Tracey Peake ([00:03](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/ZJbeS-yrETPwSItqtKrW7iTLEJJPKF2frtZ0-OUyMJjPUpb3p2y-CQgHMiVqAjAo5J76kZtTy5GeXVeV9ApEUrOGDZQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=3.33)):

Hello and welcome to NC State's Audio Abstract. I'm your host Tracey Peake. 'Tis the season for poinsettias, the flower most closely associated with the holidays. But there's more to this plant than just its bright red or white or pink flowers. We're speaking today with John Dole, Professor of Horticultural Science here at NC State and master of all things poinsettias. Welcome, John.

John Dole ([00:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/anu0rHzaO1yT30pXTG6PogGdN7ARHbTwALrI_y3fE7GCmfyyyy5acEGrHVpotXlE0x-JQwSSMYeKUfZ0JNPt-oK1IG8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=31.89)):

Thank you, Tracey. It's great to be here.

Tracey Peake ([00:35](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/IwYVxoM3w0wL44P4SOsUyDlwiLIoBBUABZ2sFryQ2jBHrr6DuFnVRH2jemWMP9kWk9rRPqqr1ibVd-NdMzIhYOc3Wrs?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=35.13)):

I'm looking forward to this because growing up I've been surrounded by poinsettias every year, the holidays and the corpses of said plants are usually disposed of not too long thereafter. So I'm interested in the history of the flower and if there are ways that I could potentially keep this thing alive in my house after the holidays. But first of all, let's talk a little bit about the history of the plant. Why did this particular flower become so associated with Christmas in particular?

John Dole ([01:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/FIkrO1_ICooju5pCYX8sfI34yQaoSxxo15rf9nVLkmAPXB3HqEl12kHxxxa0LdWK603g4-IrzqOp6qJk3revH6hdbL8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=70.35)):

This plant has just a fascinating history. It's named after Joel Robert Poinsett, who was ambassador at the time to Mexico in the early 1800s and brought it back. He was an avid horticulturist. He brought back a number of plants. But the history of the plant goes back much further than that. The Aztecs cultivated it. In fact, there's a form of the poinsettia that you can see in Mexico all the way down the Andes into South America because it got spread and cultivated. It doesn't look like our current poinsettia, and it looks very different from the native poinsettia.

([01:50](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/_iC0shE2lmARitJepHznnkGT4rrYOk0rJp1EOmr65wdcxsyaUZf2NNW_urnCY55DurIYcpk_SN9zNuqzZGeiTzNSv_s?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=110.37)):

Really, the basic reason why it ended up being associated with Christmas, even from the very beginning, was that it flowers very late in the year and it still has its red bracts into October, November and December, and I've been to Mexico where it's native and I've seen it in the wild and it still had its bracts, so it just naturally ... It was flowering at the time that Christmas ended up coming into being.

Tracey Peake ([02:21](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/B56KsDX-gRBUKlEaOWziTMg-bvTYZ7JMBRc2mLA7iFPX8FX8KhAVpN8CUnjbBxDKmNI_ZMRts5-jHeJLz5Uk9fFaMmQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=141.78)):

Okay, and just for folks who aren't into horticulture, by bracts do you mean like flower petals or what? I would think of as a non ...

John Dole ([02:29](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/w0ar7tEqCqVUCjAr69whM9MiyGUAbIcXgbe_dzTkI1c8oktmYBfG99Hqs1W7lNCnkSORI1_duYFrEnlV_zrnOPEwZYo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=149.7)):

The big colorful parts.

Tracey Peake ([02:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/TTe2FIDU9HMmEsZXKERo254AK2SNX637BPilfMkw7Zb36M7iWO-a2LXd47h5LXobrOq0LWkRMK1L3y1jdcF6aqcJ8-c?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=150.45)):

The big red things.

John Dole ([02:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/mWHOk201Ha5EigNRSC-L5TWr0eoWDjGPOUkp3L6GZqwuk58if1eUi5r4gkPDFGQP4MIJhqPxllTukcXx8Mf1Cqrq4Ho?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=151.41)):

The big red things. That's right.

Tracey Peake ([02:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/lEKa-EM233hcZCImGh--_qTbaGkMOT9N2v-NOqHM7miQx1BO_9yAQwYPlxQAUZKGZVvePznjHTHT_2F6xl8LrCS471k?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=152.13)):

Okay, great. T

John Dole ([02:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/1LL_oXOxI7XwCyKdDwCvRUnUCwQcV1Zcw_m6gG18dOTlMrKPEj0z7HM6Wc0A5zpAuSk2dUti7q4XUCPesErPT_UBG7o?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=154.02)):

hank you. Yeah, botanists love to name things, and so every kind of plant part has a separate name.

Tracey Peake ([02:41](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/a4msfCWsKnXGUPLRh77fsVZUw8Z1VwQG5_A0eI3ito2bcQYAehbvbimvzUL3YTIWP7wS1l6iRJQs5W46YZ2FUgKOhJM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=161.13)):

Well, if in America, the Poinsettia, we call it that because Mr. Poinsett brought it back. What are the names for it in other cultures? Do we know?

John Dole ([02:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/03Pv3L3vk-QHlfOAeMTrxiHrzMUrffW_5OerQQ47Zc1nsJUnChhJdGa8gguQ9JkqGu5m2BK3L5rDdq2mOvbMos5uLK8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=172.77)):

Yeah, the original name in Aztec was cuetlaxochitl.

Tracey Peake ([02:58](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/DAj8j_Y-aVmiHk8Gd8-qLYH3THTEHQ-Ma-rmD4N3wSXOq0EV1NVAbnc_hbQOqI_ohfABp2TYiqL3yKb90hbVvPMP5OQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=178.2)):

Wow.

John Dole ([02:58](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/fzMMVghUE1JUfwf1B2ag8uZycDB5YS92qS0hpPZJHJ1cLAYxo_nuasMwLSnvC7lR0kAsf5kUcaCyayXeuoFTCMt_HgI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=178.68)):

And it is a really great name. It's the flower of the color of fire.

