

MICHIGAN HOSTA HAPPENINGS

Newsletter of the Michigan Hosta Society



Something was Missing at Hosta College 2024

By Pam Rawson

Something was missing at Hosta College this year. I did not figure it out until I was on my way home Saturday night. The location was the same. There were plenty of teachers with a variety of classes. The auction had an abundance of hostas and the silent auction included so many items to bid on that there was an extra table. Twenty dollars bought 50 tickets at the raffle for numerous hostas and gift baskets. Vendors old and new were there and hosta enthusiasts could purchase the latest hosta, a tree, an assortment of perennials, a nice stained-glass piece, or many other items.

Walking in, the first thing I noticed were the people I had not seen for a year and the people from my own club which I saw a month ago. Either way, I was so excited to see them. I registered, grabbed a hosta and some snacks, and walked around to locate my classrooms. I've been there for five years and still had a difficult time. It is helpful to just walk around in a big square until you find the map of the school. You can always ask someone who looks like they know where they are

SAVE THE DATES

May 18, 9:00 am

Annual Spring Meeting
Hidden Lake Gardens

June 7 & 8

Great Lakes Region Tailgate
Indianapolis, IN

June 18 - 22

American Hosta Society Annual Convention
Marlborough, MA

June 15, beginning at 9:00 am

Michigan Hosta Society plant sale
Hidden Lake Gardens

August 25

MHS Summer Annual Meeting
Hidden Lake Gardens

November 3

Hybridizers Meeting
Matthaei Botanical Garden, Ann Arbor, MI

going. Bob Iames did an excellent job as the auctioneer by trying to make it fun for everyone. There were plenty of hostas to bid on, some going for \$20 while others went for \$50. A few unique items were added that were not hostas. Gift certificates from nurseries were always gobbled up, especially if the vendor was right there at Hosta College.

Saturday morning arrived with donuts, more people, and laughter everywhere. The classes started and the day seemed to fly by so that before I knew it, I headed for lunch. There is always enough to eat. If I do not see anyone I know, I pick a table that is almost full. I made new gardening friends. After lunch, I had a few more hours of classes before I had a break. There was a two-hour time frame where I could go back

to my hotel and relax or check out a store in the local town of Piqua. The vendors were busy packing up and the dining room was being set up for dinner. The banquet arrived and this year, I chose not to sit with the people that I knew. I selected a table and soon I had a few new friends from Indiana and Pennsylvania. Hostas were the main topic of conversation. Of the 250 people enrolled in Hosta College, 95 attended the banquet. Some chose to go home before nightfall.

On my drive home, I sat reflecting on this year. I always have a good time but something was missing. I determined it was YOU! I missed friends that did not attend for various reasons. It simply was not the same without you and I wish you were there. I hope to see you next year!



Preen® — Should It Be Used in the Garden?

By Don Rawson

Ugh! Weeds again. Not only do they look terrible, but weeds have the capacity to choke the roots of flowers, trees, shrubs and other plants (like hostas) that you've worked so hard to cultivate. If there was just some way to control them!

Did you know that the average garden contains hundreds of weed seeds at any given point of time? It's shocking but true! Fortunately, many are too deep to germinate, but the ones near the surface are sure to create havoc by showing their pesky little noses as they start to peek out of the ground.

The prudent gardener looks for ways to control weeds in the landscape. Pulling weeds requires hours of time and work. Therefore, preventing weeds from sprouting in the first place is a better option.

There are different methods and products that may be employed to accomplish this task, but one of the best is Preen Weed Preventer. I have personally used it for years and it does exactly what the label says: *it prevents weeds from growing*. And, it does not hurt the hostas.

Preen is a weed preventer. That means that it does not kill weeds that are already actively growing in the garden. Therefore, you should remove those weeds that are currently present and alive before applying Preen. Using a weeding fork or trowel, dig

them up by the roots. Once that is done, you can then use the product, and once applied, Preen creates a barrier that prevents weed seeds from germinating at all.

As a side note, applying Preen Weed Preventer also means that other plants will not germinate either, so if you are sowing seeds in your garden, you would not want to use Preen in that area. Preen may also stop perennials from spreading, especially if they do so by reseeding themselves.

What is Preen?

Preen is an all-natural herbicide that stops weeds before they have a chance to grow. It is not a weed killer, but a weed preventer. It stops weeds from growing before they have a chance to spread through germination.

The company has three different weed prevention products, each designed for a slightly different landscape. Here is a brief overview:



1. Preen Extended Control Weed Preventer

The advantage of this product is its durability — it lasts as long as six months. It's designed for use in perennial flower gardens and is also safe to use around trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and even rock gardens.

2. Preen Garden Weed Preventer

This product works for up to three months. It can be used around flowers, vegetables, trees, and shrubs.

