

The Grapevine

May, 2018

The newsletter for Yamhill County Master Gardeners



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Yamhill County

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The **Newberg High School Plant Sale** is fast approaching! We are still in need of some volunteers for the Plant Clinic we host at the sale. Below are the dates, times and number of volunteers we need for the upcoming Saturday shifts. Below is also a link to the online sign-up:

Saturday, May 12th
10am – 1pm: 2 volunteers (1 veteran and 1 trainee or veteran)

Saturday, May 19th
10am – 1pm: 1 volunteer (trainee or veteran)

Saturday, May 26th
10am – 1pm: 2 volunteers (1 veteran and 1 trainee or veteran)

Link to online sign-up page:

<http://signup.com/go/X8wfUy>

- YCMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:**
- Community Garden**
Linda Mason
 - Demo Garden**
Gail Price
 - Education Outreach**
Nancy Woodworth
 - Newsletter**
Donn Callahan
 - Farmers' Mkt. Mac.**
Tom Canales
 - Farmers' Mkt. Newberg**
Peter Steadman
 - Greenhouse**
Linda Coakley
 - Hospitality**
Polly Blum

Insect Committee
Robert Grossman

Library
Beth Durr

Photography
Nancy Woodworth

Plant Sale
Pat Fritz

Propagation
Ruth Estrada

Publicity
Tom Canales

Scholarships
Susan Nesbitt

Seed-to-Supper
Gene Nesbitt

Spring into Garden
Gene Nesbitt

Social Media/Website
Tom Canales

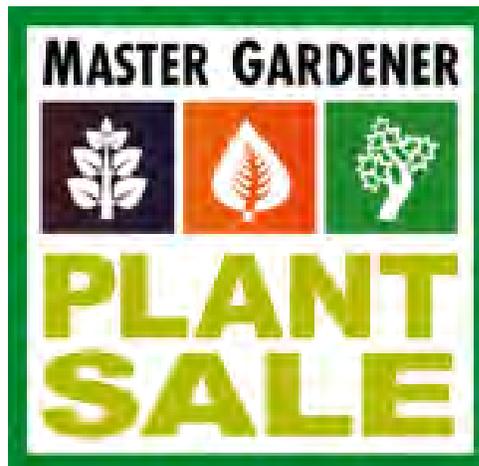


Extreme Topiary

Remember YCMGA

Plant Sale

May 12th & May 13th!



Heather's Highlights

I hope everyone is enjoying their spring so far and that you have been able to enjoy some of these nice sunny days! We have a few events coming up that I would like to share with you.

Recently organized are office desk training classes for Master Gardener veterans. If you ever feel nervous about working the office desk and are wondering what has changed, this is your opportunity to get some training in a low-pressure environment. There are two classes as a part of the training, one for the computer system (using the

e-mail and files on the computer, VRS and the desk sign-up calendar), and the second class will cover general questions

such as using the resources of the office, the phone and intake forms.

Attendance at each class will provide 2 hours of desk clinic hours. The class schedule is below – please contact Jade with questions and to sign up. Each class can be taken individually.

May 22nd and May 23rd:

9-11 am – Office computer class

12-2 pm – General office class

If you are looking for continuing education hours, I will be host-

ing a tree identification walk at Linfield College on **May 31st** at 10 am. This walk will include a stroll through campus while learning to identify interesting trees in the landscape. If you are interested please contact Jade. This class will have limited space and registration is required. The class will be \$5.

Also, in case you missed them, the **Spring Advanced Training Webinars** for Master Gardeners were recorded. There were four topics this spring about a variety of subjects from slugs to plant breeding to plant diseases. Each recording is one hour in length and will therefore provide one hour of continuing education credit.

The link to the recorded webinars is below:

<http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/ediblegardens/2018/01/02/spring-2018-webinars-master-gardeners/>



Webinar “Re-runs” still available

These are repeats of the webinars available from January 2018. To access any of them, simply open the link to the class you want, and click on the green arrow to view.

[Frontiers in Slug & Snail Management](#) presented by Dr. Rory Mc Donnell

[Hybridization and Tetraploids and Chromosomes, Oh My! Understanding Plant Breeding for Disease Resistance](#) presented by Dr. Ryan Contreras

[Identifying & Managing the Bronze Birch Borer](#) presented by Nicole Sanchez

[Powdery mildew: Biology & Management in the Garden](#) presented by Dr. Jay Pscheidt

YAMHILL COUNTY MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR

MAY 2018

03 Thursday

-  **INSECT COMMITTEE USUALLY MEETS: *THIS INSECT MEETING CANCELLED***
-  **OPENING OF McMINNVILLE FARMERS' MARKET: DOWNTOWN MAC, 9 AM TO 4 PM.**

12 SATURDAY

-  **YCMGA Annual Plant Sale** AT YAMHILL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, 11 AM TO 2 PM.
-  **NEWBERG HIGH SCHOOL PLANT SALE: MG CLINIC AT PLANT SALE, 10 AM TO 1 PM.**

13 SUNDAY

-  **YCMGA Annual Plant Sale** at Yamhill County Fairgrounds, 11 am to 2 pm.

