

The Grapevine

THE FUNGUS AMONG US



Armed with cell phones for cameras and the typical MG's insatiable thirst for knowledge, a dozen or so MGs embarked on the first annual tour of Yamhill's Misty Mountain Mushroom Farm. Few of us had any idea as to what we would

encounter as far as complexity and size of operations and all of us were amazed by the end of the hour and a half tour.

The mushroom farm began in 1998 as a result of the ideas and dreams of Bob and Veronica Nufer and Veronica's aunt and uncle, Gary and Miriam Larue. An old hog barn in the coastal foothills was turned into a growing room and

the adventure took off from there. Bob, grass roots creator, entrepreneur and engineer for the operation, guided us through the ten-week process of growing shitake and maitake mushrooms, leading us from the pile of sawdust which

would be formed into blocks, auto-claved and im-

pregnated with mycelia to the hoop houses for fruiting to the picking and final storage/packaging areas before shipping out. In addition to organic shitake and maitake mushrooms, they import/forage other wild and cultivated mushrooms (porcini, chantarelles, oyster, wood ear, bunapi-shimeji). Their goal is to provide customers with a "one-stop shopping" experience.

At the conclusion of the thoroughly informative tour each of us was left with a new respect for mushrooms, and salivating for a wild mushroom sauté. Each also received his/her own shitake mushroom growing kit.



Ready to pick in final building

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For those who missed out you can sample their mushrooms and purchase both fresh and dried at the McMinnville Farmers Market. Their online store is listed under: *Whole Earth Harvest*.



Annie Witherspoon

HARVEST ABUNDANCE



Newly-constructed beds and the greenhouse.

At the end of August and in early September, our volunteers built 22 new raised beds and filled these with garden mix and mushroom compost. A raised bed now requires half a manhour to build and about the same time to fill with the garden mix and soil. We now use a Kubota tractor with front end loader to move all of the materials, eliminating about 90% of the manual effort. The photo shows some of the raised beds that were recently built and filled, ready to plant.

Recruiting new gardeners is relatively easy now, as anyone interested is now sold when they visit the garden. To me personally, this is the easiest way possible to do organic vegetable gardening with any surpluses being donated to the Food Bank.

The actual harvest delivered to YCAP through September 21st was over 8700 pounds of produce. We hope to harvest another 2000 pounds before the 1st of October. That's a lot of cherry tomatoes!

Harvesting is in full swing at the garden now and we are planning on completing this task by November 1. An estimated 4000 pounds needs to be harvested during the month of October. Hopefully, we will have enough volunteers and favorable weather to accomplish this huge task. Most other activities are on hold until harvest is completed.

Our new (to us) greenhouse will soon be ready to use as this fall we will recover it with greenhouse film. The inside is now empty and ready for use. Our plans for maximizing the use of this great asset are still being developed and will probably be finalized at the YCMGA retreat in November. The greenhouse is shown in the photo behind the raised beds, on the right side.

Alan Wennex



Mushroom kit after 5 days in our homes.



Hellebores for sale at Mini-college

Yamhill County Master Gardener Calendar For October 2016

October 2016

5 **Newberg Farmers' Market Clinic**, 1:00 until 6:00, downtown Newberg
(the last Newberg Farmers' Market for this year).

6 **McMinnville Farmers' Market Clinic**, 1:00 until 6:00, downtown Mac.
(the last McMinnville Farmers' Market for this year).

OctoberPest classes begin, in Aurora
See details on page 5 of this issue of the Grapevine
"Target-focused IPM Programs"

12 **YCMGA Board Meeting**, Public Works Auditorium, 10 a.m. to noon

13 **Octoberpest Class. This class in Spanish only!** "Beginning bugs:
Economic entomology." 3 hours educational credit.

Newberg H.S. Work day. (see details on pg. 12).

20 **Oregon Flora Project (lecture)** 3:00 until 4:00, Public Works
Auditorium, with Dr. Linda Hardison from OSU. One hour educational credit.

Octoberpest Class. "Beginning Bugs: Economic entomology" in English.
Qualifies for 3 hours educational credit class.

Newberg H.S. Work day. (see details on pg. 12).

27 **Newberg H.S. Work day.** (see details on pg. 12).

Octoberpest Class. "Beneficial Insects: ornamental entomology"
Qualifies for 3 hours educational credit.

Educational/social hour for November to be decided.