John Dole ([03:05](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/WkxPBbUqsmNKNArXn2b4GoRwwrdxGOJjBqWHZowhevW0YQL0RKRLOnI38KIHKJTWsVUVV_6ILURVxNl_bQ6p5X51-LU?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=185.76)):

And it was cultivated, like I said, in the Aztec times. And then more recently it picked up the name in Spanish of la flor de la nochebuena, flower of the holy night. And that's really when it started to get associated with Christmas. Like I mentioned, it was very attractive, very colorful that time of the year. And in Mexico, they would do these nativity parades around the square and they would pick the poinsettias and use them to help decorate the parades. And so even back centuries ago, it got associated with Christmas.

([03:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/cI1FhfJTHkBynQC54-9KvxMu9QBxtFrEesM2J4GXI-Ed9ADBWz1cH2r_XBLL3wY9IyelhLAVt_GMrQqJLighqKIrW4k?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=228)):

Then when it came to the United States, it originally was just a very interesting, beautiful plant. It actually was originally grown as a cut flour commercially in California because it was very, at the time, very tall, very long, and so they would grow it and harvest it as a really spectacular cut flour. Then over the years, it was cultivated more and more, new varieties were developed, new cultivars, and they found cultivars that held their leaves because the wild poinsettia is very tall. It grows up to 20 feet. I heard it called treelet. And I love it.

Tracey Peake ([04:29](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/77RReCIzD2bdJAYuMzrdiDypHtVmftYfzA4IbsGtqwJxZjcrjncIa8sNwuho54C9aonJKAJ5PU_8g4ITc5qkb3z9PK0?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=269.85)):

Treelet.

John Dole ([04:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Zq7DyJj0-iiLAglqSjk2EFrwGIlLg6VX4fd_gB91G1tTbDIi_L0yIo9sl3DIls-bGUjurYSOk2k5aaRmMvJrlC0OFvo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=270.12)):

Treelet. It's perfect name because it has very long stems, very few branches and the bracts are still there in the fall, but all the leaves have fallen.

Tracey Peake ([04:41](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/SJcHDR5DZIPRG0XviQ2UTX8q5Qxfh8NiL_qyeGhutSOE3JzQVvOmzPcg40vOWW-HgOXHjuQTyPU0bMdd27Fq074RInY?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=281.64)):

Oh, wow.

John Dole ([04:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/eJlgAJj8vnTteV0oWpP55FEvqC1FIHs7YbSznpkNuWAwZYg7ly9INYrzi5SMXzd0ZtDOgMYJ-uE8QomH6PV6xY0i6wU?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=282.21)):

So it's just these pops of red.

Tracey Peake ([04:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/xT_W5G-Xuydvr9F3lcDJS-XhTq0aFlT34KR-y-UW9kGyErtfxD7NwAtA-L22V2ov2iw5E6rs7XrpUkQDhK0zlpuGAWI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=284.64)):

Like a giant sunflower.

John Dole ([04:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/49cUplUk38fN_I-pTU-Tl0ebZWPR4kjf88XAuSh2QwCbp2TNXsfC6oh4oA2KrmIvpz1377olyfMQBcCEqcI5OB2xSiE?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=286.35)):

Yes. Without any leaves.

Tracey Peake ([04:47](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/lgGprZCIdWItwQq68C5gDv0j0Q3Irsa9yxgl4Mo0vk4AaE9RtzlYZtFDWjMWq0nil2NmkkfSk7qY_l-KeKDiM6uSCy8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=287.64)):

With no leaves, and just a big red thing on the top.

John Dole ([04:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/1RskHw_svDICoADQ4je4IvuA4ky3wjAcPXxvuVNrI7vOxfZKPbZkiCG_OMZKf6OSwKuPS2l_oL69nLOu0Znyfx8Uxls?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=291.3)):

Yeah.

Tracey Peake ([04:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/tIe57H0tkynSq6PUlsJ3TClyOesHxe4SdTUZn2PpayNWjQ6YZNrFQy_1g22AQi-5CiH6ahloFM9pspiehiVtR-ovIj8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=291.66)):

That's amazing.

John Dole ([04:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/HHXH2pTNiaZrw8A6-ivCF248a1k0pOitRdN1kbMSHmwxdo1GcdKXp5WDDoWSEGztdOvqrDt3twVJuegKDWZU80Pn34c?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=292.56)):

And so what has happened is over the years, the horticulturists and the plant breeders, one, they figured out how to shorten it because when we go into the stores and the garden centers to buy them, they're only a couple feet tall. They're not 20 feet tall. We've learned how to keep the leaves on them. Part of that's through breeding, part of that's through how we handle them, and then of course developed all the different colors. And then folks, Paul Ecke in particular, whose name was attached to one of the biggest firms for many years, Paul Ecke Poinsettias, he was a marketing genius. He would grow poinsettias and then he would ship them off to the White House. And then of course all the photos came out ...

Tracey Peake ([05:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/3F_QS6KnoW0PlgN0He0Eem9YOxuKNmSP-6zO4Z8Uks2uz8RtKtqs8OiSG4Di_QH9FryIcqvx6kIx8RjJ08o8rz3FbBc?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=338.85)):

Smart.

John Dole ([05:39](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/8FLn2ZNYUatJl8XNzGe0tw5E66Ykpzw-M6mlN0j0P1F5389vTskHPDGbbPX-M6rO3G7qQwDQt5Tbn_X0JKL0c0ZV7rA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=339.57)):

... With all those poinsettias. He would ship them to news stations for their sets around the time, and he just reinforced this link between the poinsettia and Christmas, and it has been so strongly associated ever since.

Tracey Peake ([05:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/RbVEGJzdeFc6Dr6bovU_kDufkC91sXg1qbyQPshJpcmR2VsUlelca6hgFBNtCHMxQeBb7-8QxNQL83Yh8Qc7BLVl6aU?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=355.89)):

That's really smart. What is the Aztec name again?

John Dole ([06:00](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/OGcB37fvu2QB0-zmfN4DkjELykBO5wa6DCeDTGfk0wvDwggW3IcokdKUPkckmYTdf290F0u181gehgP1D-ZJI7K5YOI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=360.81)):

Cuetlaxochitl.

Tracey Peake ([06:00](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/pI9ViRe9sA37Jx9BUyMmcbnqhOooDE59rpLMlWXB1lNzSbMCoXOI8hVMfaOkhUQuKYvEqbfBiOw41BB2rC5dYFyr8vk?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=360.81)):

Cuetlaxochitl.

John Dole ([06:04](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/_FoG6sCT9m6qTm0xaiKsZ3sE5G_Ijw0-fcuym8m6ya13S6tv4aFz8TlfqjxCPfhsehdrGlmowF2wSVMMsZRJ30lxm_Q?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=364.14)):

Yeah. If you look at the writing, you would probably never really get how to say that.

