

PHGSC Workshop – Propagating From Stem Cuttings

- What:** Learn a simple and inexpensive way to get new plants for your garden, to share with your friends, *but most importantly, for our annual plant sale on May 12, 2007*
- Who:** Members [only] of the Pleasant Hill Garden Study Club
- When:** Sunday March 4th 1PM – 4PM
- Where:** Lynn & Rocco Grassano's residence
803 Hamilton Drive
Pleasant Hill
(**This is an outdoor event; rain cancels.**)

PHGSC will provide:

- Rooting medium – perlite
- Rooting hormone
- Labels
- Journal sheets

Participants will bring:

- A container to hold your cuttings while they form roots. Container needs to be:
 - At least 4 ½ inches deep
 - Designed/adapted to allow excellent drainage
(**Tip: An inexpensive plastic dishpan with small holes drilled in the bottom about 2 inches apart makes a good container and will hold LOTS of cuttings.**)
 - Clean of all soil, dust, & debris
 - Sterilized by dipping/spraying with solution of 10 parts water: 1 part bleach (Note: To prevent staining/spotting the Grassano's patio & furnishings, please sterilize before bringing to the workshop.)
- “Sticking” tool – a wooden pencil or similarly sized implement
- Pruners or garden scissors
 - Very sharp & capable of making clean, fine cuts
 - Sterilized with 10:1 water/bleach solution or with alcohol
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Stem cutting material
 - Cuttings from herbaceous (not woody) plants do best this time of year. Softwood and semi hardwood cuttings are best propagated later in the year.
 - Select from plants that are vigorous and free of disease & insect pests
 - Select from plants that exhibit features you want to replicate – this is a cloning process: what you cut is what you get!!
 - Look for stems that include growth that is
 - young and flexible but is mature enough to break when bent sharply; and
 - includes several sets of leaves/leaf nodes without flower buds.
 - Avoid spindly or woody growth.
 - Cuttings should be at least 6 inches in length
 - Collect your cuttings in the cool part of the day: AM is best.
 - Keep cuttings moist and cool in a plastic bag; do not expose them to sun or allow them to wilt.
 - If you can, bring extra cutting material – the fun is in the sharing!

Questions?? For directions to the Grassano residence, call Lynn Grassano at 925-947-0709. For questions regarding propagation materials, call Kathy Mendenhall at 925-938-2303.



Optional:

Here are just a few examples of herbaceous perennials: Aster, Chrysanthemum, Diascia, Euphorbia, Geranium (Pelargonium), Lavatera, Lavender, Mimulus, Penstemon, Persicaria, Phlox, Phygelius, Salvia, Sedum, etc., etc.,

etc.