



Colorado Water Garden Society

# The Water Garden

Volume 17 Number 7

September 2001

## September Program

### The Nymphaeaceae (waterlily) family origins

Andrew Doran, International Registrar for Nymphaeaceae will be our special guest speaker at the September 9 general meeting in the Morrison Center facility, 2 P.M.,

Doran will enlighten members on what is thought to be the origin of the water lily. He will discuss how lilies get their names, what the differences are between a species plant and a hybrid plant, common names and botanical names and the importance of lily registration.



N. 'Colorado'

The International Waterlily and

Water Gardening Society is the sponsoring organization of the Nymphaeaceae registration. Andrew was appointed as Registrar in 2000 through the approval of the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) as the International Registration Authority (IRA) for Nymphaeaceae. This is a volunteer position. He is also currently employed by Denver Botanic Gardens in the Research Department.

Over the next few weeks Doran will provide direction to CWGS volunteers to learn (hands-on) how to create a Standard for a number of waterlilies. These will be completed for official registration and placement of specimens in the DBG Herbarium Library for future reference.

Doran will share information on the developing interest in the study of the water lily for a future monograph.



Volunteers interested in learning about collecting lily specimens and the registration process should contact Nancy Styler (303)850-7150. Those who express their interest will be notified of the times and dates for this valuable learning experience.

### Election for President, Treasurer, Member-At-Large and Program Chairperson to be held on September 9

CWGS members will elect board members for the positions of President, Treasurer, Member-At-Large and Program Chairperson at our September meeting. The term of office is two years for each.

Mike Gibson, current Treasurer, has accepted a nomination for another term, as has Cyndie Thomas, current President.

Any member of the organization is eligible to run. Members may express their interest in running, or be nominated by another member of the organization for these positions. If you

would be interested in running for a position contact Carol Tuttle, CWGS Secretary at 303 766-6820.

Board members are required to attend five board meetings which are usually held the same day (at noon), in the same location as general meetings. Special board meetings are held at a central location with adequate notice.

Nominations will be encouraged from the floor, prior to the voting process. No experience is necessary; the only requirement is interest and a desire to participate in creating a positive direction for CWGS.

## Officers and Committee Chairs for 2000

### President

Cyndie Thomas 303 755-1885

### Vice President

Stan Skinger 303 237-0071

### Secretary

Carol Tuttle 303 766-6820

### Treasurer

Mike Gibson 303 986-7895

### Programs

Craig Russell 303 443-7877

### Members-at-Large

"Moe" Belisle 303 744-0745

Carla Littlefield 303 399-7946

### Committees:

#### Membership

Nancy Jewell 303 671-7964

#### Volunteer Coordinator

Damon Ginnow 303 480-9544

#### Publicity

Nancy Styler 303 850-7150

#### Archivist

Mary Mirgon 303 922-9559

#### Speakers Bureau

Bob Hoffman 303 978-0124

#### DBG May Plant & Book Sale

Carla Littlefield 303 399-7946

Bob Hoffman 303 978-0124

#### CWGS June Plant Sale

Cyndie Thomas 303 755-1885

Stan Skinger 303 237-0071

Bob Hoffman 303 978-0124

#### July Pond Tour & Picnic

Craig Russell 303 443-7877

#### Newsletter Editor

Bob Hoffman 303 978-0124

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What makes any organization special? Its participants! What makes an organization effective? Its participants. Who are its participants? Those members who indulge in the activities - or active members/volunteers.

Many CWGS members have volunteered numerous hours to the betterment of the organization; a special debt of gratitude is extended to all of them. It is through their efforts that goals set by the organization are met.

With elections to be held at the September meeting, this is an opportune time for all members to be active, just through their attendance. This is where each member has an opportunity to express ideas for future goals for the organization.

We'd like to know . . .

- What direction would you like CWGS to be going?
- What special activities would you like CWGS to undertake?
- What do you feel is a good meeting time?
- What programs would you like?
- What would you like to do for the organization?

