

## Wisconsin Horticulture Update Thursday, July 31, 2008

Conference Code: 8213#....this will be the conference code for the season

### Key Topics:

Emerald Ash Borer: <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/>

Garden Center Pesticide list:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/landscape/GCPesticides.htm>

Anthraco-nose: <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/AnthAcerLC.pdf>

Cabbage looper: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/2000/2201.html>

Gypsy moth: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3738.PDF>

Japanese beetle: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/gardenfacts/X1062.pdf>

White mold: <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/whitemold.doc>

Fruit Tree Management: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Growing-Apples-in-Wisconsin-P413C88.aspx>

Apple scab: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/2000/2201.html>

Codling Moth: <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Apple-Pest-Management-for-Home-Gardeners-P424C89.aspx>

Cornell's Fruit Crop Diagnostic Program:

<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/departments/faculty/pritts/BerryDoc/berrydoc.htm>

### County Roll Call

Bayfield, Dane, Iron, Marinette, Outagamie, Polk, and St. Croix.

### Weather Report for 2008

#### Growing Degree Report by District

For the period from 04/01/2008 to 07/30/2008

District	GDD	GDD
	43 Base	50Base
Southwest	2022.3	1415.2
South Central	2128.1	1489.6
Southeast	2040.5	1424.6
West Central	1979.4	1387.7
Central	2017.4	1403.9
East Central	2022.0	1406.3
Northwest	1734.2	1172.3
North Central	1767.6	1190.0
Northeast	1902.3	1295.7

**Growing Degree Report by County**  
**For the period from 04/01/2008 to 07/30/2008**

County	GDD	
	43 Base	50Base
Adams	2181.7	1540.2
Ashland	1481.5	954.5
Barron	1884.1	1299.6
Bayfield	1657.9	1103.6
Brown	2081.3	1446.5
Buffalo	2256.7	1613.3
Burnett	1854.7	1284.2
Calumet	1266.0	876.6
Chippewa	1974.9	1362.9
Clark	0.0	0.0
Columbia	2341.6	1677.6
Crawford	2101.6	1453.5
Dane	2194.0	1540.8
Dodge	2066.0	1440.0
Door	1846.4	1225.1
Douglas	1505.7	994.4
Dunn	1931.5	1318.0
Eau Claire	2091.3	1474.7
Florence	0.0	0.0
Fond Du Lac	2085.1	1453.7
Forest	1805.2	1234.2
Grant	2200.3	1545.3
Green	2079.3	1449.1
Green Lake	0.0	0.0
Iowa	2046.2	1409.5
Iron	0.0	0.0
Jackson	2149.0	1549.5
Jefferson	2061.0	1439.9
Juneau	2077.6	1453.0
Kenosha	2056.8	1436.7
Kewaunee	1851.9	1259.9
La Crosse	2204.4	1566.6
Lafayette	2257.8	1579.9
Langlade	1893.8	1273.6
Lincoln	1671.9	1120.5
Manitowoc	1938.4	1349.6

County	GDD	
	43 Base	50Base
Marathon	1841.1	1260.0
Marinette	1940.8	1367.0
Marquette	2143.2	1506.2
Menominee	0.0	0.0
Milwaukee	2002.3	1395.8
Monroe	1993.6	1393.7
Oconto	2072.1	1447.0
Oneida	1739.0	1165.2
Outagamie	2010.9	1400.6
Ozaukee	1996.9	1382.1
Pepin	0.0	0.0
Pierce	61.5	33.0
Polk	2141.4	1509.7
Portage	2093.6	1474.7
Price	1978.0	1365.6
Racine	2002.5	1408.7
Richland	1074.3	731.3
Rock	1952.2	1337.7
Rusk	1740.0	1152.0
Sauk	2037.4	1428.7
Sawyer	1819.5	1248.2
Shawano	2006.0	1399.8
Sheboygan	1884.4	1286.5
St. Croix	1969.5	1355.7
Taylor	1772.5	1179.5
Trempealeau	0.0	0.0
Vernon	2077.1	1452.2
Vilas	1681.5	1122.3
Walworth	2263.5	1608.2
Washburn	1593.5	1084.1
Washington	2040.7	1416.5
Waukesha	2041.9	1428.6
Waupaca	1994.8	1369.8
Waushara	0.0	0.0
Winnebago	2205.8	1553.1
Wood	1858.7	1256.7

**County Reports**

Bayfield County- Our blueberry harvest has been excellent this year. Raspberries are kind of winding down. A lot of anthracnose. Other than that, the farmer's markets are really full and looking great.

