BUCKEYE YARD AND GARDEN LINE 2015-19
08/13/15

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Buckeye Yard and Garden Line (BYGL) enhanced with photos and links is available online at: http://bygl.osu.edu. Become a fan of the BYGL on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/OSUBYGL or follow the BYGL on Twitter at http://www.twitter.com/OSUBYGL.

This is the 19th 2015 edition of the Buckeye Yard and Garden Line (BYGL). BYGL is developed from a Tuesday morning conference call of Extension Educators, Specialists, and other contributors in Ohio.

*****HOW TO: BUCKEYE YARD AND GARDEN LINE SUPPORT. The Ohio State University (OSU) Buckeye Yard and Garden Line (BYGL) writers need your support to continue this newsletter. OSU puts a great deal of resources into this project and we do not receive funding necessary for full support. We know you like BYGL, as in the 2014 Reader's Survey respondents indicated BYGL saved them $2.45 million dollars, 96% indicated BYGL was useful in their jobs, and 87% indicated BYGL helped with their diagnostic skills.

Funds will support on-going work of the Ohio State University Extension Nursery Landscape and Turf Team in matters regarding preparation, compilation and travel for the weekly April-October BYGL e-newsletter. Expenditures will include but not be limited to equipment such as cameras, upgrades of computers and related devices, management of the website, editing and webinar costs, and travel reimbursements.

Here's how you show your support:

This is the direct link to the OSU giving site: http://go.osu.edu/byglsupport

Or:

Go to https://www.giveto.osu.edu/makeagift/OnlineGivingDonation.aspx?fund=315145 and click on "search," then enter the fund number into the box. The fund number is 315145 and the name is Buckeye Yard & Garden Support. The fund, its name and description will appear in a new, smaller box. Click "Select this fund."

Then, you can either leave the default $100 in or change it; and fill out the remaining form (name, address, etc.). The form will walk you through. You can either do a one-time gift or recurring (monthly, etc.).

Also, if you would like to make a larger gift, please contact Jennifer Heller (heller.4@osu.edu), the Director of Development for the OSU College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences with your name and contact information. Jennifer's cell phone number 614.975.1317 and she will be more than happy to speak with you.

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1. PLANTS OF THE WEEK.

*ANNUAL - EUPHORBIA (Euphorbia spp.). Annual Euphorbia plants have been on the market for several years now with many cultivars having been introduced (and continue to be introduced!). This plant is very easy to grow and can be used as a bedding plant or in a container or basket. It does, however, take on a different look in a container. In the ground, it grows in a tight clump, getting around 1' tall by 1' wide, depending upon the cultivar. In a container, it's not as competitive as other plants. It sort of has more of an open habit, meandering around other plants. However, I do have a cultivar in our Herbaceous Ornamental plant trials this year, E. 'Glamour', that seems to be holding its own in a couple of containers. Most varieties fill in the gaps in container plantings while this particular one is showing off as a nice filler.

The foliage is dark green, growing in a small mound 1 - 2' tall and as wide when in the ground. The white flowers cover the entire plant and don't require deadheading, lasting all season until a hard frost. The plant somewhat resembles the perennial plant baby's breath in terms of its airiness.

This annual Euphorbia (there are a great many perennial Euphorbias as well) takes a variety of conditions, thriving in wet or dry summers. It's extremely heat and drought tolerant and does not seem to be bothered by deer. At this time, there are no major pest problems. Plant it in the full sun for best results. That said, since we have had to deal with impatiens downy mildew in the past years, I have been trialing some of the full sun plants in the shade gardens. Euphorbia 'Diamond Delight' exceeded my performance expectations in the shade (see photo). I am not suggesting that you go out and plant hundreds of plants in the shade, but I would urge gardeners to try a few and see how they do for you.

Despite the frilly, airy, delicate appearance, this plant is very tough. There are a several cultivars on the market, but many look very similar, having very little noticeable difference in appearance. Some have red stems while another is a little taller. Cultivars include (in no certain order): 'Breathless Blush', 'Breathless White', 'Diamond Frost', 'Cool Breeze', 'White Manaus', 'Glamour' and others.

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More information:
Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder information on E. 'Diamond Frost'
http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=264128&isprofile=1&basic=euphorbia
*PERENNIAL - RUSSIAN SAGE (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*). This plant is extremely easy to grow and is quite a tough performer in the garden. It also enhances and brightens up a garden with its foliage and bloom color as well as form. Russian sage can be used as a specimen or feature plant or it can be massed in a large grouping among other plants. The light-blue flowers and silver foliage provide an accent or background for other plants and is a bright spot in the garden. The flower spikes appear in mid-July and last up until frost. They make excellent cut flowers. The foliage is silvery, fine and thread-like, and fragrant. Overall, the plant adds a light airy attraction to the garden and the pollinators flock to the flowers.