19 SATURDAY

-  **MG CLINIC AT KRAEMER'S GARDEN CENTER: McMINNVILLE KRAEMER'S, 10AM TO 2PM, AND 12 NOON TO 2PM.**
-  **HELPING KIDS PLANT FLOWER SEEDS: EDWARDS ELEMENTARY, NEWBERG, 11AM TO 1PM.**
-  **RAISED BED ORGANIC GARDENING CLASS: COMMUNITY GARDEN, 11AM.**

22 TUESDAY

-  **EDUCATION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETS: AUDITORIUM AT 10 A.M.**
-  **OFFICE COMPUTER CLASS FOR VETERANS: MASTER GARDENER OFFICE, 9-11AM.**
-  **GENERAL OFFICE CLASS FOR VETERANS: 12 NOON TO 2PM. (PRE-REGISTER, BOTH CLASSES)**

23 Wednesday

-  **RAISED BED ORGANIC GARDENING CLASS: COMMUNITY GARDEN, 1:30PM.**
-  **OFFICE COMPUTER CLASS FOR VETERANS: MASTER GARDENER OFFICE, 9-11AM.**
-  **GENERAL OFFICE CLASS FOR VETERANS: 12 NOON TO 2PM. (PRE-REGISTER, BOTH CLASSES)**

26 Saturday

-  **RAISED BED ORGANIC GARDENING CLASS: COMMUNITY GARDEN, 11AM.**
-  **NEWBERG HIGH SCHOOL PLANT SALE: MG CLINIC AT PLANT SALE, 10 AM TO 1 PM.**

30 Wednesday

-  **NEWBERG FARMERS' MARKET OPENS: NEWBERG, **NEW TIMES: 2 PM To 7 PM.****
-  **RAISED BED ORGANIC GARDENING CLASS: COMMUNITY GARDEN, 11AM.**

31 Thursday

-  **TREE TOUR BY HEATHER: LINFIELD COLLEGE, 10AM. (PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED)**

EVERY SATURDAY 9AM - COME HELP OUT AT THE **McMINNVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN**

"TO THE ROOT OF IT" PROGRAM @ 9:00 AM. ON RADIO KLYC AM 1260 WITH SHARON & KYLE.

The Invasives

Drosophila Suzukii Spotted-wing Drosophila

Growing fruit? If you are, you need to be aware of the invasive *Drosophila suzukii*. It is a "vinegar fly" as are all *Drosophila*, but this particular one infests ripening fruit, rather than the fallen and rotten fruit the other flies call home.

Drosophila Suzukii first appeared in North America in California in 2008; by 2009 it had covered the West Coast; in the summer of 2010 it was found in both Carolinas, Louisiana, and Utah. Just two months later it had spread to Michigan and Wisconsin.

Be grateful you are not a commercial fruit grower!

Once it has arrived in an area, it is a permanent part of the environment and there is no known way to eradicate it.

WHAT IT WILL DO...

This insect is most damaging in soft fruits, including cherries, blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, grapes, peaches, and apricots. The results of the arrival of *Drosophila Suzukii* can mean an 80% loss of fruit that is edible or sellable.

Unfortunately, the ubiquitous wild blackberries (both Himalayan and evergreen) are a popular venue for *Drosophila suzukii*, so they are never short of food.

DESCRIPTION...

Suzukii look like other fruit flies, are about 2+mm long, with a wingspan of 6mm. Spots on the wings of the males give it the common name of "spotted wing drosophila." Larvae are small grubs about 3.5mm long, and are found just where you really don't want them (inside ripening fruit).

LIFE CYCLE...

Lifetimes vary from a few weeks to ten months, depending mostly on when the insects were born. In favorable climates such as ours, they may produce 13 generations every year. To make it much worse, male and female adults can overwinter (for up to 300 days!) After coming out of winter storage, the females lay up to 300 eggs, but only about 3 eggs per fruit (demonstrating the high volume of fruit one fly can infect).

Larvae grow inside the fruit, either remaining inside it or leaving it to pupate. Either



Photograph by K. Oupin, CAES

2 mm

way, the fruit is severely damaged. First visible sign of fruit damage is a tiny hole in the fruit, and later liquid will ooze from the hole. Soon there is softening and collapsing of the fruit at the egg-laying site. If the fruit is opened the small white larvae will be visible. For detection (but not really any degree of control) simple traps can be built and set to catch some of the flies. Also, there are several methods of crushing fruit in liquids so the larvae float, though the evidence on the fruit is conclusive in itself. The lesson here is just to eat the fruit without looking at it too closely.