3. Preen Lawn Weed Control

This is made specifically for lawns. It prevents more than 200 broad-leaf lawn weeds, including chickweed and knotweed.

Preen Weed Preventer is made from corn gluten meal (CGM), a natural by-product from the wet milling process of corn. Corn gluten meal contains 60 percent protein and is used as a supplement in feeds for livestock, poultry, and pets. The idea of spreading CGM on lawns to control weeds came quite by accident and through close observation. In 1986, Nick Christians, professor of horticulture at Iowa State University, was using CGM as a growth media in a study of turfgrass diseases. During his research, he observed that the CGM reduced grass seed germination. Curious about the possibilities,

he directed his attention to finding out if and how this was possible.

Christians' research revealed that a naturally occurring compound in CGM had an inhibitory effect on the root formation of germinating seeds. In 1991, he was granted a patent on CGM as a natural, pre-emergent herbicide for use on all crops. As a pre-emergent herbicide, CGM only controls germinating seeds and has no effect on weeds that are already established. Currently, it is labeled for control of crabgrass, barnyard grass, foxtails, dandelion, lambsquarter, pigweed, purslane, smartweed, and several others at the time of germination.

During the past 10 years, CGM has gained national attention as being the first effective "organic" herbicide. It is marketed and distributed under several trade names,

including Preen, Espoma, Hi-Yield, Lesco, and Snapshot.

How do you apply Preen?

Preen is simple to use. To apply Preen, simply shake the granules directly on your garden. The container has a sprinkle top, so it's as easy as opening and sprinkling out the granules.

You just shake out a little around the plants — close to, but not on top, of the stems and



Thistle amongst hosta shoots
Photo by Marla Greanya

leaves. You can use it around plants of all kinds. Next, water the area until it is damp. Once it is applied and watered in, you can say good-bye to weeds for about three months, with few exceptions.

Follow these four steps:

1. First, begin by removing any existing weeds in your garden. Remember that Preen will not kill weeds that have already sprouted. It simply stops weeds before they have a chance to germinate. Existing weeds must be pulled the old-fashioned way!
2. Sprinkle the Preen around the garden, using only the prescribed amount in each area.
3. Mix the Preen into the soil or mulch using a rake.
4. Preen will need to be watered in to create that barrier. If there is no rain in the forecast, you should water the garden with a hose. The dissolved granules are what creates the barrier. Dampen it just enough so that it will dry in about 30 minutes.

Does Preen work on top of mulch?

Yes, Preen works on top of mulch. Actually, you can apply it right over mulch, but watering dissolves the granules and creates the weed barrier within the top layer of soil, not on top of the mulch. That distinction is worth noting.

In essence then, it works within the soil, but can be applied over mulch. Applying it on top of the mulch restricts the germination of seeds that may be in the mulch itself.

When do you apply Preen?

You can use Preen anytime during the year, but proper timing of the application is critical for good weed control. It is most effective if you spread it in early spring — sometime between late March to mid-April before the ground temperature reaches 55°F. You can use a soil thermometer, or simply go to the Michigan State University GDD Tracker at <https://gddtracker.msu.edu/> and enter your ZIP code. It will tell you the optimum time to apply a pre-emergent based on the soil temperature in your area.



Lysichiton camtschatcensis
Asian skunk cabbage
Photo by Marla Greanya

You'll only need to repair the weed barrier if the soil is disturbed or when something digs into the garden and disrupts it. A quick patch job with a little sprinkle of Preen is all

that is required. The weed barrier is then as good as new.

Preen can also be applied in mid-August to control late-season annual weeds. It contains 10 percent nitrogen by volume, making it an excellent, natural, slow-release fertilizer for lawns and gardens. It promotes thicker lawns, resulting in fewer places for weeds to become established.



Can you apply too much Preen?

The answer is no, but follow the directions. Preen is all-natural and non-toxic. It's not the end of the world if you sprinkle a little too much on the garden. However, keep in

mind that wasting any product, even if it is not harmful to children and pets, is a waste of money and effort. It's not going to damage the soil even if you spread a little more than the recommended amount. On the other hand, over-applying often can overwhelm foliage, roots, and flowers.

The directions for Preen Weed Preventer say to apply 1 lb. per 640 sq. ft. for clay-type soils, 1 lb. per 960 sq. ft. for loam soils, and 1 lb. per 1,280 sq. ft. for light, sandy soils. That means that you should have a rough idea of the size of your garden and measure out the prescribed amount before you begin.