Plants can grow up to 4 - 5' tall, depending upon the cultivar. It develops woody stems that are not always killed back to the ground. In order to keep the overall plant less leggy and more compact, cut it back to just above the crown in early spring prior to new growth emerging.

While Russian Sage tolerates a wide array of soil types including alkaline and dry, it won't thrive in wet soils. It grows best in full sun and becomes quite leggy and floppy in the shade. This is a plant that likes to stay put once planted so make a good design decision and it will give years of satisfaction. Russian sage has a nice fragrance when the stems are brushed or bruised and the deer don't like it! Make sure to give this plant plenty of room and it is guaranteed to attract the eye in a perennial border.

'Little Spire' is a cultivar that grows 1 1/2 - 2' tall and as wide and 'Longin' is 3 - 4' tall and only 2 - 3' wide. 'Blue Mist' has lighter blue flowers and blooms earlier than the other species.

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**For more information, see:**
Missouri Botanical Garden Kemper Center for Home Gardening search results for *Perovskia* varieties [http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderProfileResults.aspx?basic=russian%20s age](http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderProfileResults.aspx?basic=russian%20s age)

Colorado State University Extension information on Russian sage [http://www.ext.colostate.edu/ptlk/1050.html](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/ptlk/1050.html)


*WOODY - ENGLISH OAK (*Quercus robur*). English oak is native to Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia. It is similar in leaf appearance to white oak (*Q. alba*), but does not have the same canopy spreading characteristic as it ages or the reddish foliage color in autumn. Under landscape conditions in urban environments, it may reach 40 - 70' tall and spread 40 - 70' wide. Trunks are typically short, with ridged and furrowed dark gray to black bark. The yellowish-green flowers are not showy. Separate male and female catkins are produced in the spring as the leaves emerge. Fruits are oval acorns (up to 1" long) on 1 - 3" long stalks. Acorn caps extend approximately 1/3 the acorn length. Short-stalked, dark green leaves (3 - 5" long) with 3 - 7 blunt lobes per side are blue-green beneath. Leaves are variable in shape and have no fall color. English oak is being increasingly used as genetic stock to generate hybrids with other members of the white oak group, for use as landscape shade trees.

English oak adapts well to the tough conditions of the eastern and mid-western United States. It prefers moist, well-drained, moderately rich soils of variable pH, but adapts very well to moderately dry soils of poor quality. It thrives in full sun to partial sun, and grows in zones 4 to 8.

English oak is considered to be a low-maintenance tree with few serious problems. Powdery mildew can flourish on the English oak leaves under humid conditions. Oaks in general are susceptible to a large number of diseases, including oak wilt, chestnut blight, shoestring root rot, anthracnose, oak leaf blister,
cankers, leaf spots and powdery mildew. Potential insect pests include scale, oak skeletonizer, leaf miner, galls, oak lace bugs, borers, caterpillars and nut weevils.

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*VEGETABLE - TOMATILLO (Physalis ixocarpa). Native to Mexico, the tomatillo is a member of the nightshade (Solanaceae) family along with tomatoes, eggplant, potatoes, and peppers. Tomatillos are also called husk tomatoes, jamberberries, Mexican green tomatoes, and strawberry tomatoes. As a popular ingredient in Mexican dishes, tomatillos provide a unique citrus flavor and they are now ripe in Ohio and will continue to produce fruit until frost.

This hardy plant should be transplanted or direct seeded after the last frost and mulched to maintain moisture and discourage weeds. They require full sun in fertile, well-drained soil and need another tomatillo plant for pollination. Plants can grow to 3 - 5’ tall with a similar spread, depending on the cultivar. Spacing plants 2 - 3’ apart with rows 3 - 5’ apart will aid in good air circulation and ease in harvesting. The size of the round fruit is dependent on the cultivar and can range from under 1 - 2.5". Each fruit is encased in a papery husk or enlarged calyx. Maturing in 75 - 100 days they are ready to harvest when the husk starts to split; the fruit will be firm and sticky beneath the husk. The color of the fruit can range from light green to pink to purple. Over mature fruit for cultivars with green fruit will be yellowish and soft; their sweeter flavor is less desirable for most dishes. One plant can produce between 50 to over 100 tomatillos.

Tomatillo plants are not susceptible to many diseases and tend to have few insect problems. However, pests can include snails, slugs, cutworms, mites and aphids. Cultivars vary by flavor, fruit size, and production yields. Some varieties to explore are: ’Pineapple’ that produces a small fruit that is sweet with a pineapple taste; ’Purple De Milpa’ has purple stripped husks and a 2” fruit; and ’Verde Puebla’ provides continuous production with sweet tasting green fruit. Check out the cultivars before planning next year’s garden and deciding which salsa or other dishes you are planning to prepare.