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

- Aside from using pesticides on your fruit a week or so before harvest, there are some things you can do to make life harder for these little pests.
- Cover berry bushes with cloth mesh with holes less than 1mm (which is about

3 times smaller than a window screen hole).

- Harvest fruit regularly and quickly before it is actually ripe.
- Seal every single fruit in a clear plastic bag as it ripens!
- Clean up fallen, decayed, and infected fruit promptly every day until harvest.
- Select cultivars of early-season or thick-skinned fruit to minimize egg-laying.
- Eradicate non-crop hosts

including all blackberries, dogwood, flowering trees, honeysuckle, sarcococca and other plants that flower and produce any kind of fruit.

- Manage the canopy for increased light and airflow, and minimize water sources.
- Chill picked fruit for 8+ days below 34°F, killing most of the eggs and larvae (though both will remain present in the fruit).

Don't bury infected fruit: that doesn't do any good.

There aren't any effective biological controls yet, though other insects (particularly lacewings and yellow jackets!) dine on *Drosophila*. The easiest and most expedient course of action is to dine on the larvae yourself as you eat your fruit, while concentrating on the flavor, not on who you are eating with your fruit.

For more details:

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9096>

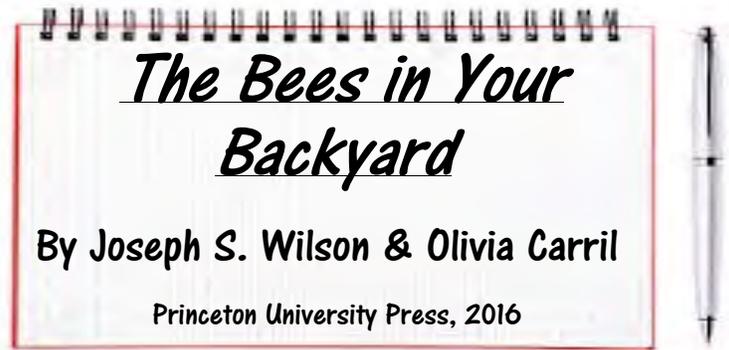


Donn Callaham



Drosophila Suzukii fruit damage





Did you know that more than 4000 species of bees live in the United States and Canada? This opening line of the Backyard Bee book is just a tiny teaser of what is included in this book. Actually, the total worldwide number is 20,000.

The authors go on to say they want to introduce lifestyles and habitat performances so you can attract bees to your gardens and neighborhoods.

"Bee-ing" informed is the key to understanding these social and behavior conditions. The categories for bee sociality sound like they could describe high school cliques. These are the categories: Solitary; Aggregations; Communal; Semi-social; and "Eusocial" ('eu' means true or well-done in Greek, thus these bees are "perfectly social"). All of this is based on nesting habits.

This book will be helpful for identifying bees. But first, you have to know whether it is actually a bee. Page 11 in the Introduction gives us two different handy charts to compare Bee vs. Wasp, and Bee vs. Fly.

Chapter Two deals with promoting bees in your neighborhood. Ideas to draw from in-

clude pollinators, providing habitat for ground nesters and twig nesters, building bee blocks and bundles, and making bumble bee nests. In the "providing food" section, there are 8 pages of plants that attract bees (pages 61-69).

The rest of the book gets quite technical regarding identification. However, the photography is outstanding and the clarity is perfect. The next 7 chapters cover each bee family with identification tips. Sub-families are also covered.

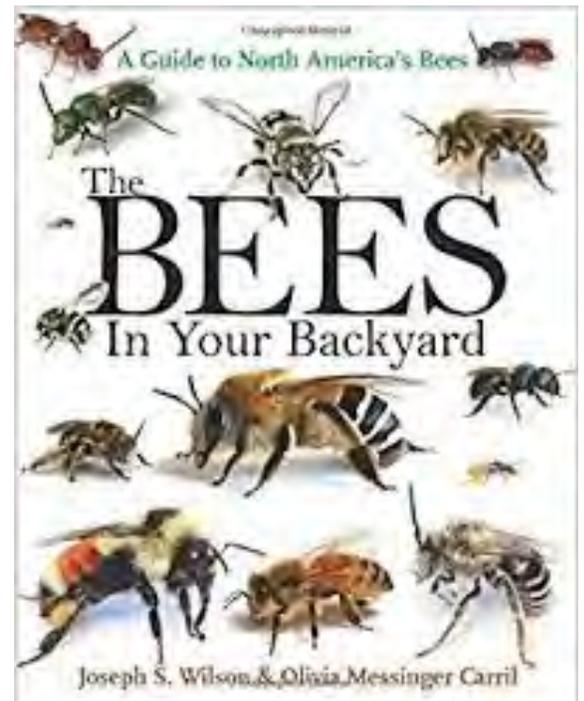
What keeps this book from being a dry textbook is the shaded boxes dispersed throughout each chapter with fun facts and interesting trivia. On page 107, it says the silk lining created by the *Hylaeus* for their nest cells doesn't melt when heated or infused with chemical solvents. Move over, Spiderman!