4 **Deadline for turning in "New Project Form" for financial requests**

12 **YCMGA Board Meeting**, 9a.m. to 10 a.m., PW auditorium
YCMGA "retreat" 10 a.m., same place

November



Every 1st & 3rd Thursday, **Insect Committee**, M.G. office, 10:00 a.m. to noon

First Thursday, **McMinnville Farmers' Market Clinic**, 1:00 to 6:00, downtown

First Wednesday, **Newberg Farmers' Market**, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Most Saturdays: OSU Gardening Radio program "**To the Root of It**", 9:00 a.m.,
on radio station KLYC 12260 AM with Ray Van Blaricom and Kyle Hunter

THOSE GALLING LITTLE WASPS

Wondering why so many Oregon white oaks (*Quercus garryana*) have dead branch tips this year? The twig death is only partly due to a small wasp, *Bassettia ligni*. The wasp lays its eggs on the branch tips of the oaks in the fall, and the eggs overwinter in the oak galls so often seen on the ground beneath oaks. In mid-April the wasps, all of which are female, hatch through the tiny holes seen in the fallen galls. These females then lay their eggs in the oak leaves, and the galls these leaves are tiny and not noticeable. In June and mid-July these second-generation wasps lay eggs in the oak twigs themselves, this time leaving the familiar galls the size of ping-pong balls to baseballs.



The familiar oak twig gall



B. ligni initial damage

And now, finally, comes the one responsible for the dead twigs. It's the squirrels! These satanic little rodents are looking for wasp larvae to eat, and in doing so they eat the bark off the twig that has the gall on it, girdling the twig. Of course this causes the twig die-back seen on most white oaks this year. As with everything in nature, the wasps go through boom and bust cycles, but the damage from the squirrels does no harm to the tree. Even though it looks like a disaster in the making, it is an aesthetic problem only,

In nurseries it can be a problem, because the wasp damage will cause the affected terminal to die, causing the tree to send out lateral branches from around the dead terminal. That can make for a bushier tree, but it can also seriously impair the looks of a small tree in a nursery. Plus, sometimes this causes distortions like the formation of broom growth, requiring nursery personnel to spend extra time training the plants to develop new leaders.

But at least you can relax, knowing that your oaks are suffering no real harm.



Donn Callaham



Heavily infested white oak

Graduation Day is Coming!

Mark your calendar

14th, with a Board meeting at 5 pm followed by dinner at 6 pm and then the graduation ceremony. The event will be held at a new location this year: the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center on Rt. 18 south of McMinnville (11275 SW Durham Lane, McMinnville).

for **DECEMBER**

This will be a potluck dinner, so dig up those great family recipes. You will also get to vote for next year's board members and hear who the new board members are. It's lots of fun: family members are welcome to attend.

Here Comes Octoberpest!

Starting in

the annual Oktoberpest seminars will begin. Registration is open now, and cost is \$25 per seminar.

There is one class every Thursday in October, all taking place in Aurora. The theme this year is beneficial insects so check out the website below:

oregonstate.edu/dept/nurspest/Workshopsclasses.htm



Reap What You Sow...

Because of the promiscuous use of glyphosate (introduced as "Roundup") the inevitable has happened: populations of tumbleweed (Russian thistle) are now resistant to glyphosate. No-till farming depends completely on glyphosate, the herbicide that will kill all kinds of plants. Without this chemical, the fields either have to be tilled (which is energy-intensive and causes serious erosion) or another chemical must be used to kill the tumbleweed. As far as is known, glyphosate does not affect any organisms other than plants, and dissipates within days.

And, the only chemical that is affordable and effective is paraquat, now being used to kill the widespread and persistent tumbleweed and other plants resistant to glyphosate.

Before the introduction of glyphosate, paraquat was the most widely used herbicide in the U.S. and world-wide. Paraquat (unlike glyphosate) is highly toxic to animals (including humans, of course). This chemical will enter an organism by being absorbed through the skin, by breathing the fumes, or by ingestion. Even in tiny amounts it is usually fatal. There is no known antidote.



Another major hazard of paraquat is that it quickly binds to soil, degrading only 5% to 10% per year, resulting in soil contamination for 10 years at the minimum. This is true for a single application, if the application is not repeated. In most cases, applications are made annually both in the U.S. and abroad.

