

Pi Alpha Xi
The National Honor Society
for Horticulture

**LOOKING FORWARD TO
OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY!
1923-2023**

*For more information, contact President, Mark Bridgen
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Pi Alpha Xi



MISSION:

- To foster good fellowship between students, educators, and professional horticulturists.
- To promote scholarship, fellowship, professional leadership and the enrichment of human life through plants.

ACTIVITIES:

- Annual national Photography Contest
- Scholarships for student members
- PAX Honor Cords for commencement to recognize scholastic excellence
- Individual chapters have various activities: growing plants, flower sales, banquets, etc.



The Paul Thomas
Pi Alpha Xi
Digital Photo Contest

2022 Results



Perfect Partners

These images represent what the photographer believes to be outstanding plant combinations. These can be container, bed or floral design compositions. The images should show clearly how two plant partners are being used.



Category: Perfect Partners

First Place:

Title: Peaches and Mustard

Caption: Blooming mustard in a peach orchard in May.

Photographer: Renae Moran



Flowers at Night

These images should be floral material in the garden, flowers in silhouette, in a vase, or even a laboratory or greenhouse but clearly in a night-time setting. Flash photography and LED lighting are permitted. Emphasis should be on the beauty of the flower, with minimal attention to the lighting/background. Examples include a moth visiting a flower at night, or a time exposure of a garden on a moonlit night.



Category: Flowers at Night

First Place

Title: Fire and Ice

Caption: *Hamamelis x intermedia* 'Jelena' blooms on a snowy night.

Photographer: John Nix



Garden Visitors

These images should include gardens, landscapes or plants sharing their space with people or insects. Examples include insects and pollinators, people or pets, or wildlife in the garden. Images that include people must include a model release form.



Category: Garden Visitors

Third Place

Title: Smooth Coneflower
and Guest

Caption: Federally
endangered *Echinacea*
laevigata with pollinator.
Picture Creek, Butner, North
Carolina.