Tracey Peake ([06:07](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/mm_pwOyXcm4AiC4rLUP6YPmGjj4UB_L8Jsqh3YY7ttFwaEyUZDF_V9Aq6sqvLkTBW9qfc0dwzELi0VgTHUhBtCdCnpU?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=367.59)):

I have, yes, looking it up ...

John Dole ([06:08](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/RCVSLyeOTH7JMQhrZu6Fn3Jkvy4lxYYd-tzvmjhat8snsciN2YHoCzWOE4ZNzG1AD-hBY08u-HQYjnQIghcjIsIrCYA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=368.91)):

It's got a lot of x's and t's and stuff. Yes.

Tracey Peake ([06:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/KdlPLcI2BfaMuj4_jDxyzOaA6iN7uf7m1c3Hrk_qHWwe9Qbr6WT2ZlsOEK45uIYxzGgRW3PceBGpaLsmEzflmiOSza4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=371.49)):

That's really cool though. I'd like to just walk into the store and go, "Hey, do you have any ..."

John Dole ([06:15](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/5rFGBM0rQb9cNJWNNhflwm49iC2TIjHRBcw89HzGvJn2am93cDQSPrO-UY-21d5at9vd4AnDrAMiufvSOKV4TlaeXag?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=375.03)):

Cuetlaxochitl.

Tracey Peake ([06:15](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/JAwJ4o1YfLFrUnPVMO7dV325iQ_2l5azeXb6GzgRa0McFEZZ6HtmRi1iNmoNJrjGpvrhwiiHu9IcxUfJJSgK8PJ0Lv8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=375.18)):

"...Available for sale?"

John Dole ([06:17](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/FXF61ghK5s7MWIg6Fs2z9inMs1B4XoixiTjxFxKu4pf9mcUPuA4FD26mcZe5s_IpuRX7admXt2AfAuHmLDux5cfDMTI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=377.97)):

That's right. That's right. You could also do la flor de la nochebuena.

Tracey Peake ([06:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/19QpoqkVY9DQdhTB0IluU1g5JMXTJnL2hTp9Zq2JpXeFISwYTpb_ikEI9_Hh4fTHvSFE5CXSBjNikWjLzIOJCYNX7tE?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=382.44)):

Yes, which would be probably a little easier for everyone.

John Dole ([06:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/k8YXN2Aw3Zkx5ZR0LAIQDoxj5KG2btIhdJJ-Di0iUhFRKXsQP6k62oFIWXIB5gAbTUJcINH439LhrzJY1RFRR1HGiyg?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=384.39)):

A little easier. Right, right.

Tracey Peake ([06:26](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/L0baFuyJTzn-cjhaB1QCOymDx2_YWjcPH68Se8fvoywC6_4J-59yEL1oapiNMvtJcg7GydNietVcfhwgpplLc_j0a5g?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=386.37)):

Everyone involved. Well, so poinsettias big business here in North Carolina. Do we grow them?

John Dole ([06:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/LIqhwsSQlYcIrY5iqZ64WXBy7NdGd7-gFwhWphzpia86tyVwoSvi7tnIbOyrk1K4J9KGNQF9TDYuBq_jdFovznyOZMc?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=392.61)):

We grow a lot of them. They're very big business. Of all the 50 states, we are number two in terms of numbers of poinsettias that we grow. The last census figures were about 4.6 million plants. We ship them up and down the East coast. What's really great about the industry in North Carolina is we have one of the largest poinsettia producers probably in the world. That's Metrolina, north of Charlotte near Huntersville. And we also have lots of local small growers that are producing poinsettias in garden centers all across the state.

Tracey Peake ([07:14](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Q1rdq4LFNbmFB9IYqcyOswfqY2HapqwjybaifSnKGagWu8Jlg4AxEvLO2iwI-hAZ43dk9_PO53jsMCewEbFcwSivd4U?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=434.04)):

So do they need to have greenhouses all year round for these? Or do you just grow them at a certain time of year? How long does it take to go from a poinsettia seed to a plant that you're going to sell someone? Or is that even how it's done?

John Dole ([07:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/VOxoTph3OEst_QOgaXA4gFl17RK-gBIXWOxTly7ub717RqvLT5960VXDa-C-RbdRsl4wIVobugIkMhFRgznVKXdwDmk?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=448.92)):

Well, it's about four months for the actual production part. So they are typically started in anywhere from late June through mid-August, and then of course they flower in November and December. They actually start from a cutting, and that is a piece of a plant. It has the young leaves at the very top, which we call the apical meristem, and then has a couple of mature leaves, which help fuel that cutting, and then we get that cutting in. We propagate it, which is the process of putting roots, allowing the cutting to grow roots. And then at that point, it's just a little tiny plant. And those little tiny plants get shipped out all around the country, and those are used to start the poinsettias in late summer that then become the plants we purchase in the fall.

Tracey Peake ([08:24](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/fNuVxxaTjl_mbPK8u3bieF6syip6Fj4fLHUmC9uu22GhhmwsRoCQsQ-h8TAIyUJ12ywMpxc-Enf1-YC8MGe-SG4b5P0?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=504.24)):

Okay. Well, that's interesting to know as well. So I know that you've been involved in evaluating "new colors" ...

John Dole ([08:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/oAkt6UxMcYtWGox7huRDeCWKHpnQOeTMFUv4n63trtxqg7MSkVWJSWhawBtKyLBkVX_2oJAsDgMqYQzYMQ4YVzUBIRo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=514.47)):

Yes.

Tracey Peake ([08:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Noq9eCAxNa3k2BSghHmszaDAtvPzFH_8aZ14EwMzBECSt99Gc8uVsvtgEJwGRUcTavdRjCjG1AGL3AEFHXoAhjcq-bQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=514.86)):

... Of poinsettias. So was the natural color of the poinsettia just red? There are not different varieties down in Mexico?

John Dole ([08:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/yPdUa6PNcCWn_omITrS1PBncmk1wryjRCISfuLzFo0AHjB9DKY_6g-FFGM_PGBCXzctGc_7LD3V0Fe71KV_vsi47nqI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=524.94)):

It's pretty much red.