For the full Capital Press article on this subject:

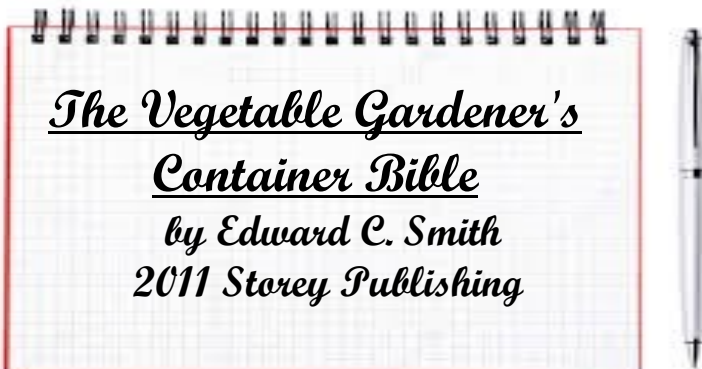
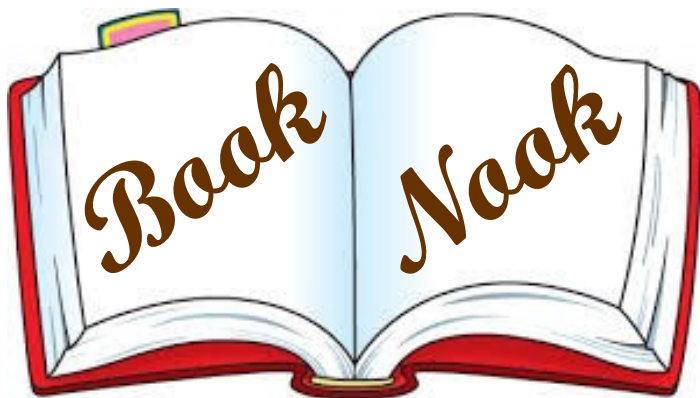
<http://www.capitalpress.com/Oregon/20160913/glyphosate-resistant-tumbleweed-discovered-in-ne-oregon>



Care to learn more about uses and effects of Paraquat?

<http://www.pan-uk.org/pestnews/Actives/paraquat.htm>

Donn Callahan



Container gardening has become a hot topic! Both people who don't have a yard and those who have acres are getting into growing vegetables in pots. This latest addition to the MG Library seems like it will be a good supplement to our Vegetable section. Its cousin, "The Vegetable Gardener's Bible," has already been valuable in assessing the challenges of vegetable gardening. The author has organized both these books full of user-friendly advice based on his experience. He grows hundreds of varieties of vegetables, fruits and herbs in his 2000 square feet of gardens and containers.

Container gardening allows you to control your soil and nutrients easily. It gives you mobility to control light requirements. It provides opportunities to grow with limited space. It can provide low maintenance for busy lives. It also creates an alternative to poor and/or contaminated soils. Container gardening can turn any sunny spot- a patio, porch, sunroom, houseboat, or a patch of lawn - into a vegetable garden.



Now that we're all convinced that vegetable container gardening is the greatest thing since sliced bread, the author fills the next 230 pages with planting ideas, such as choosing the right pot (with all kinds of DIY projects!). Pages 33-39 include ways to make self-watering containers. The same quality information is provided for making your own soil mixes; composting tips;

choosing tools; and trellises and transportation.

Chapter 5 tells us that with some planning a container can be both productive and beautiful. Of course, some vegetables should not be grown together and the author covers that subject quite well. If you don't want to come up with your own ideas, there are several combinations illustrated that are a good guide. Example: (p. 93): Eggplant Parmesan...Dwarf "Bambino" eggplant, with one parsley plant and one basil plant tucked in next to it.

The last third of the book is dedicated to the vegetable plants themselves. Each vegetable profile has a list of cultivars that do well in containers. Also each has "pick your pot"; "grow it"; "eat it"; and "bug off." The "bug off" tips are great because they direct you to specific insects that cause problems with specific vegetables. They also offer organic tips, such as using row covers on brassicas for several leaf-hopping insects. When discussing peas (p.195), they note most pea diseases are soil-borne and therefore not likely to be a problem for container peas.

Herbs get their own section (Chapter 12). I found a little humor in the comment on mint (p.233): "You don't have to know how to grow mint; it grows itself." You would practically have to be a fool to grow mint in anything other than a container! The book concludes with a chapter on "The Edible Bouquet." Edible flowers thrive in containers.

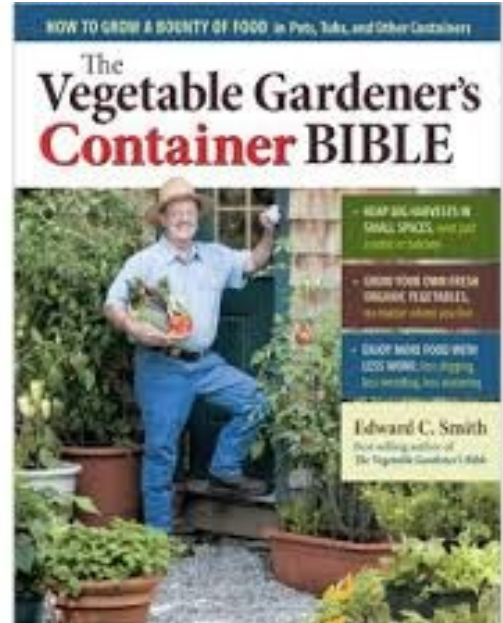
“Book Nook” continued...

However, the list holds no surprises: Bachelor's Button, Calendula, Dianthus, Marigold, Nasturtium, Sunflower and Viola. They mention that with Nasturtiums the seeds are also edible . Some people pickle them and use as a substitute for capers!

All in all, the Library Committee was excited to get this new book. Especially since there are so many new ideas and concrete information. When using the Master Gardener Library, please remember the Library Mantra: We are a Reference Library, **NOT a Lending Library!**



Beth Durr



A “First Ever” for Clinics...

I must admit, there was a time when I sometimes thought that doing office clinic hours without many intakes could be a bit....tedious. Not any more. I came in a few weeks ago, and was just settling in when a man came to the desk holding a big brown thing and asked Jade what it was. He said his son kicked it up while swimming in the Yamhill river. My interest was piqued so of course I butted in. My medical background helped, because I could immediately see it was a huge vertebra from something I certainly didn't want to meet in the Yamhill river! It was about a foot wide, very heavy, and the dark brown of fossilized bone. My first Mammoth vertebra, in beautiful condition! The mammoth part was speculation but what else would be that big? Later the man sent me the following information.



" We spoke to a Mr. Mike Full who is an administrator for the "Willamette Valley Pleistocene Project" . Anyway, he told us what we found was an Atlas Vertebra from a Columbian Mammoth. They stood around 15 ft. high at the shoulder. We documented where we found it and he suggested the best way to preserve it. We also entered it into a data base in case any institutions would like to see or study it! "



So you never can tell what will come your way during clinics!

Pat Fritz

The Invasives!

JAPANESE BEETLE

POPILLIA JAPONICA



If you have been in the eastern U.S. in summer, you probably are very familiar with the Japanese beetle. It is truly beautiful with its iridescent thorax and wings of green, gold, and sometimes blue. But as we all know, an attractive façade often disguises the most malevolent of intentions.

Japanese beetles and their offspring are prolific and voracious; both the grubs and adults cause extensive horticultural damage. Though they have been east of the Mississippi

roots) until they pupate. Adults hatch in midsummer, and then start chowing down on leaves, flowers, and fruit.

Symptoms of the damage is very easy to spot. Since the grubs eat roots (particularly lawns) there will be brown dead patches of grass. Because the roots have been cut by the grubs, these areas can easily be lifted like a rug.

Even before that, a large bird population suddenly appearing, a dramatic increase in moles, or lots of divots from raccoons and other animals digging up the grubs indicate the presence of a plentiful supply of grubs. Another way to detect serious infestations is to dig up about one square foot of lawn: if you see Japanese beetle grubs, you have a problem.

On foliage, the adults eat everything except the veins of the leaves, leaving skeletons of leaves in their wake. They like to begin at the top of the plant, in a sunny spot, and will

Japanese beetles' favorite plants to devour are roses, grapes, hops, and cannabis.

since 1916, they were not found in Oregon until 2013. When 32 adults were found here (in Washington County) the Oregon Department of Agriculture spent \$300,000 to control them.

But then about a month ago they were again trapped in Northwest Portland; this time there were 265 of them. That number indicates one or more breeding populations, not just a few imported ones. Treatment for them this time has not yet been determined, though another all-out effort will take place because of their extensive damage to plants.

