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Cooperative Extension



### Cooperative Extension Service

the leaves.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development

## Zamioculcas Zamiifolia

By: Jennifer Tungate, Taylor County Master Gardener

The Zamioculcas Zamiiofolia (Zanzibar gem), better known as the ZZ plant, is a popular choice of houseplants native to East Africa. It is also known for its resilience, striking appearance, and air-purifying qualities. The ZZ plant has glossy dark green leaves that grow thick, upright, waxy, pinnate leaflets ranging in three to five inches and grow along the stem. Although the ZZ plant is primarily a foliage plant, it may occasionally produce flowers in the form of cream colored species similar to that of a peace lily. The flowers are small and usually hidden under the base of the leaves.

The ZZ plant requires low to bright indirect light, such as from a north-east, or west facing window. Avoid direct sunlight which can scorch the leaves. ZZ plants can grow well under fluorescent lighting. Indoors this particular plant likes temperatures between 60 - 75 degrees. If you plant it outside, be sure to bring it back in before temperatures drop below 50 degrees. Avoid placing the plant near air conditioning and heating vents due to the dry air causing browning of

ZZ plants do not like to be overwatered. During the active growing season, spring through early fall, only water every two weeks or when the top inch or two of soil feels dry. Water less frequently during the winter months. Misting the leaves occasionally will reduce dust build up along with cleaning with a damp cloth. Keeping your plant dust free is good for its health because the leaves can take on more sunlight, Fertilize monthly during spring and summer and none in the winter time.



ZZ plants are slow to grow and don't mind living in crowded pots so repotting often is not necessary. ZZ plant's rhizomes spread laterally so its width is controlled by the diameter of the pot. Pruning is only needed to improve the shape of your plant and to remove yellowing or damaged foliage. Pruning does not encourage new growth unlike other houseplants.

ZZ plants can be propagated by division and leaf cuttings placing them in soil or by cutting off the entire leaf stalk at the base and place in water until roots form. ZZ plants are generally pest-free but may occasionally be bothered by mealy bugs, scale, aphids or spider mites. Good treatments to get rid of these insects by washing the leaves with an insecticidal soap and applying organic neem oil.

#### MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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# TAYLOR COUNTY 4-H May 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	Farmers' Market OPEN 8:00 - 2:00 PM
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Master Gardener Plant Sale 8:00 - 2:00 PM Farmers' Market OPEN 8:00 - 2:00 PM
11	Busy Bloomer Garden Club Herb Gardening & Their Use in the Kitchen 1:00 PM	4-H Horticulture Club 3:30 PM	14	Green River Beekeepers 7:00 PM	16	Farmers' Market OPEN 8:00 - 2:00 PM
18	Bird Club Humming Bird Feeders 1:00 PM	20	21	22	23	Farmers' Market OPEN 8:00 - 2:00 PM
25	26	27 4-H Entomology Club 3:30 PM	28	29	30	Farmers' Market OPEN 8:00 - 2:00 PM Reptiles & Amphibians

## Honeysuckle

By: Ailene Foster, Taylor County Master Gardener

Honeysuckle is a twining vine or arching shrub with numerous species. Also known as a woodbine, it has 158 species native to North America. It is a fast-growing climber. Provide support with a trellis, fence or other support that will allow the vines to drape.

Many species have sweet scented flowers that produce a sweet, edible nectar from its tubular flowers.

Its scented flowers attract pollinators and add a nice scent to summer evening.

Honeysuckle can be used in different ways. Its flowers and leaves are edible and can be used to make teas, syrups, jams and can also be added to salads. Honeysuckle can also be used for relieving digestive issues, infections and other maladies. The red berries can be toxic, so do not eat those.

Vining varieties are most popular for home gardens. Some species are invasive, so choose what you plant carefully. Once established, honeysuckles are easy to



Lonicera sempervirens, Trumpet honeysuckle. (Flickr - Greg Goebel - CC)

maintain, needing only light pruning yearly. Plant in well-draining loam. The foliage needs sun and the roots need shade. So choose a spot where the plant will receive both. Water weekly if rainfall is sparse. Soil that is too wet can results in fungus, causing canker and infections like powdery mildew.

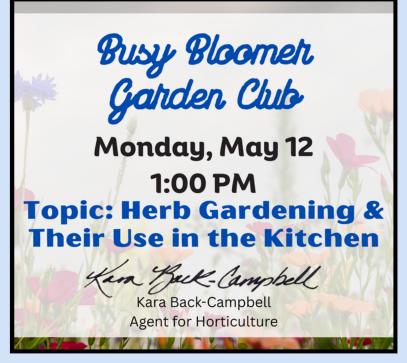
Plant seedlings in spring after danger of frost is gone. Seeds can be planted in the ground or outdoors in a pot in the autumn to cold stratify over winter. General purpose fertilizer can be added to mature plants in the spring.