Tracey Peake ([08:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/XsMLz181L0SZ7hrSwYzi2o0RqtZbigEJuLN7To5NtBmsHFUeDCl3EqaKxRXSfShfkdwd0Axvsgj_Wg8v-tfOR3Iqlbw?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=525.93)):

Okay.

John Dole ([08:46](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/gEvhiadK9tm8z1V7CTPLaRChsoOPMDASJNK7EDtzUkESiUIZFfEC1ipVeMb0kJxjJdufTI5Vf2tbcmvEjgpaXI8-Irk?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=526.59)):

You can occasionally find some white ones in the Aztec type. I have not seen any white in the wild poinsettia. I've only seen red in the wild poinsettia. And red is by far the dominant color, and it's also the color that's commercially the most important. About 80% of what we grow and sell is red poinsettias.

Tracey Peake ([09:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/_AP1F3G98R65DijigJVdlV5G6NaBaaLH6EUavnKkdGLY7Rr45eiG0ZuhNbi6nCnadtNr4B7MXKW8VcLlUFmld6tmNk0?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=551.1)):

Okay. Yeah, I mean that makes sense. But they do have all kinds of colors, right?

John Dole ([09:15](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/uOR-NcV_jXSE4_1LyPV6N6woCDBb_eRygmNwXhgob0uUS8TFTwFDxm0NyVsAvUADZAcgma7drSLfMwE5BXwjpzaCkKM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=555.48)):

Oh, they do have all kinds of colors and the breeders really have had a lot of fun with this plant. Well, first of all, it's grown in huge numbers. It's not just growing in the United States. It's grown all over the world. And so when you grow plants in that large numbers, you're going to find what we call sports. These are just random changes, genetic changes that cause changes in color, form, and shape. So there's that going on. And then what the breeders will do is they'll try to enhance that. They'll try to pull out different colors. So what the breeders have done is they've taken red and they've gone two different directions with it in terms of color. By the way, there are white ones and there are pink. Those are the most common color mutations. But what they've done is they've moved it towards the yellow side, and there are yellow poinsettias out there.

([10:09](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/UyveGsV3dM78ydt6pO0bD0CdBZB3qi_2Ux0LpISSz7Bpy4oZrPWRO7wW8hGZuGk5RkFIxlDK-YYtAMN1ObFV-wgmtXo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=609.36)):

So they first moved it to orange, and so there's some orangey types, and then moved it further and further. There's an apricot. There's a blending of different kind of orangey tones, and then they got it all the way to a nice clean, clear yellow. And so there's yellow to red and everything in between.

([10:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/MqLd9XZeBw7Z5SPWaUHDeMLdbtlVDytlcFtaQCUewXRaQowjx-1XrL67a7UUTedxg2X0DXTkbcZEd_cEXQ8AqDFyLv8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=628.35)):

And then on the other end of the spectrum, they moved it towards blue. Now we do not have any blue poinsettias except for the painted ones.

Tracey Peake ([10:36](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/_G-PS7hI6LSOVQ15ZjXJOcoqo_OU7WXUUp1TkYXUo3Dx3pofzIWT0l-ImwXyX4RIhBisyjGMKUPRi7rreuwpi9OFk3s?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=636.63)):

Okay.

John Dole ([10:36](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/qexo2F0emp9saShfdVbNohY1KuP2ElgXBSSW-M0nblO8V_8cURBfIyDrfKCC5SAy-PfRP1mwkY4ZwI7vIgJkpxfIkBg?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=636.84)):

We will find some stores where they will put paint on them, but we have purple poinsettias and we have different pos that are dark maroon, very dark red. So they've moved that red in two opposite directions to create just this whole spectacular spectrum of colors in poinsettias.

Tracey Peake ([10:56](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/WU-zgm679MxkdD9ok3PKCYpkx8Uc34GdFZxiDbfwpw_6QQwTT_IEJPLWqfZ-K-xaNnU3SlbucpG2yjfnurPQlB6G7gA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=656.52)):

That's amazing. Yeah, I would think it would be great to have a purple poinsettia.

John Dole ([10:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/1S3iS4pdcYBrn1Vo5bNHW85YK97d97q3OHXHkKLQPpTWuHvg1Gji8lJUnj85ObMmF71wIQXjBe_I_5mpgJzTL6X3HHw?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=659.88)):

They're pretty cool. They're pretty cool.

Tracey Peake ([11:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/dVJupAwhd8CzZ9Ej10hXHYjcwYGQdhA7Mo-gCvUtPwkWL3_mtP3Bo7Kgq1fhfLurjG7Cdeq2oIJOpOjxcL702uY-tRo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=661.26)):

I think that would be cool. I'm not really sold on the yellow ones because it reminds me too much of what the leaves look like as I proceed to murder my yearly poinsettia plant.

John Dole ([11:09](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/yNtW5RfzIKILb5JNxkh27XFbvcN5lVDKF4phk5eSMttpkcxvSJE3AFCY9OPnELCPqIVbWoozxqGNyiY7kDIRftKAAfg?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=669.18)):

Well, it's a nice bright yellow.

Tracey Peake ([11:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/b9L5NsaEnUghWPBer2_jO40XLID5xvo1BcmD8rmk3qYOk-AnS1Wa4p63hN-IoTRxOkv6GBqHnydhmP9wHcvvHvKZj8k?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=670.68)):

Okay.

John Dole ([11:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/ReFonvVuntFZDdBL3FSZeX-MIQxT4eAAYjxOSxnyMVjXpcc__S2MC_JmNlgehg6DrAvTtw30GuOaBprAs4RhEgbGEUA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=670.68)):

I can imagine ...

Tracey Peake ([11:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/nE9_Vz_I5VUcsv99wirUwYbJT8HtR99BuYUANLaMyNAjQBHkLSPuvFG_qwNp59IHCGneTzfBsDea1tM5sG43Q_y50Uw?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=670.68)):

It's not that dead, sad yellow.

John Dole ([11:14](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/JchhmRQvJ59Oj2ACO0fiqoQ4g9KG-4R-RrSBCH6w_K-e2bD2kRUZCSW97hV8nJ33MK6nOxMlNih67TWnwuqPnJOGZBU?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=674.97)):

Dead brown, yellow. No, there's no brown poinsettia. Not planned, anyway. There's a lot of brown poinsettias in January, but that's a whole different story.