Each phase of their life cycle is damaging to different plants. Eggs are laid in the soil (in sunny spots) at the end of summer, hatch into white grubs, and overwinter there. In early spring they begin eating roots (lots of



Typical leaf damage

The Invasives! (continued)

progress down the plant to eat all the leaves and flowers as well.

Consuming over 300 different kinds of plants, they prefer to dine first on roses (their all-time favorite), grapes, hops, cannabis, tomatoes, blueberries, maple trees, dahlias, and all types of fruit trees. When one Japanese beetle finds food, it sends out a pheromone to attract other beetles to the food source, and soon the insects will literally cover the plant being eaten.

Control begins by catching the adults in special traps (using the smell of roses as bait) to determine the intensity of the infestation. Trapped beetles should be drowned in water, mixed with dish soap to be sure their bodies sink into their watery grave. Remember, every other adult beetle you annihilate represents about 60 less eggs, grubs, and beetles next year.

Handpicking (and then drowning) the beetles

If you find any Japanese beetles you should immediately report the find to the Oregon Department of Agriculture through this link:

<https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>

may help, and parasitic wasps are your friends. Attract the wasps by planting lavender, mint, dill, fennel, and sweet alyssum throughout your yard. Attract birds, tolerate moles, and perhaps procure chickens. As long as the beetles are within reach the chickens will scarf them down with the single-minded intensity only a feasting chicken or goat can muster.

Fortunately there are some other organic ways to partially control the Japanese beetle, but if it becomes widespread it will be with us forever more.



Donn Callaham



Want some Money in 2017??

If you would like financing for a Master Gardener project, you should fill out the "Project Form", available on the YCMGA website and in your manual. It is an inordinately simple form, asking only for a few very basic facts. Though it is not mentioned on the form, it seems that an estimate of costs should be included, and perhaps your name as a contact person. This needs to be submitted well before the retreat 11/12, when the 2017 budget will be discussed and decided.

BEES AS POLLINATORS, FACT & FICTION

Our "Just-for-Fun" social meeting in September featured Michael's presentation on bees. We were all startled at how little we knew about these crucial insects.

Fact: honey bees are terrible pollinators; monocultures kill off native bees; there are over 20,000 species of bees.



Fiction: All bees are social insects; honey bees are native to the U.S.; bees are necessary to pollinate all

crops; mites are the major cause of honey bee declines.

Though there are over 4,000 species of native bees, most live individually or underground, making the honey bee the only one that can be managed and moved in mass. And we learned much more about the effects of monocultures, how honeybees cause the disappearance of native bees, and what type of flowers to plant to support bees in critical times when their food supply is low.

Even an hour would have been too short.



Donn Callaham



Michael with bee-built comb

Some important words from our President...

Please be aware that I have set the date for our annual YCMGA "retreat" (sorry-I just can't call this a retreat) for Saturday, November 12th, starting with a board meeting at 9 am and budget/planning at 10 am. We will be planning chapter activities for the coming year and doing the corresponding budget.

As Committee Chairs this is the time to look at what new items you may need for the upcoming year, and be prepared to present justification to the board for a budget increase. If we do not hear from a committee, their budget will remain the same as that of 2016. If you have a new project you would like for 2017, please complete the "New Project Form" (in 2016 Resource Manual and on our website), and return to me by November 4 so any questions can be answered ahead of time.

Thanks and I look forward to seeing all of you at our "retreat"!



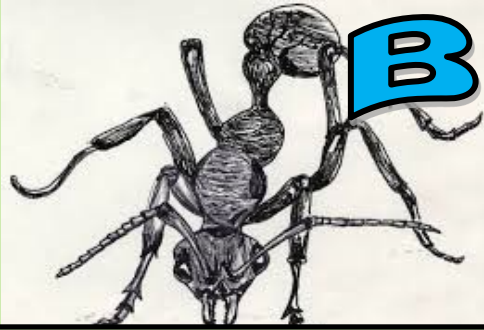
Pat Fritz

GRAPEVINE DEADLINE

Please remember the 22nd of every month is the "Grapevine" deadline

Donn Callaham, "Grapevine" Editor

*Bob
Grossmann's*



Buggy Bits

The Carpenters...

If you are old enough, you will probably remember the singing duo called "The Carpenters". One of their hit songs was "We've Only Just Begun". This Buggy Bits article, however is not about people, it's about carpenter ants. It is said that if you live in Oregon, your house has carpenter ants, has had carpenter ants, or will have carpenter ants in the future. So, they live everywhere in Oregon and maybe they've "only just begun" to live on your property or in your structures.



