

Garden Notes

April 2025



African False Hosta

African false hosta (*Drimiopsis maculata*) is suitable for a low maintenance landscape. In late winter, this bulbous plant forms attractive green leaves spotted with dark spots. As summer progresses, leaves change to mostly green. White flowers on stalks extend above new foliage. African false hosta is adapted to partial sun landscapes and likes well drained soils. It is adapted to drier conditions once established. Although plants generally disappear in the winter, it is a unique groundcover in the North Florida garden.

Aphid Explosions

Aphids love to establish on all milkweeds. They are very noticeable on new growth of stems and leaves. It is best to remove the aphids with a spray of water or mechanically wiping away. Avoid most pesticides since we are growing milkweeds for Monarchs. Insecticidal soap could be carefully targeted to just the aphids.



Tickseeds

There are many selections of native tickseeds that can be bright features in your spring garden. At this time of year, purchase transplants so you get a jump start on flowering. Once established, tickseeds need little care and will reseed to naturalize in an area. Golden mane is pictured.

