Accent	In landscape design, a dominant or focal point.
Active ingredient	In a pesticide formulation, the chemical that actually kills the pests.
Aerosols	Very low concentrate solutions, usually applied as a fine spray or mist.
Aggregate fruits	Fruits from a single flower with many ovaries that are fertilized separately and independently.
Aggregates	The name for structural pieces formed when soil particles are grouped together in the formation processes. Also called a *ped.*
Alternate	An arrangement of leaves in which the alternate or spiral leaves are arranged in alternate steps along the stem with only one leaf at each node.
Angiosperms	All flowering plants.
Annual flowers	Flowers that live only one growing season.
Annuals	Plants that pass through their entire life cycle, from seed germination to seed production, in one growing season and then die.
Anther	In a flower, a pollen sac, part of the stamen
Asexual propagation	Propagation in which a vegetative part of the parent plant is made to regenerate itself into a new plant.
Bacillus popilliae	Bacterial insecticide that that controls grubs of Japanese beetles in the eastern U.S.
Bacillus thuringiensis	Bacterial insecticide that provides effective control of the larvae of several moths or butterflies.
Bacteria	Single-celled microscopic organisms that reproduce very rapidly.
Baits	Formulation made by adding the active ingredient to an edible or attractive substance. (B)
Balance	In landscape design, balance refers to an aesthetically pleasing integration of elements in the landscape.
Balled-and-burlapped plants	Plants, primarily trees and some shrubs, that are grown in nursery rows for some time and are root pruned so that the root system within the balls is compact and fibrous.

Banding	A method of applying fertilizer in which narrow bands of fertilizer are applied in furrows 2 to 3 inches from vegetable garden seeds and 1 to 2 inches deeper than the seeds or plants to be planted.
Bare-root plants	Plants that have had the soil washed or shaken from their roots after digging.
Bermuda grass	Warm season turfgrass with almost no shade tolerance. The most widely used turfgrass in Texas.
Biennials	Plants that pass through their entire life cycle in two years, producing vegetative structure and food storage organs in the first season. They complete their life cycle in the second year and then die.
Binomial nomenclature	The scientific system of giving a double name to each plant or animal (genus + species) developed by Linnaeus.
Biological control	Control of insects by conserving and enhancing natural enemy populations.
Blade	The expanded, thin structure of a leaf on either side of the midrib.
Blight	A general term used to describe the rapid and general killing of leaves, flowers or stems.
Blood meal	Dried, powered blood collected from cattle slaughterhouses, a rich source of nitrogen.
Branch	A stem that is more than one year old.
Brand name	Name used by a company to identify its product.
Broadcasting	A method of applying fertilizer; it is spread over the growing area and left to filter into the soil, or is incorporated into the soil with a rototiller or spade.
Brownpatch	Fungus disease that damages St.Augustinegrass in spring and early fall.
Bud	An undeveloped shoot from which embryonic leaves or flower parts arise.
Budding	One of the major methods of asexual plant propagation involving joining two plant parts from different varieties.
Buffalograss	The only turfgrass native to the North American Great Plains from Texas to Canada. It is a warm-season turfgrass that spreads by stolens.
Bulb	1. A shortened compressed underground stem surrounded by fleshy scales (leaves) that envelop a

	central bud located at the tip of the stem. 2. A complete or nearly-complete miniature of a plant encased in fleshy, modified leaves called scales which contain food reserves. In the broadest sense, bulbs included corms, tubers, tuberous roots and rhizomes, as well as true bulbs.
Calibration	When applying pesticides, this involves adjusting your equipment to apply the desired rate of pesticide.
Cambrium	A meristem that is the site of cell division and active growth.
Canes	1. Stems that have a relatively large pith and usually live only one or two years. 2. Tops of blackberry bushes.
Canker	A dead area on a stem surrounded by living tissue.
Capillary water	Water in the soil held against gravity in the pore spaces of the soil; it is the most important water for plant growth.
Centipedegrass	Warm season turfgrass with a creeping growth habit and medium-wide leaves. Produces only surface runners, so it is easy to control in a landscape.
Chewing insects	Insects that take their food by chewing off the external parts of a plant.
Chinch bug	Insect that causes damage to St. Augustine grass.
Chlorosis	Yellowing of normally green tissue due to partial failure of chlorophyll to develop.
Clay	One of the six principle soil classes in Texas. Clay overpowers sand or silt; the clay content is 55 percent or greater.
Clay loam	One of the six principle soil classes in Texas. Silt and sand are usually present in noticeable amounts, but they are overshadowed by clay.
Clays	The finest soil particles.
Climate	In landscape design, climate includes sunlight, wind, temperature and all forms of precipitation.
Cloche	Originally a bell-shaped glass jar set over delicate plants to protect them; now, a portable structure which shelters plants from drying winds and cold.
Common name	Shorter name given to a formulation to make it easier to identify.

