



**Texas Master Gardener Association
2008 INDIVIDUAL MASTER GARDENER AWARD**

Association Membership/Size: Small (Small, Medium, Med.Large or Large)

Number of Members: 31 with interns

County: Hidalgo County

Address: 410 North 13th Avenue

City: Edinburg, TX Zip 78541

Phone: (956) 383-1026 Agents e-mail: b-storz@tamu.edu

Name of Master Gardener: Norma Linda Santos-Sanchez

Name(s) of person(s) submitting the nomination e-mail
Barbara Storz, CEA-Horticulture, b-storz@tamu.edu

Name of County Extension Agent or County Program Coordinator
Barbara Storz, CEA-Horticulture, Approved

THIS SUBMISSION SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO (2) PAGES TOTAL.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL MASTER GARDENER (10 pts)

In 150 words or less please describe the Individual Master Gardener.

Norma Linda Santos-Sanchez is a passionate gardener, student of ethnobotany, missionary of horticultural education and an ambassador for the Jr. Master Gardener (JMG) program in south Texas and Central America. In 2007, Norma Linda graduated as a Master Gardener and a JMG Specialist. She chaired the 2007 JMG multi-county Teacher Training and organized the summer JMG Youth Camp for 37 youth in McAllen in 2007 and for 50 youth in 2008. In April 2008, she conducted a JMG train-the-trainer program, in Spanish, for underserved Hispanic mothers and assisted them in conducting a week long JMG youth camp, sponsored by City of San Juan and Hidalgo County, Pct. 2. She provided a weekly, summer Literature in the Garden program for 14 youth at the City of Hidalgo Library. In October 2008, she conducted a Spanish language, JMG Teacher Training in Guatemala for 35 teachers and 24 children, launching a partnership program between Extension's JMG and the Bourlog Institute.

**Please answer the questions as they relate to the 2008 entry year.
VALUE 10 POINTS EACH**

1. List and describe programs & projects in which the nominee participated.

- * 2008 Vice President, Deep South Texas Master Gardener Association, Hidalgo County
- * 2008 Taught "Cooking with Native Plants" in Spanish for Grow'n Growers Program, a Community Development Extension Project with underserved Hispanic families
- * 2008 Chair – Master Gardener Home Tour
- * 2008 Committee Member – "Gardening in South Texas" – a 4 Saturday class for home-gardeners taught by Master Gardeners.
- * 2008 Committee Member – Demonstration Garden, Development Committee
- * 2008 Hosted Luncheon – Demonstrating Use of Eggplant and Greens, for Grow'n Growers Program members
- * 2008 Chair – JMG Regional Summer Teacher Training, Weslaco, Texas
- * 2008 Chair – JMG Train the Trainer classes, in Spanish, for Grow'n Growers Program members – 17 adults
- * 2008 Co-Chair - "Nature and Nutrition" Summer Youth Camp with Grow'n Growers Program members, City of San Juan, for 36 youth. Coordinated with Grow'n Growers members and Master Gardener volunteers. Purchased supplies for summer camp.
- * 2008 Chair – JMG Youth Camp, City of McAllen, 50 youth, with six Master Gardener volunteers
- * 2008 – Taught "Literature in the Garden" for City of Hidalgo and Hidalgo School District, 14 youth, summer long, one day per week
- * 2008 – Native Plant Tour Guide, World Birding Center, McAllen, Texas, for two, one-day events
- * 2008 – Taught JMG Teacher Training, Chimaltenango, Guatemala for 35 teachers and camp for 24 children, launching the JMG Program in Latin America for the partnership between Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Borlaug Institute.

2. Describe abilities related to working individually & in groups with Master Gardeners and Texas AgriLife Extension.

Norma Linda is a gracious and humble person who is comfortable leading or allowing others to lead. She demonstrates patience with adults and with children. She totally embraces the mission of "education for everyone!"

3. Describe participation in activities that promote Master Gardeners & Texas AgriLife Extension

Norma Linda is an ambassador for the Jr. Master Gardener program, demonstrating to our program partners here and in Latin America, that Master Gardeners are highly trained, dedicated, professional volunteers.

**4. Hours contributed to Master Gardeners in 2008.
401.5 hours**