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For more information see:
University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Tomatillo
http://www.uky.edu/Ag/NewCrops/introsheets/tomatillo.pdf

Iowa State University Home Gardening Guide, Tomatillos
http://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/Tomatillos-PDF

Evaluation and Yield Trials of Tomatillo in New Hampshire by Freyre, Rosanna and Loy, J. Brent
http://horttech.ashpublications.org/content/10/2/374.full.pdf

*WEED - JOE-PYE WEED (Eutrochium purpureum). Many people think Joe-Pye weed is nothing more than a roadside weed and have never taken in to consideration its outstanding ornamental characteristics. It is a large plant which needs space, but when planted in mass it can provide exceptional flowering and provide height when needed in the landscape. This herbaceous perennial is native to Ohio and grows in meadows and open woods with full sun to part shade in damp-to-dry moisture conditions. Joe-Pye weed typically grows 4 - 7’ tall with a spread of 2 - 4’. This plant has dark green leaves with toothed margins arranged in whorls of 3 - 4 leaves per node on thick green stems. Joe-Pye weed blooms in mid-summer to early fall with tiny vanilla-scented pinkish-purple clusters of flowers. Deadheading not only keeps plants looking nice after flowering but also discourages seedlings, which can be abundant. Joe-Pye weed's showy and fragrant flowers are very attractive to butterflies and bees and can be used in both formal and informal landscapes.
2. HORT SHORTS.

A. BROMELIADS GALORE! While traveling to Orlando, Florida to conduct a diagnostic workshop at the International Society of Arboriculture’s Tree Academy Workshops, the Extension Nursery, Landscape, and Turf team members attending were amazed to see the multitude of bromeliads that were in the trees, bushes and landscapes in Florida! In total there are 16 native bromeliad species and two natural hybrids which grow on other plants. These bromeliads otherwise known as Tillandsia spp. or air plants are actually not harmful to plants upon which they live, although these epiphytes may attach their root structures to their host plants; they simply use it for support. Two of the most common air plants that were seen in Florida by the team were the BALL MOSS (Tillandsia recurvata syn Diaphoranthema recurvata) and the SPANISH MOSS (Tillandsia usneoides syn Dendropogon usneoides). Both of these bromeliads were seen on other plants and structures (fences and walls).

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For more information, see:
University of Florida IFAS Extension - Florida's Native Bromeliads
http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw205

B. WHAT’S THAT FISHING LINE DOING IN MY FLOWER BED….DODDER….SAY WHAT????? This issue comes up at least once every BYGL season and Julie Crook brought it up on the BYGL conference call this week. A gardener wanted to know what the orange-yellow fishing line-like stuff was hanging around in his plants. When BYGLers hear the description of fishing line, thoughts turn to dodder (Cuscuta spp.).

Dodder is a parasitic vine that lacks chlorophyll, so it must extract food and nutrients from a host plant. There are many species of dodder found in the United States and each has a wide, but different, range of host plants. All species of dodder are annuals. Initially, seeds germinate and produce a temporary root system to support an initial thread-like stalk. If the stalk makes contact with a susceptible host, modified roots, called haustoria, penetrate the host plant. The red, orange, or yellow stalks continue to entwine the plant, often covering it under a mat of dodder stems.

Small white, pinkish or yellowish flowers (depending on the species) are produced sometime in June and last all season. Four tiny seeds are released from each fruit and remain viable in the soil for many years. As dodder lacks a specific seed dispersal mechanism, movement to new areas is through movement of contaminated soil on plants, shoes or equipment, or as a contaminant in seed.

Control is primarily through prevention. Avoid contamination from infested soil. If dodder is found, pull or prune to remove it from the site; do not allow it to develop and set seed as this will provide a source of
dodder for many seasons. For yearly problem spots, pre-emergent herbicides may provide some relief. Also, switching to another ornamental crop may leave the dodder without a preferred host. Preferred hosts include many bedding plants as well as alfalfa, clover and other legumes.

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More information:
Maryland Home and Garden Information Center information on Dodder
https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/dodder

Purdue Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory Picture of the Week - Dodder on Muskmelon
https://www.ppdl.purdue.edu/PPDL/weeklypics/11-7-11.html

Colorado State University Extension information Dodder
http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/CoopExt/TRA/dodder.html

C. A WALK ON THE WILDSIDE: CUCKOOS IN OHIO. BYGL writer Marne Titchenell received a photograph of a mystery bird nesting in a homeowner's yard in Richland County this past week. It turns out the mystery bird was none other than the BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (Coccyzus erythropthalmus). The downward curved bill and bright red eye-ring were key identification clues. The black-billed cuckoo is typically a solitary, shy bird, spending its time slipping quietly through woodland edges, thickets, and other shrubby areas foraging for insects. While it eats a wide variety of insects, it often selects the hairy caterpillars that other birds sometimes avoid, such as tent caterpillars.

