

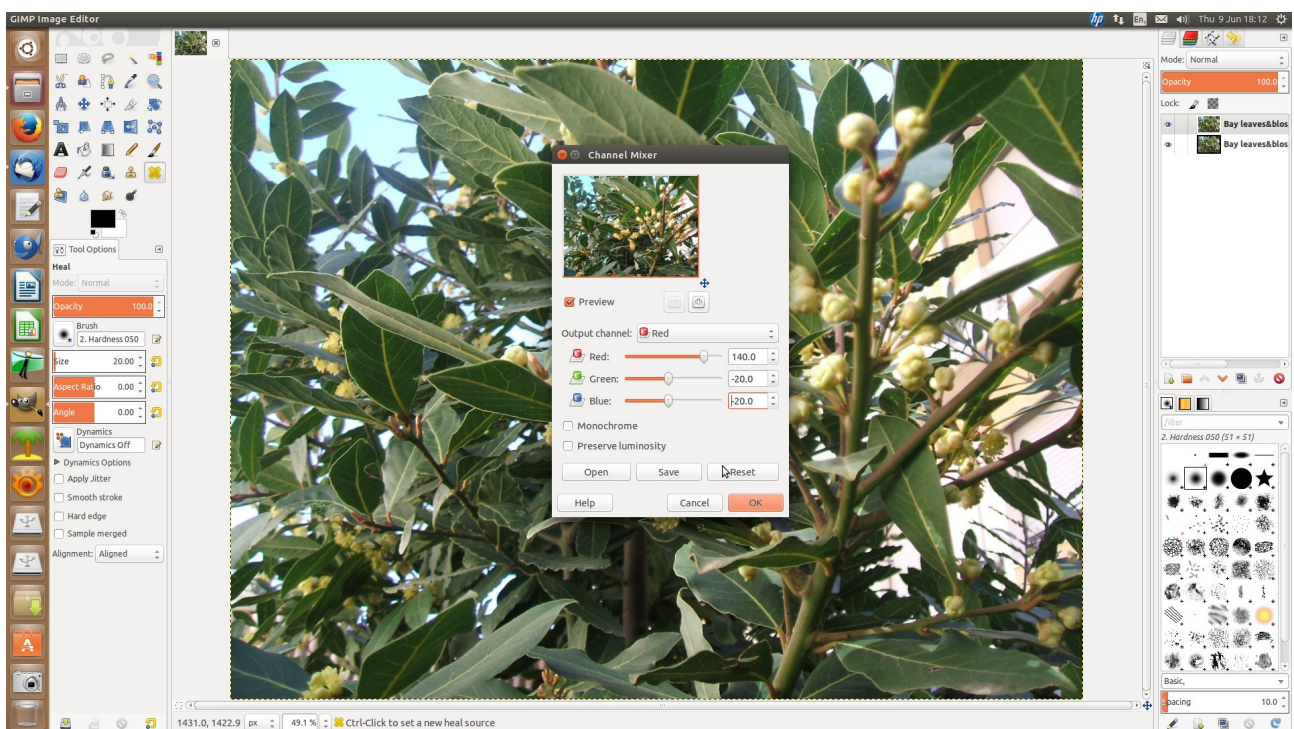
Modifying and Image

We will start with the photograph of bay leaves and flowers.



Load the image into Gimp and duplicate the layer.

With the top layer active, go to Colours/Components/Channel Mixer and adjust the levels as in this screenshot.



The Red Channel is raised from 100% to 140% and the Green and Blue Channels are reduced from 0% to -20%. (The total of the three channels remains 100%.)
Change the Output Channel to Green and do the same there. (Green to 140%, Red and Blue to -20%.)
Repeat the process for the Blue Channel and click OK.

The result is much too bright!



Now we can reduce the opacity until we have the result we like.