Compaction	A physical process that slowly reduces the amount of oxygen (or air) contained in the soil.
Companion planting	The orderly mixing of crop plants aimed at controlling insect populations.
Complete fertilizer	Fertilizer that contains nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.
Complete metamorphosis	Metamorphosis consisting of four stages: egg, larva, pupa, adult.
Composite inflorescence	Inflorescence made up of numerous, stemless florets, characteristic of daisy inflorescence. Also called a *head*.
Compost	A dark, crumbly and earthy-smelling form of organic matter that has gone through a natural decomposition process.
Compound leaf	A leaf composed of several separate leaflets arising from the same petiole.
Container habit	In the case of container-grown plants, the roots are contained in a limited space and may be tightly coiled around one another in the container.
Container-grown plants	Plants that are usually grown in the container in which they are sold.
Cool season grasses	Turfgrass with ideal growing temperatures ranging from 60 degrees to 75 degrees F.
Corm	A compressed stem plate and closely spaced buds and fleshy leaves.
Corolla	The name for the petals regarded collectively
Corymb	An inflorescence made up of florets whose stalks or pedicels are randomly arranged along the peduncle in such a way that the florets create a flat, round top.
Cottonseed meal	A by-product of cotton manufacturing, used as a fertilizer.
Cotyledon	The seed leaves that encase the embryo.
Cover crops	Crops such as annual rye, perennial ryegrass or “Elbon” cereal ryegrass planted in the garden in the fall and incorporated in the spring.
Crown	A region of compressed stem tissue from which new shoots are produced, generally found near the soil surface.

Cuticle	In a leaf, the part of the epidermis which produces a waxy layer called the cutin, which protects the leaf from dehydration and prevents penetration of some disease causing organisms.
Cuttings	One of the major methods of asexual plant propagation involving rooting a severed piece of the parent plant (tip or root cuttings).
Cyme	Inflorescence in which the top floret opens first and blooms downward along the peduncle.
Damping-off	A disease of seedling plants that kills individual plants, usually caused by fungi.
Day-neutral plants	Plants that form flowers regardless of day length.
Deadheading	Removing old flowers to maintain vigorous plant growth and to assure neatness.
Dicotyledons	Plants producing two seed leaves (cotyledons).
Dieback	Progressive death of branches, shoots and roots beginning at the tips. Dieback may occur on roses after repeated defoliation by the black spot fungus.
Digger	Small digging tool consisting of a long (10 inches – 14 inches) metal rod with a two-pronged blade opposite the handle. Also called a weeder, cultivator or asparagus knife.
Disbudding	Removing small side buds to allow the plant to concentrate its energy on producing one or a few large blooms.
Dischasium cyme	A cyme that has florets opposite each other along the peduncle.
Disease triangle	A triangle that illustrates the three conditions that must exist at the same time for plant disease to develop: presence of a pathogen, availability of susceptible host, favorable environmental conditions for infection to occur.
Division	A type of asexual propagation in which mature clumps of perennials are divided every three years or so.
Don’t Bag It	An education program initiated by the Texas Cooperative Extension in the late 1980s, targeting the practice of bagging lawn clippings and leaves and encouraging composting of all yard waste.