Perhaps one of the more intriguing facts about the family of the black-billed cuckoo (family Cuculidae) is their reproductive strategy. Many members of the Cuculidae family practice brood parasitism. This means that the female will lay her eggs in the nest of another species of bird. These "hosts" then incubate the eggs and raise the young as if they were their own. The COMMON CUCKOO (Cuculus canorus), a European species, is known for employing this strategy. This bird, whose call, 'coo-coo' gave name to the entire family, is also able to lay eggs similar to those eggs of the host species. To illustrate this further, a single common cuckoo may parasitize green warblers, another cuckoo may parasitize reed warblers, and yet another white wagtails (all European species not found here in Ohio). The eggs of each female cuckoo will closely mimic those selected hosts, whose eggs will vary in size, color, and markings. Scientists have yet to figure out how the cuckoo is able to accomplish this feat. What's more, is that the cuckoo will often hatch before the host species' eggs and then proceed to push the other eggs completely out of the nest!

Nearly half of the birds within the cuckoo family practice brood parasitism, and most reside in the Old World with a few found in the American tropics. Interestingly, the 2 species of cuckoos in North America (and Ohio) rarely parasite the nests of other species. The black-billed cuckoo and YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (Coccyzus americanus) typically build their own nests and if they do practice brood parasitism, it is on members of their own species.

If this reproductive strategy sounds familiar, you've most likely heard it in association with BROWN-HEADED COWBIRDS (Molothrus ater). Brown-headed cowbirds also lay their eggs in the nests of other species. When the young hatch, they do not toss the host species' young out of the nest on purpose, but rather rely on their large size to outcompete the other nestlings for food. Also unlike cuckoos, brown-headed cowbirds are not able to mimic the host species' eggs. It would therefore be highly beneficial for the host species to be able to recognize the brown-speckled brown-headed cowbird's eggs. Some research into this subject has reported that certain species of birds have learned to reject cowbird eggs. Those species include robins, catbirds, blue jays, and brown thrashers. Why do some species reject and others accept cowbird eggs? The answer is still being researched, but one potential answer is time and historic contact with cowbirds. Once rejection appears in a species, that ability is quickly passed on to
the next generation. It just goes to show, nothing is ever as simple as it appears out there. Nature is full of complex relationships!

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More Information:
All About Birds
http://www.allaboutbirds.org

D. TIME TO CELEBRATE - IT IS LOCAL FOODS WEEK. Hopefully you have already been celebrating Ohio’s Local Food Week. The week kicked-off last Sunday, August 9 and runs through Saturday, August 15, 2015. If you haven’t celebrated there is still time. OSU’s Local Foods Signature Program has a lot of ideas on how you can celebrate this year, and begin plans for 2016. Ideas are broken down by Food Production, Food and Business, Food and Family, and Food and Community - something for everyone!

Food Production
- Share your grower story with your customers. Use a newsletter, poster, social media - share what local foods means to you and your business.
- Have a place to share videos? Check out OSU Extension U Tube Channel with a variety of local foods topics http://localfoods.osu.edu/resources.
- Are you a fruit or vegetable grower? Share the Farm to Health Series: Maximize Your Nutrients informational cards with consumers http://localfoods.osu.edu/maximizenutrients.
- Host a farm tour.
- Thank your customers for celebrating local foods week by choosing local products. For example, Michelle Weber, Weber Ranch LLC uses the following acknowledgment with customers: "Thank you for using your local food dollar with us" as Weber Ranch recognizes that the customer is seeking out local, sustainable food sources.
- Share photos of your production on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ohiolocalfoodsweek or on Twitter at https://twitter.com/OHLocalFoodWeek (#olfw15).
- Encourage customers to participate in the $10 local food challenge at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/take-challenge.
- Utilize the Ohio Local Foods Week Toolkit at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .
- Encourage your township, city or county to sign a proclamation for Ohio Local Foods Week. Sample available at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .

Food and Business
- If you are a business that serves local foods as part of a meal, use the Local Food placemats:
  - Family Questions  (8.5x11)
  - Family Questions  (8.5x14)
  - Local Foods Word Search  (8.5x11)
  - Local Foods Word Search  (8.5x14)
  - Parts of Plant that are Edible  (8.5x11)
  - Parts of Plant that are Edible  (8.5x14)
  - Seasonality  (8.5x11)
  - Seasonality  (8.5x14)
- If you serve local food as part of a meal, determine a feature menu item to celebrate and highlight during Ohio Local Food Week.
- Host an open house at your business to highlight your connection with local food.
- Organize a food day where food trucks and farmers all converge for local employees to enjoy a variety of lunch options and fresh food to take home.
- Sell local foods? Highlight the locations, growers and producers of the local food products.
Sell other products that complement local foods? Local flowers, pottery and garden tools can all go together with a local meal.

Thank your customers for celebrating local foods week by choosing local products. For example, Michelle Weber, Weber Ranch LLC uses the following acknowledgment with customers: "Thank you for using your local food dollar with us." Weber Ranch recognizes that the customer is seeking out local sustainable food sources.

Host an OSU Extension worksite wellness program for your employees
http://fcs.osu.edu/workplace-wellness.