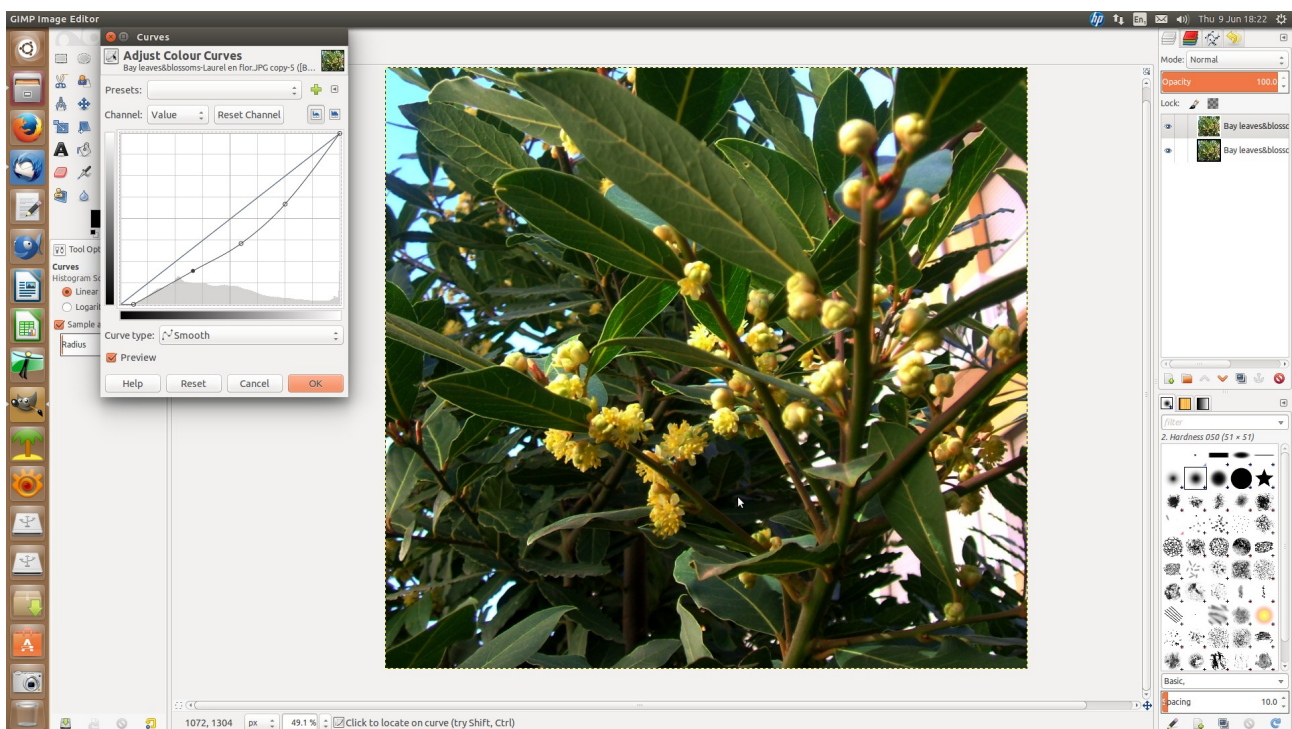


That's better!

Flatten the image and let us crop it to focus attention on the area with the most flowers.