Photographer: Owen
Washam





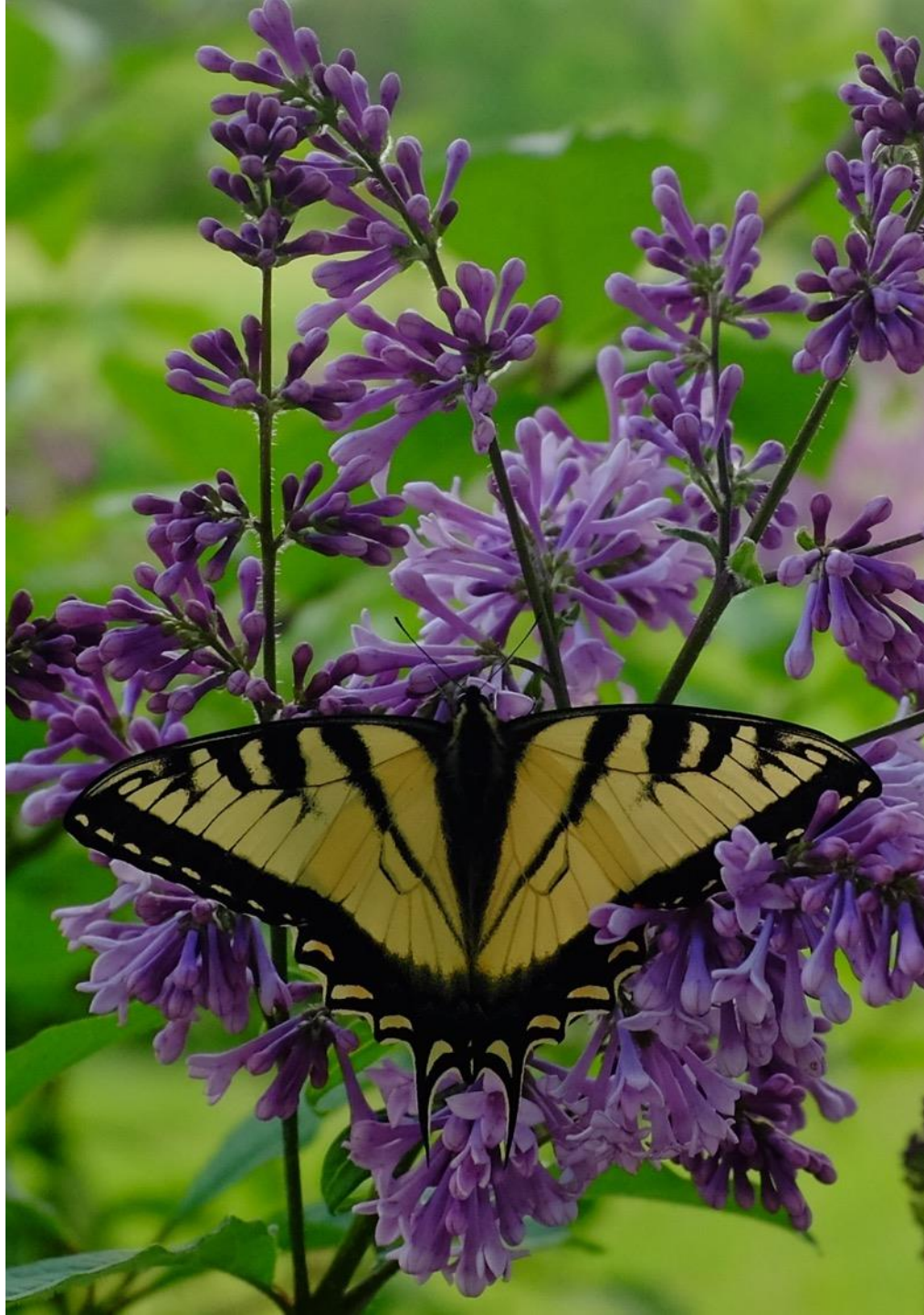
Category: Garden Visitors

Second Place

Title: Beauty Attracts Beauty

Caption: A tiger swallowtail butterfly visiting a lilac bloom.

Photographer: Renae Moran





Category: Garden Visitors

First Place

Title: Thanks for Visiting!

Caption: A honeybee departing from a prune (dried plum) tree flower during the narrow pollination window

Photographer: Luke Milliron