Portage County-We've just been seeing a lot of tree problems. Of course the green beans and the potatoes are being harvested right now commercially, so that's a big part of what goes on in Portage County. But mostly fungal problems: oak wilt and verticillium, things like that. People having problems with their trees and that seems to be the biggest problem we've been seeing.

### **UW-Extension/Madison Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) Update**

#### **UW-Extension/Madison Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) Update**

Brian Hudelson, Ann Joy, Amy Gibbs, and Brooke Weber, Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

The PDDC receives samples of many plant samples from around the state. The following diseases/disorders have been identified at the PDDC since July 16, 2008:

<b>PLANT</b>	<b>DISEASE/DISORDER</b>	<b>PATHOGEN</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>
<b>EVERGREENS</b>			
Douglas-Fir	<a href="#">Swiss Needle Cast</a>	<i>Phaeocryptopus gaeumannii</i>	Dane
Juniper	Diplodia Canker	<i>Diplodia</i> sp.	Washington
	Root Rot	<i>Pythium</i> sp.	Washington
Pine	<a href="#">Diplodia Tip Blight</a>	<i>Diplodia pinea</i>	St. Croix
Spruce (including Black Hills, blue)	Phomopsis Canker/Tip Blight	<i>Phomopsis</i> sp.	Dane, Ozaukee
	<a href="#">Rhizosphaera Needle Cast</a>	<i>Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii</i>	Dane, La Crosse, Ozaukee, Sheboygan
Yew	Macrophoma Needle Blight	<i>Macrophoma</i> sp.	Brown
<b>FRUIT CROPS</b>			
Apple	<a href="#">Fire Blight</a>	<i>Erwinia amylovora</i>	Marathon
Blueberry	Cytospora Canker	<i>Cytospora</i> sp.	Jackson
Cranberry	Heat/Water Stress	None (Environmental)	Sauk
Grape	Black Rot	<i>Guignardia bidwellii</i>	Marathon
<b>HERBACEOUS ORNAMENTALS</b>			
Christmas Cactus	Stem Rot	<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	Dane
Lamium	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Pythium</i> sp.	Milwaukee
Lily-of-the-Valley	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Pythium</i> sp., <i>Cylindrocarpon</i> sp.	Dane
Nepeta	Anthrachnose	<i>Colletotrichum</i> sp.	Jefferson
Sunflower	Stem Rot	<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	Ozaukee
Vinca	Macrophoma Blight	<i>Macrophoma</i> sp.	Milwaukee
	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>	Milwaukee

<b>VEGETABLES</b>			
Garlic	Basal Plate Rot	<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	Dane
Lima Bean	Bacterial Brown Spot	<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>syringae</i>	Fond du Lac
Onion	Anthracnose	<i>Colletotrichum</i> sp.	Green Lake
	Downy Mildew	<i>Peronospora destructor</i>	Dane
	Purple Blotch	<i>Alternaria porri</i>	Green Lake
	Sour Skin	<i>Burkholderia cepacia</i>	Waushara
	Stemphylium Leaf Blight	<i>Stemphylium</i> sp.	Dane
Pea	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Pythium</i> sp.	Trempealeau
Potato	Shoot Blight	<i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>	Jefferson
Snap Bean	Bacterial Brown Spot	<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>syringae</i>	Sauk
Tomato	Anthracnose	<i>Colletotrichum coccodes</i>	Green Lake
	Leaf Mold	<i>Fulvia fulva</i>	Green Lake
	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Pythium</i> sp.	Green Lake
	<a href="#">Septoria Leaf Spot</a>	<i>Septoria lycopersici</i>	Dane

