



## April Newsletter

### In this Issue

Important April Dates  
Witch SuperCenter April Sale Items  
Herb of the Month - Hibiscus  
Stone of the Month - Yellow Agate  
Rune of the Month - Mannaz  
Tarot Card of the Month - The Empress  
Correspondence of the Month - Trees  
Spell of the Month - Star of Love Spell

### **Important April Dates**

(All times are CST/CDT)

### **April 1 - April Fool's Day**

#### The Fool Tarot Card

The fool is the fearless traveler. He leaps before he looks and speaks before he thinks. Positively associated with innocence, new beginnings, joy, fearlessness, and spontaneity. Negatively associated with thoughtlessness, immaturity, impulsiveness, lack of responsibility and lawlessness.

### **April 10, 4:35 am - New Moon**

Dark Moon Chant to increase intuitive powers

"Void of blackness, darkest night,  
Ruled by Crone of power and might.  
Push my instincts into life  
So intuition grows and thrives.  
Crone of Darkness, come to me  
And let me know all things unseen."

## **April 22 - Earth Day**

### 13 Earth-Friendly Habits

1. Shop with re-usable bags
2. Use re-usable water bottles
3. Use a water filter or buy filtered water in 5 gallon bottles
4. Learn recycling rules for local garbage collection and recycle what you can
5. Find convenient recycling centers for things not recycled in garbage collection
6. Donate usable but unwanted items to a local charity
7. Re-purpose things instead of throwing them away
8. Shop at second hand stores and garage sales
9. Have your own garage sale or sell things on eBay or Craigslist
10. Buy organic and non-GMO foods - this not only protects you and your family from dangerous antibiotics and chemicals, it also protects farm workers who could be exposed to chemicals
11. Properly dispose of old electronics, batteries, tires and chemicals
12. Plan errands so that you do things in the same area on the same day - this will also reduce your gas bill!
13. Raise your thermostat a couple of degrees in the summer and lower it a couple of degrees in the winter

## **April 25, 2:57 pm - Full Moon**

### Wind Moon

Look at the Moon tonight; hopefully, you can see it. If there are clouds, watch the way they move across the Moon's face. Lose yourself in this for a moment. The moon is far removed from our atmosphere, but sometimes we forget because the wind seems to sweep across its surface. But all is still and calm on the Moon. This is a centering ritual for times when things are unsettled--picture yourself like the Moon, distant from our atmosphere, the wind is far away; you remain untouched.

*Winds that blow, far below  
Cannot touch, never know  
I am safe beyond the reach  
Of any harm, or any breach.  
I am calm and I am still  
In any wind, come what will.*

~ Ember Grant in [Llewellyn's 2013 Witches' Datebook](#)

## May 1 (Crossquarter May 5) - Beltane

### Beltane

**Animals/Mythical Creatures** - the white cow, goats, giants, rabbits, honey bees, faeries, satyrs, pegasus

**Gemstones** - emerald, orange carnelian, sapphire, rose quartz, lazuli, sapphire, yellow agate, bloodstone

**Incense/Oil** - passion flower, frankincense, tuberose, vanilla, lilac, rose

**Colors/Candles** - red & white (symbolizing God and Goddess), dark green, dark yellow, rainbow spectrum, blue, pastels, all colors

**Tools/Symbols/Decorations** - maypole & ribbons, flower crowns, fires, bowers, fields, May baskets, white flowers and ribbons, daisy chain, flower chaplet, white wine in clear crystal glass, chalice, butter churn, blackthorn & hawthorn branches, seasonal fruit

**Goddesses** - May Queen, Flora, Maia, Flower Goddesses, Lady of the Greenwood, Divine Couples, and Goddesses of the Hunt, Aphrodite(Greek) Blodewedd (Welsh), Erzulie (Voodun), Baubo (Greek)Rhea (Cretean), Prithvi (Hindu)

**Gods** - May King, Jack in the Green, Horned God (European), Herne (Greek), Green Man, Bel (Celtic), Baal (Phoenician), Gods of the Hunt,