Have a place to share videos? Check out OSU Extension U Tube Channel with a variety of local foods topics http://localfoods.osu.edu/resources.

Utilize the Ohio Local Foods Week Toolkit at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .

Encourage customers to participate in the $10 local food challenge at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/take-challenge .

Share photos of your production on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ohiolocalfoodsweek or on Twitter at https://twitter.com/OHLocalFoodWeek (#olfw15).

Encourage your township, city or county to sign a proclamation for Ohio Local Foods Week. Sample available at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .

Food and Family
• Participate in the $10 local food challenge and encourage your friends to join at http://go.osu.edu/olfw10dollars.
• Where do you find local food? For a list of Ohio online food directories, visit http://localfoods.osu.edu/resources/ohio-local-food-directories .
• Visit a farmers’ market or farm stand.
• Eat at a restaurant serving local food.
• Check out a new book on food or recipes at the library.
• Visit and tour a community garden or farm.
• Can, freeze or dry some local produce. Use updated, researched recipes and methods http://fcs.osu.edu/food-safety/home-food-preservation and http://nchfp.uga.edu/.
• Participate in a local community nutrition class http://fcs.osu.edu/nutrition or other OSU Extension class [ http://extension.osu.edu/ ]
• Share photos of your production on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ohiolocalfoodsweek ] or on Twitter at https://twitter.com/OHLocalFoodWeek ( #olfw15).
• Utilize the Ohio Local Foods Week Toolkit at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .
• Encourage your township, city or county to sign a proclamation for Ohio Local Foods Week. Sample available at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .

Food and Community
• Organize a "local" farm tour - tours could be at a traditional rural farm, an urban agriculture site, community gardens, summer school gardens, a Community Supported Agriculture, etc. For some great ideas of tours across the state in 2015, check out the Sustainable Ag Tour list of sites and events http://www.oeffa.org/documents/farmtour2015.pdf .
• Promote local food topics and resources at scheduled programs that week. For example, if you are hosting a nutrition class, mention what produce is in season and where it is available for a reasonable cost.
• Promote the $10 Ohio Local Food Challenge in your community at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/take-challenge .
• Libraries - display on local food topics from agriculture to home food preservation to cookbooks.
• Have a place to share videos? Check out OSU Extension U Tube Channel with a variety of local foods topics http://localfoods.osu.edu/resources.
• Share photos of your production on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ohiolocalfoodsweek or on Twitter at https://twitter.com/OHLocalFoodWeek (#olfw15).
• Farmers’ Markets
• Restaurants serving local food and using local food placemats:
  • Family Questions (8.5x11)
  • Family Questions (8.5x14)
  • Local Foods Word Search (8.5x11)
  • Local Foods Word Search (8.5x14)
  • Parts of Plant that are Edible (8.5x11)
  • Parts of Plant that are Edible (8.5x14)
  • Seasonality (8.5x11)
  • Seasonality (8.5x14)
• Recognition of local growers who donate to food pantries
• Encourage your township, city or county to sign a proclamation for Ohio Local Foods Week. Sample available at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .
• “Sneak a Zucchini on Your Neighbor’s Porch” August 8, 2015. For details, go to http://lucas.osu.edu/program-areas/local-foods/sneak-zucchini .
• Utilize the Ohio Local Foods Week Toolkit at http://localfoods.osu.edu/ohio-local-foods-week/ohio-local-foods-week-to... .

Happy Local Foods Week - now go celebrate!

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For more information, see:
http://localfoods.osu.edu (website)

3. BUGBYTES.

A. BARKLICE. Barklice (a.k.a. bark cattle or tree cattle) (Order Psocoptera: Family Psocidae) are odd little insects that are obviously associated with trees, they look similar to aphids, and carry a name, "lice" that generates a feeling of revulsion in most that hear their name. However, barklice are not true lice nor are they aphids, thus they are neither parasite nor plant sucking pests. Barklice are free-living insects with chewing mouth parts that feed on algae, lichens, and molds that grow on plants as well as dead animal and plant parts. They are sometimes referred to as "cattle" because when disturbed, they will move away from the disturbance in unison like a herd of cattle or a flock of sheep.

When discovered in large numbers, they look like they should be a problem, however they are of little economic importance or threat to the health of the tree or shrub upon which they were found. Some species of barklice produce mats of webbing over the surface of the trunk and main heavy branches of trees. This can look quite alarming, but does no harm to the tree. The webs are believed to protect the barklice from predators.

The adult barklice are brownish-black and approximately 1/4" long. Winged forms of barklice usually have four membranous wings with only a few prominent veins. The immature stage or nymphs, are brownish-gray and resemble the adults, except they are wingless.

Barklice are most often noticed on smooth-barked shrubs and trees such as lilacs, maples, and oaks although they occur on a variety of hardwood ornamental plants.
Curtis Young reported seeing two Ohio references to barklice in the past week. Both references were to the VEINED BARKLOSE (Cerastipsocus venosus) and originated in NE Ohio. Adults of the veined barklouse are winged and brown-black in color. As mentioned above, the wings only have a few veins in them, but the veins are white to yellow-white in color which makes them stand out against the dark background. Nymphs are wingless and have brown and yellowed striped abdomens.