<b>WOODY ORNAMENTALS</b>			
Ash (including White)	<a href="#">Verticillium Wilt</a>	<i>Verticillium</i> sp.	Dane
Boxwood	Phomopsis Canker	<i>Phomopsis</i> sp.	Milwaukee
	Volutella Blight	<i>Volutella</i> sp.	Milwaukee
Crabapple	<a href="#">Apple Scab</a>	<i>Venturia inaequalis</i>	La Crosse
Honeysuckle	Phomopsis Canker	<i>Phomopsis</i> sp.	Milwaukee
Japanese Barberry	Cytospora Canker	<i>Cytospora</i> sp.	Milwaukee
Maple (including Sugar)	<a href="#">Anthracnose</a>	<i>Gloeosporium</i> sp.	Iowa, Dickinson (MI)
	Cytospora Canker	<i>Cytospora</i> sp.	Dane, Dickinson (MI)
	Girdling Root	None (Physiological)	Dane
	<a href="#">Nectria Canker</a>	<i>Nectria</i> sp./ <i>Tubercularia</i> sp.	Dane
Elm	<a href="#">Anthracnose</a>	<i>Asteroma</i> sp.	La Crosse
	<a href="#">Dutch Elm Disease</a>	<i>Ophiostoma ulmi</i>	Dane, Green Lake
Horse-Chestnut	<a href="#">Chlorosis</a>	None (Nutritional/pH)	Milwaukee
	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Pythium</i> sp.	Milwaukee
Japanese Tree Lilac	<a href="#">Bacterial Blight</a>	<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv.	Marathon

	<a href="#">Verticillium Wilt</a>	<i>syringae</i> <i>Verticillium</i> sp.	Milwaukee
Mulberry	<a href="#">Nectria Canker</a>	<i>Nectria</i> sp./ <i>Tubercularia</i> sp.	La Crosse
Oak (including Bur, Red, White)	<a href="#">Anthracnose</a>	<i>Gloeosporium</i> sp.	Dane, Racine, Sauk
	<a href="#">Chlorosis</a>	None (Nutritional/pH)	Dane, Rock
	<a href="#">Oak Wilt</a>	<i>Ceratocystis fagacearum</i>	Dane, Rock
	Sphaeropsis Canker	<i>Sphaeropsis</i> sp.	Rock
	<a href="#">Tubakia Leaf Spot</a>	<i>Tubakia</i> sp.	Racine
Prunus	<a href="#">Bacterial Canker</a>	<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i>	Eau Claire, Rock
	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Pythium</i> sp., <i>Fusarium</i> sp.	Dane
Redbud	<a href="#">Verticillium Wilt</a>	<i>Verticillium</i> sp.	Dane, Walworth
Rhododendron	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Phytophthora</i> sp., <i>Pythium</i> sp., <i>Rhizoctonia</i> sp.	Dane, Waukesha
Viburnum	<a href="#">Root Rot</a>	<i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>	Sheboygan

For additional information on plant diseases and their control, visit the PDDC website at [pddc.wisc.edu](http://pddc.wisc.edu).

**WIDATCP Report:** Krista Hamilton, DATCP Entomologist 05/16/2008

See <http://pestbulletin.wi.gov/aboutus.jsp> for details.

### Fruits

**APPLE MAGGOT** - The emergence of apple maggot flies has been widespread, but not particularly heavy this season. Counts ranging from 1-8 moths per trap were reported this week. <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Apple-Pest-Management-for-Home-Gardeners-P424C89.aspx>

**CODLING MOTH** - The BIOFIX or continued capture of moths (of the second flight) was established between July 17 and 25 at a majority of southern Wisconsin orchards. Traps should be monitored regularly and treatments applied when the economic threshold of 5 moths per trap per week is exceeded. The peak of the second flight of moths is projected to occur in areas where degree day accumulations exceed 1,577 (base 50°F) in the week ahead. High counts for the July 25-31 reporting period were 59 moths at Dodgeville in Iowa County and 24 moths at Deerfield in Dane County. <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Apple-Pest-Management-for-Home-Gardeners-P424C89.aspx>

**APPLE SCAB** - Primary scab lesions are beginning to appear in orchards where the infection process was not fully inhibited by earlier fungicide applications. Orchard blocks should be monitored for primary scab lesions at this time. If no scab is detected, the fungicide rate can be reduced to ½ of the standard rate.

<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/ScabApplALC.DOC>

**POTATO LEAFHOPPER** - Orchardists should continue to inspect the undersides of leaves for leafhopper nymphs as more acres of alfalfa are harvested next week,

particularly in non-bearing orchard blocks. On the basis of the ratio of nymphs collected in sweep nets, reproduction in alfalfa appears to be intense. The presence of only 1 or 2 nymphs per leaf can cause symptoms such as leaf curling.

