

December 6, 2010

3 pages from Sonja Peters

2010 GREEN INDUSTRY SHOW & CONFERENCE



The Green Industry Show & Conference
November 18 & 19, 2010
Edmonton EXPO Centre at Northlands
116 Ave & Wayne Gretzky Drive, Edmonton, AB

NEW LOCATION

NEW CONFERENCE FORMAT!

Alberta's #1 Educational Event for Landscape, Greenhouse, Nursery, Garden Centre, Turf & Tree Industry Professionals

This 2-day event was held in Edmonton November 18 and 19.

Attendance is reported as:

- 2010 – over 2000 persons
- 2009 – about 2000 persons
- 2008 – about 2200 persons
- 2007 – about 2450 persons

Participants by sectors:

- Green Products: 55%
- Landscape: 30%
- Others: 15%

The conference itself was 4 hours on Thursday and 4 hours on Friday.

Topics for the sessions were:

- greenhouse biocontrol
- production practices for nursery
- integrated pest management
- What's New in Perennials?
- Favorite and New Plants for the Prairies.

Biological Control for Ornamental Production

by Ken Fry, Olds College

This 4 hour workshop focused on using biological controls in ornamentals and was limited to 30 participants. The session reviewed why the industry should use biocontrols. Three commercial suppliers were present: Biobest / Bio-nomics / Koppert Biological Systems. Each supplier had microscopes setup to view their products.

The workshop reconfirmed our current knowledge. For our company, we can increase use of biocontrol where we participate to greenhouse production and fine tune it so that it is cost effective and efficient.

Fruit Tree Production

by Dr. Bob Bors, University of Saskatchewan www.fruit.usask.ca

Dr. Bors is an Assistant Professor of horticulture in the Plant Sciences Department. His team specializes in breeder crops that can be mechanically harvested or grown organically on the prairies. They have recently been doing a lot of work on sour cherries, haskap, grapes and apples. They also are breeding raspberries, pears, plums, saskatoons, sand cherries, currents, strawberries, hazelnuts, apple rootstocks, flowering crabapples and ornamental cherries.

Haskap or Honeyberry (*Lonicera caerulea*)

- Native to Canada, edible.
- Varieties: 'Tundra' / 'Borealis'
- need a pollinator for berry production (not each other / 'Berry Blue' is the best pollinator as it produces a lot of flowers quickly)
- On-line resources
 - "Growing Haskap in Canada" www.fruit.usask.ca/articles/growinghaskapinCanada.pdf

Dwarf Sour Cherries (*Prunus cerasus* L.)

- SK Carmine Jewel (released in 1999)
- Dwarf Sour Cherries (released in 2004)
- Varieties: 'Juliet' / 'Crimson Passion' / 'Valentine' / 'Romeo' / 'Cupid'
- On-line resources
 - "Dwarf Sour Cherry Guide" www.fruit.usask.ca/articles/cherry_guide.pdf
 - "Dwarf Sour Cherries for the Prairies" www.fruit.usask.ca/articles/cherries.pdf

Apples

- Varieties: 'Prairie Sun' / 'Prairie Sensation' / 'Autumn Delight' / 'Misty Rose'

Grapes

- currently no new variety has been released
- the program is looking for a commercially viable wine grape that can survive the northern climate
- work is under way hybridizing wild river grapes (*Vitis riparia*) and cold-hardy prairie varieties (Valiant and Beta)
- *Vitis riparia* is currently being used as grafted rootstock for *Vitis vinifera* (Common Grape Vine)
- *Vitis riparia* can withstand up to -57°C and has resistance to fungal diseases

Coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides*)

- Varieties: 'Audry III' (released in 2009)
- currently there have been very few varieties released
- focus is on breeding varieties with unusual leaves (deeply lobed, large leaves with ruffled edges, "lichen" types, and "coral" types)

COLEUS



Pictures of Coleus varieties being bred by Bob Bors

More information at www.coleusfinder.org/saskatchewan.php

For more pictures see the power point presentation with the link:

www.coleusfinder.org/U%20of%20Saskatchewan%20Coleus%20Selections%202008%20b.ppt