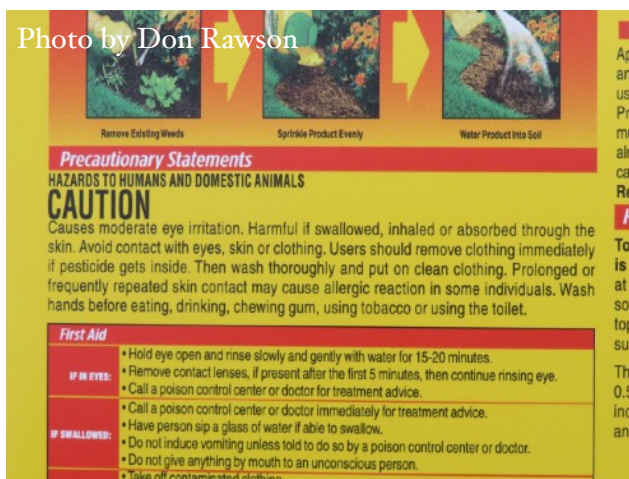
Don't use Preen more frequently than the company recommends. Read the instructions carefully and you won't go wrong. Apply the correct amount per square footage.

Is Preen safe to use?

If you read the pros and cons, you know Preen is a chemical herbicide, and like all pesticides, concern about the environment is always front and center as it should be. The manufacturer, Lebanon Seaboard Corporation of Lebanon, PA, touts that Preen is made fully from all-natural ingredients and that it is not toxic or dangerous. It is made almost entirely from corn gluten and recycled newspaper, which it claims is safe for pets and children. However, it directs that once you've sprinkled Preen on the soil or mulch and dampened it to create a weed barrier, keep everyone out of the garden until it dries (usually in about 30 minutes).

In reality, there are some differences in the various products offered by the

manufacturer. **Preen Garden Weed Preventer** is corn gluten and recycled paper with the addition of 1.47% Trifluralin (Treflan). Trifluralin is classified as a “Hazardous Chemical” by OSHA. The Material Safety Data Sheet under the subheading “CANCER INFORMATION” states that Trifluralin contains naphthalene that has caused cancer in some laboratory animals, and that “...a low incidence of urinary tract tumors were seen in one strain of rat in one chronic study of five 2-year studies on trifluralin conducted in rats.” However, it goes on to say that Trifluralin is not anticipated to be a carcinogenic risk to humans.



Nevertheless, information about Trifluralin (Treflan) posted on the website of the Missouri Botanical Gardens has this warning: “Read the label carefully of the brand you have selected and apply the product according to the directions on the label. Special caution should be used in areas where desirable seeds will be planted soon. When using in gardens, follow specific instructions for each vegetable. Do not apply to or allow runoff into any pond, lake, or stream. Toxicity: May cause skin irritation in humans. This product is slightly

toxic to pets and birds but highly toxic to fish and aquatic organisms.”

You should not use Preen around aquatic gardens and waterfalls containing frogs, koi, and other aquatic life. Furthermore, the manufacturer advises that Preen should be applied in a manner where there is no runoff into streams or rivers because it could be harmful to fish and other marine life. This means that sweeping any loose granules off your driveway or sidewalks is a good idea.

Preen Extended Control Weed Preventer has a slightly higher concentration of Trifluralin (1.5%), along with 0.375% Isoxaben. The chemical Isoxaben is used as an herbicide for broadleaf weeds. The Material Safety Data Sheet says it is harmful if inhaled and can cause serious eye irritation. It further instructs to avoid breathing dust, use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area, wear eye and face protection, and to wash hands, face and any exposed skin thoroughly after handling.

By comparison, Preen Extended Control contains 1.5% Trifluralin along with 0.375% Isoxaben, while Snapshot 2.5TG has 2.0% Trifluralin and 0.5% Isoxaben.

If you are an organic gardener, then neither of these products would be ideal for you. You should consider **Preen Natural Vegetable Garden Weed Preventer**, which is 100% corn gluten.

A further consideration is about what could happen if Preen is grossly overapplied and the excess is not raked into the soil. Because it is corn gluten, mold can form on the Preen and that could be hazardous to birds and other wildlife. Like birdseed that falls

out of the feeder and then decays on the ground, corn gluten is unhealthy for wildlife once it becomes moldy. In wet weather, it is common for mold or bacteria to form on wet birdseed either in the feeder or on the ground, and moldy birdseed can cause birds to become sick and can be fatal.

Farmers periodically test feed for mold counts, knowing that moldy grain and forage are not ideal feedstuffs for cattle and other livestock. Mycotoxicoses is a disease caused by a toxin (mycotoxin) produced in the mold and has many serious side effects. That's why it is important to read the label carefully of the product you have selected and apply it according to the directions on the label; don't spill it or over-apply. While most of us do not have cows in our gardens to eat any excess moldy Preen, and since deer would prefer to feed on our highly-prized hostas rather than lick up our Preen, nevertheless corn gluten could be a potential hazard to birds and smaller animals if over-applied and allowed to become moldy.



Photo by Don Rawson

Finally, it could stain your hands or clothes but these things are easy to overcome.

Is Preen expensive to use?

