

Wooster Garden Festival Set July 16-17 At OARDC

WOOSTER, Ohio — Sun shining, flowers blooming, bees buzzing, and children laughing — these are the sights and sounds of the lazy days of summer.

They also are the sights and sounds of the 1999 Wooster Garden Festival where visitors can explore the links between themselves and nature. The event promises activities and entertainment the entire family will enjoy.

The festival will be July 16-17 at the Wooster campus of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster.

world of plants. Discover ecological gardening with wildflowers in a natural setting. Aquatic plant demonstrations will teach site preparation, plant selection and pool construction. Get a taste of herbal history by learning uses for herbs. Watch as bakers use an outdoor bread oven to produce mouth-watering European Rye Breads. Take a stroll through the arboretum on one of several garden walks featuring birds, butterflies, perennials, conifers and insects. Children will delight at the garden railway, continuously chugging throughout the two-day event.

Ken Cochran, Secret Arboretum curator, said the Wooster Garden Festival will provide an opportunity for people to solve their plant dilemmas, discover new ideas and solutions, and strength-

en connections with the outdoors. "The festival will benefit everyone," Cochran said, "from inquisitive youngsters to experienced gardeners."

Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to

the public. Refreshments will be sold at several locations on both campuses.

OARDC is part of Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

Make it Milk

The festival will showcase two rare trees, and celebrate the rediscovery of the Dawn Redwood and the 300th anniversary of John Bartram's discovery of the Franklin Tree. A bus will carry festival-goers to tree sites in the arboretum and to the College of Wooster campus where they will walk to several tree sites in and around Wooster.

Franklinia alata, or Franklin Tree, is a distinctive small tree marked by the unusual quality of its brilliant autumn foliage — multicolored leaves with white flowers. The snow-white petals and golden yellow stamens of the flowers are a striking contrast against bright reddish-orange autumn leaves. The Franklin Tree is a North American native dating to the late 18th century when it was discovered by botanist John Bartram along the banks of Georgia's Altamaha River. Bartram named the tree after his friend, Benjamin Franklin. Bartram and his son William saved this species from total extinction. It hasn't been seen in its natural setting along the banks of the Altamaha River since the early 1800s.

Metasequoia glyptostroboides, or Dawn Redwood, was known only on the basis of fossil material until 1941, when the species was found growing in China. The species has deciduous needle-like leaves and is bare of foliage in winter, giving it a unique appearance. The fast-growing conifer is pyramidal, with a strongly tapered central leader.

In addition to the celebration of trees, visitors will see lots of other plants, flowers and shrubs. The Biolab for Children will give the young and young-at-heart a chance to explore the scientific



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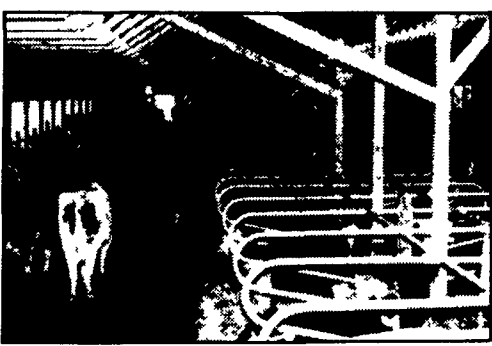




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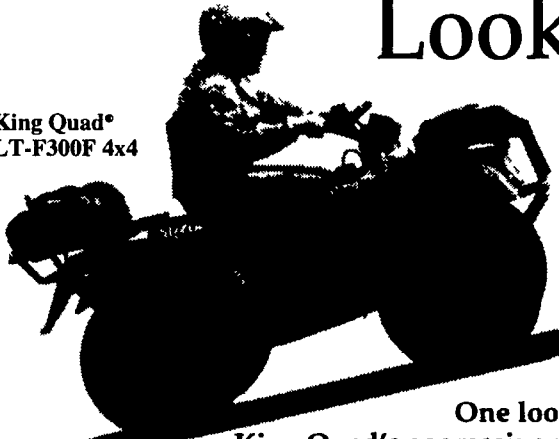


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