Chapter nine (p.254) is dedicated to the Cuckoo Bee. (No kidding!) These bees sneak into other nests, lay their eggs by the pollen mass of the host bee, then sneak back out. Also known as pollen thieves, they kill the

host's off-spring and eat the pollen meant for the victim. They are called "cleptoparasitic bees." They are not confined to one family, and often have thickened spines and skin.

A companion binder accompanied the Backyard Bee book donation. It's called "Oregon Bee Atlas." This manual is published by The Oregon Bee Project.

The Oregon Bee Project is a collaborative endeavor by the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) and Oregon State University (OSU). This effort is to identify and count native bees in the



state. The estimate of 500 species in Oregon may be conservative. A more thorough examination can be found at oregonbeeproject.org. They are also on Twitter and Facebook.

The "Oregon Bee Atlas" gives detailed collection procedures. Record keeping is important to document and compare data.

Sections in the manual include:

- Collecting Native Bees (General)
- Morphology and Terms (excellent drawings)
- Taxonomy Cheat Sheet (includes a pronunciation guide)
- Native Bee Cheat Sheet: key characters by bee genera (36 pages of eye-popping colorful detailed photos)
- Native Bee Taxonomic Key

- Appendix (full of Oregon Bee Project info)

These two latest additions to the Library Insect Section are good examples of the excellent resources the Master Gardener Library provides.



Beth Durr

Remember our library mantra:

"We are a reference library, NOT a lending library!"

Oregon Master Gardener™ Association's

Growing Gardeners Conference

July 12th - 14th, 2018

at Linfield College in McMinnville

Fun, friendship and fellowship plus fabulous classes await you this year at the OMGA's Growing Gardeners Conference.

(formerly OMGA Mini-College)

Remember that this annual conference is open to all MG's and individuals interested in a variety of educational, horticultural and gardening topics, including advanced classes for recertification. Careful consideration and thought has been given to the selection of interesting and experienced speakers for the Friday and Saturday classes, workshops and educational tours.

Check out the OMGA website for detailed information:

www.omga.org

OMGA oregon
master
gardener™
ASSOCIATION
we grow gardeners

G-2



GROWING GARDENERS 2018

RAT FACTS, THE SEQUEL

The Social Rat: More Amazing Facts About Rats (as promised in the April Grapevine).

- Rats **take care of** injured and sick rats in their group.
- Without companionship rats tend to become **lonely and depressed**.
- Rats have **excellent memories**. Once they learn a navigation route, they won't forget it.
- **When happy**, rats have been observed to chatter or grind their teeth. This is often accompanied by vibrating eyes.
- Rats make **happy "laughter" sounds** when they play.
- Rats **succumb to peer-pressure**, just like humans. Brown rats are prone to disregard personal experiences in order to copy the behavior of their peers. The urge to conform is so strong that they will even choose to eat unpalatable food if they are in the company of other rats who are eating it.
- Although very curious animals, **rats are also shy**, and prefer to run away rather than confront a potential threat. Rats are **extremely clean** animals, spending several hours every day grooming themselves and their group members. They are less likely than cats or dogs to catch and transmit parasites and viruses.
- **Rats' tails** help them to balance, communicate and regulate their body temperature.
- The rat is the first of the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac. People born in this year are thought to possess characteristics which are associated with rats, namely: **creativity, intelligence, honesty, ambition and generosity**.
- Rats are recognized as the vehicle of Lord Ganesh in Indian tradition. They are worshipped at the Karni Devi Temple, where priests and pilgrims will feed them grain and milk.

Donn Callaham



NEWBERG FARMERS' MARKET OPENING

Many of you have been anticipating the opening of the Newberg Farmers Market sign ups. Well it is finally here! Please note that times for the market have changed. It is now open from 2pm to 7pm every Wednesday from May 30th to October 10th. There are two slots available to sign up to volunteer: 2pm – 4:30pm and 4:30pm – 7pm. Two volunteers can sign up for each time slot.

Another note, we will NOT be having the booth at the market on these dates due to the potential for extreme heat conditions: **August 1st, 8th, and 15th**.



BENEFICIAL INSECT FIELD DAY

Wednesday June 20, 2018

9 AM - 2 PM

Location: O'Loughlin Farms
12125 SE Burns Road
McMinnville, OR

Register online at www.yamhillswcd.org

or Contact Yamhill SWCD

(P) 503-472-6403 (E) info@yamhillswcd.org

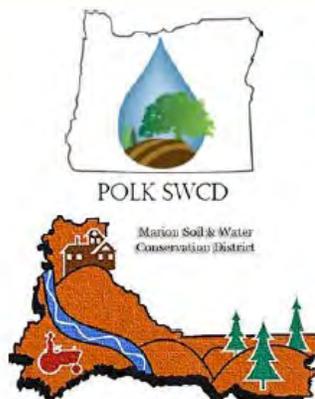
Join us for an informative day with presentations by OSU Extension Agency and Xerces Society. The focus will be on creating habitat for and identification of beneficial insects. Following lunch, there will be ample time for learning to scout for insects and identification assistance.

