# Far South Nursery

•••

Crystal Murray



# Plant selection tips

Your nursery is here to help!



## Go local

Local nurseries have year round experience in your environment....





Ferox Agave





Red Yucca

Yaupon Holly

Old Mexico Cacti







Tri-Color Billbergia



Spiderwort

Golden Groundsel







Nelson Nolina

Mediopicta Alba Agave



Kerbey Lane Agave





## Nursery types

- Wholesale Grower
  - Propagates plant material to sell directly to other nurseries/ trade
  - Generally least expensive--going right to the source
  - Generally larger quantities of specific plants available
  - An availability list with pricing is generally available-ask for it!
  - They may offer to "contract grow" plants
  - There may be a minimum order
  - Some nurseries may require certain paperwork/certificates to purchase such as:
    - Nursery/Floral Certificate
    - Resale Tax Certificate (needed if not paying tax at time of purchase)
    - EIN (Employer Identification Number) for tax reporting purposes/proof of registration

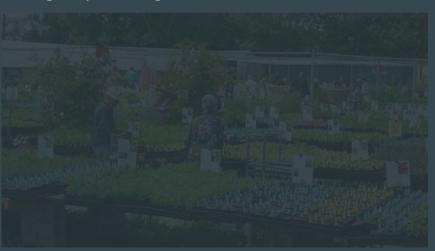
### • Re-Wholesale Nursery/ Broker

- O Brings in plant material from growers to sell to the trade
- Able to source specialty items/out of state material
- Generally less expensive than retail nurseries
- May have other landscaping material such as rock, mulch, edging, irrigation supplies, etc.
- May still require paperwork for purchase



#### • Retail

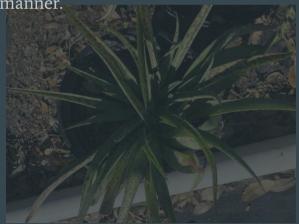
- Prime plant material brought in from several growers at peak performance
- May have a limited quantity of specific plants
- May have larger staff available to offer more hands on assistance
- Usually has additional wares such as: decorative pots/yard art, pesticides/herbicides, mulch, etc.
- Some may offer a discount to the trade



## Your Local Nursery is a Gold Mine

- Whatever type of nursery, they have experience and can help!
- Get to know all your options--different nurseries specialize in different plant material
- As a grower, we have plenty of experience with killing plants and try to avoid it. The plants that we carry are tried and true for our area.
- We get recommendations from some of the best landscapers in the industry
  - Many of the plants that we carry were introduced to us by you!
  - We continue to get our starters plants, cuttings and seed in this manner.
  - We are looking to expand what is available--especially natives.

You can learn from us, but we learn from you as well.





Come visit!





















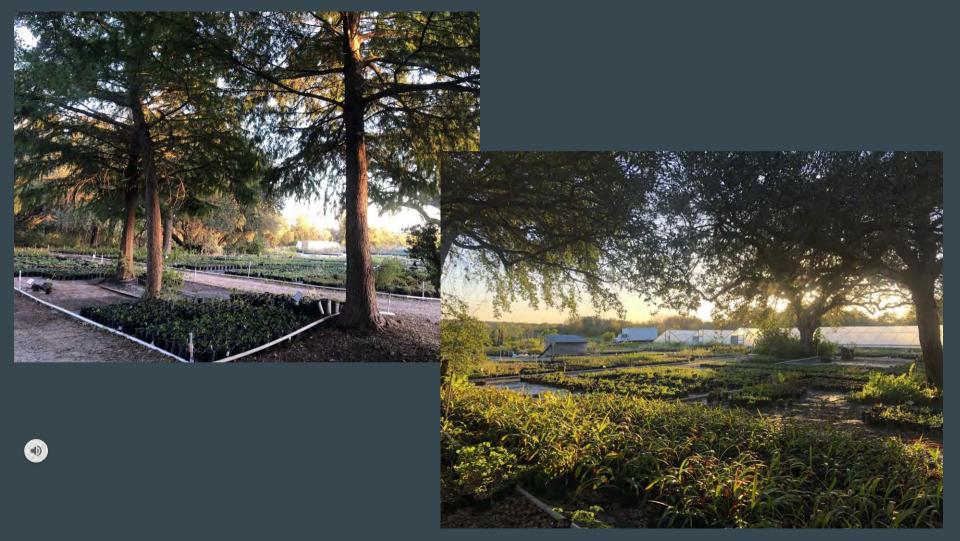
Bronze Dyckia













## Know your site

- Where does the sun travel
- How many hours of sun/shade
- What is your soil type
- Where does rain water move across the site
- Can you help keep water on the land
- What are the views you want to highlight or hide
- How will the site change during different times of year
- When in doubt, look to nature! Put plants back in that serve a purpose.

This information helps us narrow down our choices... and there are a lot!



