

"The forest with its beauty, grandeur, and mystery has always stirred my deepest feelings" Emory Smith, Hilltop Founder

Pineapple Guava (*Feijoa Sellowiana*)



The Pineapple Guava is a slow-growing, multi-stemmed evergreen shrub from southern Brazil to Argentina. The showy flowers with dark red stamens are edible and make a delicious and beautiful addition to a salad. The plant also produces an egg shaped fruit called a fejoa. The fruit has a waxy blue-green skin that encloses a juicy greenish-white pulp. It is a widely grown shrub in the mid-South; less prevalent in the lower South. High humidity interferes with pollination. This may be the reason for poor fruit set in the lower South although our Hilltop specimen, planted by Mr. Smith, produces fruit consistently each year.

Average Size (HeightxSpread)- 10' x 8'

Bloom Season- Summer

Light-Moisture-(Full Sun to fruit) Moist well-drained loam soil

Woolly-Rose Mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*)



The Woolly Rose-Mallow is a native perennial of fresh marshes, alluvial soils and other wet sites in Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi. It is frost sensitive, dying down in winter and reemerging in the spring. The plant stands out in the landscape during the summer and early fall months reaching six feet in height. Woolly Rose-Mallows are planted along the pond walk at Hilltop. The plants were grown from seed collected in Bayou Manchac by Paul Orr, and grown out in the Hodge Podge nursery.

Average Size (HeightxSpread)- 6'x3'

Bloom Season- Summer and Fall.

Light-Moisture-(Full Sun) Heavy wet soil. Suitable for bogs and water gardens.

Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)



The Oakleaf Hydrangea is highly sensitive to heavy clay soils. It grows best in a fertile, well-drained, acid-soil and partial shade but needs considerable light, especially morning sun for prolific flowering. The soil and light conditions at Hilltop are well suited to the needs of the plant. Mr. Smith planted the extensive collection of Oakleaf Hydrangea we enjoy today at Hilltop many years ago.

Average Size (HeightxSpread)- 6'x4'

Bloom Season- Creamy-white summer, turning pink and then brown. Persist on shrub through winter.

Light-Moisture-(Part Shade) Fertile, Well Drained, Acid Soil.

Emory Smith Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)

In 1929 Emory Smith purchased a twenty-acre farm he called Hilltop. He built a house on the property in 1947 and the Smiths moved there. It was not until after Emory's retirement from the U.S. postal service in 1950 that he developed the idea of establishing Hilltop as a sanctuary for native plants. Over the years, he planted over 150 locally collected native trees and shrubs. The 'Emory Smith' Magnolia, a cultivar of the Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) is registered and named in his honor. An early picture of the tree (right) shows its unique columnar form.



Average Size (HeightxSpread)- 40'x25'

Bloom Season- Summer

Light-Moisture-(Sun, Partial Shade) Moist, fertile acid soil.

Helping Hilltop Endure: Joins Friends

Friends of Hilltop Arboretum, Inc. is an independent, non-profit organization that works in partnership with LSU to preserve, protect, and enhance this natural wonder to ensure it forever benefits the Greater Baton Rouge Community. Established in 1982 with thoughtful guidance from Emory Smith, its office was located on site in 1991. Realizing the positive impact Hilltop has on education, Friends of Hilltop made a commitment to build a facility to accommodate programming in its outdoor classroom. The building design was created by Ted Flato, a vernacular architect with nationally recognized firm of Lake/Flato Architects in San Antonio, Texas. The building respects the natural landscape, is environmentally sensitive, and recognizes the legacy of the founder Emory Smith and the unique history of the area.

If you enjoyed your time at Hilltop and would like to keep Emory's dream alive and enhance the site, please consider joining Friends of Hilltop at one of the following levels:

- Violet \$35**
- Azalea \$50**
- Dogwood \$100**
- Magnolia \$250**
- Cypress \$500**
- Live Oak \$1,000**

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone (h) (c)

E-mail

Visa() Master Card() Exp Date /

Card #

Name on Card

Signature

Please send this completed form with either your credit card information or check made payable to : Friends of Hilltop Arboretum, P.O. Box 82608 Baton Rouge, LA 70884

Welcome!



