

Wisconsin Horticulture Update Friday, August 10, 2007

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

Key Topics:

Oak wilt disease <http://s142412519.onlinehome.us/uw/pdfs/G3590.pdf>
<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/OAKWILT.DOC>

Apple ripening <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3743.PDF>

Blossom end rot <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/BlossomEndRot.doc>

Cucumber wilt <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3272.pdf>

Verticillium Wilt <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/VertWilt.doc>

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

Stink bug http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/dp_hfrr/extensn/problems/TomatoStinkBug.htm

Yellow jackets <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG3732.html>
<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3655.pdf>

Powdery mildew <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3805.pdf>

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

Squash vine borer <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/gardenfacts/X1024.pdf>

Tomato Disorders <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3798.pdf>

Garden Insect Pests <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A2088.pdf>

Cornell's Fruit Crop Diagnostic Program
<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/department/faculty/pritts/BerryDoc/berrydoc.htm>

Garden Insect Pests <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A2088.pdf>

County Roll Call

Brown, Burnett, Dane, Eau Claire, Kenosha, La Crosse, Marinette, Outagamie, Portage, Racine, Sawyer, St. Croix, Walworth, Washburn, Waukesha, and Wood.

Phenology

South East

Goldenrod, Canada FB

South Central

South West

West Central

Central

East Central

Northwest

North Central

Northeast

Growing Degree Report by District

Growing Degree Report
For the period from 04/01/2007 to 08/08/2007

Phenology Districts	GDD Days		Ave. Base50
	Base43	Base50	
Southwest	2385.0	1724.8	
South Central	2347.4	1710.4	
Southeast	2092.5	1501.5	
West Central	2386.4	1734.5	
Central	2225.4	1596.2	
East Central	2361.4	1700.2	
Northwest	1991.3	1415.7	
North Central	2083.8	1469.7	
Northeast	2168.8	1535.2	

DATPC Growing Degree Day Information to Date

Growing Degree Report
For the period from 04/01/2007 to 08/08/2007

Days	GDD Days			GDD
	Base43	Base50		Base43
Adams	2719.3	1988.8	Marathon	1800.4
1257.1				
Ashland	2116.5	1496.5	Marinette	2528.5
1863.1				
Barron	2529.7	1809.2	Marquette	2560.5
1852.5				
Bayfield	1499.7	1052.3	Menominee	0.0
0.0				
Brown	2524.1	1814.9	Milwaukee	2244.0
1608.9				
Buffalo	2213.0	1611.7	Monroe	2592.3
1885.1				
Burnett	2534.5	1833.2	Oconto	940.6
699.5				
Calumet	1450.9	1060.2	Oneida	1953.5
1366.7				
Chippewa	2610.9	1889.6	Outagamie	2450.5
1768.8				

Clark 1653.7	0.0	0.0	Ozaukee	2351.0
Columbia 0.0	2893.8	2182.0	Pepin	0.0
Crawford 2056.5	2603.7	1832.7	Pierce	2821.5
Dane 1287.3	2399.8	1761.9	Polk	1769.1
Dodge 1533.7	2607.6	1879.4	Portage	2105.0
Door 1305.0	2293.8	1592.2	Price	1815.1
Douglas 1921.3	1902.3	1315.9	Racine	2627.8
Dunn 920.5	2632.0	1884.5	Richland	1279.5
Eau Claire 1535.3	2404.1	1750.6	Rock	2224.0
Florence 1589.0	0.0	0.0	Rusk	2262.0
Fond Du Lac 1555.6	2410.9	1740.8	Sauk	2123.3
Forest 1855.0	2294.6	1612.5	Sawyer	2540.0
Grant 1221.8	2637.4	1891.5	Shawano	1711.4
Green 1003.1	2050.9	1483.5	Sheboygan	1431.9
Green Lake 1387.4	0.0	0.0	St. Croix	1912.7
Iowa 1630.0	2290.7	1628.2	Taylor	2331.5
Iron 0.0	0.0	0.0	Trempealeau	0.0
Jackson 1902.4	2692.2	1972.6	Vernon	2645.2
Jefferson 1583.0	2415.1	1752.2	Vilas	2246.6
Juneau 1021.0	2516.4	1801.7	Walworth	1388.4
Kenosha 1837.1	2583.1	1865.4	Washburn	2544.4
Kewaunee 1415.4	2250.7	1586.7	Washington	1983.0
La Crosse 1318.4	2240.9	1664.8	Waukesha	1843.1
Lafayette 1737.2	2766.1	2003.4	Waupaca	2419.5
Langlade 0.0	2191.5	1545.5	Waushara	0.0
Lincoln 1930.2	2220.4	1566.8	Winnebago	2652.9
Manitowoc 1764.7	2363.4	1675.6	Wood	2472.5

Weather Report for 2007

County Reports

Brown County--I think the goldfinches have started to change feather color, if we're looking at phenology, and I have apples that are ripe, especially my Russet, which is exactly two weeks ahead of time. Brown County hasn't had any measurable rain in almost three weeks. I was out towards Algoma Tuesday night, and there's a great deal of corn that on the higher parts of fields looks to the point that it will not return even if it does get moisture.

