



# J&L Garden Center

*The All Season Gift  
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## Gardening Quiz

There is a language barrier to overcome when you become a gardener. Someone tells you to: "add two to four pounds of 5-10-5 per one hundred square feet." You nod knowingly - even though you have no idea what they they said. If someone talks about "crowns", you think they are talking about British royalty. If "nipping" is suggested, you can't wait to get to the bar. If you are having trouble with backyard jargon, take this test to learn where you stand.

### 1. The definition of 'annual' is:

- When many people balance their checkbooks.
- A plant that flowers within a year then dies, like some modern romances.

### 2. Axil is:

- What broke when you overloaded the wheelbarrow.
- Someone who behaves as though sick, as in 'Fred Axil'.
- The angle between the leaf stalk and stem.

### 3. The best method of eliminating garden pests is:

- Employing a large bouncer.
- Moving to a new address.
- Using traps, lures, preventative planing, and, in moderation, dusting or spraying insecticides.

### 4. Tendril is:

- From an Elvis tune. 'Love me Tendril'.
- From a famous novel, 'Tendril is the Night'.
- A twining appendage used for support by some climbing plants.

### 5. Bicolored is:

- What you should do if you can't decide between purchasing plain or patterned toilet tissue.
- How to describe the back of you neck after bending over in the garden for an hour in the noonday sun.
- Having; two colors on the same petal.

**6. True or false?** Lily of the Valley is a California girl who like, you know, uh, grows wicked. awesome flowers and thinks weeds are grody.

### 7. When trimming roses you should always:

- make an advance deposit in the blood bank.
- Hire a neighborhood kid you don't like.
- Wear stout gloves and body armor.

### 6. A Bud is:

- A regular guy.
- A regular beer.
- A small swelling on a plant from which a leaf or flower grows.

### 8. A rake is defined as:

- Someone you won't attract smelling of Ben-gay.
- A garden tool with a long handle and teeth at the end,

good for administering a concussion.

### 10. Evergreen is:

- The color of your eyes when you gaze upon someone else's prize dahlia.
- The condition of the hardware store owner's wallet.
- Having green foliage throughout the year.

**11. Use the word 'Anemone' in a sentence**, as in: 'He never had anemone in the world.'

### 12. A Dutch Hoe is:

- What Santa says, in triplicate in Holland.
- A cultivating toe with a long handle and a flat blade.

### 13. Grafting is:

- What politicians do when they run short of cash.
- Cultural payoffs, know as arts and grafts.
- Plant propogation using lengths of stems.

### 14. Hybrid is:

- Opposite of 'lobrid'.
- How brids greet each other
- The plant that results from the crossing of two distinctly different species.

**15. True or false?** Europe's is an embarrassing social problem afflicting gardeners.

### 16. Aster is defined as:

- What the groom did when he proposed to the bride.
- The last name of the famous rich guy John Jacob. A white, purple or pink daisy-like flower.

### 17. Humus is defined as:

- Amusing or funny.
- When the air is moist and muggy and you wake up covered with mildew.
- Well-rotted organic matter.

**18. True or False?** Aloe is a friendly greeting exchanged by neighborhood gardeners.

### 19. An automatic sprinkler system Is good for:

- Ruining your shoes.
- Scaring the cats.
- Surprising unwanted guests.
- Maintaining moisture even if you're no' the hose.
- All of the above.

20. Oregano is defined as:
- A spice commonly found in Italian cooking.
  - The Italian equivalent of Japanese paper-folding art.
  - What you say if someone asks you to move to Portland.
21. A deadhead:
- Perfectly describes your last date.
  - Perfectly describes your last boss.
  - Perfectly describes the last crumbled bits of a blossom
22. Leaflets are:
- Things with which you're inundated during an election.
  - The extra section of a tiny dining table.
  - Each segment of a compound leaf.
23. True or false? The word 'phlox' alludes to a biblical passage in which shepherds abiding in the field were keeping watch by night.
24. Edging is:
- How you leave the room after committing a 'faux pas'.
  - What Cockneys do with their bets.
  - What you do around the flowerbeds to lend an air of formality while keeping grass at bay.
25. An aphid is:
- The phid that comes before the b-phid.
  - Someone who is intense, as in "Harry's an aphid golfer".
  - An insect that attacks plants.
26. When applying natural fertilizer you should:
- Make sure the cow is done with it.
  - Never stand downwind.
  - Postpone spreading it until after your formal garden party.
27. When buying plants the most important thing is:
- Your available space.
  - Your available credit.
  - The availability of someone else to tend them.
26. Mosses:
- The man who parted the Red Sea.
  - The plural of Moose.
  - Small green bryophytes that form a dense matlike growth.
29. When staking you should always:
- Make sure your guest, in the black cape, is really a vampire.
  - Make sure the gas grill is turned on.
  - Make sure someone else holds the stick while you wield the hammer.
30. The most important thing about your tools is:
- Remembering whom you loaned them to.
  - Remembering whom you borrowed them from.
  - Remembering in the spring where you left them in the fall.
31. Picket is:
- An unhappy laborer carrying a sign and refusing to work.
  - What you long to do to another gardener's prize rose.
  - A lethal type of decorative fencing.
32. True or false? Gypsy moths are itinerant insects traveling the country in caravans, playing mandolins, offering to mend your pots and pans, and tell your fortune.

33. Marigold Is:
- To wed a mining heir.
  - Cheerful bullion.
  - Popular annual that comes in yellow and orange colors.
34. True or False? 'Begonia!' is what an angry Irishman says when he dismisses you.
35. Hosta Is:
- A belligerent attitude.
  - A missing labor leader named Jimmy.
  - A lush perennial with abundant green foliage and tiny lavender blossoms atop tall, erect stems.
36. Cosmos:
- The place where Carl Sagan sees billions and billions of stars.
  - A collection of Helen Gurley Brown's magazines.
  - A daisy-like annual.
37. True or false? Coreopsis is a medical procedure for removing the center of an apple.
38. Poplar is:
- What you never were in high school.
  - The father of the famous actor Bert Lahr.
  - A slender tree with triangular leaves and light-colored wood.
39. True or false? Wildflowers are plants that like to dress up in leather jackets, ride motor cycles and hang around with a bad crowd.
40. True or false? Catalogue describes two things you'll find by the fireplace on a cold winter night.
41. True or false? Crown Vetch is the act of bringing the queen her formal hat.
42. Use the word "weed" in a sentence, such as: 'We'd like to stay to dinner but this is Harry's bowling night.'
43. True or false? Wisteria is the condition you're in after completing spring planting... and after finishing this test.

These questions are from the Complete Gardening quiz by Martha Saith. This article was published in