This Field Tour is offered at **no-charge** and includes water and morning refreshments. Please bring the following items to make your visit comfortable:

- Brown Bag Lunch
- Sturdy Walking Shoes - *We will be walking in some areas with uneven terrain.*



Sponsored by :



**Yamhill Soil & Water
Conservation District**

2200 SW 2nd Street
McMinnville, OR 97128-5485

503-472-6403
info@yamhillswcd.org
www.yamhillswcd.org

MG PLANT SALE REQUIREMENTS...

Beginning in 2019, all plants brought to a Master Gardener plant sale will have to meet Department of Agriculture "Best Practices" requirements. However, these guidelines should be followed in 2018 as well, to help limit the spread of potentially harmful organisms.

Best Practices" are really what should be just common-sense procedures:

Sanitation – this starts with having initially healthy plants

- o Clean the growing area, tools, seed, cuttings and divisions.
- o Remove weeds and dead plant matter (which may harbor pests).

Exclusion – Do not bring in unhealthy or "dirty" plants.

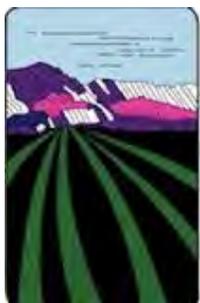
- o Don't bring in any wildlife!

No Plants in "GARDEN SOIL".

- o Garden soil means soil that has been dug from the ground anywhere, sometimes called "native" soil.
- o Soil needs to be removed to prevent transport of invasive weeds, insects and disease. There are several exotic horticulture pests (such as "snake worm" and European chafer) that currently have limited distribution in Oregon, and that can be moved through soil.
- o Plants brought to a plant sale from anywhere other than the MG greenhouse must be washed thoroughly – leaves, branches, roots and leaf axils to remove visible garden soil. This should be done at home prior to fall or spring divisions. This will be the time to check for insects and disease.
- o If you have been growing plants at home that were planted in soil from the YCMGA greenhouse these need only to be checked for disease, weeds & insects. They do not need to be bareroot.
- o If you planted for the sale at home using commercially available bagged soil (*not garden soil*) just do the inspection for insects, disease & weeds.



The ODA does an excellent job of catching insects, weeds and diseases and putting programs in place to keep our agriculture, landscapes and nurseries healthy. But invasive pests are arriving all the time, so be cautious when buying plants from area plant sales – check for weeds, disease & insects.



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture



PESKY PROFILES



By Heather Stoven

Attention Lords and Ladies! Do not plant this!

Italian arum aka "lords and Ladies" (*Arum italicum*) is an ornamental plant that in our area can be invasive. Although it is not considered a noxious weed here in Oregon, it is in Washington State. We get many samples of this plant brought in to our desk clinic with clients seeking to find a way to rid their properties of this nuisance.

This plant is in the *Araceae* family and has a flower inflorescence containing a spadix, which matures to a red stalk of fruits, and a green hood-like spathe. The leaves are glossy, arrow-shaped and have distinctive whitish veins. The plant can spread via seed, by the

corms and/or improperly disposed yard debris.

At this time, the best management practice is to dig out infestations if possible. Due to the corms of this plant, herbicides are only marginally effective: the foliage will die back, but often the plant will regrow.

The best solution is to avoid planting this plant or remove it early before it gets established and spreads.



For more information:

<http://extension.wsu.edu/sanjuan/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2014/04/Italian-Arum-brochure.pdf>



Photo Credit: Multnomah County Soil & Water Conservation

- ⇒ Benefits/pitfalls of organics
- ⇒ Building raised beds
- ⇒ Soil preparation
- ⇒ Planting
- ⇒ Watering
- ⇒ Pest control
- ⇒ Harvesting



Free Organic Gardening Classes in May!