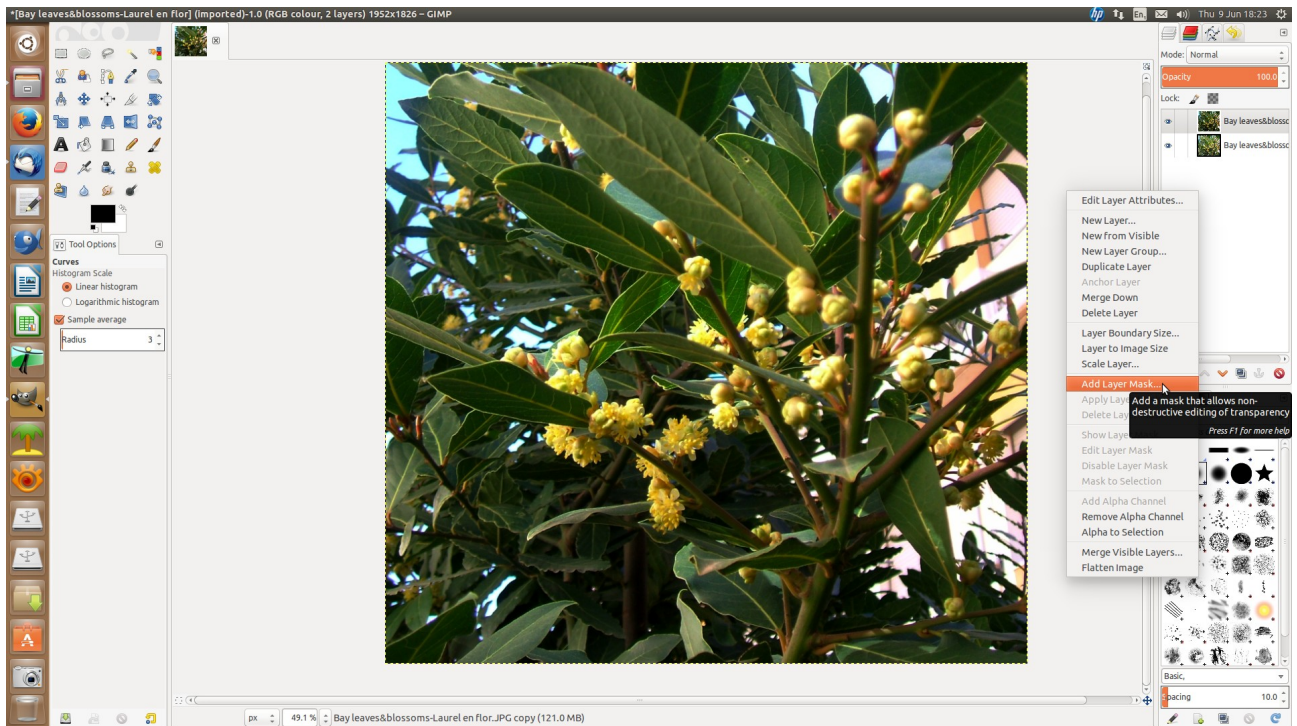


Having cropped the image we will now make a duplicate layer and darken the top layer until the corners are at the brightness we finally require.