If you have used Preen Weed Preventer, then certainly you have noticed a big difference in the amount of time that it has saved in weeding the garden. Mulching the garden is also an expense, but well worth it considering the many benefits. In my opinion, mulching and applying a pre-emergent go hand in hand and are well worth the financial investment. It frees you up to do the other important tasks in caring for the garden.

Pros and Cons of Using Preen

Like any product, Preen Weed Preventer has its pros and cons.

Pros:

- Preen prevents weeds from germinating before they even start.
- Extremely easy to use and apply.
- You'll save time because you won't need to spend hours weeding the garden.
- Preen will prevent many of the most common weeds, as listed on the label.
- Can be used around hundreds of plants.
- Can be used in vegetable gardens as well.

Cons:

- Preen is not effective on all weeds, so you may still have a few sprouting up.
- Despite the manufacturer's claim, it is not entirely a natural product. Preen is a chemical pesticide and care should be taken when using it.
- If grossly over applied, the excess could potentially become moldy and be a hazard to wildlife. It cannot be used around aquatic features.
- Preen can stain your hands and clothes, but if applied correctly your skin will not come in contact with it.

- If the weed barrier is broken by disturbing the surface of the soil, the effectiveness of the product is greatly diminished.
- If using in vegetable gardens, specific instructions must be followed depending on the vegetable. With some vegetables you can apply it before seeding while others need to be actively growing above ground before applying. Read the label for specific vegetables that apply.
- Extensive rainfall or irrigation after application can reduce its effectiveness.
- It is often more expensive than other pre-emergent herbicides, although it is still well worth the investment.

In summary, Preen Weed Preventer really works and it makes life so much easier. If applied as instructed at the proper time, there will be very few weeds to pull. And preventing weeds in the garden from even sprouting is always a good thing!

For Reference

Youtube video by Preen. "Applying Preen Weed Preventer," <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25UuRjvJQOs>

Naeve, Linda, agriculture specialist at Iowa State University Extension. "Corn Gluten Meal - A Natural Weed and Feed for Lawns and Gardens," <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2005/mar/mar0522.htm>

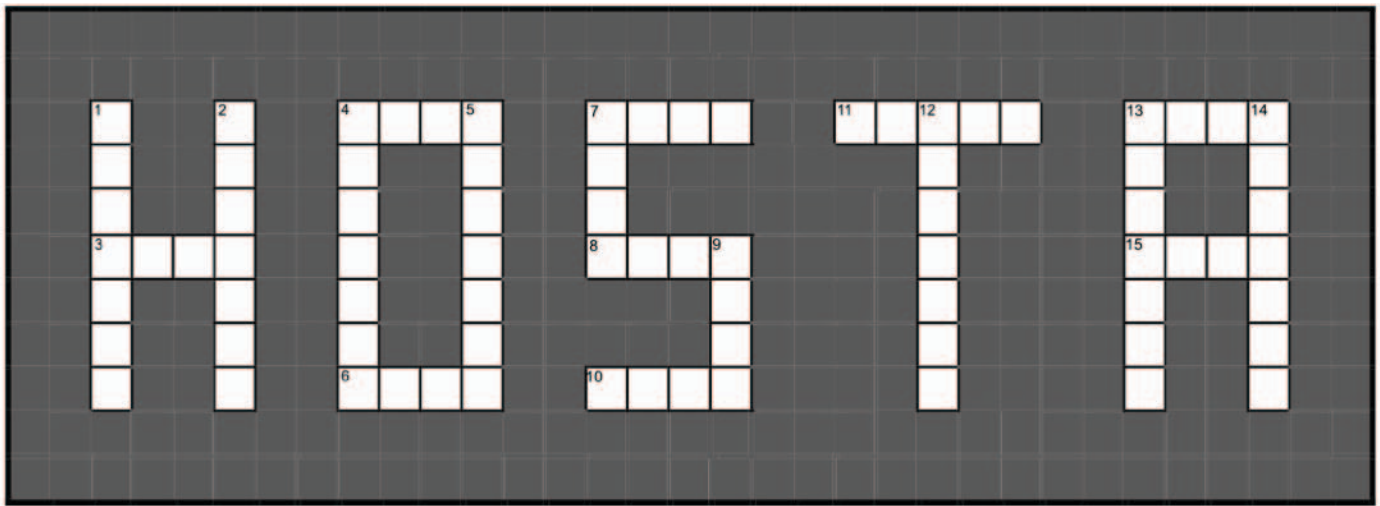
Missouri Botanical Garden. "Pesticides: Treflan," <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/insects-pests-and-problems/pesticides/>

[treflan#:~:text=Chemical%20Action%20and%20Usages%3A%20Treflan,for%20weed%20control%20in%20gardens](#)



