F.M. Mooberry

The Brandywine Conservancy's Wildflower and Native Plant Gardens were designed by F M Mooberry to show indigenous and naturalized plants of the Brandywine region in a naturalistic setting.

Designed by horticulturist FM Mooberry and begun in 1974

As his wife FM”s love of horticulture grew, so did Dave”s support and encouragement. Not only did FM found the Native Plant and Landscape Conference in 1990, she discovered a plant in 2002 and it was selected as Perennial Plant of the Year by the Perennial Plant Association. In her husband”s honor, FM named the plant Phlox p. ?David.” And recently, an Eastern species of foam flower was named F.M: the Tiarella Cordifolia FM Mooberry.”

Phlox 'David' is an offspring of native Phlox paniculata plants rescued and preserved in the 1980s by volunteers at the Brandywine Conservancy, near Philadelphia. These volunteers acting under the able leadership of F.M. Mooberry, established Phlox paniculata plants in a bed at the Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania (part of the Brandywine Conservancy). These phlox were grown from open pollinated seed collected in the Brandywine Valley's natural areas. They may well be the descendants of the phlox that John Bartram sent to England in the 1730s. On an August day in 1987, Richard Simon of Bluemount Nurseries, Monkton, Maryland and F.M. Mooberry (Horticultural Coordinator for The Brandywine Conservancy) inspected the Phlox paniculata collection. During this visit Mr. Simon suggested that a white fragrant form should be introduced because of its clean foliage with little trace of powdery mildew. Mrs. Mooberry selected the name of David, after her husband, David Mooberry.

History

*Phlox'David'* is an offspring of native *Phlox paniculata* plants rescued and preserved in the 1980s by volunteers at the Brandywine Conservancy, near Philadelphia. These volunteers acting under the able leadership of F.M. Mooberry, established *Phlox paniculata* plants in a bed at the Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania (part of the Brandywine Conservancy). These phlox were grown from open pollinated seed collected in the Brandywine Valley's natural areas. They may well be the descendants of the phlox that John Bartram sent to England in the 1730s. On an August day in 1987, Richard Simon of Bluemount Nurseries, Monkton, Maryland and F.M. Mooberry (Horticultural Coordinator for The Brandywine Conservancy) inspected the *Phlox paniculata* collection. During this visit Mr. Simon suggested that a white fragrant form should be introduced
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'David' was the 2002 Perennial Plant of the Year, an award given by the Perennial Plant Association for plants best for growers to mass produce

Tiarella cordifolia 'FM Mooberry'

Tiarella cordifolia is the eastern species of foam flower. This is actually a unique and hardy new introduction by famed plants-man Sinclair A. Adam, Jr. of Dunvegan Nursery, who is often referred to in horticultural circles as the Pharaoh of Foamflowers.

The name of the new selection is being announced by Plants Nouveau, of Baltimore, Maryland, who is making the introduction.

Tiarella cordifolia 'FM Mooberry' is part of a new series of clumping selections of foamflowers called the Diva-rellas," according to Angela Treadwell Palmer, President, of Plants Nouveau.

"The Diva-rellas are all be named after highly successful women who we feel are "divas" in some way. The Latin meaning of “tiarella” is “tiara” -- describing the way these foam flowers bloom with a crown-like appearance. We thought this would be a great name for the series." 

FM Mooberry, who founded the Brandywine Conservancy’s plant program, started the Native Plants Conference at Millersville University (which is almost 20 years old now), and has tirelessly promoted (and popularized) native plants, and their many applications.

FM Mooberry, native plant pioneer of the Brandywine Conservancy and the Delaware Valley, not to mention founder of the Millersville Native Plants in the Landscape Conference and Author.

“my only comment was that brandywine was instrumental in holding the first and only conference on native Cypripediums and they also continue to publish the findings and sell them in the bookstore at a very reasonable price, true classic in propagation”.
author of:
Grow Native Shrubs in Your Garden by F. M. Mooberry
Brandywine Wild Flower by F. M. Mooberry