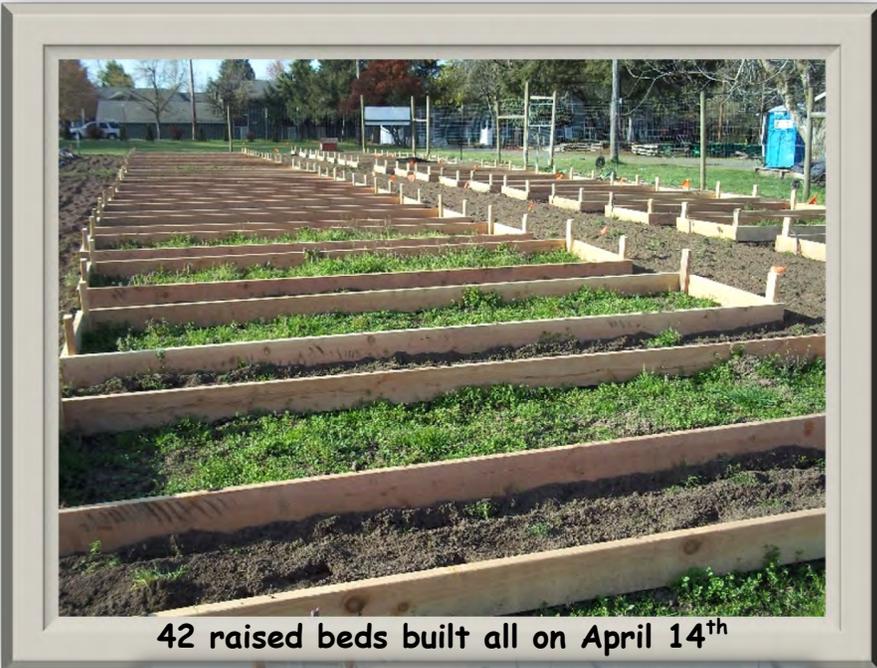
(See page 3 of this Grapevine for dates and times).

- ◆ Free to Master Gardeners
- ◆ Limit 20 persons
- ◆ Get application

WOW!!!

On Saturday, April 14th, our volunteers along with 6 Linfield College students built 42 raised beds in the garden in just 2 hours. Our tasks now are to lay out the landscape fabric, remove or cover all weeds and fill with 50/50 compost/topsoil mix. The drip irrigation has already been installed and these beds will be planted in May.

McMinnville Community Garden



42 raised beds built all on April 14th



Raised beds complete the food bank area.



(Left) Basil and tomato plants in greenhouse for YCMGA plant sale.



Allan Wenner

PLEASE REMEMBER: Volunteer Work Opportunity Every Saturday Morning through October from 9 AM to Noon – volunteer service hours for MASTER GARDENERS

KAMIKAZE EXPLODING ANTS

A newly described species of ant from Southeast Asia explodes in defense of its colony, spewing out a toxic goo that can slow down or even kill its enemies. The critters burst the walls of their own bodies, releasing a yellow irritant from special enlarged glands.

Researchers described the self-sacrificing species, which crawls the tropical rainforests of Borneo, Thailand and Malaysia, in the journal [ZooKeys](#). The creatures—aptly named *Colobopsis explodens*—will serve as a model for scientists investigating other “exploding ants.”

ceans, for example—as well as nose researchers, the authors wrote.

Like other ant species, the different members of a *Colobopsis explodens* colony have defined roles. Small minor workers are selfless ants that explode into yellow goo in combat, while major workers or “soldier ants” barricade the nest entrance with their massive plug-shaped heads.

Fascinated by the bizarre insects, the team is studying a number of exploding ant species as part of the [Exploding Ants project](#). Although the selfless critters play a dominant role

in their rainforest habitats, scientist still have much to learn about their biology. The team hopes to describe other species like *Colobopsis explodens* soon.