Flowering Plants with Attitude

We've all seen pansies growing out of sidewalk cracks, or native flowers growing on rock surfaces. This category is for any horticultural plant growing in an audacious, amazing or inconceivable way. Examples include extremely large plant specimens, huge colonies or a lone survivor clinging to life in some inhospitable place.



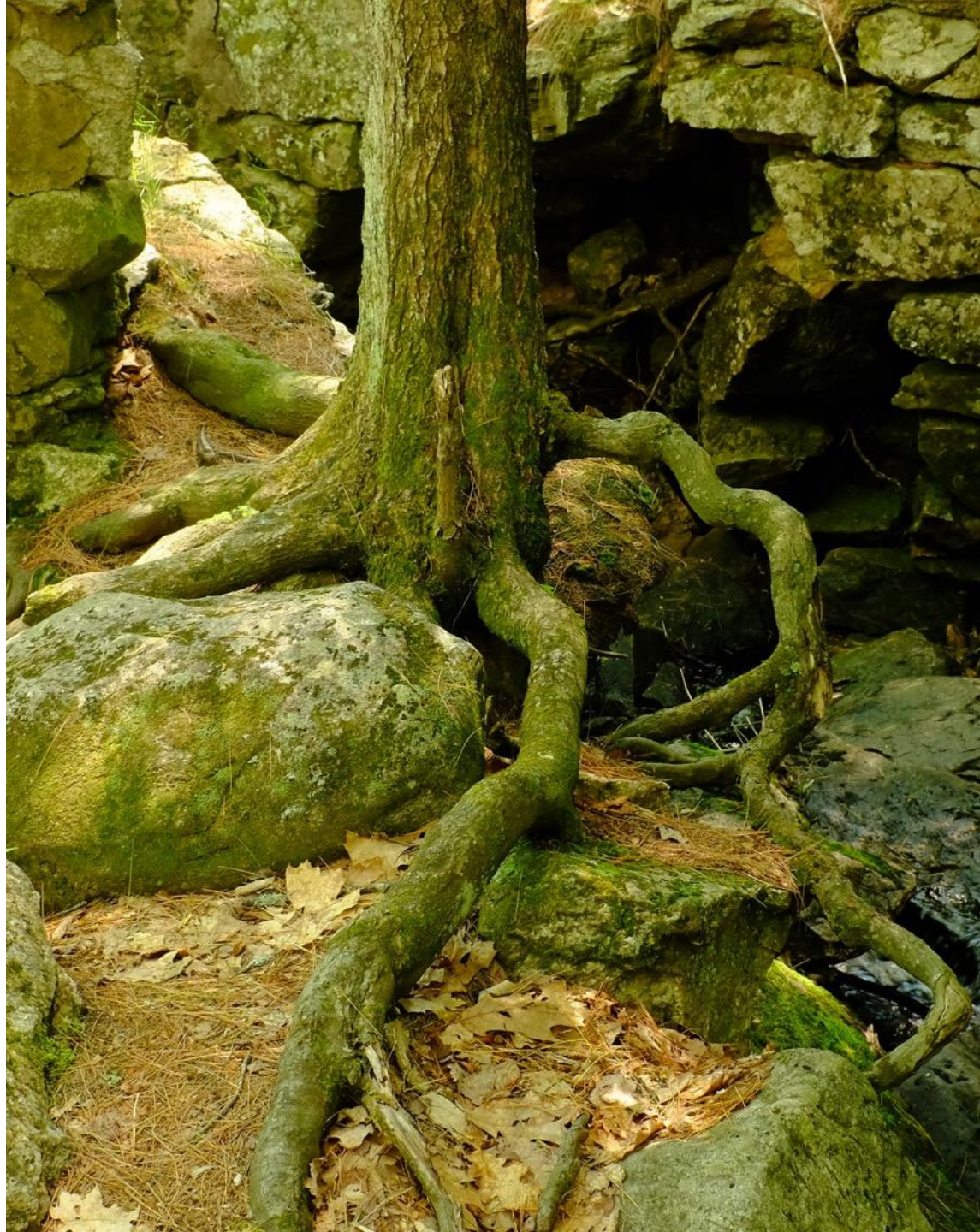
Category: Flowering Plants
with Attitude