Kenosha County--There's just a lot of phenological indicators. We're having a lot of drought stress indicators as well which might make coloring events confusing too, for example, we're seeing a lot of this advanced stage of interveinal chlorosis. Last Saturday down here in Kenosha County we got 3¼ inch of rain, and then after that, we got probably about 2, but we have been in not in as severe as your drought, and as I looked at the map that was in the Milwaukee Journal, but it was bad, but I don't know, it looks like up there things are better.

Outagamie County--We've had an inch and a half of rain on July 3rd, and a couple of tenths thereafter. There hasn't been rain since that of any significance since July 3rd. We are probably the driest of all of you people. It's amazing how all of these storms have bypassed us.

Marinette County—I'll debate that fact, because as you move north from Green Bay, it's progressively worse. A half-inch of rain was centered over one township, so that's the problem. Basically nobody else got it, and up here in Marinette County, southern Oconto County is pretty similar to what they were talking about for Green Bay and Outagamie County, but as you get north of Highway 64, Marinette, Florence, and Forest Counties up here, it's literally worse than I've ever seen it before in my 11 growing seasons which I've worked up here. If it hasn't been watered, it's either dead or dormant in the landscape, from the agricultural standpoint we've got about 15 percent of our corn at least that has no cobs whatsoever, and about probably another 45 percent of our corn that if we don't get rain this weekend what there was is going to abort. We got very few soybean fields that have set pods successfully to this point, and those that have are, odds are good that they're going to be aborting them soon, too, if we don't get something.

Dane Count--We have had some good rain events, but they've been scattered. We've had some very heavy rain events in like Mount Horeb got I think five inches and Albany received 10 inches, but this last week we have had three separate rain events here in the Madison area. Here on the east side we got about three inches throughout, but again, it has been pretty scattered and lessens north and east of Madison.

Racine County--I saw them out there harvesting the cabbage in the fields in Racine County yesterday.

Price County--Well things up here are really dry, but we've gotten just enough rain to where it's a shade of green, mostly. Some of the field crops on really light soil are starting to show lots of signs of stress, but there some of the lawns are going dormant, but as you look at the farm fields, they have a green appearance, but nothing as far as storage crops, they're not really growing very well. But in the southeastern part of the county, it has received a quite a bit of rain, and crops are doing just fine, like nothing's wrong at all. But pretty much the rest of the county is really, really dry.

La Crosse--We did get a little rain this week, but we had a lot of insect questions this week too. And things are still dry, although they're starting to look green, so it's a little deceiving, but now with this heat we've still haven't a whole lot of rain. Hopefully this coming week we'll get some rain. Mainly insect questions are coming into the office this week.

Eau Claire County--You know what I'm seeing down here are a lot of the wasps and bees because it's so dry. They're going to every source that they can find in order to extract some moisture, and sometimes they're pretty aggressive.

Specialist Reports:

Brian, UW Extension Plant Pathology Diagnostic Clinic

Brian Hudelson, UW Plant Pathology Diagnostician

We are seeing lots of yellow of plants coming in with a variety of vascular problems. We've seen verticillium wilt <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/VertWilt.doc>, cucumber wilt <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3272.pdf>, we saw some bacterial wilt, so everything is kind of out there, and systems are pretty much the same vine dieback. Some samples of powdery mildew have come in as well <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3805.pdf>. Other than that, lots of Dutch elm disease samples coming in, lot of oak wilt <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/OAKWILT.DOC> samples coming in, and we've seeing just a little bit of needle rust on spruce trees. If you're starting to see a little orange pustule on spruce needles at this time of the year, that's what you're seeing. Other than that, still a lot of drought stress related things that are coming in. Seeing lots of tomato problems, too <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/BlossomEndRot.doc>. I've seen a bit of bacterial speck and bacterial spot on tomato as well. We tend to see symptoms on the

fruit with these particular diseases.