Drip irrigation	Controlled application of water at a very low flow over a prolonged period.
Dripline	The area directly below the outermost reaches of the branches of a tree.
Dry wilt	As a result of drought stress in turfgrasses, leaves roll and turn a dull purplish color.
Dusts	Formulations made by adding the active ingredient to a fine inert power or talc; generally used dry.
Earth-Kind	An educational program implemented by Texas Cooperative Extension to promote environmental awareness.
Effective soil depth	The vertical distance into the soil from the surface to a layer that essentially stops the downward growth of plant roots.
Embryo	Part of a seed, a miniature plant in an arrested state of development.
Emitters	Small, water-releasing mechanisms used by some drip systems.
Emulsifiable concentrates	In a pesticide, a concentrate formed when the active ingredient is mixed with an oil base; must be diluted with water for application.
Endosperm	Part of a seed that contains a built-in food supply such as proteins, carbohydrates, or fats.
Epidermis	The layer of tough, thickened cells on the top and bottom of the leaf blade.
Fall (Annual) Planting System	System for planting strawberries in which the plants are set in the fall for harvest the following spring.
Fallowing	Leaving the garden fallow (idle).
Fertilization	The union of the male sperm nucleus from the pollen grain and the female egg found in the ovary. Also, the term used when materials containing plant nutrients are supplied to the environment around the plant.
Fibrous root system	Root system in which the primary root ceases to elongate.
Field capacity	The amount of water a soil with hold against gravity when allowed to drain freely.
Fish emulsion	A well-rounded fertilizer, a partially decomposed blend of finely pulverized fish,

Florets	Individual flowers in an inflorescence.
Floricanes	Fruit-producing canes that appear on the blackberry plant the second year.
Flowables	Liquid that can be mixed with water to form a suspension in a spray tank.
Flower	The part of the plant that has sexual reproduction as its sole function; it is generally showy, often attractive with fragrance.
Flower bud	Bud composed of a short stem with embryonic flower parts.
Flower, complete	A flower with stamens, pistils, petals, and sepals.
Flower, imperfect	A flower lacking either of the essential parts for seed producing (functional stamens and pistils).
Flower, incomplete	A flower missing one of the parts of a complete flower.
Flower, perfect	A flower containing functional stamens and pistils.
Foliage	The most common and conspicuous type of leaf; serves as manufacturing centers for photosynthesis.
Foliar absorption	Spraying a dilute solution of nutrients on the leaves of a plant, where they are absorbed.
Foliar feeding.	A nutrient spray for the foliage.
Frass	Droppings consisting of partially digested wood or plant tissue.
Fruit thinning	Removing excess fruit, which is necessary to ensure satisfactory development of the remaining fruit and prevent limb breakage and shortened tree life from overcropping.
Fruit	The fertilized and mature ovules (seeds) and the ovary wall of a plant.
Fruits, simple	Fruits that develop from a single ovary.
Gall	A pronounced localized swelling on roots, stems or branches.
Garden shovel	Hand tool for cultivating consisting of a dish-shaped pointed blade mounted at an angle to a long handle.
Girdling root	Condition that occurs when some of a plants' larger roots coil back around the trunk. Also called *root strangulation*.

Gradual metamorphosis	Metamorphosis consisting of three stages: egg, nymph, and adult.
Grafting	One of the major methods of asexual plant propagation involving joining two plant parts from different varieties.
Granules	Granular formulations made by adding the active ingredient to coarse particles (granules) of inert material, such as fired clay particles.
Gravitational water	Water in the soil that moves in response to gravity, usually under saturated conditions.
Green lacewings	The larvae of these beneficial insects are known as aphid lions and prey on many garden pests including aphids, spider mites, leafhoppers, thrips, moth eggs and small larvae.
Green manures	See *cover crops*.
Groundcovers	Very low growing, spreading vines and shrubs. In a broader sense, can include any material that prevents rain from directly striking the ground and that covers the ground's surface.
Gymnosperms	All conebearing plants.
Hardening	Hardening is the process of altering the quality of plant growth to withstand changes.
Harmony	In landscape design, a pleasing arrangement of the parts.
Head	See *composite inflorescence*.
Heeling in	Digging a shallow trench to put plants in if you are not ready to plant them. Cover with moist soil to protect them until planting.
Helicoid cyme	A cyme in which the lower florets are all on the same side of the peduncle.
Herbaceous perennials	Flowers that live for several years in the landscape; the tops of the plants, the leaves, stems and flowers die back to the ground each fall with the first frost or freeze and new stems grow from the roots each spring.
Hill	Soil configuration for planting certain larger vegetables. Soil is mounded to a foot or so in diameter at the recommended spacing.
Honeydew	A sticky, sugary substance exuded by some sap-sucking insects.

