

Hort Tips and News

Sandy Welches, MGV 2005



www.fatrobin.com

Bulb Security

In the fall, Diane loves to plant bulbs, especially tulips (*Tulipa* spp. and hybrids). But when she noticed they weren't coming up the following spring, she decided to guard against digging squirrels when it was time to plant again.

Diane arranged the bulbs in suet cages, available in a range of sizes and shapes, before burying the whole thing at a depth two or three times the height of the bulb. Whenever possible, she tried to point the bulb's narrow tip upward, but the flower stems worked their way through the holes no matter what. Depending on the size of the bulbs, she fit five to seven inside each cage, creating informal clumps of color throughout smaller beds.

Obviously, we can do this with virtually all bulbs, hardy or tender. Now, if we could just convince the deer to stop eating our tulips... *Guess what? Come to the MGV Fall Seminar on November 5th and find out how to deter those ornery deer!*

Hart-Palm, D. (2016, October.) Great Ideas from Smart Gardeners. *Garden Gate*, issue 131. P. 4

Ants? Bay Leaves to the Rescue

Since dried bay leaves worked so well to keep weevils out of her stored birdseed, Sherry wondered if the leaves would also repel the ants invading her garage. She set one leaf on each cupboard shelf and found the scent served as a natural deterrent there. Now she always has bay leaves on hand to lay wherever she may spot a few ants, whether it's in the pantry or the shed.

Watson, S. (2016, October.) Great Ideas from Smart Gardeners. *Garden Gate*, issue 131. P. 4



www.oldroses.com

Heaven Scent

An orange-flowered climbing rose with a strong fragrance is the Rose of the Year 2017 in Great Britain. Unveiled at the annual Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, it is named *Rosa* 'Scent from Heaven,' bred by Chris Warner. It takes 12 months to 2 years for new cultivars to be commercially available, but this one looks worth waiting for! This variety has also been awarded the fragrance prize in the Paris International Rose Trials and a Certificate of Merit in the Royal National Rose Society Trails. Found in:

Gress, A. (2016 August). NEWS: Current topics of interest to gardeners. *The Garden*, p.8 (published by the Royal Horticultural Society).