Have you seen any barklice this year? We are a bit curious what you the readers are seeing out there. If you have seen any barklice, send an email to Curtis Young at young.2@osu.edu.

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For more information, see:
YouTube of Barklice
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9dED0hW0uE

The Veined Barklouse
http://www.americaninsects.net/pso/cerastipsocus-venosus.html

B. YELLOWJACKETS. BYGLers are hearing about yellowjackets (Family Vespidae) from clients in counties and through the "Ask a Master Gardener" system. Yellowjackets are predatory wasps that many homeowners have encountered in their yards. While these are beneficial general predators that kill soft-bodied pests such as caterpillars and sawflies to feed to the young larva, they can become a nuisance if they draw near recreational areas or accidentally enter homes. Most often these insects can come into conflict with people in late summer when their food preference switches from other protein-rich insects to sweet items. This often draws them to our summer picnics when they are attracted to sweet foods such as soda. Adult wasps are also drawn to fruit, tree sap, and garbage cans, so keep lids tightly affixed outdoors and clean up fallen or rotting fruit from any fruit trees or shrubs to prevent attracting them.

While most people are familiar with yellowjackets, many may be surprised to know there is more than one species in Ohio. The German yellowjacket (Paravespula germanica) first appeared in Ohio in 1975 and is the most commonly found today. The other yellow jackets include the common yellowjacket (Paravespula vulgaris) and Eastern yellowjacket (Paravespula maculifrons). They often build their nests in abandon rodent burrows or hollowed spaces in the ground, but can also be found in wall voids, bringing them again into conflict with humans. There is also a species of aerial yellowjacket (Dolichovespula arenaria) that builds a hanging nest in eaves or trees.

Yellowjacket are social insects with queen and worker wasps. Workers are about 1/2" long with yellow and black stripes on the abdomen. There are many helpful guides that use these stripes to help differentiate the species. Queens are larger, about 3/4". These wasps are often confused with honeybees because of their similar size but remember that bees have many branched hairs, giving them a furry appearance whereas most wasps are relatively hairless and may appear shiny. Many bees can also be differentiated by the presence of a pollen basket carrying pollen whereas yellowjackets are predatory. Only the fertilized new queens survive the winter hiding well protected under hollow logs, bark, rocks, or soil cavities. Queens will emerge in April to May to select a new nesting site. Nests are not reused.

Be mindful of potential underground nests as many complaints often arise when lawnmowers or weedwackers draw to near their underground burrows. If you can wait, yellowjackets will die off in winter and only the queens will survive. If you must remove a nest, there are dust insecticides labeled for wasps (read all labels). However, hiring a professional pest control operator may be the best bet to prevent risk of sting injury.
C. TOMATO HORNWORM PARASITES. BYGLer Marne Titchenell was investigating her tomato plants and came upon several tomato hornworms (*Mancuda quinquemaculata*) covered in small white cocoons all over its body. While the caterpillar is an unwanted pest that eats tomato leaves and will even take chunks out of the developing tomato, this particular discovery was a good sign for the garden. That is because the white cocoons belong to a parasitoid wasp, likely *Cotesia congregata*. This wasp lays its eggs in or on the body of its host. The eggs hatch and the larva burrow into the caterpillar's body where it feeds on its host literally from the inside out, but it does not kill it immediately as it depends on the living caterpillar to complete its development. Once the larvae are large enough, they emerge from the caterpillar's body just before it dies to pupate on the surface of the caterpillar. This does not kill the caterpillar immediately but slowly the caterpillar will wither away and die from the trauma.

If you find caterpillars covered in cocoons similar to this, LEAVE THEM. An infested caterpillar will do little to no feeding once infested as it declines. From these cocoons will emerge the next generation of beneficial parasitoids that can help manage hornworm populations in your garden.

Author: Ashley Kulhanek; kulhanek.5@osu.edu

Additional Resources:
- University of Minnesota
- Texas A&M University
  [http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/beneficials/beneficial-04_braconid_wasp_on_hornworm.htm](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/beneficials/beneficial-04_braconid_wasp_on_hornworm.htm)

4. DISEASE DIGEST.

A. REMEMBER THE CLINIC. Observations concerning the early browning and curling of oak leaves on well-established trees brought up the discussion that only lab testing can confirm a diagnosis. Submitting a sample to the Ohio State University’s C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic is a good investment before treating a possible disease. The clinic specializes in identifying plant diseases, plant health issues and insect-related problems. Instructions on how to submit a sample are on their website at: [http://ppdc.osu.edu/](http://ppdc.osu.edu/).

New this year for the Clinic is an app for the iPhone or iPad which allows clientele to submit digital samples or images either as a stand-alone sample or to supplement a physical sample being sent to the Clinic. Fees for all services are available at their website.

