:00

Open Sundays 1-5

(250) 832 4574



Saturday Market 9 - 12

**Honey, Eggs, Bread, Salad greens,
Beets, Potatoes, Carrots, Squash, Tomatoes,
Gort's Gouda cheeses and dairy products,
Seasonal fruit, Garlic, Organic Chicken, Rabbit and more.**

See You There!

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.