### **Vegetables**

**CABBAGE LOOPER** - Counts ranging only as high as 24 moths have been reported since July 23. A total of 24 moths were registered on the evenings of July 28-29 at the Bourbonnais, IL trap location. Cabbage growers should continue to monitor fields for new egg masses and small larvae. <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/2000/2201.html>

### **Woody Ornamentals**

**Anthracnose** <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/AnthAcerLC.doc>

**JAPANESE BEETLE** - Heavy infestations are present in yards and home gardens in Dane County, and orchards in Kenosha and Racine counties are reporting large numbers of these beetles. Infestations likewise have been severe in nurseries in Jefferson County. Trapping in residential areas generally attracts more beetles than normally would be present, and is not recommended unless areas are isolated from other Japanese beetle breeding sites or if mass trapping is used.

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/gardenfacts/X1062.pdf>

### **Specialist Reports:**

**The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) insect has been found in Wisconsin.** Wisconsin Officials with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and the Department of Natural Resources today announced the first confirmed occurrence of emerald ash borer (EAB), an invasive, destructive insect pest of ash trees, in Wisconsin. The discovery was made by forest health specialists investigating a citizen report of dying ash trees in a private woodlot in Ozaukee County, near the Village of Newburg. Officials announcing the find emphasized that the first steps in responding to the infestation will be to quarantine movement of hardwood firewood, ash nursery stock, timber or any other article that could spread EAB out of the infested area. Since the infestation site is near Washington County, it's likely that both counties will be quarantined. Additional counties may also be included. More information will be forthcoming as the investigation of the find continues.

Below are key informational resources identified to assist with education, impacts, precautions and updates concerning State and local issues.

<<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer/>>http<<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer/>>:<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer/>

UW-Madison Entomology Department web site: Includes pictures of EAB beetle, look-alikes, ash tree identification, Wisconsin's EAB Position Statement, ash tree damage symptoms, downloadable posters, etc. Check out the following icon information on the Department of Entomology web site

<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer/Insecticide%20Options%20for%20Protecting%20Ash.pdf>>Insecticide Options for Protecting Ash Trees and Their Effectiveness

<http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/>

DATCP web site, this is a portal to UW, WIDNR and other web sites. This web site is regularly updated and to be the primary resource site for Wisconsin EAB information. Check out the following icon information on the DATCP web site:

<<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/response.jsp>>Wisconsin's Response

<<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/homeowners.jsp>>Homeowner Information

<<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/resources.jsp>>Resources and Publications: Power Point Presentations

<<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/survey.jsp>>Emerald Ash Borer Survey Program

<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/resources.jsp>

This DATCP web site has a host of resources including power points, publications, etc.

<<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/landscape/AshAlternatives.doc>><http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/landscape/AshAlternatives.doc>

Listing of tree species to replace ash trees for homeowner and urban landscape planning: Commercially available tree species and cultivars. Dr. Laura Jull, Department of Horticulture, UW-Madison.

<<http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>><http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>

This web site is part of a multi-state effort including Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin to provide the latest information about EAB.

## **Jed Colquhoun, UW Extension Weed Specialist**

I don't have any official report other than to take questions and answers. One piece of information that I would like to share, is the role of Extension with pesticide complaints and such. We can, and often do, offer information and background knowledge for people that get involved in herbicide drift complaints; in particular a lot of these would be homeowners that feel that they've received drip from a commercial application or a neighbor or a landscape company and such. One thing to keep in mind though that we've run into unfortunately many times this spring that the Department of Agriculture is the official group that does the regulation as well as compliance and investigation, and I think there's been some confusion among homeowners that are close to commercial production, UW-Extension can act as an arbitrator in those cases, and again while we offer advice and knowledge and general education on that, this is a situation of drip or non-target exposure. DATCP has the pesticide division; they are the only group in the state that can do an official investigation. I mention that because I think some county agents have unfortunately gotten between a rock and a hard place with some of the clientele, and again the easiest thing to do in that case if they want to pursue that is to direct them to the local investigation office. Are there any questions relative to some of those situations or the process that they go through, I know that can be quite confusing also. I'd be happy to answer those,

otherwise if you have any particular weed related questions, I'd be happy to answer those. If you could give us just some idea as to what somebody could be doing right now culturally for weed control, maybe for next year or I just had a lot of people say that pigweed is really bad this year in their vegetables and lambsquarter. These are people that till, don't use too much for herbicides other than Round-Up on the edges. And some questions about cover crops in like a community garden we use clover in between all our rows and it's just growing like crazy and we just mow it and no weeds. There's a success story.