The app is available for free from the i-Tunes Store and can be found at: [https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sample-submission/id669269520?mt=8](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sample-submission/id669269520?mt=8) or by scanning the QR code on the Clinic's website. Anyone may download the app which guides the users with questions customized for various situations.

If you have a mystery ailment with several possibilities; don't guess, send samples to the Clinic for a test.

Author: Denise M. Johnson; johnson.2924@osu.edu
5. TURF TIPS.

A. TERRIFIC TURF FIELD DAY. On Tuesday August 11, 2015 the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation and The Ohio State University together sponsored an OUTSTANDING Turfgrass Research Field Day. From golf greens to sports turf to homeowner lawns and everything in-between, the latest and greatest findings from The Ohio State University (OSU) researchers was presented. It was also a kind of "Farewell Tour" salute for Dr. John Street, who has been associated with turfgrass and OSU for over 35 years! Dr. Dave Shetlar, "BugDoc" shared his findings on the best way to control grubs, hairy chinch bugs and the bluegrass billbug. Dave asked the group if they thought that grub control would be needed this year in lawns that traditionally had not been treated for grubs in the past. After the group, hemmed and hawed around for a no answer response to his question, BugDoc mentioned catching over 800 adults in a light trap, in one night at the Shetlar residence. According to the crystal ball that BugDoc gazed into, it would be a good year to treat lawns for grubs!

Dr. David Gardner showed the assembled masses his plots of spring and summer turfgrass plantings and the efficacy of herbicides currently labeled for use in new seedling turfgrass. It was good to see the new products versus the "industry standard," siduron (Tupersan) which still performs quite well. Additionally, David emphasized the need to use all products according to their labels. Ultimately, the take home message was if you can wait to plant later in the season - then do it! He also showed a comparison study of the effect of some of the newer products for controlling crabgrass or broadleaf weeds. He also demonstrated some newer combination products, which are attempting to control both grassy and broadleaf weeds with one application. There are some very promising products coming down the pipeline and Dr. Gardner is hopeful that they will be released soon for use by lovers of all things turf.

Joe Rimelspach again helped to show turfphiles that one of the best fungicides for use against foliar leaf diseases, like dollar spot, is a good shot of fertilizer on a starving lawn! Healthy lawns can recover much more quickly and will respond better to a fungicide regime for preventing many of the foliar diseases of turfgrass. Joe conclusively demonstrated in side-by-side comparisons that using fertilizers along with fungicides gave great results for managing many of the foliar diseases, especially dollar spot. Joe also shared his findings and preferences for liquid versus granular fungicide applications. He then shared with the group his thoughts on the best management techniques for controlling turfgrass diseases using granular formulations effectively. It was a great day of gaining knowledge and learning from some of the best turf type researchers, how to keep turfgrass green and supreme!

Author: Erik Draper; draper.15@osu.edu

B. MOW LESS; TIME TO PLANT! Since the constant rain has stopped, turfgrass growth has slowed and you do not need to mow as often. Turf pathologist Joe Rimelspach noted there is rust on lawns in central, northeast and northwest Ohio; but it is not a big concern at this time. He reported dollar spot scars are lingering but the disease is not too active. In addition, the drying down of the grass is causing brown spots and thin spots in some areas so don't be surprised if you see brown tracks where the mower moves across the lawn.

An uptick on the number of online lawn related questions brought up the fact that August 15 to September 15 is the recommended time to plant new grass in most of Ohio. Information on turfgrass is available on the Ohio Turf Foundation website at [ http://www.ohioturfgrass.org/]. Also, the Natural Resource Conservation Service provides a booklet entitled, Five Keys to Successful Grass Seeding in Ohio; their website is below.

Author: Denise M. Johnson; johnson.2924@osu.edu
6. INDUSTRY INSIGHTS.

A. DIAGNOSTIC EXTRAVAGANZA! The Extension Nursery, Landscape and Turf Team spent last week traveling to Orlando, Florida to the International Society of Arboriculture Conference to present the 23 Questions of Plant Diagnostics - A Process to Sharpen Your Diagnostic Skills program to fellow colleagues and professionals. Samples were collected from the State of Florida and were presented to the participants for a wonderful diagnosticating session. Both the team and participants learned a lot about Florida's local tree pests and diseases. The session was a great success with 74 people in attendance including over 15 international participants. This was the largest attended session for the Tree Academy Workshop at the conference!

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For more information, see:
International Society of Arboriculture
http://www.isa-arbor.com/

20 Questions of Plant Diagnostics
http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/3000/pdf/PP401_03.pdf

7. WEATHERWATCH. The following weather information summarizes data collected at various Ohio Agricultural Research Development Center (OARDC) Weather Stations spanning the dates from August 1 - 11, 2015, with the exception of the soil temperatures which are readings from Wednesday, August 11, 2015 at 11:05 p.m.