Humus	The portion of organic matter that remains after most decomposition has taken place.
Hygroscopic water	Water held so tightly by individual soil particles that roots cannot extract it (unavailable water).
Hyopcotyl	The portion of the seedling between the radicle and the first leaflike structure.
Hyphae	Fungal strands of which most fungi are composed.
Incomplete fertilizer	A fertilizer that is missing one of the major components: nitrogen, phosphorus or potassium.
Incomplete metamorphosis	Metamorphosis consisting of three stages: egg, naiad and adult.
Inert ingredients	In a pesticide, the added chemicals that make the product easy and safe to formulate or apply.
Infiltration	Process by which water moves into the soil surface.
Inflorescence	A cluster of flowers on a floral stem.
Ingredient	In a pesticide formulation, the chemical that actually kills the pests.
Instar	The stage of life between each molt.
Integrated Pest Management	Program that involves applying pesticide treatments only when and where monitoring shows that pest populations exceed an acceptable level. (IPM)
Intensive gardening	Method of gardening designed to harvest the most produce possible from a given space; uses raised beds.
Internal feeders	Insects that feed within plant tissues during a part or all of their destructive stages.
Internode	The area between nodes on the stem.
Interplanting	Growing two or more types of vegetables in the same place at the same time.
IPM	See *Integrated Pest Management*
Kentucky bluegrass	Cool season rhizomatous perennial turfgrass used mainly in the Panhandle in Texas.
Labeling	All printed information about a pesticide product, including the product label, brochures and flyers from the company or its agent.

Landscape design	Organizing and enriching the outdoor space through the placement of plants and structures in an agreeable and useful relationship with the natural environment.
Landscape horticulture	Horticulture that encompasses landscape design, plant selection, planting and maintenance.
Lateral buds	Buds borne on the sides of the stem.
Lateral root	A side or braches root that arises from another root.
Layering	One of the major methods of asexual plant propagation involving root a part of the parent plant and then severing it.
Leaching	Process to remove salts collecting in or on soil; usually applied to potted plants, leaching is done by pouring a large amount of water on the soil and letting it completely drain.
Leaf axil	The smaller angle formed between the petiole and the stem.
Leaf bud	Bud composed of a short stem with embryonic leaves.
Leaf spot diseases	Diseases that cause considerable damage to both St. Augustine and bermudagrass lawns, causing spots or blotches on leaf blades.
Lesion	A localized spot of diseased tissue.
Light duration	The amount of time a plant is exposed to sunlight.
Light quality	The color or wavelength of light reaching the plant surface.
Light quantity	The intensity or concentration of sunlight that varies with the season of the year.
Limb spreaders	Sharpened metal rods or short pieces of wood with nails in each end that spread limbs of a fruit tree to encourage earlier fruit production and better tree shape.
Living area	See *Private area*.
Loam	A textural class of soils that has moderate amounts of sand, silt and clay
Loamy sand	One of the six principle soil classes in Texas. It contains very low amounts of silt and clay, and does not hold together very well when moist.

Long-day plants	Plants that form flowers only at day lengths exceeding 12 hours.
Manure	A complete fertilizer.
Maturation zone	The part of the root where cells undergo changes to become specific tissues, such as epidermis, cortex or vascular tissue.
Mechanical control devices	Preventive devices for managing insects, such as paper collars for cutworm control, sticky traps and barriers for caterpillars, etc.
Meristem	Internal part of the root, located at the tip, which manufactures new cells.
Mesophyll	The middle layer of the leaf located between the upper and lower epidermis, where photosynthesis occurs.
Metamorphosis	A marked or abrupt change in form or structure of insects.
Mildew	A whitish or grayish coating of fungal strands and spores appearing on a leaf surface infected by the powdery mildew fungus or the downy mildew fungus.
Mineralization	The process of conversion of organic nutrients into plant-available nutrients (inorganic).
Molting	Shedding of the outer skeleton at various growth stages.
Monecious plants	Plants that have separate male and female flowers on the same plant.
Monocotyledons	Plants producing one seed leaf (cotyledon).
Mosaic	Alternate light and dark green areas occurring in leaves. Viruses such as tobacco mosaic cause mosaic patterns in leaves.
Mulch	1. A layer of nonliving material covering the soil surface around plants. 2. Any material spread on the garden to protect root plants from heat, cold, or drought; to reduce problems with weeds; and to keep fruit clean.
Mulching	Placing a layer of organic or inorganic material on top of the soil.
Multiple fruits	Fruits derived from a tight cluster of separate, independent flowers borne on a single structure.
Necrosis	Dead tissue.

Nectarine	A fuzzless mutation of the peach.
Nematodes	Microscopic roundworms possessing a spear-like stylet in their mouthpart for puncturing cells; they are members of the animal kingdom and reproduce by eggs.
Net-veined leaves	Leaves that branch from the main rib or ribs and then subdivide into finer veinlets that unite in a complicated network. Also called *reticulate-veined*.
Nicotine	Botanical insecticide, a tobacco extract that is highly toxic to warm blooded animals. Used primarily for piercing-sucking insects.
Node	An area of the stem where leaves are located.
Nonpathogenic diseases	Conditions that usually occur when a plant interacts with some unfavorable aspect of the environment (environmental stresses, physiological stresses or cultural stresses).
Nonselective pesticides	Pesticides that are nontarget, so beneficial organisms are also sometimes affected.
Normal plant	A plant that functions at its highest level of genetic potential without interference from limiting external forces.
Nosema locustae	A spore (protozoan) used to control grasshoppers.
Nymph	An immature insect.
Opposite leaves	Leaves positioned across the stem from each other, with two leaves at each node.
Organic	As applied to fertilizers, organic means that the nutrients contained in the product are derived solely from the remains (or a by-product) of a once-living organism.
Organic gardening	Gardening based on building the vitality of the soil with the addition of organic matter and natural rock minerals.
Organic matter	In soil, organic matter consists of the remains of plants and animals.
Ovary	In a flower, the part that contains the eggs, which reside in the ovules.
Oxidation	In a plant, the chemical process by which sugars and starches produced by photosynthesis are converted to energy.
Palisade	The dense upper later of the leaf.

Palmate	A type of venation in which the principal veins extend outward from the petiole.
Parallel-veined leaves	Leaves with numerous veins that run essentially parallel to each other and are connected laterally by minute, straight veinlets.
Parasites	Forms of living organisms that live on or in the bodies of other living organisms (the hosts) from which they feed during at least one stage of their existence.
Parthenogenesis	A method of insect reproduction in which fertilization of the egg by sperm is not necessary. An example of insects that can reproduce by parthenogenesis is aphids.
Pathogenic diseases	Plant diseases caused by the interaction of certain pathogens (fungi, bacteria, nematodes, viruses, mycoplasmas, spiroplasmas or rickettsia-like organisms) with a host plant.
Ped	See *aggregates*.
Pedicel	Stalk of a floret.
Peduncle	An elongated flower stem.
Percolation	Process through which water moves downward through the soil.
Perennial plants	Plants that live for may years and typically produce flowers and seeds each year after reaching maturity.
Perennials	Plants that live year after year.
Perfect flowered	Self-fruited grape vines that will also pollinate the pistillate varieties.
Petals	The brightly-colored portions of the flower.
Petiole	The stem-like appendage that supports the leaf away from the stem; it is attached to the stem at the node.
pH	1. Measurement of the acidity or alkalinity. In the case of plants, this is a measurement of the soil. 2. Soil pH is a measurement of the hydrogen (acid forming) ion activity of soil or growth media.
Phloem tubes	The food conducting channels in the stem.
Photosynthesis	Food production in a plant.
Piercing-sucking insects	Insects that take their food by piercing the epidermis (skin) and sucking sap from cells.

Pinnate	A type of venation in which the veins extend laterally from the midrib to the edge.
Pistil	The female part of the plant, generally located in the center of the flower.
Pistillate	Female grape vines that require a pollinator.
Pistillate flowers	Flowers (female) that possess functional pistils but lack stamens.
Pistillate plants	Plants that bear only female flowers.
Plant disease	Any malfunctioning of plant cells or tissues that results from continuous irritation by a pathogen or environmental factor that leads to symptom development.
Plant nutrition	The needs and uses of the basic chemical elements in the plant.
Play area	In landscape design, an area for children to play that is incorporated into the private or living area.
Pollarding	A pruning technique in which trees are pruned back to large diameter branches; follow-up thinning is performed year or two later.
Pollination	The transfer of pollen from an anther to a stigma, by wind or by pollinators.
Pore space	Open space between the solid material in soil.
Precautionary statement	A part of the label that states ways in which the product may be poisonous to people and animals.
Predators	Insects (or other animals) that catch and devour other creatures (the prey).
Pregermination	Sprouting seeds before they are planted in pots or in the garden.
Primocanes	Vegetative growth produced by blackberry plants the first year.
Private area	In landscape design, the area for the family, which may include patios, decks or porches. Also called *living area*.
Properties of a soil	Those characteristics that can be seen with the eye or felt between the thumb and the fingers; they include texture, structure, drainage and depth.
Public area	In landscape design, the area seen by the passerby.
Pyrethrum	Botanical insecticide derived from the flowers of a chrysanthemum.

Raceme	An inflorescence in which the florets are borne on small stems attached to the peduncle.
Racemose inflorescence	Arrangement of flowers on a floral stem in which the individual flowers bloom from the bottom of the stem and progress toward the top.
Radicle	The first part of the seedling to emerge from the seed, which will develop into the primary root.
Relative humidity	The ratio of water in the air divided by the water air could hold, at constant temperature and pressure.
Repetition	In landscape design, the subtle repetition of design elements.
Respiration	Controlled oxidation in a living cell.
Restricted use pesticide	A pesticide that can damage the environment even when applied as directed.
Rhizome	1. A specialized stem which grows underground horizontally and acts as a storage organ and means of propagation in some plants. 2. Thickened stem that grows horizontally below the soil surface and that sends stems above ground at intervals.
Rhythm	In landscape design, rhythm is the repetition of elements which directs the eye through the design.
Root cap	The outermost tip of the root that consists of cells that are sloughed off as the root grows.
Root hairs	Hairs found along the main root; they perform much of the actual water-nutrient absorption.
Root, primary	A root originating at the lower end of a seedling plant.
Rosulate	A type of leaf arrangement around the stem in which the basal leaves form a rosette around the stem with extremely short nodes.
Rot	Decayed or decaying tissue caused by microorganism activity.
Rotenone	Botanical insecticide extracted from the roots of derris plants in Asia and cube plants in South America. Slow acting general garden insecticide is harmless to plants. Acts as both a contact and stomach poison for insects.
Runner	A specialized stem which forms a new plant at one or more of its nodes.

Ryegrass	Cool season turfgrass available in perennial and annual forms; suited for temporary cool-season turfgrasses throughout Texas. Ryegrass spreads by tillers.
Sabadilla	Botanical insecticide obtained from the seeds of a lily-like plant, acts as both a contact and stomach poison for insects and is not particularly toxic for mammals. Causes irritation to the eyes and respiratory tract.
Sand	The coarser mineral particles of soil.
Sandy loam	One of the six principle soil classes in Texas. Contains some silt and a small amount of clay.
Scale leaves	Leaves found on rhizomes; also the small leathery protective leaves that enclose and protect the bud.
Scale	In landscape design, refers to the proportion between two sets of dimensions.
Scion	The portion of the cultivar that is to be propagated.
Scorpiod cyme	A cyme in which the florets are opposite each other along the peduncle.
Secondary root	See *lateral root.*
Seed coat	Hard outer covering of the seed.
Seed leaves	Modified leaves found on the embryonic plant and which commonly serve as storage organs. Also called *cotyledons*.
Seed scarification	Breaking, scratching or softening the seed coat so that water can enter and germination can begin.
Seed stratification	Simulating winter by giving seeds an artificial cold period.
Seeds	In a plant, the mature ovules.
Semidwarf trees	In apple growing, trees propagated on one of the clonal (vegetatively-propagated) rootstocks that produce trees about three-quarters the size of standard trees, if both are grown under similar circumstances.
Sepals	Small, green leaf-like structures of the base of the flower that protect the flower.
Service area	In landscape design, a storage and work area that provides a place for garbage, garden tools, supplies, and so forth. It may be screened off from the other areas.