This is one of those interesting situations where some of our crops that were mentioned earlier are suffering a bit now from the effects of either the long winter or now droughty conditions across the state. You'll find it in general that weeds have a very vast and broad genetic background and so we have a weed for every situation unfortunately, and will take advantage of these mis-opportunities to expand so we have had lots of reports of weeds being worse now than they had been in the past. Those folks that hadn't used herbicides have also seen a fair amount of poor weed control because of the dry conditions after the rains finally stopped, not activating some of those pre-emergent herbicides. But there certainly is a weed for every condition and we will continue to see that. As far as what can we do kind of midseason in terms of weeds, this is what I call Christmas in July; hoe-hoe-hoe. Because removing them at this point, and the most important part of that that it does get overlooked, and I'm even guilty of it in my rather large vegetable garden at home, I start to suffer a little bit of lackness with this time of year on weeding, and this is the worse time to give up really because of the ability of most of these annual weeds to produce seed. Common lambs quarters you mentioned for example can produce up to a half million seeds per plant. They put that back into the soil and that's your potential for future issues, and so doing whatever it takes to keep them from producing seed if they're already there at this point obviously, maintain vegetable garden in a large plant like that and then general herbicides are fairly inappropriate. Anything you can do, even if it's just weed whacking down the rows of weeds basically to remove them or mowing if you can get in there with a small mower and such to prevent them from producing seeds goes a long way into the future. And that will persist well into the future. So again, this comes back to announce the preventions worth a pound of cures as far as preventing that weed and seed production. You mentioned the cover crops, as far as what can we do in the future to prevent this level of hand weeding that we get into this time of year, there are a couple of strategies that are working very well in home vegetable gardens, and we've also had them in our research plots as you mentioned some of the work that we talked about earlier. But one thing that we've done a lot of work with is spring cover crops that can be mowed off and then tilled into the soil prior to planting, and looking at allopathic effects or the ability of those cover crops to produce their own herbicides that will suppress weed growth, particularly when you're transplanting vegetables like peppers and tomatoes into that ground. We did some research for the last couple of years looking at home garden scale use of cover crops and there are a couple cover crops in particular that worked very well. One is the old annual buckwheat, and that worked extremely well in the last couple of years, and that used to be the old standby in vegetable gardening. This would be an annual buckwheat that we spring plant as early as you can get into that soil, you don't even have to till that soil. Make sure you seed that high germination so that what you plant comes up when you want it to plant. As we let that buckwheat go as long as we can, it works better in areas where you're going to plant some of the later season vegetables like the transplanted melons, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, etc. It won't work well with early season crops like lettuce and peas because you need to get adequate buckwheat growth. And then we would mow that off ideally just when the buckwheat starts to flower, when you do it at that stage the buckwheat doesn't re-grow because it has gone reproductive, yet it's early enough that it won't produce viable seeds that will haunt you for many years because it does have a very hard, long-lived seed. And then when we did that we did a fair amount of suppression of weeds based on the physical residue of the buckwheat or any other cover crop over the soil as well as

some of the allopathic weed control and the results the last couple of years that we've done this on the home garden scale dealt with replicated research and really did quite amazing. So I think there's some good utility in the home garden for that. The other one that helps with the weeds that we've been doing for a couple of years, and I actually have it my rather large vegetable garden again this year; it's great for weed control. We've had very good success with a very simple strategy of putting down a couple of layers of newspapers, and then mulching over the top of that newspaper probably the most successful mulch that we've used. With the situation of using grass clippings for mulch, you have to make sure that they haven't used weed and feed or other herbicides on their turf that can [curl] up their tomato and pepper plants and such, but this has been very successful where you can put it down in the rows and alleys between primarily transplanted crops, and fill in those areas in the years we've done in research as well as my own experience, hand weeding is absolutely minimal in most situations. You'll get the few Canada thistles. It can increase your pathogen load and the rotting and decaying grass clippings if you're in an area that has a lot of rodents, it makes nice little mice holes, and then they climb up on your plants, and I've been doing that for fourteen years now and I've had very little hand weeding in those areas, and it works quite well. So a couple of strategies maybe for the home garden scale, so it worked, but right now we're into more of the prevention of seed production going into next year.

I have a question about quackgrass, and I'm familiar with, you know, spraying with Round-Up at eight inches of weed height, but what if people have let the quackgrass and it's just starting to go to seed and they want to get rid of it all of a sudden in their strawberries. Would you mow it and let it re-grow and then spray this fall, or what might you do?

