



The Maypop Hill Newsletter

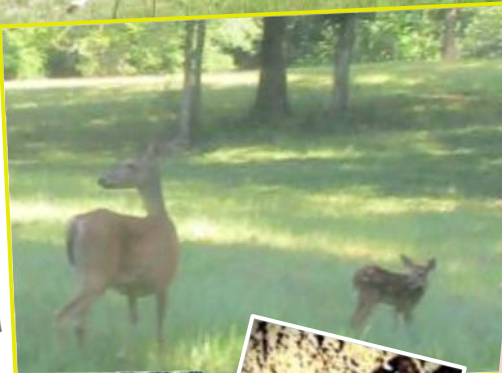
August 2026

An occasional report of what's growing at Maypop Hill Nursery and the Miley homestead in Norwood, LA; to subscribe to the free newsletter, contact us by email: maypophill@gmail.com.

Website: maypophill.com

Bambis and wolves and
Bigfoots, oh, my!

Follow me. I'll show
you some wild
things.



Don't mind us
gargoyles. We're
just protecting the
Salvia coccinea
from those pesky
hummingbirds.



Who's the boss of this here yard? hmm? meee.



Partridge Pea (*Chamaecrista* or *Cassia fasciculata*) is tough, drought-tolerant, provides

← nectar for bees

and butterflies

and seeds for quail →

And is pretty to boot,

a perfect plant for

landscaping with nature, right?



Absolutely! Maypop Hill is a bumblebee habitat, after all, though we don't have as many of them as we used to. But, well, uh, oh, some ecotypes from seeds of plants outside our southeast region can become very aggressive -- which could explain why a wildflower bed

at the Gloster Arboretum →

in Mississippi has been

overwhelmed by

Partridge Pea.



Oh, deers, what's a

conscientious gardener to do?

This site -- [USDA.gov.PartridgePea](https://www.usda.gov/partridgepea) -- recommends finding seed vendors that provide Florida ecotypes or other Southeastern Regional species.

OTHER PROBLEMATIC PLANTS and HOW TO REMOVE THEM-----

----- is a neverending learning curve for many gardeners who want to be good stewards of their land.

Maypop Hill does not have the invasive Partridge Pea variety but is afflicted with Chamber Bitter/Gripeweed (*Phyllanthus urinaria*). Both are annual herbs which produce tons of seeds under their leaves - see page 3.

Instead of spraying the plants with herbicides, we try to cut them down before they set seeds. Nip it in the bud!!!!

Does Elderberry make good seeds or bad seeds?

Depends. It's a beneficial small tree that feeds wildlife and is a popular medicinal plant.

But it does need to be controlled when birds plant the seeds everywhere.



↑ The aforementioned Chamber Bitter is also used in medicine, which is implied in one of its common names: stonebreaker. But it will spread like a bad rash in a yard or garden if the seeds are left to ripen.

too cute to cull --a tiny Bitterweed (*Helenium species*) → growing in a crack of a sidewalk at a store.



Definitely a good seed source for poor soils. or a complete lack of soil.

What do do with a mesh chair that lost its grip? → Repair it - with a recycled sturdy store shelf with built-in holders for a cool drink and garden tools.





↑ Fine mesh insect netting sometimes deters squirrels as well as other animals and bad bugs. The lightweight material also provides shade in strong sunlight.

When you go outdoors in summer,
 what sights do you see?
 ant bites on your ankles,
 and thorns on your thumb,
 dead leaves on your trees,
 chewed-up stems where
 ← purple peas used to be ☹️
 Pears and tomatoes disappear
 overnight,
 hardly any rain but lots of sunlight.



Nothing seems to bother the Evergreen Louisiana Shallots. Maybe we'll plant that and chives next to veggies that the hungry critters like?

After a few wasp stings, we got the message. Instead of using insecticides, we got the feisty flying fighters to skedaddle when they were offended by Citronella oil sprays



Maypop Hill Nursery & Publications

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Geaux native!