The New York Times,
2018

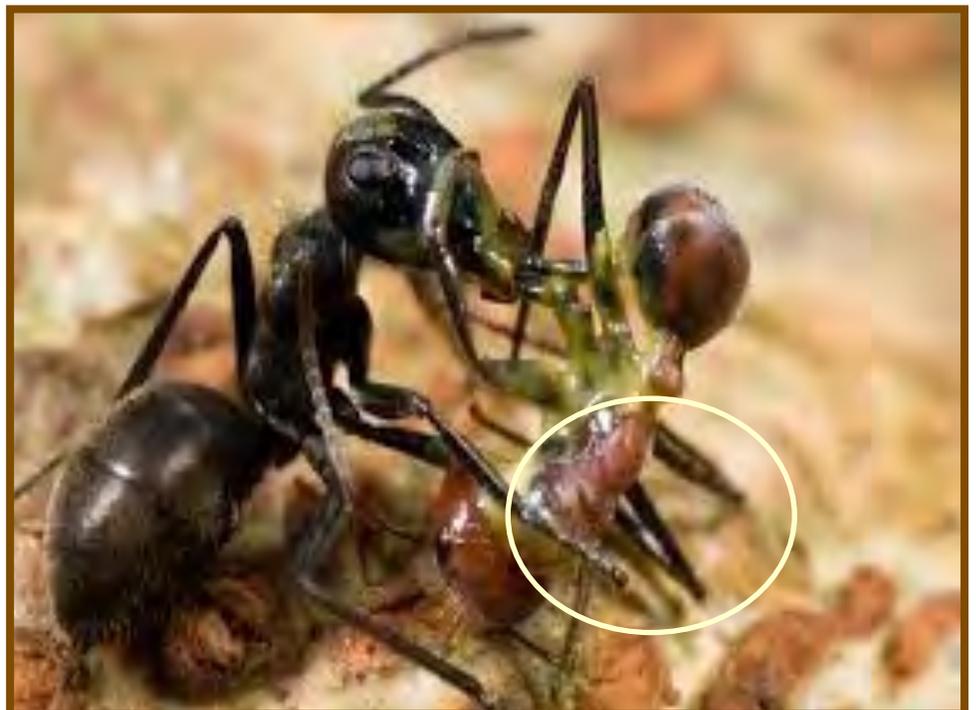


**Ants
explode
themselves,
releasing
toxic goo to
defend the
nest**

Although researchers have discussed ants that blow themselves up in literature dating back to 1916, this is the first time a

new species has been formally cataloged since 1935. Until now, scientists just referred to them as members of the “exploding ant” species group—*Colobopsis cylindrica*.

The ants are “particularly prone to self-sacrifice” in the face of other invertebrates—insects, spiders and crusta-



YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

March 21st 2018

The President called the meeting to order at 10:02 on 3/21/1

IN ATTENDANCE:

Nancy Woodworth	Tonia Beebe	Donn Callaham	Pat Fritz
Tom Canales	Gail Price	Heather Stoven	Polly Blum
Rita Canales	Linda Mason	Susanne Beukema	Terry Hart
Marilyn MacGregor	Linda Coakley	Carol Parks	Gene Nesbitt

Secretary's notes for January: Rita Canales motioned to approve the February minutes, and Tom Canales seconded which meant the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Carol has completed and submitted the financial report. As of the end of February, YCMGA had \$37,881.33 in accounts. Carol strongly recommends keeping copies of anything sent to her via U.S. mail, as some items have been lost before getting to her.

President-elect report: The president-elect had nothing.

Heather Report: Heather thanked everyone who worked at "Spring into Gardening", and praised the success of the event. She also noted the unusual participation and enthusiasm of the trainees.

Announcements & Correspondence: OSU has newly-published guidelines for plants being brought from homes to MG plant sales. Basically, the requirements use "common" sense to keep from transporting harmful species, particularly invasive ones. No plant may be brought in "Garden" soil, which is any soil dug from the ground. Only potting soil may be used. For the complete list of requirements, see the April *Grapevine*. OMGA is looking for table covers with the OSU logo, of which we have none.

Education/Outreach Committee: Now that Spring Into Gardening is history, the committee is focusing on clinics and events. Jeannie Taylor is scheduled to do a class on butterflies in a month or so (no date set yet). People are needed to sign up for the events of April 7th and Newberg High plant sale.

Community Garden: All of the raised beds (57) are rented except for five that are reserved for new Seed-to-Supper participants. There are eleven new gardeners for the 2018 growing season. MV Advancements will use the two all-access beds.

The in-ground phase of the expansion of the irrigation system has been completed. Once the 41 new raised beds have been constructed, the fittings and drip tape will be put in place to connect them to the irrigation system.

Garden Orientation will take place this Saturday (3/24) for all gardeners at 10 am. Diane Longaker, YCAP's Food Resource Development Coordinator, will talk about YCAP's programs to help those at nutritional risk. YCAP presented the Community Garden with a plaque for 2017—"helping provide 11,276 meals to those experiencing hunger." Focus is on readying the

Garden for opening day on March 31st as well as seeding and transplanting tomatoes for the plant sale. Walnut City Wineworks will host a wine tasting fundraiser for the Garden on April 7 from noon to 5 pm. The \$10 tasting fees will all go directly to the Community Garden.

MGA representatives: On Friday 3/02 there was a class on how to begin a "Junior Master Gardener" program, and the next day was devoted to the following business:

- 1) The PNW handbooks as of now are usable on line only, no PDF form available.
- 2) We received approx. 30 MG visors to be used as desired.
- 3) Articles for *Gardener's Pen* are due 3/23 for April, 7/26 for August
- 4) All chapters received a copy of the newly drafted memorandum of understanding between OSU and MG chapters. For Heather there was a copy of OSU's "conflict of interest" legal form, which she accepted with a remarkable lack of excitement.
- 5) "G2" (formerly mini-college) was discussed at length. For all the information on G2, see the April *Grapevine*.
- 6) OMGA is asking chapters to come up with a tentative "vision statement" for OMGA. However, members agreed that it is OMGA's vision, so OMGA should have its own vision for itself.
- 7) Each chapter is to create a handbook for new chapter representatives, which we did a while ago. Apparently ours is the only chapter that has done this.
- 8) OMGA want chapters to create a "Road Show" emphasizing how OMGA helps chapters. "Powerpoint[®]" was suggested for the presentation. How the presentation would be used was left open.
- 9) The Extension Educator award will have new requirements.
- 10) Award committee wants more educational outreach by chapters, along with number of people impacted by it.
- 11) A new historian will be documenting OMGA history from 2010 to the present. (Cathy Burdett has already written an exhaustive history from inception through 2009).
- 12) Next quarterly meeting in June in Roseburg.