**Essence** - compassion, youthful play, exuberance, sensuality, pleasure, action

**Dynamics/Meaning** - sacred marriage of the Lord and the Lady, arrival of the Tuatha de Dannan in Ireland

**Purpose** - fertility festival, celebrate 1st day of Celtic summer, 1st day of the light half of the year

**Rituals/Magick** - The Great Rite, love, romance & fertility magick, elf & faery power, offerings to elementals, crop blessings, relighting sacred fires, divination, building shrines, fire-calling, honoring house guardians, snake dancing, bathing faces in the morning dew of May to retain their youthful beauty

**Customs** - maypole erection, dancing around the maypole, bonfires, jumping fire, mating, picking flowers, making flower baskets, frolicking throughout the countryside, archery tournaments, sword dances, feasting, drinking and music, moving the herds to high pasture

**Foods** - dairy, honey, oats, red fruits, herbal salads, red/pink wine punch, large round oatmeal/barley cakes, sweets

**Herbs** - almond, angelica, damiana, hawthorn, hibiscus, saffron, ash tree, bluebells, cinquefoil, daisy, frankincense, hawthorn, ivy, lilac, marsh marigold, meadowsweet, primrose, roses, woodruff, yellow cowslip, yarrow

**Element/Gender** - air/male

**Threshold** - dawn

To learn more about this and other Sabbats, get our Sabbats eBook at

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&products\\_id=129](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=129)

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## Witch SuperCenter April Sale Items

Magickal Herbs Kit, Sabbat Blends - Regular Price \$15.99, Sale Price \$9.99  
Beginning Value Tarot Deck - Regular Price - \$14.99, Sale Price - \$10.99  
Deluxe Wicca Starter Kit w/Money Spell - Regular Price - \$81.99, Sale Price - \$74.99  
Making Magickal Incense eBook - Regular Price - \$4.99, Sale Price - \$3.99  
Herbal Headache Tea - Regular Price - \$5.99, Sale Price - \$4.99

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## Herb of the Month

**Hibiscus** - Element - Water, Planet - Venus, Gender - Feminine, Parts Used - Flowers, Magickal Properties - Lust, Love, Divination, Aphrodisiac, Uses - The flowers can be brewed in a tea and drank to induce lust, they can also be used in love incenses and sachets.

To learn more about this and other herbs, get our Magickal Herbs eBook at

[http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=120](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=120)

## Stone of the Month

### Yellow Agate

Creamy Yellow Agate (energy: receptive, element: sun) Helps to lighten moods when used properly within a spell.

Mustard Yellow Agate (energy: receptive, element: sun) Useful in contacting the creative side of the mind and building an inventive mood.

## Rune of the Month

**Mannaz** (M: Man, mankind.) - The Self; the individual or the human race. Your attitude toward others and their attitudes towards you. Friends and enemies, social order. Intelligence, forethought, create, skill, ability. Divine structure, intelligence, awareness. Expect to receive some sort of aid or cooperation now. Mannaz Reversed or Merkstave: Depression, mortality, blindness, self-delusion. Cunning, slyness, manipulation, craftiness, calculation. Expect no help now.

To learn more about this and other runes, get our Rune Dice Book at [http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=124](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=124)

## Tarot Card of the Month

### The Empress

The Empress is a symbol of love, fertility and motherhood. She represents compassion and devotion. Positively associated with fertility, birth, motherhood, harmony, nature, prosperity, joy, love, and artistic ambition. Negatively associated with domestic upheaval, emotional blackmail, over-protectiveness, poverty, infertility, unwanted pregnancy, and suppressed logical expression.

To learn more about this and other Tarot Cards, get our Basic Tarot Card Reading eBook at [http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=107](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=107)

## Correspondence of the Month

### Trees

**Alder** (Alnus spp.) - This tree is a water lover. The oily water resistant wood has been used extensively for underwater foundations and pilings in Venice and elsewhere. It is used in dairy vessels and the branches in making whistles. It is associated with Bran, as He used His body as a bridge to span dangerous waters. It is used in the construction of bridges. Bran's Head was oracular. Alder indicates protection and oracular powers.