Sewer sludge	A recycled byproduct of municipal sewage treatment plants. Available in activated or composted forms.
Sexual propagation	The union of pollen from the male with the egg from the female in order to produce a seed.
Sexual reproductive parts	Parts of the plant involved in seed reproduction.
Shoot	A young stem with leaves present. Compare *twig*.
Short day plants	Plants that form their flowers only when the day length is less than about 12 hours in duration.
Shrubs	Perennial woody plants that may have one or several main stems, which at maturity are usually less than 12 feet tall.
Shrubs	Woody plants that remain quite low and produce shoots or stems from the base with usually more than a single trunk (height of 15 feet or less).
Side dressing	Applying dry fertilizer as a side dressing after the plants are up and growing by scattering fertilizer on both sides of the row 6 to 8 inches from the plants.
Silt	Relatively fine soil particles that feel smooth and floury; feels smooth but not slick or sticky when wet.
Silty clay loam	One of the six principle soil classes in Texas. Noticeable amounts of both silt and clay are present, but silt is still a dominant part of the soil.
Simple leaf	Leaf in which the leaf blade is a single continuous unit.
Simplicity	In landscape design, avoiding clutter and creating open spaces.
Soil amendment	Any addition to the soil that improves its physical or chemical condition.
Soil depth, deep	Soil extends 36 to 60 inches to a layer that retards root development.
Soil depth, moderately deep	Soil extends 20 to 36 inches to a layer that retards root development.
Soil depth, shallow	Soil extends 10 to 20 inches to a layer that retards root development.
Soil depth, very deep	Soil extends 60 inches or more to a layer that retards root development.

Soil depth, very shallow	Soil extends less than 10 inches to a layer that retards root development.
Soil drainage	The rate and extent of water movement in the soil, across the surface as well as downward through the soil.
Soil horizon, A	The mineral soil horizon, mixed with humus and dark colored.
Soil horizon, B	Horizon of alluviation (materials have been transported into this horizon) of silicate clays, iron and aluminum oxide, etc.
Soil horizon, C	Horizon of unconsolidated, unweathered geologic material (parent material).
Soil horizon, E	Horizon of eluviation of silicate clays, iron and aluminum oxide.
Soil horizon, O	The O horizon is organic, slightly to highly decomposed; typical in lawns, gardens and flower beds.
Soil horizon, R	Consolidated, unweathered geologic material that cannot be dug with a shovel when moist (parent material).
Soil microorganisms	Microscopic plants and animals living in the soil.
Soil moisture tension	A measurement of the energy or the force in which water is held by the soil and is expressed by units of pressure.
Soil solarization	Heat treating the soil by laying clear plastic mulch over the garden in July or August for one month.
Solitary flowers	One flower per stem. Compare *inflorescence*.
Soluble powders	Formulations made by combining an active ingredient with a fine powder; will dissolve and form true suspensions when mixed with water.
Solution	Premixed, ready to use formulation.
Space dividers	In landscape design, space dividers define spaces and create privacy.
Spike	An inflorescence in which many stemless florets are attached to an elongated flower stem or peduncle.
Spines	Specialized modified leaves that protect the plant.
Spongy parenchyma layer	The lower layer of cells in a leaf.

Spring (Biennial) Planting System	System for planting strawberries in which the plants are set one spring and the strawberries harvested the following spring.
Spur	A compressed fruiting branch arising from the main stem.
Spur-type strains	In apple growing, strains with fruit spurs and leaf buds more closely spaced than on non-spur trees.
St. Augustine decline (SAD)	Virus disease that uses chlorotic mottling of the leaf blade and a general decline in lawn vigor.
St. Augustinegrass	Warm season turfgrass native to the West Indies and the Texas Gulf Coast, widely grown in humid areas and has outstanding shade tolerance.
Staking	Supporting tall growing annuals by stakes large enough to hold the plants upright but not so large as to be conspicuous.
Stamen	Male reproductive organ of a plant.
Staminate flowers	Flowers (male) that contain stamens but no pistils.
Staminate plants	Plants that bear only male flowers.
Standard trees	In apple growing, trees that are propagated on seedling rootstock and produce large trees that can grow to 30 feet tall.
Starter solution	A liquid fertilizer high in phosphorus as a starter solution.
Stems	Structures that support buds and leaves and serve as conduits for carrying water.
Stigma	In a flower, the part located at the top of the pistil and connected by the style to the ovary.
Stolon	1. A horizontal stem that is fleshy or semi-woody and lies along the top of the ground. 2. Above ground lateral stem.
Stone fruit	Fruit such as peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines and almonds.
Storage leaves	Leaves found in bulbous plants and succulents that serve as food and storage organs.
Strain	Mutation of a variety that has been selected and propagated for an improved characteristic.
Stunting	Reduced plant size caused by the action of pathogenic organisms.