Tell us what you want - it is YOUR organization!



## Teacup water garden

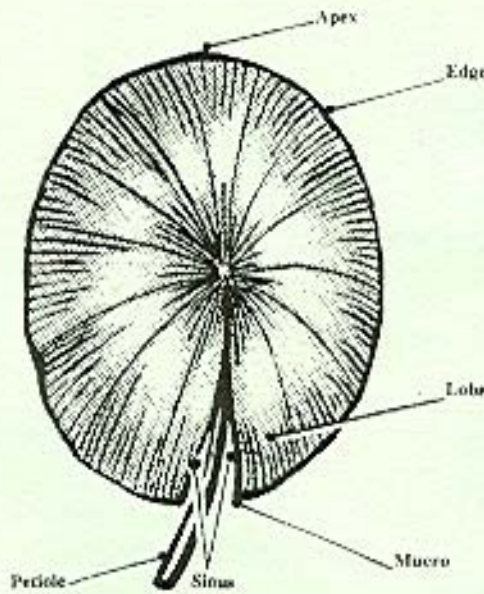
What better than an oversized cup and saucer filled with water plants and a small water lily fountain? A teacup water garden.

If you've done a fun container water garden - send us a picture to print in the newsletter in an upcoming issue.

# A closer look at the Hardy Nymphaea "hardy water lily"

It is easy to enjoy a lily for its overall beauty with little attention given to what individual parts make it unique enough to have its own name.

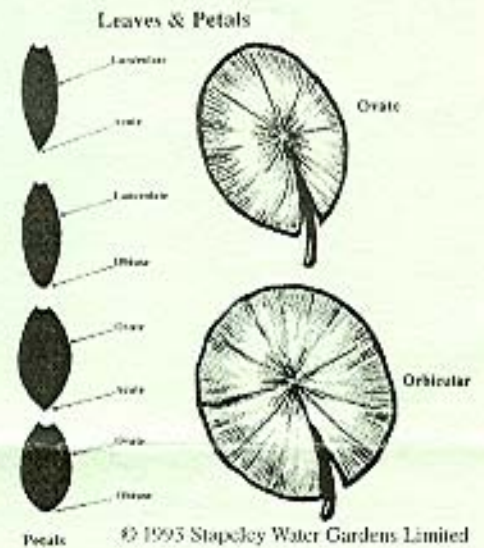
Characteristics such as color, shape and size, are primary determinates used in describing all parts of the Nymphaea plant for identification purposes. For a mature leaf both upper and lower surfaces are observed and information recorded. Leaves are classified in two categories - ovate (meaning it is egg shaped, longer than it is wide), or orbicular (being as long as it is wide or circular). Markings, such as blotches, speckles or marbling are also included in descriptions. Similar information is done for young leaves. The attached petiole (stem) is described for its color, length, shape and any special markings.



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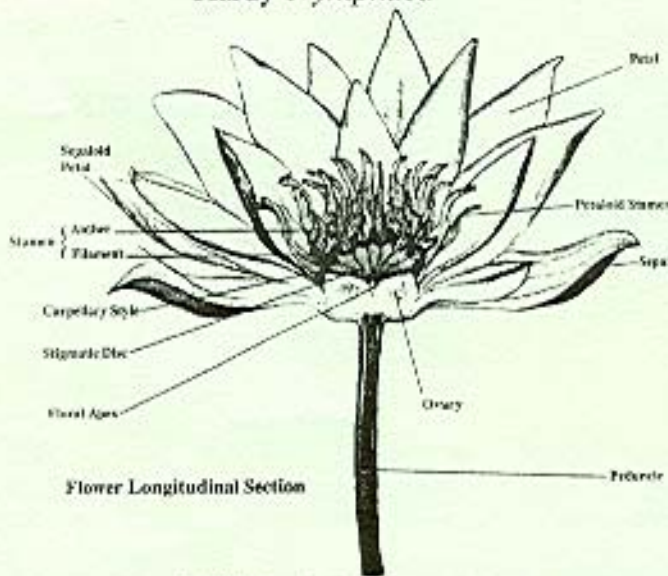
Flower descriptions are similarly detailed. An overview of a plant's flower is done based on the mean size and its general shape, such as cup (having an open center with stamens visible) or stellate (star shaped). The flower is then dissected to determine number of petals and sepals. Color match is done using the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Charts to maintain a uniform code. Color is then matched for each of the flower parts; sepals, petals, petaloid stamen, filaments and anthers. Petal shape is an additional factor that can aid in a more detailed description for identification purposes. Petal count should not be considered a real determinate for identification, as this can differ with each flower on the same plant and can be influenced by temperature, soil and fertilization.

