

## Growing Stronger by Diving Deeper in Cut Flower Growing

*Flower Growers of MS, MS Urban Forest Council & Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Virtual Classes and Flower Farm School Hands-on Workshops  
February 16, 2021 – August 10, 2021*



- 2/16 Seed choices and tips: starting selected annuals and perennials for transplant in late March and harvest in May. Seed starting with plugs, blocks and trays.
- 3/2 Shrubs for cut greens: annual steps to take for pest prevention with sanitation, pruning, and sprays. Developing a working landscape for cut flowers and pollinators
- 3/16 IPM in depth: putting sustainable practices into action including plans for local flowers and pollinator stewardship. Growing with zero synthetics nor chemicals.
- 3/30 Flower Farm workshop: Activities include: planting seeds in the ground and in soil blocks. Let's talk about high tunnel growing for cut flowers.
- 4/13 Propagation of perennial cut flower plants by divisions: timing and practices to sustain and multiply select varieties vegetative.
- 4/27 Master class in popular bulbs: best choices and maintenance practices for flower quality and bulb longevity in annual and perennial bulbs. Harvesting cut flowers from bulbs and post-harvest handling.
- 5/11 Flower Farm workshop: Flower Farm School, Bolton: Activities include farm layout, drainage, NRCS resources, direct seeding, review of farm equipment and care.
- 5/25 Probable pests: troubleshooting likely threats to the flowers you are growing and evaluating diverse controls for their effectiveness and economy. Trap crops and other pest management.
- 6/8 Horticulture essentials: how plants grow and how to encourage them, irrigation systems, injection systems, products and practices that can save money and time. Flower farm visit TBA.
- 6/22 Flower Farm workshop: Flower Farm School, Bolton: Activities include farm layout, drainage, NRCS resources, direct seeding, review of farm equipment and care.
- 7/6 Expanding your palette: growing summer herbs for bouquets such as basil, Mexican tarragon, and mints. Adding other value-added products for your sales.
- 7/20 Building smart spaces: classics and the very latest ideas for beds, sheds, benches, plant supports, insect exclusions, work rooms, greenhouses, tools, and materials
- 8/3 Flower Farm workshop: Madison Flower Farm- Your creative side: How to package, sell, use and market cut flowers.
- 8/17 Soil sustainability: ways and means to keep soil healthy and productive, actions to take in summer or between crops and soil amendments, plus equipment for managing soils.
- 8/31 What about the paperwork - NRCS resources, insurance, ag-tourism, liabilities, farm planning, budgeting, certifications and others important businesses topics.
- 9/14 Flower Farm workshop: Farm to Vase Design Classes – Location TBA
- 9/28 Next level cut flowers: varieties and color trends on the horizon for 2022 and reinforcing the value of thinking a year ahead. Planning for 2022, new markets, new venues and survival of a flower farm.