Style	In a flower, the part of the pistil that connects the stigma to the ovary.
Subterranean Insects	Insects that attack plants below the surface of the soil.
Surface features of a soil	Features such as stoniness, slope and erosion.
Surfactant	A substance that, when added to a pesticide, reduces the surface tension between two unlike materials to help give ideal coverage.
Symptoms	The plant's response to infection.
Take-all Patch	A serious fungus disease of St. Augustinegrass. Can also cause problems on bermudagrass.
Tall fescue	Cool-season or northern turfgrass, which can tolerate southern summers and be used as a permanent lawn. It is a bunch grass and spreads by tillers and is shade tolerant.
Taproot	A root formed when the primary root continues to reach downward into the soil and becomes the central and most important feature of the root system.
Tendrils	Specialized leaves that assist in supporting the stems.
Terminal buds	Buds located at the apex of a stem.
Texture	In a soil, the relative amounts of differently-sized soil particles, or the fineness or coarseness of the mineral particles in the soil.
Thermoperiod	A daily temperature change.
Thinning	A means to reduce the size of a tree by cutting unwanted branches back to their point of origin.
Tillering	Method of vegetative reproduction whereby a new plant is produced at the base of the original plant.
Topping	The process whereby a tree is cut back to a few large branches.
Transpiration	The process by which a plant loses water primarily from leaf stomata.
Trap crops	Crops that trap insects, such as 'Elbon' cereal ryegrass to trap nematodes.

Trees	1. Perennial woody plants with one or several main trunks, which at maturity are usually more than 12 feet tall. 2. Woody plants that produce one main trunk and a more or less distinct and elevated head (height of 15 feet or more).
Trench composting	Digging trenches so that leaves can decompose in the place where the organic matter is needed.
Trichogramma wasp	Tiny wasps that attack the eggs of more than 200 pest species.
Trunk	A main stem of a woody plant.
Tuber	An enlarged portion of an underground stem that stores food. It differs from the true bulb or corm in that it has no covering of dry leaves and no basal plant from which roots grow.
Tuberous root	The only bulb form that is a true root.
Turfgrass	Grass with the ability to stand low, frequent mowing. Used in home lawns.
Turgor pressure	Water pressure in a plant.
Twig	A stem that is one year old or less and has no leaves. Compare *shoot*.
Umbel	A type of inflorescence in which the pedicels all arise from one point on the peduncle.
Unity	In landscape design, grouping or arranging different parts of the design to appear as a single unit.
Vaporization	The evaporation of an active ingredient during or after application.
Vegetative	The parts of the plant that are not directly involved in reproduction.
Venation	Patterns in which the veins of a leaf are distributed in the blade.
Vertical gardening	Use of trellises, nets, strings, cages or poles to support growing plants.
Vine	1. A plant that develops long trailing stems, which either grow along the ground or must be supported by another plant or structure. 2. Woody or semi-woody climbing or trailing plant.
Viruses	Pathogens that are too small to be seen by the human eye. They multiply only inside living plant cells.

W.I.N.	Water insoluble nitrogen. Sometimes referred to as slow release nitrogen.
W.S.N.	Water soluble nitrogen. Dissolves readily and is usually in a very simple form.
Warm season grass	Turfgrass with optimum or ideal growing temperatures that range from 80 degrees to 95 degrees F.
Watersprouts	Vigorous upright shoots.
Wet wilt	Results when water is applied too frequently to turfgrass, soil becomes saturated, and the movement of oxygen into the soil and carbon dioxide out of the soil stops.
Wettable powders	Formulation made by combining the active ingredient with a fine powder; made to mix with water.
Woody perennials	Plants in which the top persists, as in shrubs or trees. Compare with *herbaceous perennials*.
Xeriscape	A comprehensive approach to landscaping for water conservation.
Xylem tubes	The water and mineral conducting channels in the stem.
Zone of elongation	An internal part of the root behind the meristem where cells increase in size through food and water absorption.
Zoysiagrass	A turfgrass native to the Orient that is not as shade tolerant as St. Augustine, but is wear-resistant and more cold tolerant than bermudagrass. Spreads by both rhizomes and stolens.