**Apple** (Malus spp.) - A dense, fine-grained, rosy-colored wood with a slightly sweet smell. The Apple is the earliest cultivated tree. It is associated with choice. At Somerset, an auction was held for single acre plots on two pieces of common land. Plots were marked and matching marks made on the fruit. The apples were then placed in a bag and commoners were allocated land by the distribution of the fruit. All the acres of land were similar, as many times today choices must be made between similar and equally attractive things. Regardless, the choice must be made. In Norse myth, Idunna was the keeper of the 'apples of immortality' which kept the Gods young. The 'fruit-bearing tree' referred to by Tacitus in his description of Norse runic divination may have been the

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apple. Apple indicates choice, and is useful for love and healing magic.

**Ash** (*Fraxinus* spp.) - A strong, straight-grained wood; sometimes has 'olive' streaks or stripes in the grain. The European variety (*fraxinus excelsior*) was referred to in the Eddas as the species of Yggdrasil - the 'World-Tree'. The first man, named Ask, was created from an ash log. Ash was commonly used to make spears because of its 'springiness' and straight grain. In North America, strips of black ash were split along the grain to make splints for baskets and hoops. It is used in weaver's beams. Women would weave cloth and intermingling threads together in a tight pattern as the microcosm and the macrocosm are united. Ash can be used in spells requiring focus and strength of purpose, and indicates the linking of the inner and outer worlds.

**Beech** (*Fagus* spp.) - Beech wood is closely grained, very easy to work giving a smooth even surface. At one time Beech tablets were used as writing surfaces because of the above mentioned qualities. Beech and book have the same word origins. Beech is concerned with ancient knowledge as revealed in old objects, places and writings. Beech indicates guidance from the past to gain insight, which protects and provides a solid base upon which all relies.

**Birch** (*Betula* spp.) - A lovely pale, fine-grained wood. Long associated with fertility and healing magic, birch twigs were used to bestow fertility on cattle and newlyweds, and children's cradles were made from its wood. Birch is one of the first trees to grow on bare soil and thus it births the entire forest. Criminals were at one time birched to drive out evil influences on them, to renew them for the new year. Birch was associated with Thor, probably in recognition of his role as an agricultural and fertility deity. Birch is an incredibly useful tree - nearly every part of it is edible, and its sap was an important source of sugar to Native Americans and early settlers. The inner bark provides a pain reliever and the leaves are used to treat arthritis. Its bark was used for everything from paper to canoe hulls, and axe handles were also made from Birch. Birch is most useful for fertility and healing spells.

**Blackthorn** (*Prunus spinosa*) - Blackthorn is a winter tree. The sloe, its fruits ripen and sweeten only after the nip of the frost. White flowers are seen even before the leaves in the spring. It is black barked with vicious thorns and grows in dense thickets. The wood is used in the cudgel shillelagh and Blasting Stick. Its thorns are used to pierce waxen images. Blackthorn indicates strong action of fate or outside influences that must be obeyed.

**Elder** (*Sambucus* spp.) - The Latin name *sambucus* is derived from a Greek word for a wind instrument made from elder. The pith can easily be removed from the small branches to make a flute. Elder regrows damaged branches with ease and can root rapidly from any part. A tea for purifying the blood can be made from the flowers and wine from the fruit, but in general the tree is poisonous. In Norse mythology, the Goddess Freya chose the black elder as her home. In medieval times it was the abode of witches and it was considered dangerous to sleep under its branches or to cut it down. Sticks of Elder were used as magickal horses by Witches. Elder indicates the end in the beginning and the beginning in the end. Life in Death and Death in Life.

**Elm** (*Ulmus* spp.) - A slightly fibrous, tan-colored wood with a slight sheen. Elm is often associated with Mother and Earth Goddesses, and was said to be the abode of faeries, explaining Kipling's injunction; "Ailim be the lady's tree; burn it not or cursed ye'll be". Elm wood is valued for its resistance to splitting, and the inner bark was used for

cordage and chair caning. Elm adds stability and grounding to a spell.

