

**First in Kingston
WWW
On-Line Sales**



**First in Kingston
Biological
Pest Control**

Spring 2005

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We would like to introduce ourselves to those of you who don't know us. For those of you who do then welcome back to another gardening season where we would like to make every effort we can to help you succeed with your annual or perennial garden. We are Burt's Greenhouses and we have been helping gardeners in the Kingston area for over 20 years. What kind of help have people received and can they expect to receive in the future? 1.) Great plants! Our plants have been grown to make them more hardy for transplanting. 2.) Environmentally friendly; We have made strides and continue to try to make our production as environmentally friendly as possible. We use Biological pest control to try to eliminate the need to spray with toxic pesticides.

3.) Great people; all the people we hire are ready and willing to answer your questions and will definitely try to get the answer if they don't already have it.
4.) Volume discount; at our Odessa location each purchase that you make goes toward your season long volume discount.

"To survive and flourish in the long run, we usually need to develop mutualistic relationships. Nonmutualistic members will eventually disappear or lose influence in the community." -J. M. Trappe

Biological Pest and Disease

Control....Burt's Greenhouses was started by Brian Burt and Ruth Hayward in 1981. It is built on the Burt family farm 2 km north of Odessa. We are known for the excellent quality of our plants and the friendly sales and work environment. We have always been

concerned about our physical environment and have tried to reduce the damage we do to the environment. One exceptional success we have had in this regard is in the use of Biological Pest Controls. This is the 4th year that we have not sprayed for insects at all in our greenhouses. We introduce a number of different insects into the



greenhouses which feed on plant pests. It takes some careful management but our experience has found beneficial insects more effective than chemicals. **As a result of becoming pesticide free we confidently ate greens grown in our greenhouses all spring and summer last year.**

This year we have taken chemical free disease and insect control one step further. We have introduced a number of Mycorrhizal fungi that will form a relationship with the plants and protect them from disease causing fungi.

These efforts are important because they are helping to prove that it is not necessary to use chemicals for the control of insects and disease. If you want to know more please ask any of our helpful staff and they would be more than happy to explain the system we use to reduce our pesticide use.

"I've made an odd discovery. Every time I talk to a savant I feel quite sure that happiness is no longer a possibility. Yet when I talk with my gardener, I'm convinced of the opposite."
- Bertrand Russell



Sometimes the Early Bird doesn't get the worm!

Gardening is your chance to get a taste of the farmer's life. You can make intelligent choices on what and when to plant and then have unusual summer weather effect your results. You are playing the odds. The odds say that for tender plants such as impatiens, begonias, peppers and cucumbers you should wait until the end of May to plant. These plants don't even like a chill let alone a frost. Experienced gardeners will tell you they often get a faster bigger crop by waiting because the plants don't get stressed when they are just starting out. Does that mean you have to wait to plant your whole garden? Not at all. Most perennials, pansies, petunias, onions and cole crops are happy to be planted at the beginning of May. To help you out, we move all our hardier crops out onto heated beds so that we can get them hardened off for you in advance of your purchase.

If in doubt, please ask and we will be more than happy to give you help with your timing decisions.

*"An' I am blessed becos me feet 'ave trod
A land 'oo's fields reflect the smile of God"* -The Sentimental Bloke, C. J. Dennis

Sun, Shade? I'm confused....

If you look at the tags on almost any plant you buy it will tell you whether to plant it in sun, shade or something in between. Sometimes what you have is obvious sometimes not. Read the following definitions and then pay attention throughout the day to how the sun lands on your gardens to decide which conditions you have.



Deep Shade generally falls under the canopy of a tree or under the eaves of a building. The sky is largely blocked, and the plants only get indirect light. Partial Shade means full sun for part of the day and shade for part of the day. Timing of sunlight alters the effects of partial shade on plant growth. If the sun comes in the middle part of the day when sunlight is most intense, then plants that prefer shade may struggle. Full Sun means at least 6 hours of direct sun per day. This sunlight must fall between 9 am and 4 pm when the sun is

stronger than it is in the early morning or late afternoon. Morning and Afternoon Sun are relatively weak, the sun is low on the horizon and the light is filtered through more atmosphere before it reaches the earth. These two are most often considered to be partial shade conditions.