I guess back to the first part of that question as far as it starting to produce seed. If you're able to mow it, then I'm assuming we're talking on a homeowner scale, mow it and bag it and get it out of there. The one thing that will happen is that if you cut that weed plant and a lot of the plants with the flower early seed production to fall to the ground, it will still produce viable seed on those stalks. So if you're on a small scale, and it's possible to pull it or hand remove it and take it out of that area, again that's certainly going to help you going into the future. As far as control, obviously you can't use Round-Up in the strawberries themselves.

Then, this time of year isn't that bad if you're actually not in the strawberry patch, it's the time that you can translocate a herbicide into that deep root system. Basically with a lot of those perennials in general if a product like Round-Up is labeled for that use, we're getting into that time of year where a lot of perennial weeds where you can get ahead of something like quackgrass, nutsedge, Canada thistle are probably the top three culprits in home gardens as far as perennials. Basically from the time when they reproductive structures or buds till the first hard frost in the fall, if you apply a product like [Round-Up, and many other names, that can translocate into that root system, something like Canada thistle for example can have a root system underneath a 30 foot diameter colony that's over 10 miles of root zone. If you get the herbicide down into the root and then mow the ground for the garden for that one. That will get you ahead in future years by trying to control or at least suppress some of that root system.

So when we say fall apply herbicides, you're thinking early August is not too early?

It depends on the species. Something like quackgrass that's not too early because then you can also burn the pods as well as translocate that herbicide into the root system. Basically you have to look at the perennial species you're trying to control and get it basically from when the very, very early reproductive stages or the bud stage and flowering. You don't want to do it at a full open flowers, sometimes you can push them into reproduction and seed production by doing that, but if you get them into the very early reproduction, that's probably the best stage because all the carbohydrates and the energy in the plant are basically getting translocated back into the root system for winter storage. So basically from the [bud stage] or early flowering all the way until hard frost that vascular system in the plant is just pumping energy into the root system and extending that large root system. If you do it in the spring, which a lot of people do

because of the nuisance appears, and you go out and try to take things out. It can burn back the top growth, but all the carbohydrates and all the energy are going into the leaf tips and the stem growth and the above ground solar panels basically. You're not doing much to control that [full] root system. Got to think in that range, too, is some of these perennials are very well established and it's going to take two or three years to really get ahead of them no matter what you do, and I know that can be quite frustrating sometimes. People will call back and say that they did it but it came back the next spring. And it will do that, and will take some persistence. The one exception to that, which we don't have very good answers for, but we get the question a lot, is horse tail, and we have a lot of those questions this year, because of the spring and early summer were so wet, and horse tail really prefers poorly drained wet soils. I screen 40 or 50 active ingredients of herbicides on horse tail. Had a colleague in my former position in the state of Oregon who had worked on it for 40 years. There are really no herbicides, that adequately control horse tail, and has a huge underground root system. What you see above ground is just the spore producing part of the plant, and if even the herbicides were active and a target in that plant, it usually don't penetrate it very well because it has a very thick waxy surface on it, and it's hollow, there's not a lot of vascular tissue, nor root system into the plant. And so it's just a reproductive spore structure. The only thing that you can really do is to landscape, some people will use a thicker landscape [pattern] and it works quite well. Otherwise, it's more an invitation of poor drainage and you need to improve drainage in a garden to eliminate it. It won't tolerate sandy or drier soils or well drained soil. Any other questions? We're kind of past the prime weed control season right now.

A little will go a long way if you consider you're trying to control one plant now that I tell people think about is about 500,000 plants because you're potential disaster in future years.

Yes, and not all that hard of work in saves you tons upon tons of trouble next year.

Yes, and we have great examples of being able to really reduce the loads of seeds in a lot of these gardens by just being persistent, and at this time of year we're excited about harvesting, and reaping the benefits of gardening, but this is not the time to give up.

I've even seen in the fall where you have lambsquarter or pigweed, and they'll only be about 3 inches tall and sticking in some row someplace and they're reproducing and with viable seed.

Yes, lambsquarter which is three inches tall and still produce about 300 seeds, and their response to drought because they are so genetically phenotypically diverse, so it conditions itself and reproduce quickly and still put some seed into the soil. One other infestation that I see people make this time of year though is they'll say that they cut it and just left the plant in the garden and then the next year is this ten foot diameter mass of lambsquarter or pigweed growing and these plants once they have flowered and started producing seed, if you cut the plant often times the seed will mature and become viable on that plant. On a smaller scale it's also useful if you're pulling plants or what have you to get them out of the garden and put them elsewhere where you don't have to worry about seed production being an issue. Same is true for something like garlic mustard, of course.