Karen Delahaut, UW Fresh Market Vegetable Specialist

The cabbage butterflies have been flying around <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/2000/2201.html> . I really didn't notice a drop in them at all since spring, so they're pretty much at stable levels right now. And in the market harvesting, onions have been harvested, at least the sweet onions have been harvested, and are for sale, the cole crops—cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower are also for sale. One of the things that I wanted to mention was literally sweet corn and tomato season, and people are going to start noticing the tomato problems. There are two extension publications that Walt Stevenson and I put together. One is about Fruit Diseases, and the other on Fruit Deformers, and you can get both of those from my website <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3798.pdf> and <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A2088.pdf> . And they've got nice pictures, and that will help you out considerably. Also, it's now time when people are starting to plant their fall vegetable crops. Make sure that when they plant their fall crops, first all they notice what their first soil frost date occurs. Where it says dates of harvest, and add an extra week to that and subtract from that time period to estimate the last planting date. Because we're going to have the cooler nights, and less daylight, plants aren't going to grow that much slower than they are during the spring. With sweet corn, we're in the middle of corn borer <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A1220.pdf> and corn earworm <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3655.pdf> season. Most growers are spring on the four to six day period, depending on what the temperature is. Temperatures about 80 degrees are going to be at four days, temperatures a little lower than that are going to be at six days in between. The key materials to spray are going to be Capture and Warrior, and I specially recommend the Warrior over the Capture, only because you have to make more applications with the Capture to a crop during the season. Capture has a limited number of active ingredients that can be applied, so if you start getting sweet corn questions, you can let the growers know. And again, there's also a fact sheet that John Wedberg and I put together on my website that you can access that gives you a table of number of insects versus temperature and how frequently to spray. And that's about all that I have for veggies this week.

I do have a question about broccoli. I had something happen with my broccoli this year that's never happened before. The first main head was shaped fine, but it had a yellowish cast to it. It did not have petals forming yet, but had sort of a yellowish cast to it. I harvested it, and I put in my refrigerator, and in the refrigerator it turned kind of a purplish-brown in a real modeled pattern all over the head. And I thought maybe it had been exposed to cold temperatures, hot temperatures, something environmental, and then when the side shoots starting to develop, the exact same thing is happening with all of the side shoots. Could this be viral problem or something?

It could be viral or it could be something with the varieties that you planted. Some varieties aren't going to produce as uniform shoots or heads as other varieties, so it might be a combination of things.

One question here for Karen. What can you tell me about rust on sweet corn?

Rust on sweet corn isn't a big issue. Certain varieties will develop rust, others will not. It's kind of a breeding thing, but it's not something that's usually treated. Some growers want to shake the rust, it depends on how severe it is, and I can't tell you right

off the bat what the fungicide would be to treat rust, but it all depends on how severe it is and whether or not they can get a decent harvest?

Does it cause any problems as far as the quality of the corn?

No, not at all.

Phil Pelletteri, UW Entomology Specialist

I guess the 'bug of the week', as far as I'm concerned are immature stink bugs.

They're probably green stink bug

http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/dp_hfrr/extensn/problems/TomatoStinkBug.htm , but the trouble is that in the immature stage, they're little black critters with all these interesting stripes on the abdomen, and little orange shoulder pads. The thing to keep in mind about them is that they're basically a fruit feeder. They can cause raspberries to take on a very nasty taste if they fed on them, they but a white ghost spot in tomatoes, they will deform soybeans, and green beans, and peas if they feed on the pods. But in general, they need some pretty impressive numbers to get us into trouble, and when you see them on various flowers and whatnot, I'm really not too concerned. I have been suggesting to people in the immature stage, even the insecticidal soaps will do in if they really feel they need to, but I think it's worth kind of assessing what's really going on there. The bees and wasps story, I was expecting a lot of German yellow jackets <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG3732.html> to start getting into the garbage cans, because of with a dry spring, it's been relatively warm. The one that I'm getting a lot of questions on are the various things like the cricket hunters, and the golden digger wasps, and cicada larvae, some of these really big, impressive ones that are solitary wasps, and they tend to be not too aggressive, but quite curious, and because of their size and stuff, they tend to scare people. But what we always try to determine, if you've got things that live in colonies, they are very defensive when the colony is threatened, like bumblebees, and honey bees, and yellow jackets, but these solitary wasps, other than digging holes in the ground and dropping their prey in it, really don't have a true nest, and for that reason they tend to not be very aggressive. You almost have to capture one in order to get stung. But other than that, still seeing some wooly alder aphid, cicadas, picnic beetles are starting to pick up, and again the story with picnic beetles, is usually they're moving into stuff that's already been damaged and bruised in one form or another, and so they're not the result of the holes in the tomatoes or some of those other things that people are seeing.

For wasp control, I like Sevin garden dust for any of these things that go into the ground, or go in holes, and block walls, and that kind of stuff, but I think most of the time they're trying to get people aware that it's not going to be like the yellow jackets that have huge nests. They just don't work that way.

Phil, I just had a phone call, probably the stink bugs, I'm guessing here. A guy said he was seeing a bunch of little, round shaped beetles flecked with yellow, diagonal stripes on his blackberries.