LSU's HILLTOP ARBORETUM

Inside:

- 📖 Summer Plant Guide
- 🗺️ Self-Guide Tour Map
- 👥 Join Friends of Hilltop

Open Daily Dawn to Dusk Free Admission

Located at 11855 Highland Road
(between Bluebonnet and Seigen)
P.O. Box 82608
Baton Rouge, LA

p. 225 767 6916
f. 225 768 7740
www.lsu.edu/hilltop
hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu

Welcome to LSU's Hilltop Arboretum!

Highlands



1 Pineapple Guava*
Feijoa Sellowiana
- A dense, mounding evergreen shrub in full sunlight. Fragrant white flowers have prominent dark red stamen and mature plants produce edible fruit.



2 Flowering Maple
Abutilon pictum
- A semi-tropical perennial shrub with exotic flowers, which are orange-yellow with crimson veins. The three-lobed leaves are maple-like in appearance.



3 Java Shrub*
Clerodendron speciosissimum
- A semi-woody, upright perennial shrub native to Java and Ceylon. The shrub is popular in old Deep South gardens for showy flowers of red pyramidal panicles.

Cathedral



4 Smooth sumac
Rhus glabra
- An indigenous deciduous shrub or small tree with upright stems and a broad, flat crown. It forms triangular shaped flowers and can be propagated by seed.



5 Christmas Berry
Ardisia crenata
- A small, upright, multi-stemmed evergreen shrub that is excellent for mass plantings in the shade. The coral-red berries form drooping clusters below the foliage.



6 Sweetbay Magnolia
Magnolia virginiana
- A semi-evergreen native tree common to moist, acidic soils near ponds and streams. The creamy-white flowers are up to three inches wide and very aromatic.

Pond Walk



7 Buttonbush
Cephalanthus occidentalis
- A native, deciduous shrub or small tree with a spreading crown. The white, round flowers are one to two inches in diameter and bloom on terminal clusters.



8 Woolly-Rose Mallow
Hibiscus lasiocarpus
- An erect shrub-like perennial that grows in wet alluvial soils of the region. The funnel-shaped white to pink flowers with a maroon throat are similar to a hibiscus.



9 Pickerel Weed
Pontederia cordata
- A large perennial herb water plant with erect heart-shaped, dark olive-green leaves. The flower spikes are deep blue to purple and rise above the foliage.

Bamboo Pass



10 Boxelder
Acer negundo
- A native deciduous tree with a round canopy. The drooping samaras (type of fruit) borne in v-shaped winged pairs are found on the tree in summer-winter.



11 Basswood
Tilia americana
- A tall, stately native tree with a straight trunk and drooping branches that form a round canopy. Grows well in rich, moist soil. The drooping flower clusters attract bees.

Ravines



12 Oakleaf Hydrangea*
Hydrangea quercifolia
- A native, deciduous shrub abundant in the South in ravines, bluffs, and streams. The flowers are a foot long with creamy-white petals, turning pink then brown.



13 Devil's Walking Stick
Aralia spinosa
- A native, small deciduous tree with tall, spiny stems and umbrella like leaf clusters. The flowers are small, white dense umbellate clusters four feet long above the leaves.



14 Titi
Cyrilla racemiflora
- A native semi-evergreen small tree with a short trunk and broad-spreading, irregular branches. Clusters of showy racemes with white flowers cascade down.



15 Southern Magnolia*
Magnolia grandiflora
- A stately, native evergreen tree with a dense, upright pyramidal form. The flowers are highly fragrant, large, white, and up to eight inches across.

Hodge Podge Nursery

After your tour of the grounds visit the Hodge Podge Nursery for a great selection of native, adapted and pass-along plants grown by volunteers as a fundraiser for the Arboretum. Many of the plants found throughout this brochure can be found in the nursery. The Hilltop staff (Tuesday-Friday from 9am-4:30pm) and nursery volunteers (Wednesdays from 9am-11am) are always happy to help you make the best selection. We are keeping with Emory Smith's tradition of growing plants for all to enjoy!