**Fir** (*Abies* spp.) - Fir is a very tall slender tree that grows in mountainous regions on the upper slopes. Fir cones respond to rain by closing and the sun by opening. Fir can see over great distance to the far horizon beyond and below. Fir indicates high views and long sights with clear vision of what is beyond and yet to come.

**Hawthorn** (*Crataegus oxyacantha*) - A light, hard, apple-like wood. Hawthorn usually doesn't grow much bigger than a shrub, and is popular in England as a hedge plant. The wood from the Hawthorn provides the hottest fire known. Its leaves and blossoms are used to create a tea to aid with anxiety, appetite loss and poor circulation. The Greeks and

Romans saw the hawthorn as symbolic of hope and marriage, but in medieval Europe it was associated with witchcraft and considered to be unlucky. This seeming contradiction is to be expected from a tree with such beautiful blossoms and such deadly-looking thorns. Hawthorn can be used for protection, love and marriage spells.

**Hazel** (*Corylus avellana*) - Hazel is another food tree. In Celtic tradition, the Salmon of Knowledge is said to eat the 9 nuts of poetic wisdom dropped into its sacred pool from the hazel tree growing beside it. Each nut eaten by the salmon becomes a spot on its skin. The Hazel tree provided shade, protection and baskets. In Europe and North America, hazel is commonly used for 'water-witching' - the art of finding water with a forked stick.

Magickally, hazel wood is used to gain knowledge, wisdom and poetic inspiration.

**Holly** (*Ilex aquifolium*) - A beautiful white wood with an almost invisible grain; looks very much like ivory. Holly is associated with the death and rebirth symbolism of winter in both Pagan and Christian lore. In Arthurian legend, Gawain (representing the Oak King of summer) fought the Green Knight, who was armed with a holly club to represent winter. It is one of the three timbers used in the construction of chariot wheel shafts. It was also used in spear shafts. The qualities of a spear shaft are balance and directness, as the spear must be hefted to be thrown the holly indicates directed balance and vigor to fight if the cause is just. Holly may be used in spells having to do with sleep or rest, and to ease the passage of death.

**Larch** (*Larix europaea*) - A light softwood, very similar to spruce. Larch is one of the few conifers which shed its needles in the winter. It is closely related to the North American tamarack (*Larix laricina*). The larch plays an important role in Sami (Lapp) and Siberian mythology where it takes the place of the ash as the World-tree. Their shamans use larch wood to rim their ceremonial drums. The smoke from burning larch is said to ward off evil spirits. Larch may be used for protection and to induce visions.

**Maple** (*Acer* spp.) - A very hard, pale, fine-grained wood. Although the sugar maple has the highest sugar content in its sap, all maple species can be tapped to make syrup and sugar, making them a vital resource to early North American settlers. In north-eastern North America, the annual 'sugaring-off' usually coincides with the vernal equinox, making it one of the first signs of spring. Maple can bring success and abundance.

**Oak** (*Quercus* spp.)

**Red Oak** (*Quercus rubra*) - A strong, straight-grained, slightly porous wood with a slight reddish hue. Its energy is a bit lighter and more 'fiery' than the other oaks.

**White Oak** (*Quercus alba*) - Darker and denser than red oak. It's strength and density have led to its being used in barrel-making and shipbuilding. It is useful for spells

requiring strength and solidity.

**Brown (English) Oak** (*Quercus robur*) - A richly-colored dark brown wood. 'Bog oak' is brown oak which has fallen into a peat bog and been preserved there for hundreds of years until it begins to have the consistency of coal. Brown oak has a very earthy feel, and is useful for grounding.

Oak has been considered sacred by just about every culture that has encountered the tree, but it was held in particular esteem by the Norse and Celts because of its size, longevity, and nutritious acorns. The oak is frequently associated with Gods of thunder and lightning such as Zeus, Thor, and the Lithuanian God Perkunas. This association may be due to the oak's habit of being hit by lightning during storms. Specific oak trees have also been associated with the 'Wild Hunt', which is led by Herne in England and by Wodin in Germany. In general, oak can be used in spells for protection, strength, success and stability; the different varieties will lend their own special 'flavor' to the magic.