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<tr>
<td>Ashtabula</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>79.2</td>
<td>59.5</td>
<td>1.0''</td>
<td>1.2''</td>
<td>64.26/69.98</td>
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<td>Wooster</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>59.0</td>
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<td>0.4''</td>
<td>73.78/74.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoytville</td>
<td>NW</td>
<td>81.9</td>
<td>58.5</td>
<td>1.24''</td>
<td>1.1''</td>
<td>75.73/76.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Central</td>
<td>83.3</td>
<td>61.5</td>
<td>1.14''</td>
<td>1.4''</td>
<td>78.65/78.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>62.1</td>
<td>3.07''</td>
<td>0.5''</td>
<td>75.02/76.13</td>
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</tbody>
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For a link to the OARDC Weather Stations, visit: http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/centernet/weather.htm

Author: Amy Stone; stone.91@osu.edu

8. COMING ATTRACTIONS.

A. TREE TOUR & TALKS - AUGUST 25, 2015. Have you ever seen a Kinki Winki? Or a Zydico Twist? Join us for an opportunity to see an amazing collection of rare and unusual trees on this tour of a private property, "Barboretum". Afterward, enjoy lunch and the presentations of our 3 renowned speakers. Everyone is welcome and Master Gardeners receive 5 CEUs. This event will take place in Miami.
County, in Tipp City. Contact Deb Castle at debcastle@live.com or 937-409-1582 to register. Cost is $60 per person.

B. THE OSU GREEN INDUSTRY SHORT COURSE, THE OHIO TURFGRASS FOUNDATION CONFERENCE AND SHOW, AND TREES ON TAP PROGRAMS. Mark your calendars now, as these shows will be here sooner than you think. The event will be moving back to the Columbus Convention Center in 2015 and will be held on December 8 - 10, 2015, with the addition of a special tree program on Monday, December 7, 2015. Details on over 100 educational programs and a wide array of certification credits will be coming throughout the BYGL season. We are happy to acknowledge the robust support of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation for their financial and other aid of the educational efforts of the OSU Extension Nursery Landscape and Turf (ENLT) Team, a group of Extension Educators and OSU Specialists that brings to you a range of programs including field diagnostic walkabouts (such as BYGLive! in southwest Ohio) and diagnostic workshops as well as help with horticulture problem troubleshooting, numerous publications, and of course, the BYGL.

A key speaker for both the Trees on Tap program and the tree care track of the Green Industry Short Course will be Dr. Ed Gilman of the University of Florida Environmental Horticulture program. Ed is Professor of Urban Trees and Landscape Plants and his research and educational efforts focus on tree care practices such as the effect of tree pruning on tree biology, production practices and landscape establishment, root pruning, and irrigation and fertilization practices. He is reason enough alone to attend the conference.

9. BYGLOSOPHY. "A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken." - James Dent

APPENDIX
ADDITIONAL WEBSITE RESOURCES:

Ask a Master Gardener Volunteer  
http://mastergardener.osu.edu/ask

Buckeye Turf  
http://buckeyeturf.osu.edu

Emerald Ash Borer Information  
http://ashalert.osu.edu

National Plant Diagnostic Network and First Detector Program  
https://www.npdn.org/first_detector

Growing Degree Days and Phenology for Ohio  
http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/

Hungry Pests Website  
http://www.HungryPests.com

Ohio Pesticide Safety Education Program  
http://pested.osu.edu/

Ohio State University Department of Horticulture and Crop Science Plantfacts  
http://plantfacts.osu.edu/web/

Ohio State University Extension Bee Lab
beelab.osu.edu

Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program
http://mastergardener.osu.edu

Ohio Woodlands Stewards Program
http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu

The C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic (CWEPPDC)
http://ppdc.osu.edu/

USDA APHIS Beetle Buster Website (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
http://www.beetlebusters.info/

USDA APHIS Beetle Detective Website (Asian Longhorned Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer)
http://beetledetectives.com/

Following are the participants in the August 11th conference call: Pam Bennett (Clark); Julie Crook (Hamilton); Denise Johnson (Master Gardener Volunteer program); Ashley Kulhanek (Summit); Cindy Meyer (Butler); Marne Titchenell (School of Environment and Natural Resources); and Curtis E. Young (Van Wert).

BYGL is available via email, contact Cheryl Fischnich fischnich.1@osu.edu to subscribe. Additional fact sheet information on any of these articles may be found through the OSU FactSheet database http://plantfacts.osu.edu/web .

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BYGL is available online at: http://bygl.osu.edu , a website sponsored by the Ohio State University Department of Horticulture and Crop Sciences (HCS) as part of the "Horticulture in Virtual Perspective." The online version of BYGL has images associated with the articles and links to additional information.

Where trade names are used, no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Ohio State University Extension is implied. Although every attempt is made to produce information that is complete, timely, and accurate, the pesticide user bears responsibility of consulting the pesticide label and adhering to those directions.

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity .