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January 15, 2007

Media Contact: Heather Stammer, R-West
heathers@r-west.com / 503-223-5443

**PORTLAND'S 2008 YARD, GARDEN & PATIO SHOW FEATURES MORE THAN 30 SPEAKERS,
INCLUDING STEVE LORTON, MICHAEL WEISHAN, LUCY HARDIMAN AND JEFF LOWENFELS**

*Soak up Gardening Knowledge at 65+ Hours of FREE Seminars
February 15 – 17 at the Oregon Convention Center*

Portland, Ore. – Featuring more than 65 hours of free seminars and demonstrations, the 2008 Yard, Garden & Patio Show (www.ygpshow.com) presented by ProGrass is Friday, February 15 through Sunday, February 17 at the Oregon Convention Center. Marking its 21st anniversary, this annual consumer gardening event brings new, innovative ideas and products to Portlanders. The Yard, Garden & Patio Show is the only garden and outdoor living event produced by local growers and gardening experts.

Soak up gardening knowledge from more than 30 leading national and Pacific Northwest gardening experts at the show's free educational seminars, presented by Monrovia (www.monrovia.com). Featured speakers include:

- **Steve Lorton**, most recently the northwest bureau chief of "Sunset Magazine", will share stories from his 33-year odyssey into gardens around the world in seminar, 'My Life in Other People's Gardens.' Steve will also share ideas for creating eye-popping containers that take art to a new level in his 'Fearless Gardening with Containers' seminar.
- **Michael Weishan**, author of books including "The New Traditional Garden" and "From a Victorian Garden" and former host of PBS's "The Victory Garden", will lead a presentation on 'Rethinking the American Backyard.'
- **Lucy Hardiman**, renowned garden designer and writer, will share her expertise on 'Designing the Four Seasons Garden.'
- **Jeff Lowenfels**, a national garden writer and author of "Teaming with Microbes: A Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web." Jeff's fun-filled, entertaining one-hour presentation will cover how the Redwoods got to be 380 feet tall without fertilizers and how they have lived for 500 years without any chemical fungicides or pesticides. He'll explain the science behind organic gardening and easy ways to apply this same science at home.

Whether an avid or beginner gardener, the show's free seminars cover a diverse range of topics from sustainable gardening to edible plants gardening to small space gardening to entertainment and lifestyle gardening:

- **Sustainable Gardening Seminars:** For anyone currently practicing sustainable gardening or interested in transitioning to a sustainable home garden. Water conservation, soil development, organic maintenance and working with nature to make a garden the best it can be are just some of these topics.

- **Edible Plants Seminars:** From vegetables and fruits to herbs this series includes a wide variety of gardening techniques and tips to help bring your garden into your kitchen. Creating a design to incorporate edible plants is easier than you may think!
- **Small Space Gardening Seminars:** Don't have the space or time to maintain a large yard and garden? No need! For anyone with a small balcony garden or someone just looking to add something small to their backyard. Maximizing color, design and impact in a small space is just a container or two away.
- **Entertainment and Lifestyle Gardening Seminars:** Gardens are not just something beautiful to look at anymore. They are an extension of homes and a space meant to be enjoyed with friends, family and four legged friends! Learn how to exercise, relax or plan the perfect party and create a personalized outdoor oasis.

Log onto www.ygpshow.com/seminars.shtml for a complete schedule and detailed information about all of the shows free educational seminars and dynamic line-up of speakers.

About the Yard, Garden & Patio Show

- **What:** Experience the 'Evolution of Gardening' at the 2008 Yard, Garden & Patio Show – Portland's only garden and outdoor living show produced by local growers, retailers, landscapers and suppliers.
- **When:** Friday, February 15 and Saturday, February 16 from 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Sunday, February 17 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- **Where:** The Oregon Convention Center located at 777 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Portland.
- **Admission:** \$11 for adults and free for kids 12 and younger accompanied by a paying adult. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the show door. Advance ticket purchase information will be available in the coming weeks.
- **For more information:** Call 800-342-6401 or go to www.ygpshow.com.

About Oregon Association of Nurseries

The Oregon Association of Nurseries, based in Wilsonville, represents more than 1,600 wholesale growers, retailers, landscapers and suppliers. Oregon's ornamental horticulture industry is the state's largest agricultural commodity, with annual sales of more than \$875 million. For information visit <http://www.oan.org/> or call 503-682-5089.

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