### **Brian Hudelson, UW Extension Pathology Clinic**

Well, the topic today is technically vegetables. Let me pull up my list of what I've been seeing vegetable wise. A lot of bacterial brown spot on a variety of bean crops, and particularly we've seen lima beans come in with a lot of water soaked, kind of brownish lesions. Often times they'll have a little whiter center with a darker, more water soaked looking, edge, and not much of a yellow halo, which was more typical when it occurs on snap beans, and a very, very common disease when we have a lot of driving rain, and so in a lot of places where they've had heavy thunderstorms, we're seeing an increase of that. We're seeing some problems on peas, root rot in particular, Pythium on tomatoes and variety of things. I've seen a lot of what looks

like one of the bacterial leaf spots on that plant. We'll go ahead and do some isolation from it to see exactly what we can pull out, but I would be surprised if we got either Verticillium or Fusarium. Have been seeing some Septoria, which is the common leaf spot/leaf blight that we see in gardens, and also some other leaf diseases. We've had quite a few samples come in from hoophouse production, and we had one situation where there was some white mold that was taking out a fair amount of the crop, I think I mentioned that last week, also another sample that had a somewhat unusual disease called leaf mold, it's a fungal leaf pathogen or leaf disease, and we don't see it very often out in the field, but when you're growing greenhouse or hoophouse tomatoes it can become an issue. Lots of other interesting samples, Viburnum came in with downy mildew, also some downy mildew on onions that came in this week, and on Viburnum a very white discoloration on the bottom surface of the leaf, also had an awesome rose sample that came in that had rose rust, which I don't see that often. Frank, maybe in this the name of the fungus, and this is one that you can actually see pretty easily on the bottom surface of the leaf. If you've have a hand lens, you'll see these little things that look like little corn dogs, little frankfurters on a stalk popping up from the surface of the leaf and those are the resting spores, of the fungus. Other than that, it's been relatively routine sort of diseases, a lot of vascular wilt, verticillium, oak wilt, Dutch elm disease and a lot of canker problems.

Brian, I have one if that's ok. It's unrelated to vegetables, but in strawberries have you been seeing a lot of leaf scorch?

Yes, there's a fungal disease, I can't remember exact which vein goes with what disease, but we do see a lot of browning, and there's a variety of different pathogens that could cause the problem.

So, a few situations with folks implicating herbicides I believe that have turned out to be leaf scorch.

With raspberries, the other thing is if when you see the smaller fruit, and look very carefully on those canes, if they die prematurely it's usually some type of cane blight that they have received last year and the plant's finally collapsed just about the time that the plant's ready to fruit.

Brian, I have talked to Bob about this. I had a young man who called me about some old apple trees had some bluish-green ooze coming out of the trunk and some branches, and I asked him to bring in a sample and he was willing to, but he hasn't brought it yet.

Yes, with an older tree like that, and the amount of the ooze that you're talking about, I would be very concerned about fire blight, that's a fairly typical symptom for that, and definitely if he wants to verify that, he can get some branches in. We should be able to recover the pathogen from that oozing material. And in fact I have some photos that someone sent me, I can't remember exactly who it was that had just an incredible ooze coming out of a trunk in several areas of an apple tree, and I'm assuming that was probably fire blight as well.

But the problem is that there's nothing for fire blight.

And in particular what we normally recommend if you've got an older apple tree like that that apparently is relatively susceptible, removal would be the best option, and replace it with one of the newer varieties that has some resistance to the disease.

Because we have wonderful publications, and I looked them all up and I'm going, there's no blue-green ooze. Every color ooze in the whole world.

### **Bob Tomesh, UW Extension Horticulture Specialist**

Strawberry renovation should be completed by now. Runner development is in full swing in some of the strawberry varieties. With raspberries, the summer berries are winding down, but the fall berries, such as Autumn Bliss and Autumn Britten should be coming into fruit I'm guessing within the next couple of weeks, and this is an ideal time to increase the water application to at least an inch and a half of water per week on those raspberry varieties to

increase the productivity. With grapes, clusters are a little light on some varieties as I look at some of the different varieties. I suspect that the long winter had a primary effect upon that. And then the Japanese beetles have definitely been feeding very heavily on certain varieties of the grape plants. Apples fruit are enlarging, but they're a little bit smaller in many areas because of the extended drought that we have been experiencing. People are starting to notice some of the problems with the apple and pear fruit, primarily some scab and insect types of damage. They're large enough right now, and some of the early maturing varieties will start ripening now in August.