A plant that is getting too much sun will have stunted leaves or bleached and burned foliage. One getting too little sun will be long and leggy with too few flowers or an overall weak and spindly look.

Have doubts?....we will help you choose, just ask.

"Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler."
-Albert Einstein

News 2005
perennials - Each year we add new varieties of perennials. I thought I should take stock and share with you what we have.

I knew we had a lot of varieties to keep track of but even I was surprised at the numbers. We grow **426** different varieties of perennials **68** of which are new this year.

I like to have a good variety of all kinds of lilies and this year I am trying a number of heirloom varieties. I know I will be grabbing one of each to stick in the garden to see how they do. We have 15 different daylily varieties to choose from.

Because there are so many different ones on the market I usually try to give a different assortment every year so you aren't always looking at the same old varieties. If you are a real daylily nut you can get in touch with the Canadian Hemerocallis Society, 16 Douville Court, Toronto, ON, M5A 4E7.

The same story is true for Hostas. I am growing 31 varieties of those, 5 of which I have never offered before. There is an Ontario Hosta Society which is at Box 731, Erin, Ontario N0B 1T0.

We also have a variety of the fancy Heucheras which are sure to please.

As an experiment we have a selection of heaths and heathers plus some of the hardy vines.

As always we try to choose perennials that are hardy in this zone and stay clear of the ones that really aren't suitable but if you want information on varieties and hardiness then please ask.

"Science, or para-science, tells us that geraniums bloom better if they are spoken to. But a kind word every now and then is really quite enough. Too much attention, like too much feeding, and weeding and hoeing, inhibits and embarrasses them."
-Victoria Glendinning

Plant Guarantee...We have the best guarantee in the business. If your plant fails for any reason then come back to our greenhouse with the plant if possible (if not that is ok) and your proof of purchase and we will replace it! This guarantee extends to July 31 for annuals and June 1st the following year for perennials. If you purchase at the greenhouse your proof of purchase will be on our computers so you won't even have to produce a receipt.



I think the true gardener is a lover of his flowers, not a critic of them. I think the true gardener is the reverent servant of Nature, not her truculent, wife-beating master. I think the true gardener, the older he grows, should more and more develop a humble, grateful and uncertain spirit.
- Reginald Farrer, In a Yorkshire Garden, 1909

First in Kingston; On-line plant sales. If you need a few or you need a lot here is a new way to get your plants delivered to your door. www.burtsgh.com. We are the first to offer on-line sale of plants in Kingston. The same great plants you are used to getting and they can be delivered right to your door.

Dangerous propaganda enclosed.....may cause you to insist on getting dirt under your fingernails and stains on your knees. Burt's Greenhouses will not be held responsible for your behavior after reading the contents.



"Society has its roots in the soil." -Charles Kellog.

"Gardening is not a rational act." -Margaret Atwood

"Like a gardener I believe what goes down must come up." -Lynwood L. Giacomini



On-line Sales @ www.burtsgh.com

We sell our plants at the greenhouse and there you can take advantage of our volume discount and simple plant guarantee. But we also operate several other outlets making it convenient for you to have the best plants and the best service.

Burt's Greenhouses

539 Maple Road, Odessa

613-386-3426

LOEB Bayridge

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Super C

1225 Princess Street

Kingslake IGA

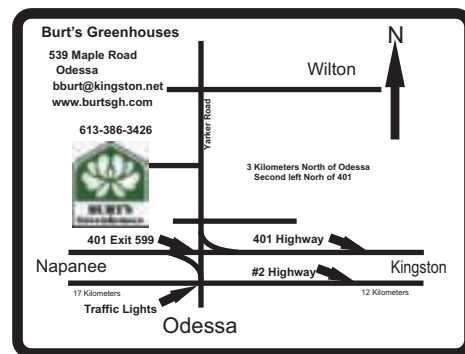
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