Ant damage in house framing

I can attest to having had an infestation several times over the years we have lived in Oregon. Carpenter ants can be very devastating to the wood of your house. They don't eat

it, mind you, but they do tunnel through your beams and rafters and use these galleries to make their nests. They can even make their nests in boxes of old clothes, Christmas ornaments and other items stored in boxes in your garage.

Carpenter ants are fairly easy to recognize. They are normally black with a smooth

rounded top to their thorax and are about 1/4 inch or so long.

The worker ants, looking for food, begin activity in early spring and often an individual or two can be found in your house during that time. Don't panic! If you see only one or two it probably means only a scouting party foraging for food to take back to the nest. A swarm of winged ants, or many non-winged individuals in the house could indicate a problem. What to do if you do have an infestation?

If you can locate the nest you can use

You have had, have, or will have carpenter ants in your home...

some over-the-counter sprays or poisons to attack the nest directly. Most of the time, however, the nest is hidden away in the structure, and you need to use a slow-acting persistent insecticide that the foragers can take back to the nest and share with the other ants. Look at the recent edition of the PNW Insect Control Handbook to see other information on control measures.

Hopefully, you won't have any trouble with the carpenters this year. The human Carpenters was a nice singing duo!



Frass & damage in a crawlspace habitat

NEWBERG H.S. GREENHOUSE HAPPENINGS

This article is provided to let the YCM-GA Membership know of the current horticulture activity happening at Newberg High School.

- We have 3 new Intro to Horticulture Classes this fall.
- We are finishing the old greenhouse upgrade this fall with re-siding the sidewall vents and installing a new motor.
- The New Link 4 digital controller will be wired to all the vent motors and fans in our older greenhouse and both greenhouses will have state-of-the-art control systems.
- Three senior students are continuing their work on their senior project to build a tissue culture laboratory. Last spring, they were given a private tour of the Terra Nova lab and Terra Nova has agreed to mentor these students in setting up a tissue culture lab at NHS.
- We are scheduling a fieldtrip to visit Smith Nursery in Aurora this term. Juniors & Seniors will be planning senior projects. If you are interested in helping mentor a student with their project, please contact us.

The focus of instruction for October is "Specialized Plant Parts" and "Propagation Methods". Most weeks each class has a "hands on" learning day in the greenhouse to practice what they've been learning in the classroom. Master Gardeners are encouraged to volunteer during these times to mentor students.

If you are in need of certification hours before the end of October or want to add to recertification hours, this would be a great way to vol-

unteer. Work days will continue to focus on propagation via cuttings, seed collection/perennial seed planting and division.

Master Gardener Work days for October:

We are focusing on one class each week for MGs to attend, but know that you are welcome on any & all of our work days.

13th, Thursday 7:40-9:00 am

20th, Thursday 7:40-9:00 am

27th, Thursday 11:10-12:30

Other options in October:

20th, Thursday 11:10-12:30

27th, Thursday 7:40-9:00 am

28th, Friday 7:40-9:30 am

You can visit a class by checking into the High School Main office ahead of class time. If you do decide to volunteer regularly, you will need to fill out paperwork for a background check & receive an ID card at the District Office (6th & College St.).



By Cindy Kinnaman

Feel free to send any questions to Cindy Kinnaman kin-namanbc@gmail.com



Newberg High School Greenhouse

PESKY PROFILES



By Heather Stoven

Earwigs: Friend or Foe?

Earwigs are common insects found in the garden which can be both a pest and beneficial. Earwigs can cause irregular holes on the edges of leaves as well as feeding on soft fruit such as strawberries or raspberries. Conversely, earwigs are also voracious predators of soft-bodied insects such as aphids and insect eggs.

Earwigs are most active at night and seek out cool, dark places to hide during the day. Eggs are laid in fall and winter and generally one generation occurs a year.



If these distinctive insects are found damaging your plants, trapping can be one of the best ways to control them. A tuna can with ½" of oil in the bottom buried at soil level can be very effective.

Also, taking advantage of their habit of hiding in dark places allows for the use of rolled newspaper or corrugated cardboard for traps. Check the traps each morning and shake the earwigs into soapy water.

Keep in mind, accepting a moderate amount of damage may also be to your benefit: hopefully the earwigs will provide you with some insect control in the future to repay the debt!