Polygonatum
Solomon's Seal
Photo by Marla Greanya

Crossword Puzzle by Don Rawson



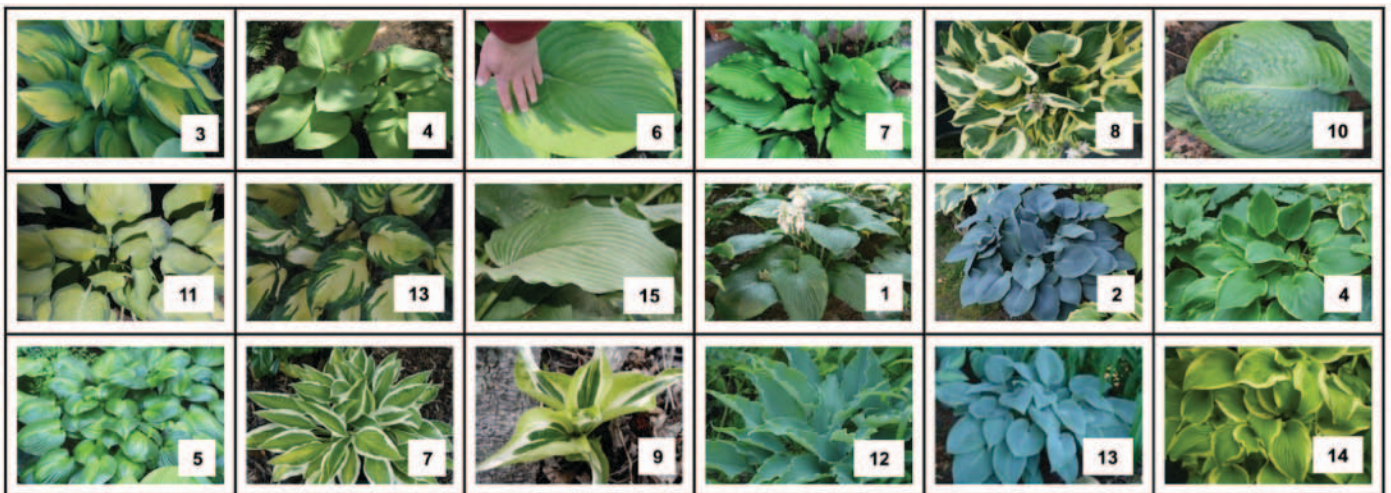
ACROSS

3. A very beautiful hosta, placing at the top of the AHS Popularity Poll from 2012 to 2021. A must have!
4. A large, bright gold intro from Russ O'Harra of Iowa that sold in the 1997 AHS auction for \$1300.
6. A creamy-white margined sport of the huge *H. T Rex* from Danny Van Eechaute of Belgium.
7. With wavy and serrated leaf edges, this small green hosta can bite you if not careful.
8. A tetraploid sport of *H. 'Fortunei Aureomarginata'* with thicker leaves than its parent.
10. Monster plant from Olga Petrysyzn with blue-green, corrugated leaves. Shares its name with a cookie brand.
11. *H. 'Blue Wedgwood'* sport with chartreuse center, from Bob Kuk of Ohio.
13. Improved sport of *H. 'Andrew'* with stunning white center and a two-toned green/blue margin.
15. Large, green hosta that is part of Van Wade's Indian series, named after a tribe in Canada.

DOWN

1. Massive mound of dark green leaves on this Clarence Owens origination. A great specimen plant.
2. Intensely blue leaves on this Tardiana hosta which is considered one of Eric Smith's best.
4. Variegated TC sport of 'Daybreak' from Mark Zilis. The name is an antonym of "daybreak."
5. Sport of *H. 'Guacamole'* with wider margin. Light lavender, fragrant flowers.
7. *H. 'Striptease'* sport similar to *H. 'Hanky Panky'*, from Marco Fransen.
9. *H. 'Yellow Polka Dot Bikini'* sport from Danny Van Eechaute of Belgium.
12. Blue green intro from Hans Hansen with long, heavily rippled leaves. Registered in 2006.
13. One of the most well-known Tardianas with over 40 sports, including 'June' and 'First Frost'.
14. An older Kevin Vaughn plant reg. by Aden (1988). White-margined foliage, sweetly fragrant flowers.

Hints...



Answer key provided on page 17

Unusual Woodlanders for the Shade Garden: Japanese Sacred Lily

By Don Rawson

Known as a “good fortune plant,” the Japanese Sacred Lily (*Rohdea japonica*) is a highly prized and cherished plant in Japan where it has been cultivated for over 500 years. There are over 600 cultivars registered in that country and it is frequently given as a housewarming or birthday gift. These plants are so revered in Japanese families that unique specimens are left to relatives in their wills along with their treasured koi.

The name *Rohdea* is pronounced ROH-dee-uh. Although sometimes misspelled as *Rhodea*, the plant was named after Michael Rohde (1782-1812), a German physician and botanist. *Rohdea* translates from Chinese as “10,000 years green” and is

symbolic of multiplying good luck or fortune. Now, who cannot use a little good luck in the garden?

Currently the genus includes 33 species, but others are being discovered throughout southeastern Asia and are added to the list often. For more information, visit the Plant Delights website at <https://www.juniperlevelbotanicgarden.org/specialty-collections/Rohdea/>.

This evergreen herbaceous perennial has an upright, clumping, and vase-like form. It is rather slow growing and reaches a height and width of 2 feet. The rich green leaves are thick and rubbery with most measuring about 1 to 1.5 feet long at maturity and 2 to 3 inches wide, although there are dwarf varieties with twisted, curly leaves that are also wonderful.

The Japanese Sacred Lily has insignificant flowers. However, it produces attractive,



Photo by Tony Avent. Used by permission.

***Rohdea japonica* ‘Get in Line’ is a margined seedling selection of Juniper Level Botanic Garden that is not yet introduced.**



Photo by Ute van der Pütten. Used by permission.

***Hosta rohdeifolia* resembles *Rohdea japonica*. In fact, the word “rohdeifolia” literally means, “with leaves like the *Rohdea*.”**

bright red berries that persist into winter to add interest to the landscape.

Culture

The dark green foliage of *Rohdea japonica* covers forest floors of Korea, Japan, and China, slowly spreading across hills and mountain slopes through rhizomatic roots. Although not yet common in North American gardens, this stellar evergreen perennial can serve as an incredible addition to your ornamental landscape and as a ground cover.

Japanese Sacred Lilies look great planted in the front of the border, in rock gardens, and in woodlands as a ground cover. They can also be used in a massed planting under a shade tree. The ideal pH range is from 5 to 7.8.

It is best planted in well-drained, rich loamy soil, and partial to full shade. Unlike most ornamental plants, it thrives in dry shade. Ensure your soil does not have too many retention materials in it. This plant is resistant to heavy shade, deer browsing, drought, and black walnut. It is evergreen in zones 6 to 10, but in colder climates the foliage will die back during the winter. Apply a balanced, slow-release fertilizer once during the growing season.

Japanese Sacred Lilies make excellent potted plants and that might be the best way to grow them in Michigan. Most of the very rare Japanese cultivars are grown in expensive, decorative ceramic containers made just for *Rohdea*. They do very well in containers. The small cultivars and the curly leafed ones are best in pots as they are not as strong growers as the larger cultivars with typical *Rohdea* leaves.



Photo by David Cann. Used by permission.

The dark green foliage of Japanese Sacred Lily is evergreen in zones 6 to 10, but in colder climates the foliage will die back during the winter.

Propagation

The Japanese Sacred Lily is best propagated by division since it is so slow growing. Clumps can be divided when they get too large. See “How to Divide Rohdea - Japanese Sacred Lily,” a video by Tony Avent of Plant Delights Nursery: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5hcewfVeaw>.

New plants can also be grown from seed if started in a cold frame or greenhouse. Harold McDonell gives this advice: “They are not hard to grow from seeds. Just harvest the seeds when ripe (most turn red, orange or yellow when ripe). Remove the big pearly seeds from the husk but handle with care. The husks can cause skin irritation. The seeds will need at least eight weeks of cold stratification. I immediately wrap my seeds in dampened paper towels, seal in plastic freezer bags and store in the refrigerator, not the freezer. It is best to keep the seeds moist at all times after



Photo by Luciano Crevenna. Used by permission.

New plants can be grown from seed if started in a cold frame or greenhouse.

Place the seeds in a refrigerator beforehand, as they will need at least eight weeks of cold stratification.

harvesting. You can also plant them outside and let nature handle the stratification. I plant my seeds under lights in early spring at room temperature. Plant about 1/2-inch deep. It takes at least several weeks for them to germinate.”

Disease and Other Plant Problems

There are no known insect pests. The only disease reported is an anthracnose known as *Colletotrichum liriopae* that seriously affects the ornamental value of *Rohdea japonica*. This fungal infection causes reddish-brown spots to appear along the leaf margins and tips, and becomes more prevalent with frequent rainfall or overhead irrigation. Remedies include removing the infected portions and treating diseased plants with an antifungal spray.

Positive Characteristics

- Thick, plastic-like, dark green leaves.
- Tropical-looking perennial with an upright, clumping, vase-shape form.
- Can be grown in dense shade. Thrives in dry conditions. Dry soil is one of the most important things that distinguishes this tropical plant from others like it.
- Suitable as an ornamental ground cover.
- Tough enough to grow in less than perfect conditions, including clay soils.
- Resistant to rabbit and deer browsing, drought, and black walnut.
- Generally disease-free. No known insect pests. Not bothered by slugs and snails.
- Cold-hardy down to -25°F.
- Evergreen in zones 6 to 10. In colder climates, the foliage will die back during winter. During fall and winter, reduce the frequency of watering, as the plant will likely be dormant at this time.