Tracey Peake ([11:23](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/OpdaOphY82tf0U60tAWzM9oIfFjBSOY6rHC6sX5sP5g9T9U0CCu4d71ChVs574wzVajitjnT3JSqXdWTqeKKMorxRvM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=683.19)):

So the most popular color, I assume, is probably still red. Sometimes I'll see in Christmas displays red and white together because that looks nice.

John Dole ([11:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/I2T7pOfnDAO9G9RkOHrLGRpJzfZEVOlzf9GiMn8DZghhEkplpxEIOcVfeb6eYdyzceCMxFdcXZ4ws73PNtUYxKeobMk?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=692.4)):

Yeah. There's the red, the golds, which are the kind of orangy, those are particularly popular. The various novelties, they get a lot of attention, but the fact is most folks still buy red. Those who buy a lot of poinsettias, what they'll typically do is they'll buy red and then they'll buy some other colors just to spice things up and get something different.

Tracey Peake ([14:27](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/7YHsN98Am36oINAaPDueIEv_0OUNopkeDPhNmjqtp6MnpQmPopjUrieA6uB6SVAJJOYyAwgwzjMvmhmHTBTTLA9kNYM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=867.66)):

Okay. All right. And I've mentioned several times already of my propensity to not being able to keep these things alive. If you have a green thumb and not like my black thumb of death with plants, is it possible to take your poinsettia after the holiday season ... And then would it ever be possible to plant one in your yard? Or would it always be a plant in a pot and would you have to keep it indoors?

John Dole ([14:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/VHufk-HDjkzISrPBqjkzyuMl1tQ3nQ4SN_0yNRqhsPli6k-Pbw9cm5totNyeFi5H7tHTvGR4FDf_2PtejBmn2onjWyM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=892.74)):

There's a couple of questions in there, actually.

Tracey Peake ([14:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/5ZEkvnbN7Ir_tVcaSZN7-qSCXubaaX_ncy8E6Mm2OCOmKzzQJjrxdkZB-_nn1GwOMdE7rwYzuMf_ftBYde1PnnkC_TY?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=893.58)):

Yes.

John Dole ([14:54](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/lOrU-oyjbkWeub0w4oSLbyO_lI2Vs_pdxlAUvZRbidFEHCSc0ZjAqFI0EIUbPxfqsET2McVlnRFnJfchfGgAo3PJpXo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=894.96)):

So yes, you certainly can plant it outside. It is a tropical plant. It is from the southern coast of Mexico, so it does not like cold. Frost will really do it in. It doesn't really even like cold temperatures much below 40. First of all, in January, just put it in a nice sunny window. It won't do much for a while. And then you'll start to see some green shoots at the base start to come out. And then eventually those green shoots will come up and they'll grow over top of the bracts. And sometimes the bracts will stay on. Often they will, and other times they'll fall off. But so just keep it going.

([15:38](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/z8ddgW9FtC3tohNPG4iIcXQeP6mOfQF2kEVoMNiBgmyzzMhHnMxGtm_gpYyQxbwiWTvMuzu4FNmYEL-Sw0vr6K0aN3U?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=938.16)):

And then when it gets warm enough in the spring after the last chance of frost, you can put it outside in a shady spot for about two, three weeks, and then you can go ahead and plant it in the ground if you want to. At that point, it'll just turn into a small leafy shrub. It won't flower. That is a whole separate process. And we do not have a long enough summer and fall for it to flower outdoors. If you go to Southern Florida, if you go to Southern California, of course if you go all the way down into Mexico and down through South American countries, you will find it outdoors there year round as a landscape plant. And it will go ahead and flower because it's warm enough for the flowers to develop in the fall.

Tracey Peake ([16:29](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/tpabt04iMcrSg_F84FnetuoRDq66nkVf2RU8A5dUsNj3q1MEGIhfj_oQHi7gxUZ1VzKkF4i4OXm5ijMY-7m6511juM8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=989.4)):

Okay, but here you would just have a shrub.

John Dole ([16:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/B7TcGMJtfFSumvi5wCLqY86bd5M8SnzDogDc_ykopj2UDCr_fOyuHkFbk-WifjZ_qMCvd-v2JviNjCUIv8nMHlXsPMo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=991.95)):

You just have a shrub. It's a shrub you grew.

Tracey Peake ([16:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/ws9jGbAbDatEXDx1asOVQQoUhHqUmGcfhiwHpektJBlJWFWazzYcA9HnbbMKf7SZmc_U-xeNwjFyegYyIwRCJHmUAg8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=997.77)):

Yay!

John Dole ([16:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/mVWKyZvrZehSrLaNWyLThxdJkGE3Fi1h-6FHhrHwU_wo72XO_xQrbST8apw4nefuWKJkVK_nZYI9buJYyYqtEy1D7Y0?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=997.86)):

So if you want to get it to flower, it's more involved. The reason it flowers is because the days get shorter, and more importantly, the nights get longer in the fall. And poinsettias, like a lot of plants, have this little internal clock that keeps track of this. And when the clock gets to the right point, it says it's time to flower. And they go ahead and start this whole flowering process. So the nights have to be long.

([17:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Mot7DaaevAloX2CESZueeLgJGj5OQQcI2utnmJg6uDPTXNqiTAc7xZwMVvuRcenPNfzXxc7N-Bzam1c6UcCDmpH308U?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1031.91)):

Now, you can reproduce this in the home. It'll take a little bit of effort. What folks will do is they'll take it from this nice sunny spot and they'll put it in a dark spot during the night, or they'll put it in a room where they turn the lights off to make sure that there's no light on during the night, because otherwise it just confuses things and the plant won't flower or it'll flower kind of halfway and it won't look particularly good. So the best way is to put it in a nice bright room with a lot of sun that you don't go into after the sunset. Because remember in the fall, the nights are getting naturally long anyway. You just don't want to mess that up.

Tracey Peake ([17:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/7HxZLRfSPOLcxH6PTAg61XiHb0W-gNcTvmRX89abCHtNR9210dX9sjx3Dk1PKy4o8KJv_SRsS4oDaAy02iV9GLINnmE?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1073.76)):

Okay. So you're having to move the plant around a lot.

John Dole ([17:57](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/sx24VJLXlszR7Shn4-NVLGNTFz9Buz5cGKYqtY3uCyYsL9v5QHWJeU6mp9brxLdcblHWMarlP_dzfiwGtJATNoQeOL4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1077.24)):

Either move it around or put it in a room that you don't turn the lights on in after dark.