### **Focal Plants**

### Choose focal plants first:

- Large shade trees? Flowering trees?
- Unique architectural look
- Highlight point of the garden
- Blocking or directing views
- Make sure you have the space for the future growth

\*If you need a special plant, be sure to have it ordered in, tagged off or contract grow/held







Yucca Rostrata





Chinese Goddess Bamboo

Alphonse Karr Bamboo





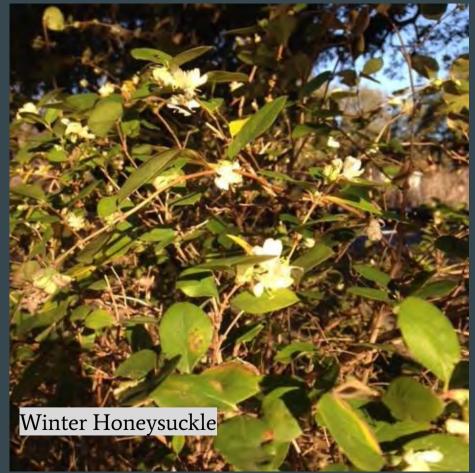


### Middle Ground

- Fillers
- Color Bloom/ Foliage
- Bring in Pollinators, add in natives!
- Movement with Grasses
- Remember to plan for blooms/interest for different times of the year--this is when it is helpful that you visit the nurseries throughout the year
- Embrace the seasons--everything can't be evergreen!













## **Pollinator Plants?**

Just ask!



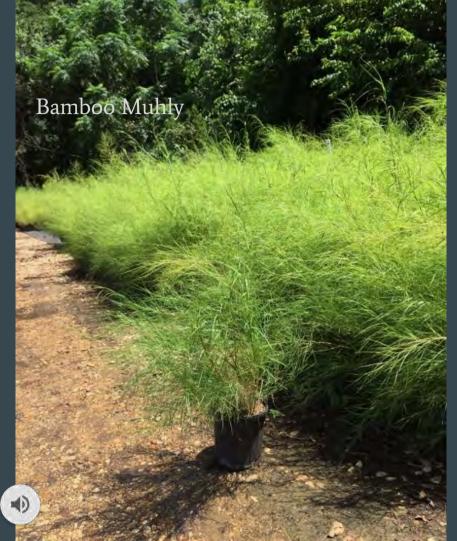
Wooly Bee Brush

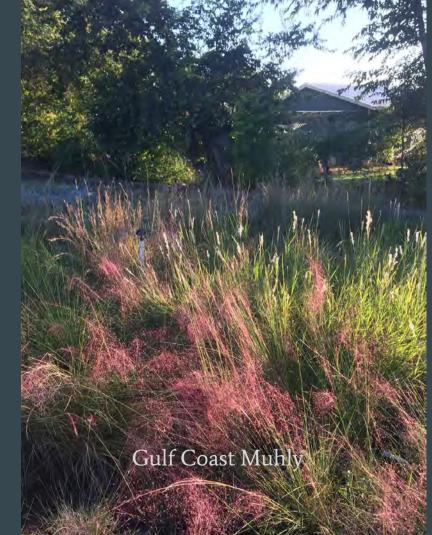














# Foreground/ Ground Cover

- Low Growing Plants
- Help stabilize the soil and prevent erosion
- Alternative to lawn--lower watering needs
- Prevent weed establishment
- Provide seasonal interest
- Reduce maintenance costs

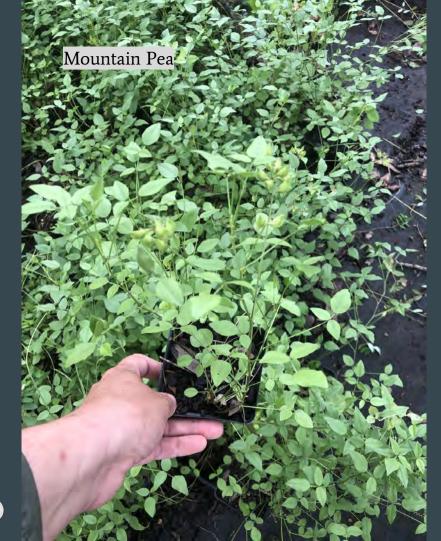














## Set your clients expectations

- What time of Year is it?
  - Early Spring--depending on where grown, plants may not be large yet, biggest concern is roots
  - Early Fall--plants may show signs of summer stress if grown outdoors in Texas.... They'll be stronger for it
  - Winter--Ok with dieback? Willing to cover plants? Many plants, especially native trees, can still be transplanted successfully and even perform better when they get in the ground and established before the heat of summer
  - Summer--Irrigation system or hand watering-- set up the project and plants for success
- Remind your clients that there may be changes to planting plans due to availability. If you have your heart set on a specific plant, call ahead. Do you have the option to contract grow?
- Part of gardening is enjoying the plants grow and seeing the space change. Remember you may need to modify the plants in the future. Gardens require a bit of faith

"First year it sleeps, Second year it creeps, Third year it leaps."



#### Red Buckeye





Heartleaf Skullcap









With plants and landscape design, you have a responsibility to your client but also to us all as you are shaping the environment. We are all stewards of the land.

We want to help you be successful and look forward to working with you!











