

by Connie Magoffin

As summer is approaching and this is my last chance to communicate with you until fall, I want to inform you of the status of the Weavers Guild of Minnesota Dye Garden.

- 1. We are planting the temporary dye garden which is available for public viewing with one example each of several dye plants of historical importance. It is located at the end of the herb garden toward the Ordway shelter.
- 2. We are also planting an experimental 100 ft. row of dye plants in the nursery area to study and record color and growth patterns for planning the permanent dye garden. The plants included will be: safflower, tansy, weld, ladies bedstraw, teasle, pokeberry, indigo, madder, alkanet, agrimony, some rudbeckias, uver's camomile, dyer's greenwood, woad, coreopsis, cotton and saffron.

We are currently planning the design of the permanent dye garden and could use the help of anyone experienced in landscape design.

- 4. While not the major emphasis until the permanent dye garden is a reality, we also have an ongoing project to create a library of dye plant information. This will include dye plant slides, cultivation information, dyed fibers and recipes, history and maps of the dye plants located on the Arboretum grounds, both wild and cultivated.
- 5. Fundraising has top priority this summer and it includes the following projects:

Volume 2 of A Guide to Dye Plants will be printed.

- b. We will offer for sale notecards illustrating the five dye plants from volume 1. One of Carolyn Davis-McCullough's beautiful drawings will be on the front of the card and Ann Fox's excellent botanical description will appear on the back.
- C. Consideration is being made to print a second edition of volume 1. Many people were disappointed that they were not able to purchase a copy before we ran out. (See form below).
- d. Again this year we will offer for sale (hopefully at the Arboretum Fall Festival and the Guild Fiber Fair) skeins of naturally dyed yarn. Both medium weight and embroidery yarns will be available.

Since all the labor is voluntary and some of the materials re donated, a very large percentage of the money from the sale of these items will go toward the installation and maintenance of the dye garden.

If you want to insure that a copy of A Guide to Dye Plants, Volume 2, will be available to you for purchase, return this form (or a facimile) to me by July 15, 1979.

WEAVERS GUILD OF MINNESOTA DYE GARDEN PUBLICATIONS

	am enclosing a SASE — please notify me when the tems I have checked below are available for purchase
	☐ A Guide to Dye Plants Vol. 1 (\$5 plus 75¢ postage)
	☐ A Guide to Dye Plants Vol. 2.
(☐ Dye plant notecards.
ı	Name
/	Address
Tel	ephone No

Mail by July 15 to Weavers Guild of Mn Dye Garden Connie Magoffin, 3248 Colfax Ave. So., Mpls MN 55408

While this by no means commits you to purchase the books or notecards, the purpose of the form is two-fold. It will help us to make decisions on quantities to print and, more importantly, if you include a SASE, we will promise to notify you when and where the items will be for sale.

As you can see, a wide variety of talents are needed for the success of the dye garden. If you are interested in helping us either calle me (822-8358) or Ruth Arnold (544-0779) or just come to our monthly meeting at Ruth's on the 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:15 p.m. (1500 Kelly Drive, Golden Valley).

Have a colorful summer!