Tracey Peake ([18:06](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/cwEyazXY4BiMG8s2IRjTFreDtLeci5DAk5ZHyX1HwMDYpEeuMp6J5j05bhvwzrjmRHz-NBicxpuLVplBTQSjZA0VWAQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1086.12)):

Okay. All right.

John Dole ([18:06](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Mrkary9OIJK0Dh4TMXEKZJMjQJ6AgztuzmAP6NZYaL7uU7Br9bmbzzxoO6opmd8tDbfu1cIxiMTF19zTSQzDpkIG-mo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1086.39)):

It's just easier to buy a new one.

Tracey Peake ([18:08](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/HMgxvbGC7zhP2fLBKFpsqzb7swM-UtATMUrKBYpkOIw_x8GR3cd9JxciC_DA-RkeZLTM7LDLmEzPBDkdxzJ2J3_iMyI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1088.49)):

Yeah, I think I might have the right idea.

John Dole ([18:11](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/bi-s0HtskzVYw_XhbFY8UNfj4VZqgEKYGiCcCfzzFgm9OP9botdn7byWUZoYEZZ9kGfAPDFt-9GwNAPT9IEIdBgXPk8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1091.1)):

There are a few folks who have done this and folks will send me pictures, which I love to get. I've seen a couple of them look great. I've seen a lot of them look not so great. So we usually just tell people, "Support your local garden centers."

Tracey Peake ([18:29](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/1zyXwxpSFdhTsUWeU-EB8D1U_IHDIbc5P3DRA52Up46upkXtm3yRZVugr6lgw-CdrB_sPAl7zvZVEqWt5U4OJHDG6VY?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1109.4)):

There you go.

John Dole ([18:30](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/DGl5KPW07hhKv61XqnqO6o-x482Da8nnpF9XpA3DgkQ0DE3kqTsPhy_dmPWr8LKDaajN9bn6ya4oc9uxHEsyJuekyYM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1110.3)):

"Go ahead and buy new ones." And so yes, for those who want to keep things simple, just go your local garden center.

Tracey Peake ([18:51](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/MNBcEwQ6XhxNxK7LCs7FKsk9KIRy8txwHd6mMb2V8RQnb6GDe5idKPgCYdDcFUlcJNz-o9zohqvyZCL6WYMJomU0PZQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1131.78)):

Just buy another.

John Dole ([18:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/a6m8u6EfHjHrtAjd91qs4zhBCb0vfUCkl-XDXd_JgSw5ClVBwdqJt7RxgvawrTj37CIwtnpNjGyLWX63CMvVw7-zl2Y?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1132.47)):

That's right.

Tracey Peake ([18:55](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/cu1tvYtOGbDHzdW1pEmtmdZijAMXLiqP-pMykvQBC3HU8EvlWGiUE59pS6eqQsNyt5HLZUZvUOYHE4mtxwZ4k35cWjY?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1135.23)):

I also, in addition to not being good with plants, have cats in the home.

John Dole ([19:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/6sPzR8hpk7aF-YGtyQMaPZHZaA-4ELpmAZXorPxcMEfEmoHBenaCsut5iWF1_AAfHRhz8wAZAQmjRDjGtIY26wp7eME?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1141.47)):

Yes.

Tracey Peake ([19:01](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/ssto1hQHDRya6fQNKzw7JKc3SAjaeujXoG10psjObvyVRAgHDlkDueFEf94ur_LBS3n6o-n_Dkc5zjsMsvZT2bHnEAc?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1141.62)):

And the traditional wisdom is don't have cats with poinsettias. Is that a thing?

John Dole ([19:08](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/2XPnc4wwCcmsyYSvryPqOrN_Cm-VcnGWyFKqEx_5gRAs2krLtl2bDRHXNyou7RkVIFLjaNX2d2uTC3KCsqx4Jp3yVvI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1148.16)):

It is a thing, but it's a wrong thing.

Tracey Peake ([19:10](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/CMy1W6tznSGt-jZ51rV4visc5bFM9XwU9TrI6cpzLHlaT7P0JcmjL545B1Wwlie8r5x7aKejv5A7c0f0mbOs4ToC3ao?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1150.02)):

Oh, okay.

John Dole ([19:12](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/R7o086ilXiedetknefh5Ahyu0oXIKqBfnSXvLDUyNWgvBrfNGWWza0ulf1sJvuc_oENsSSR1HCOImXpZ6mE-DiLzPWE?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1152.06)):

There's a lot of stuff out there. Poinsettias are not poisonous. I'm so glad you brought that up. There's actually a video on the web of me eating a poinsettia leaf.

Tracey Peake ([19:21](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/lwAEIvoQ8URA40bNErs1h9C7VP_ejxwgKyPZGMgKSN9F_P0Y8TPJ9DFz2vCFr0yJLXk553Yh4DWYHigTXylRH8-s7sI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1161.24)):

Wow.

John Dole ([19:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/p44D3BHcQMU8wexUT3Sh2ibcjkdBf72VjUffd8SfzOw6ZIAupai1Lltme6ycPeMT-FDqGlqtjESEvLjtE0dpnqrkTN4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1162.44)):

They're not poisonous. Now, of course I spit it out because they don't taste good. There's a big difference between ... There's a spectrum there. There's non-poisonous, there's edible, and then there's tasty. And we eat the stuff that's tasty. And of course, edible and non- poisonous, but non-poisonous doesn't mean tasty. Yeah. Cats eat leaves, they throw up. That's what they do. So people tend to associate the throwing up with, "Ooh, the plant must be poisonous." No, it's not poisonous.

Tracey Peake ([19:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/z-Vmhq_bllpMT8nbVWbNvf_q4YvAHnZ3sNOntt9CM1y8vYQG0Pb1qfelikwUVvhhoN0BcmOmTaLe6DRSuybO-gdT8cM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1192.92)):

It just tastes awful.

John Dole ([19:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/otlremF1Az3szSC9TL2H3qrCn6SLmpEmIIfJB90T_U4lkaMHNy8gb8XHa6h9M-koQ0tB_8q4T_DFXQMQOj0dN6Y9FnI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1193.91)):

It just tastes awful. That's what cats do. The American Floral Endowment has tracked down the source of this myth. And what it comes to is the first report that they could find was of a young child in Hawaii that ate poinsettia leaves and subsequently passed away. What they discovered is the young child ate multiple plants, including several that were truly poisonous. And poinsettia got on this list because it was in the plants that the child ate, and once it got on a list, it never could get off. So it is not poisonous.