Publicity: With the completion of SIG, effort is being focused on the plant sale, the ads for which are finished. Dues should have been paid by now. The Paypal renewal link will be kept open until the end of March. After that any dues paid will need to be done via check.

Seed-to-Supper is up and running. Classes are beginning, and there are 5 trainees involved in the project (which is an excellent showing).

Spring into Gardening: Rita thanked everyone for their work on the successful event. As she promised, she drew a volunteer

name for an undisclosed prize. It was a metal flower sculpture; Gene won it, but he really didn't want it, so Cathy won it. SIG had 160 participants; the raffle collected over \$1000 for YCMGA. Pulling the name of the raffle winners at SIG and organizing them before announcing them was hailed as a brilliant move.

Plant Sale Committee: All is on track. We lost 1 vendor for the sale, but that was only because of a scheduling conflict for that vendor. Publicity is now initiating.

Perennial Propagation: Tender perennials from Newberg High have arrived. It was noted that rather than trimming the grasses, Ruth actually combs each of them to look their best.

Annual Propagation Committee: All greenhouse activity is going as planned.

Mentoring Committee: Terry praised the mentoring, noting that it often extended into the lunch time. The trainees again were praised for their enthusiasm and participation. There will be new people on the committee, which is now looking over the mentor surveys. They will begin functioning in September.

Policy & Procedures Committee: Tom is awaiting material from Tara so he can proceed. Tom will initiate the chair position responsibilities online with a copy on Google Docs[®] which will be available to all members. On that, committee members can edit for their own committee. However, there will be a final copy on the web which only the Tom the Webmaster can alter. No paper copy planned. President Pat will have Jade send out email with Committee Chair Transition draft for general membership to review. Comments will be sent to Pat in writing. She will present the proposed final copy to the board at the April board meeting. It was agreed the Committee descriptions were not really P&Ps. They will be separate from the actual P&P (as for finances). All P&P conclusions must be voted on by the Board of Directors before being finalized.

Scholarship Committee: The special \$11,000 account from McMinnville High has 2 requirements: the scholarships must be to Mac High students, and they must be made with preference to FFA students. The scholarship committee will decide the amount to award each student.

Trips: The Allison garden tour will be on April 14th and we were reminded that the lunch is expensive. Methven Family Winery is hosting a wine tour cum potluck in late July or early August, and will even supply the wine! Details in April *Grapevine*.

Unfinished Business:

There was a lengthy and dynamic discussion re: meeting procedures. Gene said that according to Robert's Rules, for the special executive board meetings (such as for disciplinary problems) the minutes do not have to be shared. YCMGA does not

follow Robert's Rules. We will not follow the "letter of the rules" as they are very involved, rigid, and complex, more than is necessary for a casual nonprofit. They will be used as a general guideline only. Special Executive Board Meetings must be announced only to board members, listing the one issue to be discussed. Secretary notes are taken, but the results are not included with the BOD minutes. In a "general" meeting every MG present can vote, but in a Board meeting only board members can do so.

Audit Report: The audit was performed by 3 persons (other than the treasurer) and results were accepted. There were a few minor discrepancies, which were solved.

Minutes vs. Grapevine: Pat researched the bylaws of YCMGA and found that yes, the minutes must be in the *Grapevine* every month. (Last month it was said that they should *not* be in the *Grapevine*, which Pat found to be incorrect.) The minutes published must have been approved by the board, so they will always be a month behind.

Revised financial polity: Carol the Treasurer has written and distributed the new policy to the board, changes to be implemented as necessary. Board members are requested to consider whether the amounts should be increased for the following: 1) amount over budget before the increased program costs need to be approved by the Board; and 2) the amount of reimbursement for travel to OMGA meetings by representatives, mileage and per diem. The financial policy will be voted on at the next Board meeting.

Desk "Captain" Crisis: YCMGA **MUST** have a desk captain right now, because currently the desk sign-up is very random and inconsistent. Pat suggested that each board member be responsible for one week of captainship every second month, perhaps for only 3 days per week. Gene suggested that instead the core group of about 18 MG's take over the job, and he volunteered to be the supervisor/overseer of the group immediately. Terry was asked to help in this task but declined: Marilyn volunteered to do it. Heather stated the need for an organizer for the trainees immediately, so Susanne volunteered to do that the first week of April, and Pat volunteered for the second week of April. More veterans are still needed at the in-house clinic desk.

At 11:50 a.m. Tom fervently motioned for adjournment, with Susanne and Carol immediately and enthusiastically seconding it. (Ever notice that Tom is nearly always the person motioning for adjournment?)



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The Grapevine

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