Second Place

Title: Hanging on By the
Roots

Caption: Tree roots surround
the rocky edge of a stream at
Screw Auger Gorge in Newry,
Maine.

Photographer: Renae Moran





Category: Flowering Plants
with Attitude

First Place:

Title: Purple Paradise

Caption: Picture taken at the
Texas Tech Greenhouse &
Horticultural Gardens

Photographer: Emily Stamm



Serendipity

Sometimes the perfect photography is by chance. This category is for that random shot that was unplanned but exemplifies horticulture.



Category: Serendipity

Third Place

Title: Morning Raindrops

Caption: Raindrops coalesce on a Siberian iris.

Photographer: Renae Moran





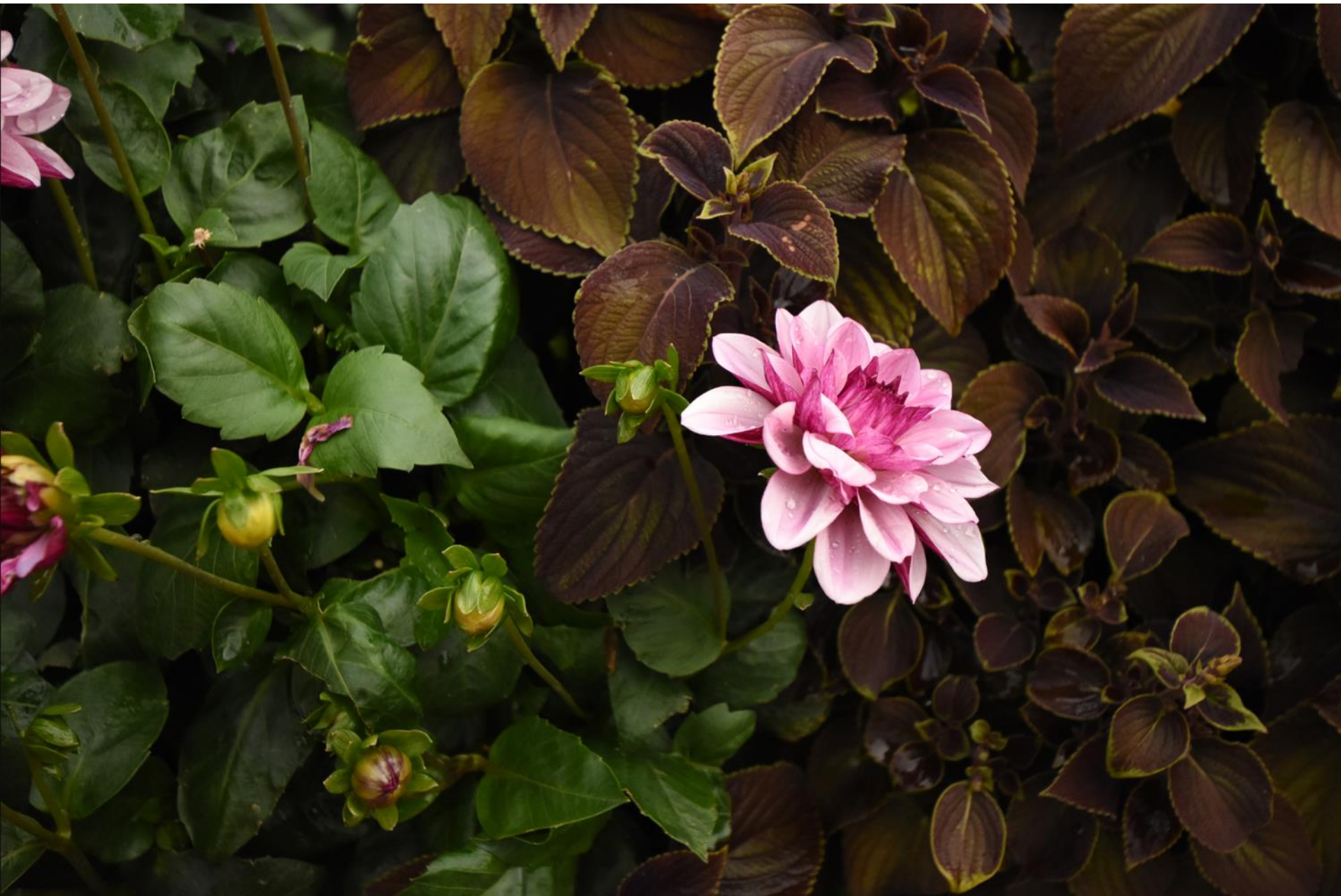
Category: Serendipity

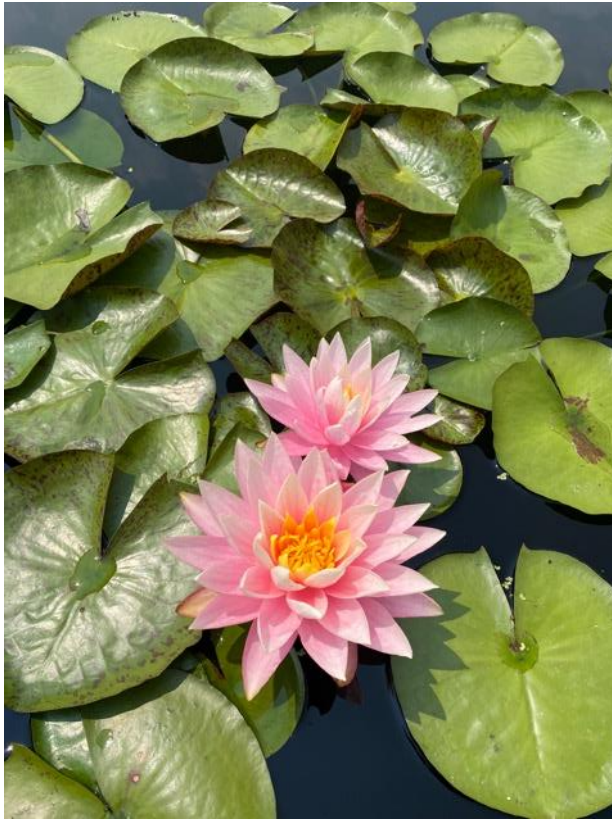
Second Place

Title: Why We Garden

Caption: This image is of a summer annual flower bed in Logan, Utah just prior to being prepared for planting bulbs in the fall.

Photographer: Larry Rupp





Category: Serendipity

First Place

Title: Picture Perfect

Caption: Life is better when surrounded by flowers!

Photographer: Kathi Shivani



Horticulture in Production

The images in this category represent the core of academic horticulture in action. These images can be from farms, greenhouses, or research plots such as might be used in classroom or extension presentations.