Tracey Peake ([20:39](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/LalQGvmVTNStXF47DbvHtqyCGeC9kv6MNqXUJx1RwXEt3AY9-ChtjnU--BgMo7rthJup9u2Qv8KIz5GXYBInp5_gOiA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1239.03)):

But you still don't want to eat it.

John Dole ([20:40](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/zL6AL3bTOBYDD4VDU3qBo5KAX5CS0p4fitsfbwh7FcO_XKMeu_-bzmSk9YyfnMzj03SZtWnqhD-6a9m2DQllsp0GSgs?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1240.47)):

Yeah, you don't want to eat. It doesn't taste good. Who wants to do that?

Tracey Peake ([20:43](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/yAwWZngTzNOfp-7IItAfVLVieYfTiAaL1SCyVw1INqzLRjizpeDCKZD9VpeN9-FetASj_kJW2O_8a9v89Ztxl30VFPA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1243.53)):

You don't want to poinsettia salad. This is not a thing.

John Dole ([20:45](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/aU2pOa6DCx4NYd6HFIgxhFchPbGVHbcOhqR7mxZ0ehy1G5XoH0IhIfg3HrgWq9iwPHXI0o8iYrCCOtAI9YO__vH3ttM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1245.75)):

Well, actually, the bracts, in Mexico, they occasionally use the bracts in salads.

Tracey Peake ([20:52](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/5NS4m4AsGMs7wRJ_mQtxz2ovIPIBHUUtGYIXQ8aIYlNvWVtwfCFAmirIa3MUH29hrkqaupYsyPoy2TwpRFs2pXaHpWU?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1252.92)):

In edible salads.

John Dole ([20:53](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/65D0l7B3STewgDtZFcyvWM8P4PK7DHnMz9GxiB2WNNdpXlE8xwYxcDb4Quq9iBo1GUhczGNaM52lKMkLVVtyEIWuYHY?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1253.88)):

In edible salads.

Tracey Peake ([20:54](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/ayx_11GUu-1Se-OHUYElNFrAGJCGC7sOkVLV3KGNOEKn2o0U5mMuYc8Q3PkStRmJ0WNdKIKOTITXC9eQ573YtgumaRw?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1254.6)):

Okay. So they have to distinguish between the bracts and the leaves then?

John Dole ([20:59](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/unumilfhbuCtT43m0F2zymg9UyaUEWUwTPgJCNBtD_uTtscNNPBmHjM2wOcXCvC6AcprThhoW_B2ogj0oEfmzun7rJ4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1259.04)):

Yeah. The latex doesn't taste good.

Tracey Peake ([21:02](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/o_5T781QKFicAdKYVAg3ZIKLBteqvAt0MrqrSukfGfbtn0-RdmkvfaSxO_3UGYFZu5pt1t67k2CpEc3Wtfntc3j9OD8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1262.1)):

No.

John Dole ([21:02](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/V3j23i2h4XiP3bdmHyst1ygWGxsvGSslccQ-kFy0TqNsWqIkaA5Dy7DxQNAmaGc7sYK8KHk8kbZJt2BkP0csoODW8uc?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1262.16)):

And by the way point that is have this white sap in them, which is called the latex, and it doesn't taste good. The bracts have less of that, so I think that's why they get away with eating the bracts.

Tracey Peake ([21:12](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/971nRUtQCIscAA-hXCU141d-frCd5CcIt_xO-er-xqQwk7deZtFWJoFCcPLlf8lRF6ecd8juDmR7DPc6L_zSTvwkf9Y?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1272.57)):

Okay.

John Dole ([21:13](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/-M4b5FeeHHGwi5ZFEUzPn1fmVMNqn8Mjkc3uEuuGDfLRglTQL4rdsFAvYeWjEpD8psQVle3c5jOZN4qsb1SQbh2KnHM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1273.74)):

I am not rushing out to do a poinsettia bracts salad.

Tracey Peake ([21:17](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/hTGFmvAg3Eryatej6BjA2VLus63Oz5Z0noMJk9VS31W9aldKrwoVrxspyKvCNZ8wUiYqQczCQZd8j-bcbG6rXwW1hu4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1277.28)):

No, we're not going to do that here.

John Dole ([21:18](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/qg3wXFS_AN9OhCPDlWt-Pr4P21NAm2YoEECwBqVdsAjN2rm-IfeHAxCfIQoY7WFaonwNspTU2EWA8yXnKSsIzt9_zTI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1278.87)):

No.

Tracey Peake ([21:19](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/NtbzzN70WFDD_lbaId3z7kUOjFYoQgx55NK4eoFWc6YQ52aXRcWux_x7d7OYQk4rcIufmBDsv2TMRXHWAFEBkIblgC8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1279.71)):

No. But if you take a good trip down ...

John Dole ([21:22](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/dne2gdXdbO7Dic5CDVvo5E4rw4ilbjb2dvWZuPklnbR1yLfsA2YNcL8i_PmIj9ik9ygmX7bcUSro1d1LkADg4z416-k?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1282.59)):

... To Mexico.

Tracey Peake ([21:23](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/YdxhsuiYdnrPU0j5vnzM_-VYA4y45PI5jpgMAhbkvTmaeKC6i11PMtM2t2d2pctorycFPFv1TFGGDXx_ysO5MNS7Cvk?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1283.01)):

... Down to Mexico.

John Dole ([21:23](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/AHfGUmDvB6kTSA1tT8krVl38Bnznfo-JNNtWcIs-2s2SpBCFEQcc2TzN5kKgkftadhRi3t7CVGFIKgSfChxPfzfgnkY?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1283.91)):

You might find a poinsettia bracts salad.

Tracey Peake ([21:25](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/5EYi6HJ0rYkK-LvAM6shygCj2JRd4rxNCwgPO4Yk0LcpKAjIJqc39eg9bcUWh_4wl47FH-XOyjaKDsb4Qx-qTq1dq1I?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1285.95)):

There you go. And you can try it there because no, not here.

John Dole ([21:28](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/nLKUB8inU8hOrgdLlG8vimQHNfhfCAzHsRfqP-ib6b8gd4McInn4H40dXbyqVqCDMXAFgrbc6Lo-vknfkv1lzKTyUi4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1288.41)):

That's right.

