

Annual Fall Gardening Conference and Bulb Expo

- Who:** Sponsored by the Smith County Master Gardeners, a volunteer program of Texas AgriLife Extension Service
- What:** Speakers will present information on flowering bulbs for our region and other gardening topics. Denyse Cummins is a LSU AgCenter Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Coordinator in Shreveport, Louisiana. She earned a B.S. in Horticulture from Louisiana Tech State University in 1989 and a M.S. in Floriculture from Colorado State University in 1991. Denyse was also a cut flower grower from 1993 to 1998, growing field grown specialty cut flowers in Lafayette, Louisiana. Ms. Cummins has traveled frequently to El Salvador to teach cut flower production to small farmers. Horticulture County Agent with Louisiana County Extension Service from 1997 to present, she has developed a cut flower marketing cooperative in Lafayette, Louisiana. Denyse is currently working as an Area Horticulture Agent in northwest Louisiana, housed in Shreveport. Ms. Cummins feels there is a tremendous potential for cut flowers and many other specialty crops for Louisiana. Other presentations include a slideshow of the bulbs for sale following the conference by Smith County Master Gardener Merlin Eck and other regional gardening subjects. Thousands of unusual and heirloom bulbs not normally found at local nurseries and retail stores will be offered at the Bulb Sale. A Help Desk to answer your gardening questions will be available along with demonstrations performed by Smith County Master Gardeners.
- When:** Saturday, October 17, 2009. Doors open for registration at 8:30 a.m. The conference begins at 9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. The Bulb Sale will follow starting at 11:30a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Where:** The conference location and bulb sale is at Harvey Hall, 2000 W Front Street, Tyler Texas.
- Program:** Programs and informational handouts will be provided along with the awarding of door prizes. Admission is free.
- Contact:** Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Smith County - Phone 903.590.2980