- Bright red berries in fall and winter. No pruning required.
- Hundreds of registered cultivars, some of which sell to collectors for thousands of dollars.
- Clumps can be divided when they are large, or new plants can be grown from seed.

Negative Characteristics

- Slow growing, but spreads somewhat by rhizomes. Can be divided in spring once the clumps grow large.
- Insignificant greenish-white, bell-shaped flowers.
- It should not get afternoon sun, otherwise the leaves will burn and die. Heat is no issue if it is planted in a shady area. The plant is primed for sweltering tropical areas.
- Does not tolerate water-logged soil.

Availability

The plant is available in several varieties including forms with white or chartreuse stripes and margins as well as blotched patterns on the leaf. *Rohdea japonica* 'Mini' is a miniature variety that grows to about 6" in height. *Rohdea japonica* 'Chirimen Boshi' and others have wavy leaves.

Brian's Botanicals, <https://www.briansbotanicals.net/>

Cistus Nursery, <https://cistus.com/>

Nurseries Caroliniana, <https://nurcar.com/>

Plant Delights, <https://www.plantdelights.com/>

Plant Lust, <https://plantlust.com/>

Quackin' Grass Nursery, <https://www.quackinggrassnursery.com>

Rare Roots, <https://www.rareroots.com/>

Sandy's Plants, Inc., <https://www.sandysplants.com/>

Woodlanders, <https://www.woodlanders.net/>

Rohdea seed is available from various suppliers, including Jelitto and others.

Omoto Collectors Facebook Group - Rohdea Enthusiasts, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1576643235905109>



Photo by Noah Schwartz. Used by permission.

While *Rohdea* species and cultivars are cold-hardy down to -25°F, the foliage may die back during winter. Here is one covered in snow in the Michigan zone 5b garden of Noah Schwartz.



Photo by Ruben Billiet. Used by permission.

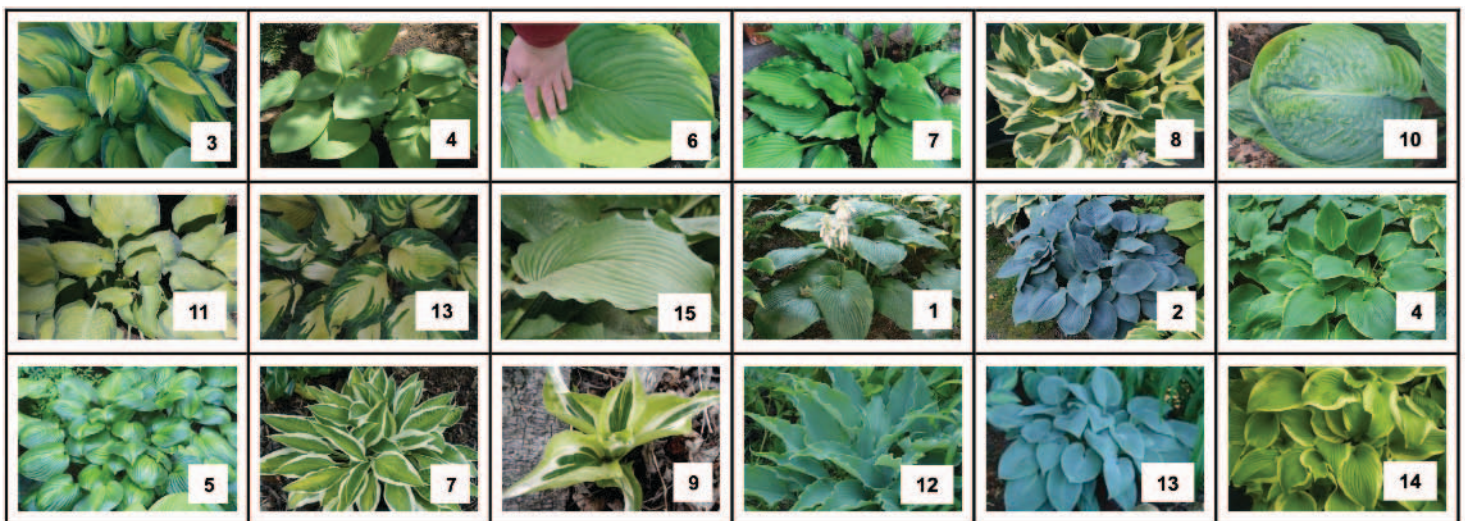
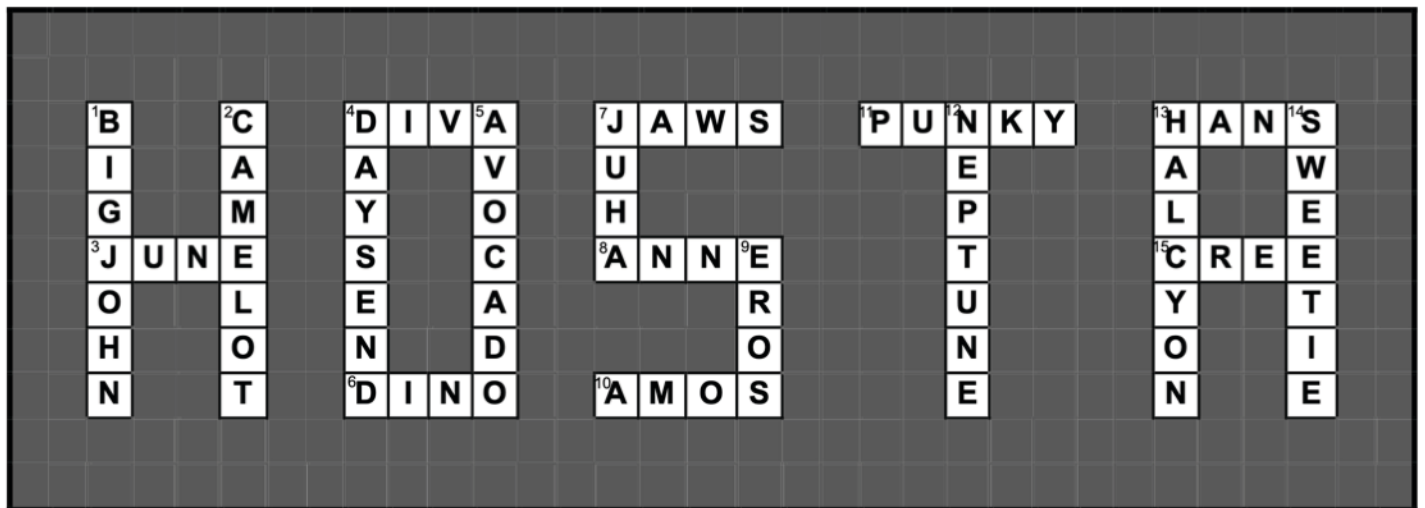
Some of the many varieties of Japanese Sacred Lilies have blotched patterns on the leaf and sell to collectors for thousands of dollars.



