



USGA Adds Agronomist for Florida Region

The USGA has hired a new agronomist for Florida, Todd Lowe.

Lowe received his bachelor of science from the University of Florida in 1995. He graduated from Clemson with a master of science in August, 1998.



Todd Lowe

At Clemson, Lowe worked closely with an old Florida friend, Dr. Bert McCarty. While at Clemson, he worked as a graduate research assistant/technician conducting turfgrass weed research and screening pesticides for

use on turfgrass and ornamentals.

He constructed and maintained turfgrass research plots, including a 12,000 sq. ft. TifEagle green, maintained the turfgrass plots, and supervised three to five students yearly. Also while at Clemson, Lowe co-founded the Clemson University Turf Club/GCSAA student chapter. He has published six refereed manuscripts, 13 scientific abstracts, seven university extension articles and eight golf course trade magazine articles.

Lowe worked at the Walker Golf Course at Clemson University and coordinated its ACSP program. In addition, he also worked at Plantation Country Club in Ponte Vedra for eight years.

He plays golf and he also enjoys hunting and fishing.

Lowe is currently setting up his office in Englewood, but he can be reached through e-mail at tlowe@usga.org, or call the Florida Green Section office in Hobe Sound at 561-546-2620 for his phone number.

SHELLY FOY
USGA Green Section
Florida Region

2001 Florida Plants of the Year - Part 1

Editor's Note: The Florida Plants of the Year program was launched in 1998 and has been beneficial to both consumers and growers. Purchasers are introduced to under-utilized but proven Florida plant material. This program is sponsored by the Woody Division of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association (FNGA). The plants are chosen each year by a committee of horticulturists, nurserymen, educators, landscape architects and other members of the horticulture industry representing Central, North and South Florida. If this series, now beginning its third-year run in The Florida Green, has been of value to you, please contact me. Thank you.

COMMON NAME: Ribbon Palm

BOTANICAL NAME: *Livistona decipiens*

HARDINESS: Zones 9-11

MATURE HEIGHT AND SPREAD: 20'-30' feet tall with a 15' spread

CLASSIFICATION: Palm

LANDSCAPE USE: Specimen plant

CHARACTERISTICS: This widely adaptable palm with a solitary trunk and gray-green foliage is drought and salt tolerant and grows well in many soil types. This is not just another palm, but has its own unique look. Initial growth is very fast, but slows when it reaches maturity at about 20'. Makes a better shade tree than other palms and has no major disease problems.



COMMON NAME: Lindley's Butterfly Bush

BOTANICAL NAME: *Buddleia lindleyana*

HARDINESS: Zones 5-10

MATURE HEIGHT X SPREAD: 4' x 4'

CLASSIFICATION: Woody perennial/small shrub

LANDSCAPE USE: Specimen or accent plant for long-lasting bloom in the perennial border.

CHARACTERISTICS: A deciduous bush with cascading branches, constantly producing cuttable purple flower spikes that attract butterflies and hummingbirds. The plant is somewhat salt tolerant and not fussy about soil.



COMMON NAME: Spathiphyllum 'Domino'

BOTANICAL NAME: *Spathiphyllum 'Domino'* US Pat #9944

HARDINESS: Zones 9-11

MATURE HEIGHT X SPREAD: 3' x 4'

CLASSIFICATION: Interior foliage plant

LANDSCAPE USE: Can be used in warmer climates in areas with shade

INTERIORSCAPE USE: Specimen or massive plantings

CHARACTERISTICS: The only variegated patented *Spathiphyllum* variety available on the market. This plant with dark green leaves has a vibrant color contrast that blooms too. This great interior plant is versatile for 4 through 10 inch containers and is tolerant of temperature extremes.



COMMON NAME: 'Profusion' Zinnia

BOTANICAL NAME: *Zinnia 'Profusion'*

HARDINESS: Annual for zones 8-10, sensitive to frost

MATURE HEIGHT X SPREAD: 12' x 12'

CLASSIFICATION: Annual/bedding plant

LANDSCAPE USE: Massed in beds and containers

CHARACTERISTICS: This bedding plant is easy to produce by seed, is heat and mildew resistant and is a butterfly and hummingbird plant. It has some salt tolerance and comes in several colors including red, orange, pink, etc. The self-branching plant forms a nice mound in beds.