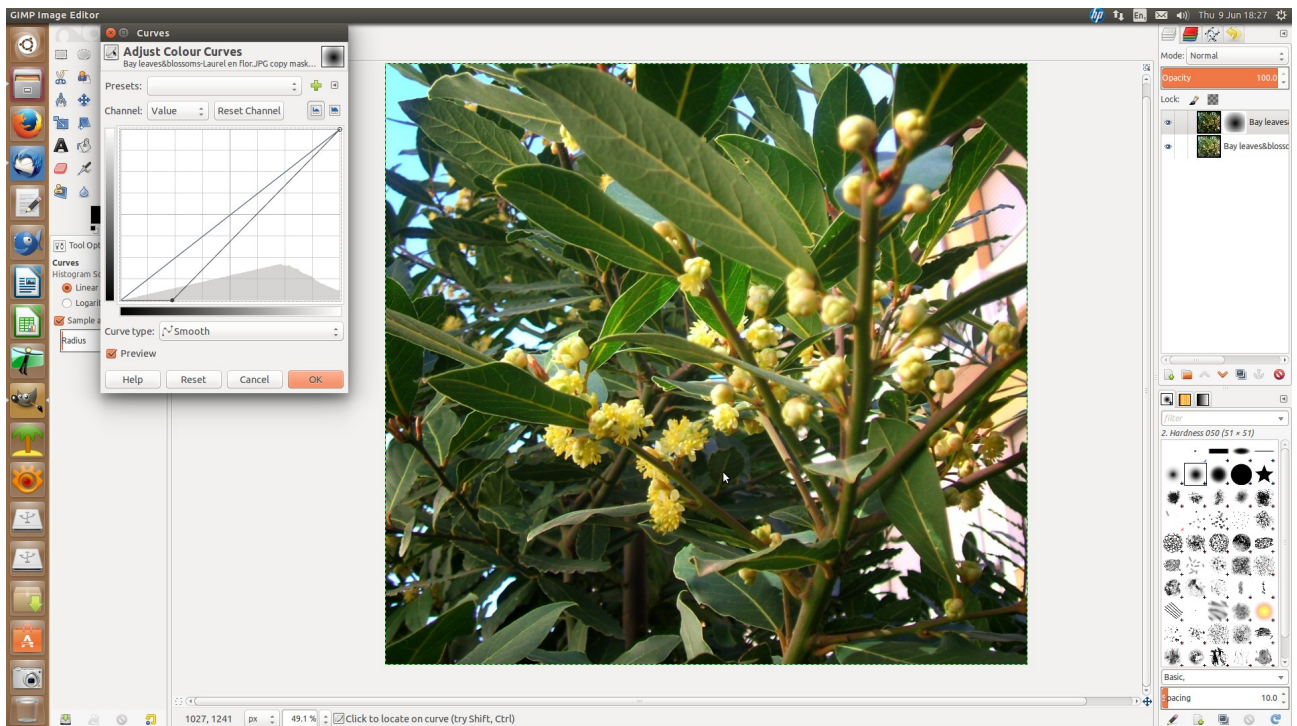


This has darkened the whole of the picture, so now we will add a layer mask that we can use with a gradient to lighten the central parts of the image as we wish.

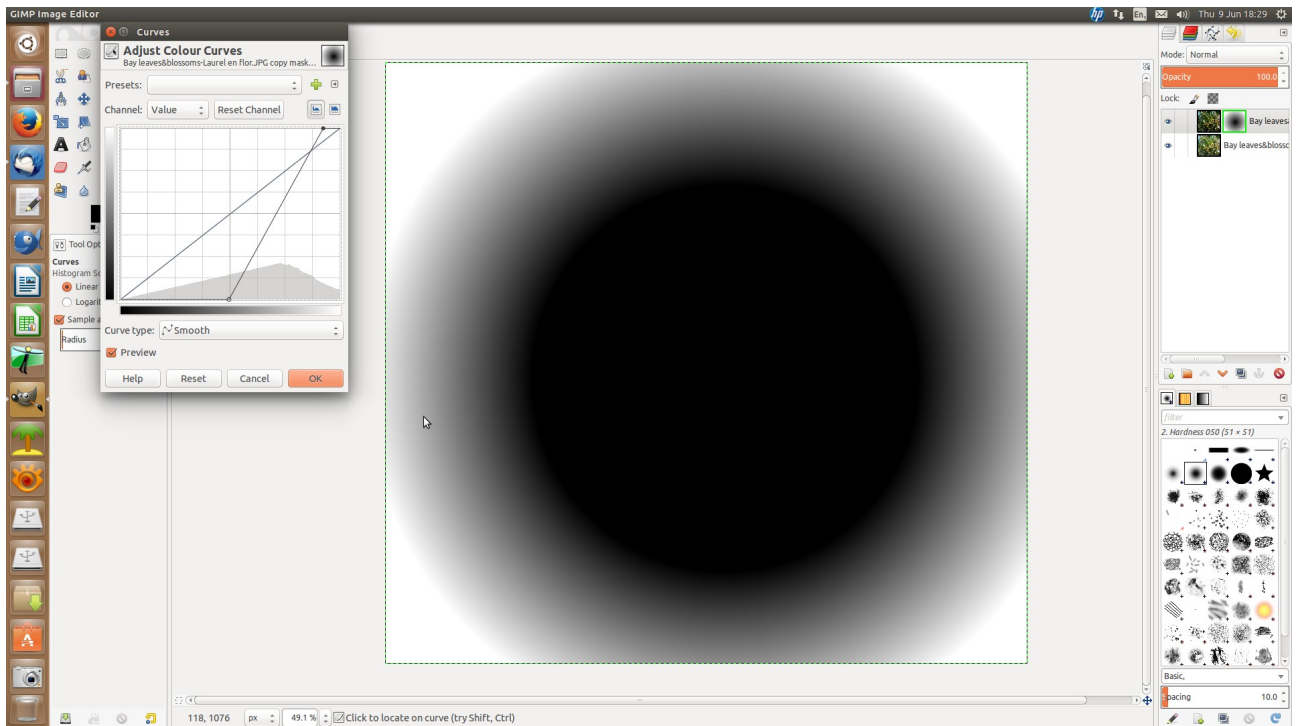
Doing it this way allows us to see the effects of our adjustments as we are making them.