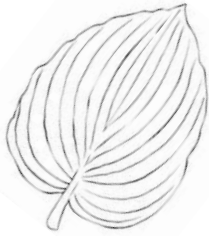
Photos by Noah Schwartz. Used by permission.

***Rohdea* can be easily grown from seed. Here, Noah inspects some young plants that were grown in the winter months. Like hostas, variegated seedlings are the product of streaked mother plants and can be an exquisite addition to the shade garden.**

*Answer key for the
Crossword Puzzle by Don Rawson
featured on pages 10 & 11*



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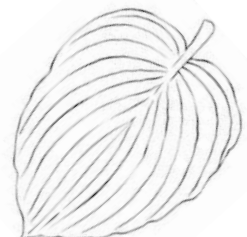
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Membership in the Michigan Hosta Society

If you wish to find out more about Hosta, please consider joining the Michigan Hosta Society. We welcome new members and friends who share our interest in hosta and their many uses in the landscape. The society maintains a large hosta display at Hidden Lake Gardens near Tipton, where many varieties of hosta can be seen. "The Benedict Hosta Hillside" is one of only two nationally designated Hosta display gardens.

Activities of MHS include:

- ▶ A summer tour of gardens that feature Hosta
- ▶ An auction/sale of hostas contributed by members
- ▶ Speakers and educational programs
- ▶ Local chapter meetings
- ▶ A workday and information sharing at Hidden Lake Gardens in Tipton where the Society has a demonstration garden
- ▶ A listing of MHS members who retail Hosta

Members receive the Michigan Society Newsletter "Hosta Happenings," as well as the newsletter of the Great Lakes Regional Hosta Society. If you are interested in joining please complete the attached application form.

You may also want to join The American Hosta Society. They have two colorful journals each year, and an annual national convention featuring a Hosta Show, garden tours, scientific programs and a plant auction.

Contact: www.americanhostasociety.org

MHS Membership Application

Last name: _____

First name: _____

Last name of 2nd member: _____

First name of 2nd member: _____

Street Address:

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail:

Choice of **either** black and white newsletter via First Class US Mail or full color newsletter via e-mail. All the pictures are in color and there are often bonus pictures not included in the mailed version. Please check one: Mail ☐ E-mail ☐

Check if you wish to receive an updated membership directory when published: ☐

New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

Dues are \$15 per household for up to two people, good for 2 years.

Total remitted: _____

Mail to:

Michigan Hosta Society
2509 Wembly Lane
Troy, MI 48084-1280

Make checks payable to: The Michigan Hosta Society