

## The Melda C. Snyder Teaching Garden

The Teaching Garden collections are ever changing, a reflection of both popular trends and the needs of the gardening public. Check the [link](#) to see which of the plant collections listed here can be found in this year's garden.

### Blueberry Varieties

The blueberry bush makes a wonderful choice for the home gardener as a flavorful food crop or ornamental landscape shrub. In the teaching garden you'll find a number of varieties perfect for New Jersey gardens.

- [Blueberry Varieties in the Teaching Garden](#)
- [Selecting Blueberry Varieties for the Home Garden](#)

### Columnar Peaches

Learn how to grow peach trees in the home landscape or home orchard. Trees on display in the teaching garden are upright or pillar-shaped, and require minimal training or pruning - perfect for the home garden.

- [Columnar Peaches for the Home Garden](#)

### Daylily Varieties Developed in New Jersey

The Teaching Garden showcases an abundance of Daylilies reblooming summer to frost.

- [Happy Ever Appsters Daylilies](#)

### Deer Resistant Plants

One way to reduce deer damage in your yard is to plant flowers, herbs, shrubs, and ornamental grasses that deer prefer not to eat. Of course no plant is completely deer proof but understanding the types of plants deer avoid can help minimize the damage to your landscape. Visit the Teaching Garden at Snyder Farm which displays a number of plants rated for low preference by deer.

- [Deer Resistant Plants - Snyder Farm Beds List](#)
- [Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance](#) - This database represents the collective expertise of nursery landscape professionals, Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension personnel and Master Gardeners of Northern New Jersey.

### Hazelnuts ~ Rutgers Breeding Varieties

In addition to his work breeding Eastern Filbert Blight resistant hazelnuts for nut production, Rutgers Professor Thomas Molar is also developing a new line of disease resistant ornamental hazelnuts. These include plants with attractive purple leaves and bright fall color, as well as those with contorted and weeping branches. The fall color comes from our native hazelnut and the purple leaves from the European species. These plants also produce nuts, making them edible landscape plants.

- [Hazelnut Breeding Varieties on Display at Snyder Farm](#)
- [Hazelnut Breeding and Research at Rutgers](#)

### Hollies ~ Rutgers NJAES Holly Varieties

The beautiful hybrid hollies on display in the teaching garden are the result of over 2 decades of research by Dr. Elwin Orton of Rutgers University. Hollies are an extremely valuable food source for birds, making them a wonderful addition to home gardens.

- [Hollies for the Landscape](#)

## Flora Lilies ~ Rutgers Breeding Varieties

Rutgers Professor Richard Merritt began work on this hybrid series at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station in 1996. Working with colleagues Nick Vorsa and Tom Gianfagna, they used conventional breeding techniques with crosses between *L. longiflorum* and asiatics, orientals and trumpet lilies. The new lines produced magnificent flowers from small to moderate size bulbs; the stems were extra thick and did not require staking; and, the bulbs were tolerant of NJ cold winter temperatures.

- [Hybrid Lily's Beauty is Twice as Nice](#)

## Medicinal Plants, Culinary Herbs, & Specialty Crops

Oregano is an example of a familiar and increasingly popular culinary herb finding "new use" as a garden ornamental and potential medicinal agent with anti-bacterial and anti-inflammatory properties. In the teaching garden you will see a number of plants under study for new uses as well as ethnic specialty crops such as Chinese and Korean greens and chili peppers.

- [New Use Agriculture and Natural Plant Products Program](#)
- [Herbs and Medicinal Plants Grown at Snyder Farm](#)

## All-America Selections

The All-America Selections displayed at the Melda Snyder Teaching Garden showcase garden seed varieties with superior performance.

- [All-America Selections](#)

## Chef's Garden

Some New Jersey chefs have been growing their own crops long before the local food movement began. The benefits of gathering produce from the garden includes picking at peak flavor and growing unique varieties.

In the Chef's Garden you'll find many unique heirloom tomatoes, basil, peppers, squash, and more.

- [The Chef's Garden - Inspiring Heirlooms](#)

## Children's Garden

In an ever changing garden filled with colorful plants to smell and touch, learn about pollinators and flower parts.

## Plants that Attract Beneficial Insects

Beneficial insects are any insects that benefit your garden in some way - for example, insect pest predators and parasitoids, and pollinating insects. Encouraging beneficials can help keep insects harmful to plants under control.

Beneficial insects are attracted to plants with small flowers with exposed nectar and pollen. The following are examples of plants that attract beneficial insects: Spring - alyssum & buck wheat; Summer - coriander, fennel, dill, black-eyed susan, yarrow, dwarf sunflower; Fall - alyssum, buck wheat, dwarf sunflower.

- [Beneficial Insects of the Home Garden](#)
- [Natural Pest Control](#) - Using beneficial insects to control landscape pests