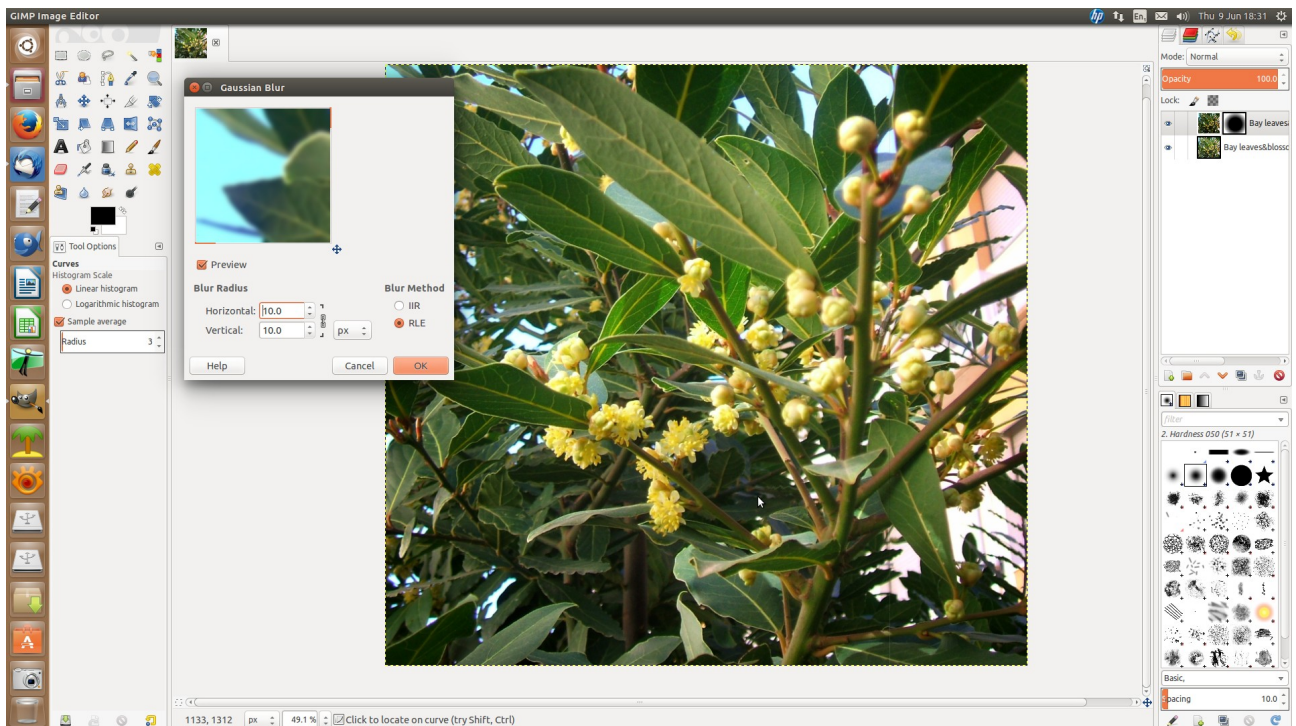
Having created our layer mask we can now make our gradient – Radial – FG to BG. Put the cursor in the centre of the image and draw a line to one of the corners before you release the left button. You will see the gradient appear on the layer mask. Now go to Colours/Curves and as you change the curve you will see the effect on your image.



If you right-click within the layers area and select “Make Layer Mask Visible”, the layer mask will be surrounded by a green border. With Colours/Curves you can make changes but this time you will see the effect these changes make to the mask itself.



Now if we select the image logo, instead of the mask, we can add a Gaussian Blur to the top layer – that is the outer parts, towards the corners without affecting the central region which is protected by the mask.



The End!