UC Statewide IPM Project
© 2007 Regents, University of California
Typical earwig leaf damage



Heather's Highlights

It is that time of year to get your hours entered in VRS. Have you ever wondered why it is important to do so?

Of course it is needed to ensure Jade and I can get all your time verified for graduation and recertification; however the information is also used for much more than that. Within the county the information is compiled and shared via community reports as well as other means. Reporting volunteer time accumulated, how much produce has been donated and contacts made allows us to communicate with local stakeholders and officials, letting them know of the

Keep the MG program supported by reporting all your hours!

Why Track Your Hours??

wonderful impact of our volunteer efforts within Yamhill County.

In addition, these statistics are also reported to Oregon State University on the statewide level annually, allowing OSU's Gail Langellotto to show our impacts in Oregon so that we can continue to receive financial support for our Master Gardener programs.

Our Master Gardeners within Yamhill County and the state perform a wonderful service, allowing for more connections in the community than the OSU staff would be able to do alone.

It is important that volunteer time is recorded so that we can share our efforts with our stakeholders. This will help make sure our program is recognized and that financial support continues so that we can continue on with our valuable work.

Thank you for being an M.G. volunteer!



Yamhill County Master Gardeners Association
Executive Board Minutes for September 14, 2016
CONDENSED "GRAPEVINE" EDITION

Meeting was called to order by Pat Fritz at 10:07 a.m. on September 14, 2016

First Item was changes in secretary's minutes from July. 1) The insurance issue had not been resolved, contrary to what the secretary understood. 2) There was a motion to accept Nancy Woodworth and Rita Canales' volunteering to be co-vice-presidents, and they were accepted eagerly.

Treasurer's report: Carol Parks has emailed all six financial reports for July and August and Secretary possesses a hard copy of each report.

OSU staff report: Jade was the representative this morning, and she had lots to say. She passed out a bulletin on the impending threat of Japanese beetles, and copies of OSU recertification policies to all members. There have been changes in these requirements, but our current policies are in effect through 10/31/16. She asked all mentors to personally check with their given mentees to be sure the mentees were meeting graduation requirements. New requirements (for 2017) will be 20 volunteer and 10 education hours, with any YCMGA activity counting. Now there will be "direct" education hours (teaching, running a clinic, writing) and "indirect" education hours, consisting of time spent helping set up for an educational activity, all of which will begin November first, 2016. We also found out that Jade has the horrifying task of daily checking the submitted hours of every single Master Gardener, and verifying correct submission. At the clinic desk a trainee often is the only staff on duty, and many of these people do not feel competent doing the job alone. As you would suspect, experienced staff are needed to assist. Jade also informed us that there are 17 prospective clients for the 2017 class—people who have contacted her to sign up. People suggested a number of ways to further publicize the classes: ads in the *News-Register*; fliers to hang at local businesses; radio ads; a display board in front of the Extension Office. Nearly all instructors have been locked in to teaching the 2017 classes, which will begin January 5th 2017. We were all quite impressed with Jade's rapid learning curve and surprisingly complete grasp of everything going on here, after a relatively short time.

Announcements: The President officially recognized Grow Alley for the "Search for Excellence" award, Gene Nesbitt for "Yamhill County Master Gardener of the Year," and Lynn Pollock as "Yamhill County Behind the Scenes." The following people received their 20-year recognition: Gail Price, Keith Wingfield, Barbara Boyer, Catie Anderson, Bob Grossmann, and Barbara Grossmann.

Propagation: Linda reported that the 4" pot plants are being transplanted into gallons, and 4" pots are being readied for new transplants.

Tours: Those who went on the mushroom farm tour last week were all very enthusiastic about the tour, and detailed the progress of the mushroom-growing kits they had received. Many of us already have mushrooms ready to harvest from the growing kits. However, no other field trips are planned right now.

Education/Outreach: On October 18th there will be a lecture on greenhouse winterization, and on the 20th the Oregon Flora Project will be introduced. November is a board meeting, then "retreat" for the rest of the day to plan the 2017 budget, and in December will be graduation and potluck. Most "social hours" are from 3 to 4 p.m.

Community Garden: After thanking Polly for all her work on the potluck, Linda told us that to date this year the Community Garden has donated 7,175 pounds of produce to YCAP! Winter gardening is now beginning: the new gardening year will begin in March 2017. There are now 22 *new* raised beds; plans are to have everything in raised beds next year, as the in-ground plantings have been plagued by weeds. Plants will be started in the large greenhouse, which Bailey Nurseries is going to reskin (donating both materials and the labor for the project).