Category: Horticulture in Production

Third Place

Title: Tomato Seedling Protected

Caption: As we protect newborns against disease when they get their first vaccine, tomato seedlings also become protected using safeners

Photographer: Tabata Oliveira



Category: Horticulture in Production

Second Place

Title: Herbicide Testing 'Curry Up'



Caption: Walters Gardens, Zeeland, MI field beds of *Coreopsis verticillata* 'Curry Up' (center) and *Coreopsis verticillata* 'Red Hot Vanilla' (left - finishing flowering) on Aug. 16, 2018. Granular herbicides were applied over-the-top (OTT) of actively growing plants on July 18, 2018. Results indicated there was no phytotoxicity with one of six treatments evaluated. Freehand 1.75G (BASF Corp., Research Triangle Park, NC) and excellent efficacy at 11 weeks after treatment (WAT). There were four replicates, and 18 subsamples per replicate, or 72 plants per treatment, per species. The herbicide treatments were conducted across the field, covering a large area and eleven genera of herbaceous perennials in 2018. The trial spanned to the far right of the photo as far as the *Kniphofia pyromania*[™] series 'Orange Blaze' shown in the far background

Photographer: Hannah Mathers





Category: Horticulture in Production

First Place

Title: *Salvia indica*

Caption: *Salvia indica* is a member of the largest and most diverse genus in the Lamiaceae. Its stunning flowers with lavender upper lip and tricolored lower lip attract bees and butterflies to the garden.

Photographer: Rebekah Maynard



Photomicrography

Many horticulturists spend hours over a microscope. Here is an opportunity to capture the small world. Photomicrographs must be taken using a light microscope, including fluorescence microscopy. Examples include plant structural details in whole or sectioned material, plant surfaces, pollination or plant interactions with the biotic environment. Electron microscopes that do not capture imagery using optical light technology are not permitted.



Category: Photomicrography

First Place

Title: Selaginella Lights

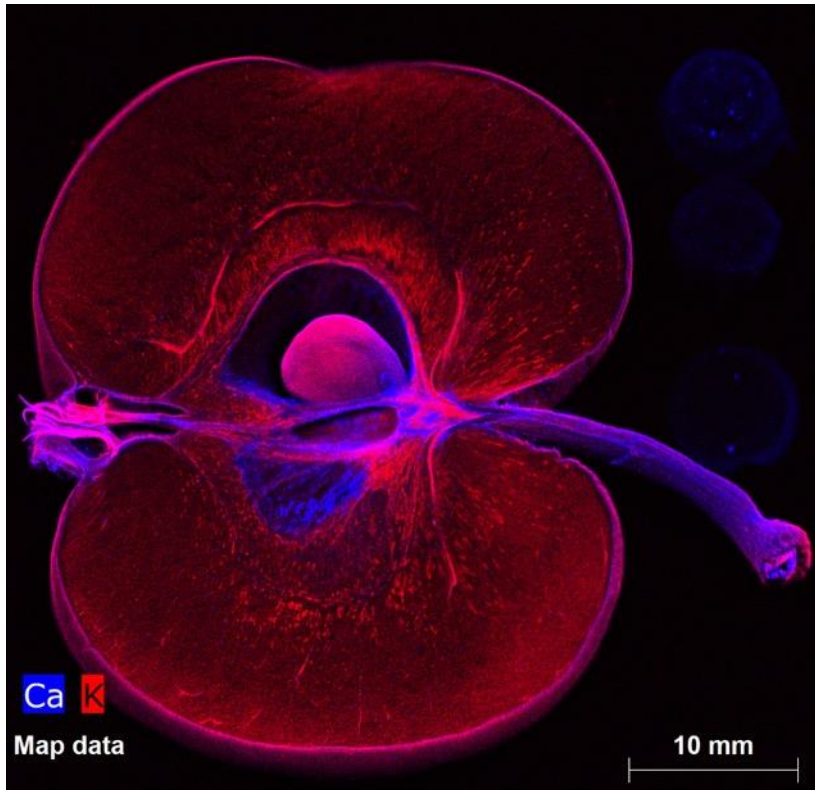
Caption: The mesmerizing blue *Selaginella willdenowii* under magnification

Photographer: John Nix



Altered Images

Photographs manipulated for artistic purposes by applying digital and/or traditional special effects (i.e., stacking, colorizing, toning, collage, photo composites, HDR, etc.). Please provide a brief description of the steps used to create the image for others to learn new techniques.