**Pine** (*Pinus spp.*) - The Pine tree is an evergreen, its old title was "the sweetest of woods". Its needles are a valuable source of vitamin C and can loosen a tight chest. The scent of Pine is useful in the alleviation of guilt. The Bach's flower remedies lists it for dealing with feelings of guilt. Pine indicates issues of guilt within you.

**Poplar** (*Populus spp.*) - The White Poplar flourishes beside rivers, in marshes and in other watery areas. The pith is star shaped. The upper leaves are green, the underside is silver. The wood was used in the making of shields. Leaves move with every puff of wind. It is commonly referred to as the talking, whispering and quivering tree. The Anglo-Saxon rune poem seems to refer to the poplar as being associated with the rune berkano. Heracles wore a crown of poplar leaves when he retrieved Cerberus from Hades, and the upper surface of the leaves was thus darkened from Hades' smoky fumes. In Christian lore, the quaking poplar (aspen) was used to construct Christ's cross, and the leaves of the tree quiver when they remember this fact. The Poplar's ability to resist and to shield, its association with speech, language and the Winds indicates an ability to endure and conquer.

**Rowan** (*Sorbus aucuparia*) - The Rowan tree (also called Mountain Ash) is long known for aid and protection against enchantment. Sticks of the Rowan were used to carve Runes on. It was also used in the art of metal divining. Rowan spays and crosses were placed over cattle in pens and over homes for protection. Its lovely red berries feed the birds in winter. The berries have a tiny pentagram on them. The pentagram is the ancient symbol of protection. The Rowan tree indicates protection and control of the senses from enchantment and beguiling.

**Willow** (*Salix babylonica*) - The willow is another water loving tree. Willow bark contains Salicin which is used in the treatment of rheumatic fever and various damp diseases. Her catkins, which appear in early spring before her leaves, attract bees to start the cycle of pollination. In western tradition it is a symbol of mourning and unlucky love. The Latin name for the weeping willow refers to the psalm in which the Hebrews mourn their captivity in Babylon by the willows. Willow indicates cycles, rhythms and the ebb and flux.

**Yew** (*Taxus baccata*) - A beautifully smooth, gold-colored wood with a wavy grain. All

parts of the tree are poisonous except the fleshy covering of the berry, and its medicinal uses include a recently discovered treatment for cancer. Long associated with magick, death, rebirth and the runes, the yew may be the oldest-lived tree in the world. Ancient yews can be found in churchyards all over Britain, where they often pre-date even the oldest churches. There are some convincing arguments for it being the original 'World-tree' of Scandinavian mythology. In Europe, yew wood was used for making bows, while on the northwest coast of North America, the Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*) is used by the Haida and other tribes for making masks and boxes. Yew may be used to enhance magickal and psychic abilities, and to induce visions.

To learn more about this and other correspondences, get our *Magickal Correspondences* eBook at

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## **Spell of the Month**

### Star of Love Spell

Paper

Pen or pencil

Pink or red rose petals

Jasmine incense

Red candle

Red crystals, such as garnet, rose quartz or ruby

This spell should be performed on a clear night. Arrange the items on your altar, then light the candle and incense. Think about what qualities are important to you in a mate and write them on the piece of paper. Take the flower petals and crystals outside with you, and look up at the stars. Choose one bright one and focus on its light and energy. Hold up the petals and stones to the star and repeat the following, three times:

"Star of love, burn so bright,  
aid me in my spell tonight.  
Unite my true love to me,  
as I will it, so mote it be."

As you say the words, visualize the light from the star beaming down and filling the things in your hands. After saying the spell, return to your altar and place the flowers and crystals at the base of the candle. Focus on the candle flame, and repeat the words above another three times.

To receive more spells, get our *Wicca 101 and Beyond: A Witch's Grimoire* eBook at [http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=9&products\\_id=108](http://witchsupercenter.com/zencart/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=9&products_id=108)