Tracey Peake ([21:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/M9gMovwiOhnkBmUZvGSKlpFqjsYuxb7x2dXnwEXiw-hYbCTcf94uRUyq9ZD00d-VN09WC5ac4s-HIkva8YJjGnAG1NI?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1291.38)):

Okay. So I'm not going to have to worry about trying to take care of this poor plant. I could just buy another one every year.

John Dole ([21:37](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Hp1OZzDSfH8RCyATP-uWagR5YN83liz5925U43SrKZB8Q4qnmzlDGf7qA1f1cXbbxTl8jnPb71ol6d-MlCthk2zVCgk?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1297.35)):

Just buy another one. Buy several, in fact.

Tracey Peake ([21:39](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Jgh9y3JK9IYoeU_KXoDuS4BnGMiEPguxmefc4l9zFlfu1jE9h41cO8dBY6Bwy8uhCBU4hjQySVL72dRjwNAL9du3k5M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1299.21)):

Okay. Not that you're biased.

John Dole ([21:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/rkhzVnUEU1qBrYJkgXL38uVsRH2oyqhK3QjOikRjMsCbNvrR-N_Qyp_fxEh8lK4BNpR225hr9DFU88jW-XaO38joG7I?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1302.54)):

Not at all.

Tracey Peake ([21:42](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/XagpCk0F7QoGKszSFf2Mbz3HzyqtoCfH0LpYeKquwaLGT77Colz9ZOUolQXENJi7n5DxXtRzGliQ71h_5U7vt3DCuX0?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1302.81)):

For wanting us to buy more poinsettias.

John Dole ([21:44](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/522Got5bQiMmwEOwq7_Q9e_kciKn03kbHRaGKuKiKeeK9KqV7zU_p-p6JHAC-GB1hb2NnJrk1KaCH-V4OFAz9NWfATM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1304.1)):

Not at all, please. Yes. I love poinsettias. I want more people to enjoy them.

Tracey Peake ([21:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/Sk5dozn1M3IgzhEYp_W_M-8GHn5HDKwOcFMTn6Dstmhei7DFilJJHohrrwgfksy0bopIb3LakpTuYJmeQbGNVBjWOUA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1308.09)):

I think they're lovely. Just not in my house, usually for long. But I asked this question of everyone. So what is the coolest thing that you have found out while working with these plants?

John Dole ([22:03](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/TnkXIWHTuWOETdxAwvgx2pXv4LoUprLaeLZ04O2RbVCi4gr9wsvSNWvAc5EvPnqgqrcsR2ogjjktYxbP7XUTUsPdpcQ?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1323.33)):

The coolest thing. Well, as you probably can tell, I just love poinsettias. And I think the coolest thing is after I started working with them, and by the way, I started working with poinsettias for my PhD. So I've been working with them for a really, really long time. And folks can probably go online and figure out just how long that is. But after I started to work on them, I really got to appreciate the plant. It's gorgeous. It really is gorgeous. If you walk into a greenhouse in late November, early December, before they're all sold, it's just this sea of color. Red, pink, white, bi colors and some of the oranges, purples and all. It's just absolutely gorgeous.

([22:48](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/iciE2uu2-XJlzVwh8poAgUAsMuopQn-31HhuGSyqiGpV1vMD7CueX8iT0AnQlmQezb95u7mTa8mI-BwtWCmTBXwSa1w?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1368.36)):

But the history, when you go into a store and you see the plant there, it's pretty. And you think, "Oo, somebody grew that." But there's so much more to it. It goes back centuries to the Aztecs. It's in Mexican culture, it's in US culture. All the scientists at the universities, at the government with the USDA, the industry that have created this plant, it is just the coolest thing. It's not only gorgeous, it's the fact that so much history is embodied in this one plant that you can buy and take home.

Tracey Peake ([23:27](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/LINLyhGcEHaqaBSeN_AqhkIMdd3X0jhDLUKd-wOyVSYvXVchuMD4Yn9uJqSBTFalxFsZa5OR0OK8ZMkqISOUHKVxEpo?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1407.81)):

That's great. I'm going to work on my Aztec pronunciation because I really like that word.

John Dole ([23:31](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/3-mMSxm6IRGesN9A_DaVv6gS5WWivKCKYvCd0PlRYn_Ar4ApYas6T1HOPs8KvZfl6xmHU7qD2Zu6L3KbpwKTK8yNEBM?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1411.83)):

Cuetlaxochitl.

Tracey Peake ([23:32](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/bYhzcp9O5I4ERNvfEkSEH1zBzxMNB4lxPGVDrrPqRzs84GM1f_YHvhqs63puWqld71CurUYBSZM2fONfQIPNfsezU9Y?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1412.76)):

Yep.

John Dole ([23:33](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/a1beUyB1ig_cpmpuRqB33RiIoIUjozyk2Fqh7pKws8jUSeKHyVUhts8zGc0TRpfycKs-rk0TiTqvvAHmOaU6jjrA8m4?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1413.72)):

Say that three times fast.

Tracey Peake ([23:34](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/vIWTBtlUB9eHRwkcFcCr4_HFJMh3kHdj5dEYAnnPOYlBS98tLKzQLvyqMcr7S1qY_NRjHoyaX86f3AIt-G6JagFKmYA?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1414.77)):

I don't think I can right now, but I'll work on it in my spare time. Well, thank you so much for being here today, John. This has been a lot of fun. I've enjoyed talking about poinsettias, and I may be inspired to go and purchase one for the season.

John Dole ([23:49](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/99hTnSrujAScwGaJGrJY5WKAIUIFWfIDx6-Kz6eGLz0lMkrappF1H69Ixo5LvQmhpv7FPsNYtTaGB9kYE2qYFoy-uN8?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1429.44)):

Thank you. Thank you.

Tracey Peake ([23:50](https://www.rev.com/transcript-editor/shared/u2i1JRLcwR7FOi9q0OGjzYa-ddMwpuJp0xWeKxwANajYauFXpgS0T1W9FNp61CJEV-g566EPOLuowG9AKXyzmUlr-4M?loadFrom=DocumentDeeplink&ts=1430.4)):

You are very welcome. We have been speaking today with John Dole, Professor of Horticultural Science here at NC State. This has been Audio Abstract. I'm your host, Tracey Peake. Thank you so much for listening.