And that one I'd be awful careful of, because as I said, when they feed on the fruit, the fruit will still develop, but it takes on a very, very foul taste. So that one I may not let go, especially if he wants to get a decent berry crop.

He wanted to know if it would affect the flavor at all, or if it was okay to eat them.

I'll be okay to eat them, but I don't think you'd keep them in your mouth very long.

Bob Tomesh, UW Horticulture Specialist

Sure, I can give just a brief overview of what's happening in the horticulture area. The fall raspberries are starting to ripen and show up at the some farmer's market stands. Of course, when it rains, like it has after a severe drought, we'll start having reports of cracking of apples, and particularly those early varieties. They have already developed that tough skin area, and therefore with the influx of water into the fruit, they'll begin to show cracks, and then the picnic beetles and the yellow jackets will start feeding on the wounds as Phil mentioned earlier. Grapes we are starting to color and I also observed cracking on the earlier cultivars. So we'll watch that fruit crop very closely for symptoms of cracking. We'll going to probably see more of powdery downy mildew on black rot, at least in the southern portion of the state, with that moisture, and of course the humidity that we've had the last few days have just really opportune for fungal growth. So Brian, you may have all kinds of things coming in here.

In the vegetables, of course with our rains, it was "bang!" We have broccoli, we have beans, and we have zucchini everywhere. Things are maturing very rapidly following the rain, so encourage people to make more frequent visits to their vegetable gardens to keep ahead of the produce so it does not over ripen. Because leaving over ripen vegetables in the garden, you're just opening the door up for both insect and disease problems. We're seeing some soft rot showing up in broccoli heads, following the rain. I suspect with the dry spell things were just sitting there, and especially if they were overhead watering, the soft rot had a chance to get started. Cabbage butterflies are very active. Onions, garlic maturing, the tops are falling over, and in fact the garlic should have been harvested already, and I'll leave that up to Karen to mention, because she tends to be the connoisseur of garlic with some of the trials she has had in the past.

With flowers, continue deadheading in the southern part of the state, or in gardens that have been watered. Look at a fertilizer program to help those perennials over winter, finish the season in a better health situation.

Turf, of course with the rains in some of the areas, we can probably start looking at fertilizing because we held off with the summer fertilizer application due to drought. I know we usually focus on the Labor Day fertilizer applications, but watch for the window of wet weather and we maybe have to fertilize it in conjunction with that. Also, we've had a few reports of broadleaf weeds that with their deeper tap root were able to survive, and they're out there surviving in the dormant lawns. People that have this kill-it instinct when they see lawn weeds, and so they're out there applying 2,4-D. With the hot weather, we had some volatilization of 2,4-D, and some drift issues on some of the other types of plant materials in their landscape. There were some lawn services that were applying these broadleaf leaf spray applications and drift herbicide damage did occur.

In tree tops, we're seeing some flagging of the terminal shoots. The auxiliary buds seem to do fairly well, but some of the terminal shoots on oaks this past week or so have browned out, probably due to the severe drought situation that we have. Again monitor the water that you're receiving, trees need about 10 gallons of water for every inch of trunk diameter. This is especially true for the transplanted trees this year, and even those that are up to 3 years old. I have mentioned to people that they put a lot of money into landscape trees and water applications are essential to cover the cost of tree initiation.

General Questions

Announcements

Aug 18, 2007, West Madison Horticulture Field Day, [West Madison Ag Research Station](#), Verona, WI. Tours, vegetable sampling and demonstrations on a variety of topics from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information contact Asst. Superintendent [Judy Reith-Rozelle](#), 8502 Mineral Point Rd., Verona, WI 53593-9689 at (608) 262-2257 or fax (608) 829-3074.

Aug 28, 2007, Twilight Garden Tour, [Spooner Ag Research Station](#), Spooner, WI. Stroll through the garden to see the various trials and plantings, listen to UW-Extension Hort Specialists and Master Gardeners from 5:00 p.m. to dusk. For more information contact the Spooner Agricultural Research Station, W6646 Highway 70, Spooner, WI 54801 at (715) 635-3735 or Fax (715) 635-6741.

Aug 29, 2007, Twilight Garden Tour, [Marshfield Ag Research Station](#), Marshfield, WI. Begins at 5:30 p.m. For more information contact the [Marshfield Agricultural Research Station](#), 8396 Yellowstone Dr., Marshfield, WI 54449-8401 at (715) 387-2523.

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

These mini-fact sheets are now available on the MG website as well - go to "Hort Info," "Resources," "Extension Bulletins, Factsheets and Newsletters" to find them. See information on: Asparagus, Bleeding Heart, Colorado Potato Beetle, Crabgrass vs. Quackgrass.



[set #1 2006- B&W](#)

[set #1 2006 - color](#)

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.

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For suggestions or responses, please refer them to:
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