

11-4-1999

County Agent's Notes: Master Gardener course to be offered in Attala County - November 4, 1999

Ernest "Ernie" Flint Jr.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsjunction.msstate.edu/ext-ua-flintreports>

Recommended Citation

Ernest "Ernie" Hilmon Flint, Jr. collection, Special Collections Department, Mississippi State University Libraries

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension Agent Reports at Scholars Junction. It has been accepted for inclusion in Ernie Flint - Mississippi State Extension Reports by an authorized administrator of Scholars Junction. For more information, please contact scholcomm@msstate.libanswers.com.

County Agent's Notes:

November 4, 1999

Master Gardener course to be offered in Attala County.

By: Dr. Ernest H. Flint, Area Agent/Agriculture

For those not familiar with Master Gardener, this is a nationally recognized program designed to prepare volunteers to advise others on questions related to all forms of gardening. Master Gardener is a comprehensive program of instruction including at least forty hours on subjects related to gardening. These include basic botany, soil fertility, ornamentals, fruits and nuts, vegetables, turf, plant diseases, entomology, weed science, and plant propagation. In addition to these, other subjects may be added as needed for specific local interests. As a part of Master Gardener, participants agree to return forty hours per year in creative service to the community in the form of beautification projects; or they may devote their time to assisting with Extension programs in horticulture and garden-related work.

Master Gardener has not been offered in Attala in the past since only a small number of sessions can be presented each year. Most Master Gardener chapters have been formed in larger cities like Jackson, Vicksburg, and Tupelo, but Extension is making a concerted effort to broaden the scope of this very successful program. In the past, courses have only been taught by specialists from Mississippi State University, but beginning this year agents with specialization in certain areas will also be utilized as instructors. This will allow for more Master Gardener groups to be organized and taught in Mississippi.

Discussions about organizing a Master Gardener group in Attala have been going on for at least a year, and several have already expressed their desire to participate. At this time, we

plan to begin the training sessions during the first week of February. We would like to have a class of at least twenty “dedicated” gardeners to help ensure the success of the program and act as leaders for those who may join them in the future. If you would like to be included in this class please call or come by the Attala Extension office at the Fairgrounds. Our phone number is [REDACTED].

An active Master Gardener group can change the appearance of an entire community as has been proven in areas where the program has been active for a few years. If you are one of those people who would like to see more activities of this kind in our area, this program may be perfect for you. Think about it and give us a call.