



Photographs by Djamila Moore

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue N° 6 | May 2012

A Poem

Electric Radicchio Flower

One day you appeared in the bed
where last year’s vegetables grew.
In four weeks of summer rain
you shot up four feet:

tall
electric
purple petalled
leaning a little
against the blue fence,
waving.

Dear flower.
Your seed did not do
what it was supposed to.
Still you are

sunlight
morning dew
sky sometimes
electric blue –

even floating in water
in the living room
your cut flowers
open and close
between sun and moon

as if
still part of the heart

purple presence
beside the blue fence (you).

-Veronica Gaylie

A Recipe

Kale Blossom Pesto

Most gardeners are familiar with the
delights of sweet, over-wintered kale and
the broccoli-like flowers which shoot up
in the early spring. For those of us who
may only know kale as a leafy vegetable
from the grocery store, try to find a fellow
gardener who would be more than happy
to hand over some kale blossoms before
they remove the old stalks and plant
anew...

This recipe is a twist on traditional basil
pesto and can be tossed with various
pastas, grilled vegetables, fish or chicken.

Ingredients
large bunch of kale flowers on stems
(try to get mostly buds and reserve any
bloomed yellow flowers for garnish)
3 tbsp good olive oil
3 cloves garlic, loosely chopped
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 cup nuts (almonds, cashews, walnuts
and pine nuts work well)
squeeze of lemon juice

*Pull flower buds off of stems. Loosely
chop the tips of tender stems- discard
tough stems. Place all ingredients
in food processor and blend until
smooth. Adjust salt and lemon juice
to taste. Sprinkle bloomed flowers on
finished dish (pasta, grilled veggies,
fish or chicken). Use immediately
or keep in refrigerator for up to one
week; can also be frozen. Enjoy!*

-Djamila Moore

What's In Season

Fall Harvesting Time

Vegetables:

Asparagus, Celery, Swiss Chard, Kale,
Mustard Greens, Green Onions, Peas,
New Potatoes, Radishes, Rhubarb, Salad
Greens, Spinach, and White Turnips

Herbs:

Bay Leaves, Chives, Chervil, Dill, Fennel
Leaf, Mint, Oregano, Parsley, Rosemary,
Sage, Savory, Sorrel, Tarragon, and
Thyme

Other Good Stuff:

Various Grains & Mushrooms



Pollination Research

By Lauren Everall



*** Lauren Everall is a UBC teacher candidate who just completed her 3
week alternative practicum in the garden. Below is a summary of research
she completed around pollination for her alternative practicum.*

Although I have spent many an hour with my nose in articles and
books over the past few weeks, I regret to say that I will not be
writing about the solution to Colony Collapse Disorder, or to let
you know that pesticides will no longer be legal to use on agricul-
tural crops which our deer bees pollinate. No, I do not have the
answers. I do, however, have a new interest and possible addition
to learning about bees and pollination. I have found amazing
visual artists, TED talks, novels, poems, and non-fiction books that
all uniquely explore and question the world of pollination. Here
are a few highlights from my research:

1) According to Susan Brackney’s book, Plan Bee: Everything You
Ever Wanted to Know About the Hardest Working Creatures on
the Planet, Voodoo practitioners believed that if you form small
cakes of honey, amaranth seed, and a dash of whiskey, and then
eat the cakes just before the new moon, you would be able to see
into the future (p. 60).

2) Interested in learning about the current state of bees? This book
is a non-fiction information packed page turner! It’s informative
and enjoyable to read. - Fruitless Fall: The Collapse of the Honey
Bee and the Coming Agricultural Crisis by Rowan Jacobse.

3) The website www.pollination.ca is packed with information.
I loved the clear and practical guide to creating and cultivating
your own pollinator garden. This is one way that we, urban-
dwellers, can contribute to a pesticide-free and nutrient rich
habitat for our pollination friends. Here is a list of native species
to plant in your pollinator garden: cardinal flower, english lav-
ender, cosmos, sage, fuchsia, mint, phlox, zinnia, bee balm, shasta
daisy, honeysuckle, aster, verbena, angel’s trumpet, sunflower,
black-eyed susan, geranium, coneflower, lupine, nasturtium.

4) Canadian visual artist Aganetha Dyck is someone you should
definitely google, or better yet go down to the VPL and immerse
yourself in her two books in the Fine Arts Reference section. Her
work explores the relationship between honeybees and humans.
She places specific objects in honeybee hives and removes the
newly formed collaborative sculpture as a site of exchange and
interplay between the artist, the object, and the honeybees. The
objects emerge with patterned holes on the surfaces, honey cone
deposits, or delicate excisions; visual proof of the honeybees col-
lective energy.

To Bee or Not to Bee

By Alison Krahn

The Nature of Things episode ‘To Bee or Not to Bee’ is an informative
exploration of the role bees play in nature, science and agribusiness.
David Suzuki guides viewers through learning facts about bees
(there are more than 19,000 species of bees!), the pollination process
and the stresses bees are facing today. The majority of the episode
focuses on the alarming decline of the global bee population, and how
the unprecedented ‘die-offs’ of domestic and wild bees endangers
biodiversity and threatens our food supplies. According to Suzuki,
scientists and beekeepers consider the collapse of bee populations
to be the ‘canary in the coal mine’ for the ecological health of our
planet. The episode takes viewers to various laboratories, bee yards,
orchards, and breeding grounds in North America, Germany and
France in order to see how bees are being affected on a global scale.