Newberg Farmers' Market: This market is near death. Many vendors have stopped coming, customers are rare, and there are from zero to 3 contacts at the MG booth during the *whole day*. People questioned if 4 MG's should spend a day there waiting, but no decision was made. Apparently most of the "customers" there are just visiting or walking their dogs.

OMGA Representative report: Apryl was pleased to inform us that in the new budget grants

for chapters have not been deleted, and that a selling booth (t-shirts??) at the international MGA convention (in Portland) could be quite profitable. YCMGA will, for next year, need to rewrite our bylaws to match those of OMGA. Re: the liability issue, Sylvia informed us that the OMGA board is still not taking any action, ostensibly waiting for discussions to be put into writing by a lawyer. They may act by the end of this year, but it has been half a year of indecision. YCMGA needs the board action and paperwork to take to the Yamhill County Fair Board for approval. The county fair board also wants to review the "Memorandum of Understanding" between the MG board and the fair board. No matter what the venue, the lack of liability insurance probably would prevent our using *any* public facility until the insurance issue is resolved. At this point everything depends on the OMGA executive board. Tom strongly recommended that the reps. become more aggressive in pushing the board to do something about the insurance: Linda said that she was told to back off when she tried that. However, Apryl agreed to talk with Marcia and Sue Nesbitt (the Yamhill County representatives on the OMGA executive board) to see if they can encourage the Board to move more quickly. Pat the President will write a letter, signed by all the board members, pushing the OMGA board to get this done. And soon. Updates on the international convention are on the website, "2017IMGA," to which Tom will install a link on the YCMGA website.

Web Report: Tom is always looking for more material to put on the website, and he would enjoy a backup person.

"Spring into Gardening" Report: The theme will be "Gardening for Health," for which the speaker committee has already found and confirmed speakers for all the classes. Some subjects will be gardening tools; therapeutic gardens (at hospitals); gardening with pain (before you got the pain *from* gardening).

Seeds to Supper: Willamina, Newberg, and McMinnville will all be participating in the program this year. McMinnville needs a location and childcare, but oddly enough the major problem now is finding families to participate. Bilingual teachers are needed everywhere except in McMinnville, where it will be English only. No money is needed from MG's: we are responsible only for teaching.

Newberg High School: Presently YCMGA used the Newberg High greenhouse to raise about \$4,000 worth of plants for the YCMGA plant sale. However, the request has been made for a regular weekly MG presence at the high school: if we don't meet this qualification the Master Gardeners will lose the use of the greenhouse. There are now 3 volunteers at the greenhouse, none of whom is able to also commit to regularly mentoring a class at the high school.

Plant Sale Committee: One more person is still needed as an apprentice to learn the intricacies of the plant sale. Alan is no longer doing the label printing, so of course a replacement is needed. Rita swept in and volunteered to be the Printer of the Labels.

Fall Retreat Plans: A full day of planning for next year will take place on Saturday, November 12th of this year. This is known as a "retreat," though the retreat destination is the same Public Works Auditorium we always use. After the board meeting the 2017 budget will be planned, allocating funds for existing committees and events, and possibly for proposed events and projects. (There won't be a regular board meeting in November). But there will be food at the retreat, with Polly in charge of the kitchen. (At the same time Polly volunteered to woman the kitchen during the plant sale as well). She'll need cleanup help for sure. This is the time for people to fill out a project form to submit that Saturday. The form does need to be approved by the chair of the involved committee, and a copy of the form and explanation of it will be on our website, and in the *Grapevine*. If no budget proposals are submitted for any committee, that committee will receive the same dollars as it did in 2016.

Nomination Committee Appointment: On that committee (which is responsible for begging people to run for office) are Nancy, Polly, and Rita. Members of the board and of committees can certainly elect to remain in their 2016 positions for 2017, but there still is supposed to be at least 2 people vying for each board position. A list of candidates will be presented at the retreat, or emailed before voting. Voting and the results of voting will both be at graduation.

Committee Chairpeople: Again, Nancy and Rita volunteered, this time to co-chair the Education Committee, and Gene needs a co-chair for "Spring into Gardening."

Termination: Tom suggested ending the meeting, Rita rapidly seconded the motion, and it happened at 11:53 a.m.





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