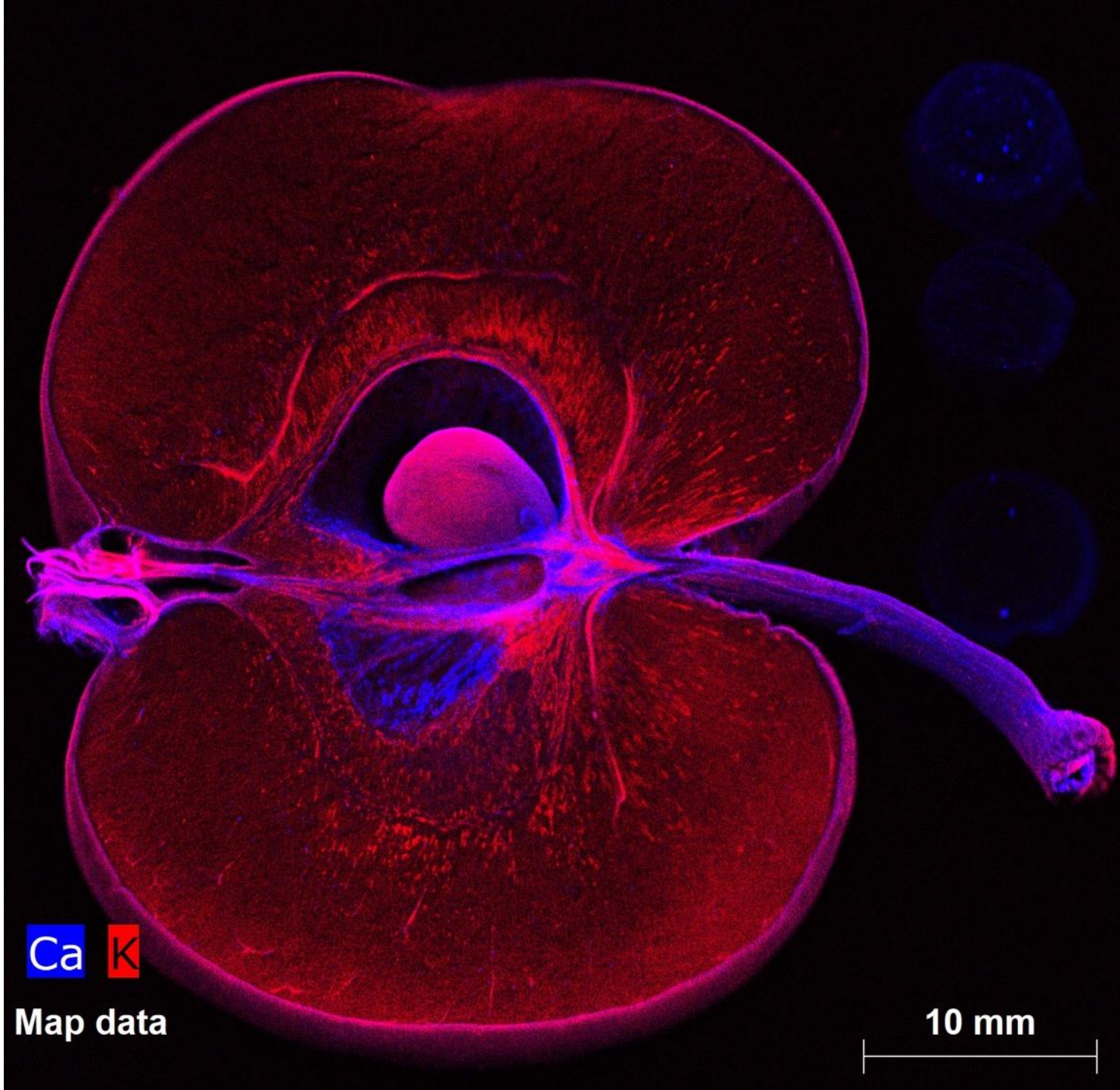
Category: Altered Images

First Place

Title: Painting an Apple with Calcium and Potassium

Caption: X-ray fluorescence of an apple half reveals the uneven distribution in the minerals calcium (Ca, blue) and potassium (K, red) in the apple flesh, skin, stem and seeds.

Photographer: Randolph Beaudry



Best in Show



Category: Garden Visitors

Title: Thanks for Visiting!

Caption: A honeybee departing from a prune (dried plum) tree flower during the narrow pollination window

Photographer: Luke Milliron

Thank you all for your photo submissions!

- We'll see you next year in Orlando!
- Please consider entering your favorite photos in the 2023 Paul Thomas Pi Alpha Xi Photography Contest!
- Pi Alpha Xi will be celebrating it's 100th Anniversary next year ~ let's celebrate with our photos!

