

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

- Market is now OPEN daily except Sunday
- Feature this week: CA apples 89¢/lb
 - Sign up for Spring Workshops
- Plant of the Week: Black petunias
- Garden Tips: Plants of the Year

MARCH 23rd E-NEWS

Drrrum roll, please.....

Livingston Seeds have arrived!



This line is new to us but I think you'll love it! The selection is awesome (lots of varieties you don't see on other seed racks), the prices are reasonable and, best of all, the amount of seed in each package is very generous. **These seeds are excellent value!** Some of the packages even have clear windows so you can see just how MUCH seed is in the package.

Beside the Livingston line, we carry long-time favourites, MacKenzie, MacFayden, Pike, and Pacific North West. And Thompson and Morgan has an expanded selection this year that includes some hard-to-find varieties. Their spring promotion is this: buy any two packages of their seed and get a

third one (specially marked) FREE! Of course, there are racks of Heirloom and Organic seeds as well. It's a good thing that it's still a bit early to start your tomato seeds because our rack of tomato seeds hasn't arrived yet. It should be here within the week.

2011: The Year of the Vegetable

With all the talk about the continuing economic downturn and how world weather calamities are contributing to rising food prices, it will come as no surprise that 2011 has been declared the Year of the Vegetable. Vegetable gardening is becoming hugely popular. Young and old, people everywhere are turning to growing-their-own to not only help the family budget but to eat healthier as well.

Growing your own doesn't mean you have to have a large yard, lots of time and a green thumb, you can build a simple 'Square Foot Garden' that, compared to the conventional single grow garden, produces:

	100% of the harvest
But with	50% of the cost
	20% of the space
	10% of the water
	5% of the seeds
	and only 2% of the work !

I wish I would have known about this method thirty years ago. I used wide-row raised beds, intensive planting, and succession cropping and got phenomenal production but this method takes the hard work out of it. Interested? We are planning a workshop soon with a Certified 'Square Foot Garden' Instructor and I'll have more details in next week's newsletter.

*2011 Plants of the Year

Each year, various garden-related organizations declare their choice for the Plant of the Year. 2011 is no exception and here are a few in the line-up this year (click on the links to learn more):

Perennial of the Year: [Amsonia hubrichtii](#)

(am SO nee ah hew BRIK tee eye)



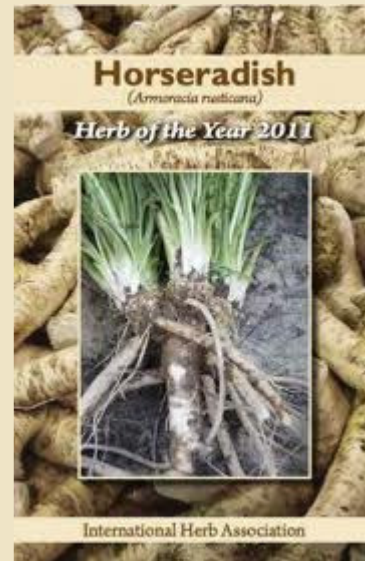
I've grown this plant for a number of years and it's nice but it's not a showstopper! It is easy-going, however, a North American native, looks neat and tidy all season and the yellow fall colour is good. I just wish it bloomed longer and that the colour was intense-blue instead of washed out denim-blue. I consider this a 'filler' plant rather than a 'thriller' because it's not particularly exciting but by making it the P.O.Y this plant will move from relative obscurity and be made better known and more readily available. We will have it in stock.

Hosta of the Year: ['Praying Hands'](#)



This is an unusual Hosta (HOSS ta) ~ not quite to everyone's taste~ but the rippled, upright leaves do provide textural contrast and that is always a welcome addition in a garden. We will have it in stock.

Herb of the Year: [Horseradish](#)



As much as I love horseradish with my roast beef, I didn't 'love' growing it. In fact, it took me years to **eradicate** it from my garden. The year I decided it had to go, no matter what, I dug out a huge trench that ended up being 2 meters square, and almost as deep, to get out every last little bit of root! Horseradish is imperialistic: it will take over your entire garden if you're not careful! So, if you decide to grow it, plant it into a bucket so that you can **control** its spread. And yes, we will stock it but consider your-self well warned!

NEW THIS YEAR : [Black Petunias](#)



Black Velvet

Phantom

Like a 'Little Black Dress' it 'goes with everything'. This is the first really black petunia. Black Velvet may not immediately strike your fancy but think of the possibilities. Put it with Phantom and you have a winning combination. I think they (alone or together) would look great against a light-colour backdrop in full sun.

***Sign up for Spring Workshops**

For details on each course, go to the [Special Events Calendar](#) page on our website and click on the workshop you're interested in www.hannaorchards.com

1. FUNDAMENTALS OF PRUNING

Session 1: March 29, 6:30-8:30 pm

Session 2: April 2: 1-4pm

FEE is \$25 + GST per person or
\$40 + GST per couple

2. PROVEN PERENNIAL PERFORMERS

The best perennials for your garden

April 5: 6:30-8:30

FEE is \$15 + GST per person

3. CONTAINERS WITH PIZZAZZ

Learn about new plants/techniques.

April 12: 6:30-8:30 pm

FEE is \$15 + GST per person

4. GROWING ROSES IN THE SHUSWAP

Learn how to plant, prune, winterize and maintain roses organically.

April 19: 6:30-8:30 pm

FEE is \$15 + GST per person

5. PLANTING A MOSS BASKET

Hands-on do-it-yourself workshop.

April 19: 6-8 pm (note earlier time)

FEE is \$45 + GST per person

Please pick up a Suggested Plant List when you register for this workshop.

Workshops are held in our market so each session is limited to 15 people. Please Register ASAP.

To guarantee that your spot is held for you, we ask that you pay your registration fee in advance of the session. Because of our space limitations, it isn't fair to hold a spot unless you are committed to coming. Some workshops fill quickly and have a waiting list.

For Your Information:

***It is too early in this area to apply Dormant Oil to fruit trees! You are wasting money, product and time if you do it too early! It is most effective if you wait until insect eggs are hatching~ usually about the time fruit buds are showing ½ inch of green growth.**

***It is still too early to be pruning roses. Wait until the forsythia is in bloom.**

**Apples: Ambrosia, Fuji and Spartans
89¢/lb**

Pink Lady: \$1.29/lb

Pansies or Primroses:

\$1.99 ea.

Or 5/\$9.75

As always, if you would like to share this newsletter, feel free to do so. Better yet, encourage others to sign up for it on our website www.hannaorchards.com.

Best regards and Happy Gardening,
Harriet

HANNA ORCHARDS MARKET & GARDEN CENTRE

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

March hours Open Mon.-Sat. 9-5:00

Closed Sundays

(250) 832 4574

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