“Busy Bees” Photograph by Djamila Moore

Unsurprising to some, the worldwide use of chemical pesticides and
dependence on monoculture in agribusiness has lead to the loss of
natural bee habitats, as well as the development of viruses such as
Colony Collapse Disorder. Dr. Paul Ehrlich, a conservation biologist from
Stanford University, effectively sums up our problematic history of
farming practices: “the biggest ecological damage done by humanity
overall has been done through agriculture.” After much discussion
of our agricultural practices, the episode takes an interesting turn
in asking if science can find solutions to the problems bees face,
rather than furthering the discussion of how humans can change
our behaviours to better the ecological health of our planet. Overall,
‘To Bee or Not to Bee’ is an engaging and informative 45 minutes of
television that brings home the point that a world without bees would
be unrecognizable.

Happenings In The Garden

A Party and a Workshop Review

The Orchard Garden Summer Celebration

Friday June 15, 2012 – 1:00pm to 4:00pm

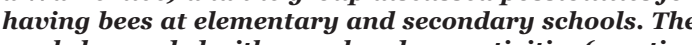
The Orchard Garden team would like to invite you to a Summer
Celebration event in order to celebrate the summer, sun and all
the dedicated garden work that happened this year. Please join
us for music, activities and garden themed snacks made by The
Orchard Garden team.

Cost: **FREE!**



Sweet Education in the Garden: Pollination

The Orchard Garden hosted an education workshop
which focused on pollination and how this important
process can be integrated across the curriculum. Two
teacher candidates from the Faculty of Education (Lauren
Everall & Alison Krahn), who just completed their 3
week Alternative Practicum with The Orchard Garden,
were able to share some of their experiences, research,
curriculum, and resources. Lauren and Alison gave
the workshop participants a tour of the garden during
which they explored the different types of plants bees use
as forage and how these plants have evolved to attract
the bees they depend on. Lauren & Alison discussed three
different types of bee hives/houses The Orchard Garden
has on-site (a mason bee house, a Langstroth hive, and
a Warré hive) and the group discussed possibilities for
having bees at elementary and secondary schools. The
workshop ended with some hands-on activities (creating
seed bombs) and honey themed snacks!



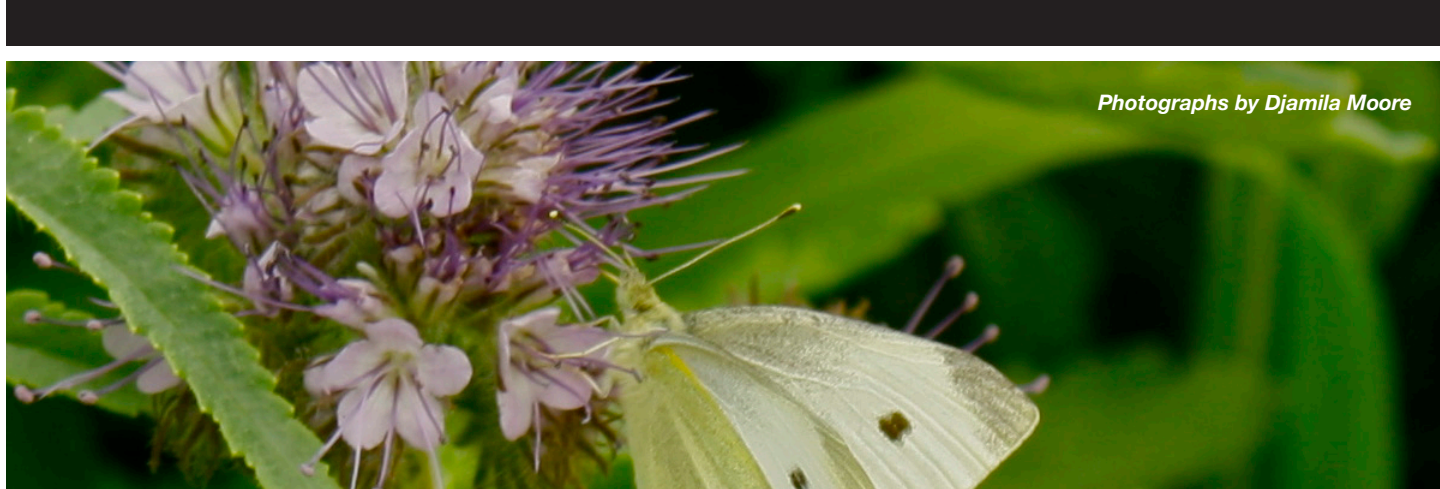
Spring is nature’s way of saying, “Let’s party!”

~Robin Williams

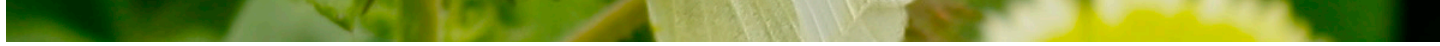


“I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden.”

~Ruth Stout



Photographs by Djamila Moore



**The Orchard Garden aims to cultivate a living outdoor classroom that invites
learners across disciplines to explore and connect theory to practice through
the relationships between teaching, learning, and growing.**



<http://outdoorclassroomubc.blogspot.com/> | <http://www.landfood.ubc.ca/undergraduate/lfs-orchard-garden> | blogs.landfood.ubc.ca/lfsog/



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