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## Hardy Nymphaea



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## Glossary of Botanical Terms

- flower-reproductive structure of a flowering plant consisting of a pistil and/or stamen, and usually including petals and sepals.
- Stamen - male pollen bearing organs of a flower
- Anther - the pollen bearing part of the stamen
- Filament - part of the stamen which supports the anther
- Sepaloid - like a sepal
- Petaloid stamen - stamen without an anther
- Sepal - outer part of the flower, usually green and formed of several divisions, that protects the bud.
- Stigmatic Disc- surface of the reproductive cell whereby fertilization by pollen is affected.
- Capillary Style-connects the stigmatic disc and ovary.
- Ovary- the part of the pistil that contains the ovules
- Pistil- seed-bearing organ of the flower, consisting of the ovary, stigma, and style when present
- Ovule- the body which, after fertilization, becomes the seed

Illustrations reprinted from **Identification of Hardy Nymphaea** © 1993 Stapeley Water Gardens Limited with permission from the International Waterlily and Water Gardening Society.



### Educational Water Garden Keepsake

Some of our marginals are not normally thought of as water plants, but they will do very well in our ponds. As a matter of fact, when I visited Maryland Aquatic Nurseries they were trying many garden plants to see what tolerance they may have to a watery environment.

### "Tropical Marginals Continued"

*Canna*: *Cannaceae* 'Canna', will grow nicely in a pond, but one thing to remember they will get tall and tend to blow over in the wind. Large pots and some weight may help. Canna come in many colors red, yellow, and pink. The foliage can be all green or some come in a dark red/purple or green and white variegation. When cutting the old flower stalk cut just above the new flower bud. Canna are tender perennials and need some winter protection. In the fall cut the flower stalk and store the tuber in a cool dry spot.

(Medium to Tall)

*Dichromena* 'Star Grass', This is a nice sedge plant for the pond that can grow to a foot. On green stalks a white flower is produced and this process is continued throughout the season. I have had trouble keeping this plant through the winter.

(Medium)

*Marsilea* 'Water Clover', This plant is floating, but will stand up a few inches if in shallow water. The leaves are like four leaf clover. Plant in a container. If you plant in a stream it can clog a shallow waterway.

(Short to Floating)

*Nymphoides* 'Water Snowflake or Water Fringe', This floating plant has small heart shaped leaves with white or yellow flowers. Some of the plants have green leaves and others have bronze or purplish colored leaves. The flowers stand above the water an inch or two and some are fringed.

(Floating)

*Hymenocallis* 'Spider Lily', The spider lily grows from a bulb like an amaryllis. The flower is white and stands a foot or two. The bulb must be over wintered in a protected place like the canna. I might suggest starting this plant out of water until the plant starts to show leaf growth then place it in shallow water.

(Medium to Tall)

*Thalia Dealbata* 'Hardy Water Canna', This maybe a hardy canna, but may not be hardy enough here. This plant can be 2' to 6' tall with wide leaves so remember the wind when using this plant. It makes a nice screen at the back of the pond. This plant with it's purple stem and flower looks tropical in your pond.

(Tall)