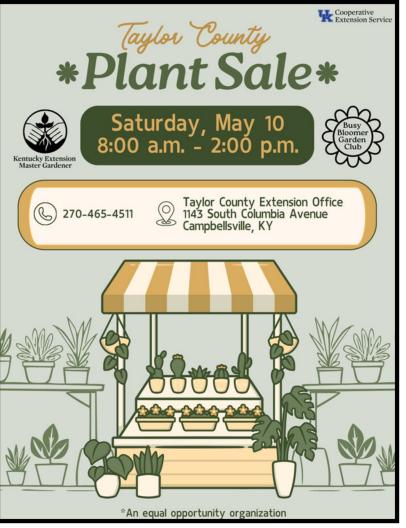
Trumpet Honeysuckle and female ruby-throated humming bird. (Flickr - Bud Ohio - CC)

Aphids and spider mites are attracted to honeysuckle. A horticulture spray such as neem oil or a strong spray from your garden hose should help control pest problems.

Honeysuckle flowers do not need to be deadheaded. Let them drop naturally so birds and other wildlife can feed on the berries. You and the wildlife can enjoy the beauty and fragrance of your honeysuckle.











Cooperative Extension Service

Vegetable Containers, Herb Gardens, House Plants, & Container Annuals

## Tuesday, May 13 3:30 PM

FREE AND OPEN TO YOUTH 9-18 YEARS OLD TAYLOR COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE 1143 SOUTH COLUMBIA AVENUE

\*An equal opportunity organization.



## Cooperative Extension Service 4-H **Entomology** Club

**Pill Bugs (Rolly Pollies)** 



Tuesday, **May 27** 3:30 PM

FREE AND OPEN TO YOUTH 9-18 YEARS OLD TAYLOR COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE 1143 SOUTH COLUMBIA AVENUE

\*An equal opportunity organization.



KiD'S REPTILE &

AMPHIBIANS DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 31 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join us to make some awesome crafts while learning about our wonderful reptile friends.

MARKET OPEN 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Taylor County Farmers' Market 73 Animal Shelter Road Campbellsville, KY 42718

\*An equal opportunity organization.



Cooperative Extension Service

## Allium Leafminer is a Potential Threat to Bulb Crops in Kentucky

By Ric Bessin, Entomology Extension Specialist

Allium leafminer is a relatively new invasive pest of Allium species, which includes onion, garlic, leeks, chives, shallots, and ramps. Allium leafminer (ALM) was first identified in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 2015 and has since spread to seven states in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic areas. ALM is originally from Eastern Europe where it is a serious pest throughout the continent. While there are other leafminers of Alliums in the U.S., this pest can not only cause cosmetic injury to Alliums but also can cause serious damage and contamination to the bulbs. While it has not been reported in Kentucky, I would expect that it will be in the future as it has been found in Virginia.



**Figure 1.** Allium leafminer flies (Photo: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org).

## **Biology**

ALM has two generations per year; only in spring and fall. The spring infestation begins with egg laying in April (based on models developed in states to our north) followed by egg laying in September for the fall generation. Between the two generations there is a summer inactive period (aestivation) by the pupae, similar to dormancy. The start of the spring adult period can coincide with forsythia and daffodil bloom. Eggs are laid in punctures made by the female near the tips of the leaves during feeding. The punctures appear as white spots near leaf tips. Larvae hatch and begin tunneling downward toward the base of the plant. Tunneling results in very distinctive white tunneling to the leaves.



**Figure 2.** Signs of egg laying by Allium leafminer (Photo: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org.)

## Management

Where this invasive has become a pest, management includes chemical control, sanitation, crop rotation, altering planting dates, reflective mulches, and physical controls to exclude the flies. While it has not been reported in Kentucky, producers should be on the lookout for this invasive pest. Suspicious damage should be reported to a local county Extension agent.



We will be closed Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day!



Taylor County Cooperative Extension 1143 South Columbia Avenue Campbellsville, KY 42718



## Berry and Basil Pizza Crisp with Honey Balsamic

#### Balsamic Honey Glaze:

**½ cup** balsamic vinegar

3 tablespoons honey

#### Flatbread:

6 flatbreads

**12** pieces of cheese, such as Havarti (2 per flatbread)

1 cup blackberries, halved

1 ½ cups strawberries, chopped

**15** basil leaves, chopped and divided

**Preheat** oven to 400°F. **Place** flatbreads on a baking sheet and **add** two slices Havarti cheese, blackberries, and strawberries. **Bake** for 5-7 minutes, or until cheese is melted. After flatbreads are removed from oven, **add** chopped basil and honey balsamic glaze. **Serve** warm.

## To make the glaze:

Add balsamic vinegar and honey

to a small sauce pan and **simmer** until reduced by half (10-15 minutes). **Remove** from heat and **set aside**.

**Serves:** 6 Flatbreads

#### **Nutritional Analysis:**

340 calories, 16 g fat, 9 g saturated fat, 40 mg cholesterol, 520 mg sodium, 34 g carbohydrate, 11 g fiber, 16 g sugar, 20 g protein