With vegetables, still some squash vine borer out there. We're very dry in most portions of the State, we need to definitely start watering and applying about one inch per week. There are a number of problems that emerge with water stress, such plants as tomatoes, peppers, beans especially will abort flowers with the combination of drought and heat stresses that we've had. Also, we receive some heavy rains, we'll start receiving reports of cracking on tomatoes and cabbage, especially those early heading varieties. Broccoli harvesting heads is definitely in full swing for the home gardeners. Encourage them to water and fertilize the broccoli plants after they remove that first head. This stimulates a number of larger branch heads and continues the production of at least some culinary type of broccoli plants for the kitchen table over an extended season. Melons are flowering, and I'm seeing a number of fruit developing on some of those in our trial plots, especially 'Blacktail Mountain' and 'Early Sugar Baby'. Onions are beginning to mature in that the tops are beginning to drop over on certain selections. This is an indication that they're done growing, done enlarging that bulblike structure, and it's time to harvest.

Turf is relatively dry in many areas. If the turf hasn't been watered, it is moving into a semi-dormant growth phase. When we do have ample rains it will tend to turn around and we'll be back to mowing the turf.

Perennials flowers—encourage people to weed and water. Water the base of the plants not above the foliage as watering the leafy tops tends to encourage many diseases.

Trees and shrubs—again water recently transplanted trees and shrubs, at least those planted within the last three years are definitely starting to show some stress. I've seen a number of maple trees that are starting to show some red leaf tissue, and this is an indication of stress. Also we're starting to move into August and as we get into September, this is a time to look at some fall landscape activities, and moving plant materials around without a lot of stress to some of these woody plants and herbaceous perennials.

### **General Questions**

If we had aster yellows in that same area last year, so that might; well, that's brought in with migratory insects?

Yes, typically. Although you can have reservoirs on perennials, it will collect in the root system and over winter, but you've got to have the aster leaf hopper insects to move that disease around. Another good indicator plant for that in the vegetable world are carrots, they'll get purpling of the foliage there, and then you get a distinctive growth on the root called 'hairy root', also the leaves turn an orangish-yellow.

### **Announcements**

**Eileen Nelson, UW Horticulture Herbaceous Ornamental Specialist** has initiated the Wisconsin Ornamentals Newsletter. Check out the web site for more information:

<http://www.wisconsinornamentals.com/> .

**Michigan State University** has an Integrated Pest Management web site.  
<http://ipm.msu.edu/cat08veg/v05-21-08.htm> . Visit it to preview their information.

### **Twilight Walks at the West Madison Agriculture Research Station**

- **Bob Tomesh**, - August 12, 6:00 - Fruit Walk – Grapes, Raspberries, Blueberries, Apples, Strawberries, and All Those Little Unknown Fruits
- **David Drake**, Extension Wildlife Specialist – August 26, 5:30 p.m. - Urban Wildlife – A Walk with the Wildlife at West Madison Research Station
- **John Hendrickson**, Center for Integrated Agriculture - September 16, 5:30 p.m.– Cover Crops for the Home Garden: Buckwheat, Clover, Oats, Peas, Soybeans.

### **Fall Horticulture Field Day Events**

#### **Aug 9, 2008**

2008 Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables Twilight Tour at the Hancock Agriculture Research Station is set for Tuesday, August 5 from 4:00-8:00 PM. Phone: 715-249-5961.

#### **Aug 16, 2008**

2008 Horticulture Field Day at the West Madison Agriculture Research Station is set for Saturday, August 16 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Phone: 608-262-2257.

#### **Aug 26, 2008**

2008 Fruits, Flowers and Vegetables Twilight Tour at the Spooner Agriculture Research Station is set for Tuesday, August 26 from 4:00-7:00 PM. Phone: 715-635-3506.

**Mini-fact sheets** <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>

**See web site** <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/> for other county events

Check the **Events Calender** of this web site <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/> for more event happenings.

---

The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension

Service is implied. Any person using products listed assumes full responsibility for their use in accordance with current direction of the manufacturer.

For suggestions or responses, please refer them to:  
Robert Tomesh, [rjtomesh@wisc.edu](mailto:rjtomesh@wisc.edu)