



July is for Japanese Painted Fern, Juniper and other Woody Ornamentals with Phytophthora Root Rot, and Yellow Jackets



Japanese Painted Fern- Ursula's Red

The Ursula's Red Japanese painted fern, *Athyrium niponicum*, is a lovely addition to any shade garden with its distinctive wine-red coloring of the mid-rib that extends into the leaflets. This fern is hardy in zones 4a to 9a. Plant it amid chartreuse-leaved plants such as hosta, heuchera, or epimedium for a striking contrast.

Creeping Juniper with *Phytophthora* sp.

This past May and June were very wet. The rain, along with warming soil temperatures, has led to many examples of woody ornamentals with root rot diseases coming in to the UConn Home & Garden Education Center. *Phytophthora* root rot, *Phytophthora* sp. has a wide variety of hosts ranging from the creeping juniper pictured to apple trees. Shrubs and trees that are in areas with poor drainage or water-logged soils are particularly susceptible to root

rots as the spores will swim to nearby roots and infect new plants. Affected plants will exhibit symptoms such as shoot dieback, chlorotic leaves, and rotting roots and cambium tissue. Visit the links below for management options or information on submitting a plant sample should you suspect a root rot disease.

[Phytophthora Dieback](#)

[Submit a Sample](#)

Yellow Jackets

There are two species of yellow jackets in the genus *Vespula*: the eastern yellow jacket, *Vespula maculifrons*, and the southern yellow jacket, *Vespula squamosa* and one in the genus *Dolichovespula*, the baldfaced hornet, *Dolichovespula maculata*. Yellow jackets are predatory wasps that will actively defend their nests with small-barbed stingers that allow them to sting repeatedly. Although they prefer to make subterranean nests you will occasionally see aerial nests. For general information on controlling wasps please visit the Bees and Wasps link below. To identify yellow jackets and other bees check out the second link. Image by Celeste Welty, Ohio State University, Bugwood.org.

[Bees and Wasps](#)

[Yellow Jacket and Bee Identification](#)

Speaking of bees...

...gardeners can participate in a citizen science project tracking bumblebees at Bumble Bee Watch. Bumble Bee Watch is a collaborative effort to track and conserve North America's bumble bees. This project allows individuals to contribute data, images, and the status of bumble bees across North America. Visit the link below to find out how you can participate in this effort. The site also has information on creating habitats for bumble bees, bee identification, and conservation.



[Bumble Bee Watch](#)

Connecticut Audubon Society

The CT Audubon Society has many events through the month of July:

- July 8, 2019, 6:00 pm: Sunset Hike with Jim Arrigoni at Deer Pond Farm
- July 11, 2019, 8:00 am: Bird Walk with Miley Bull at Deer Pond Farm
- July 13, 2019, 11:00 am: Fern Identification Workshop (Center at Fairfield)
- July 16, 2019, 8:00 am: Ecology Walk with Jim Arrigoni at Deer Pond Farm
- July 17, 2019, 8:00 am: New York Bird Walk with Stefan Martin at Deer Pond Farm
- July 26, 2019, 8:00 am: Bird Walk with Miley Bull at Deer Pond Farm
- July 31, 2019, 6:00 pm: Sunset Hike with Cathy Hagadorn at Deer Pond Farm



Yellow warbler image by Brian Bennett

[CT Audubon Society Events](#)

Connecticut Birding Trails and Maps

Looking for the best Birding trails around Connecticut? Find the top rated birding trails in Connecticut, whether you're looking for an easy short birding trail or a long birding trail, you'll find what you're looking for. Click on the link below to find trail descriptions, trail maps, photos, and reviews.



[CT Birding Trails](#)

Connecticut Daylily Society Open Gardens

The [Connecticut Daylily Society](#) invites you to visit some or all of these open gardens this summer. The gardeners work hard to make their gardens presentable and they would welcome your visit. The daylilies should be at or near their peak and you owe it to yourself to have the joy of seeing some of these wonderful gardens!

Please note that some gardens are close to each other so you should consider visiting several on the same trip.



[CDS Open Gardens Schedule](#)



Ten Tips for the July Gardener

Click on highlighted links for additional information.

- Container and hanging plants may need to be watered in the morning and again later in the day if hot and windy conditions prevail. Check plants again at day's end to see if the soil is dry.
- Hummingbirds are attracted to red salvia, coral bells and bee balm.
- Check out the [UConn Extension Bug Week](#) for events, activities, and programs.
- Tomato hornworms are large green caterpillars that feed on the leaves of [tomatoes](#) and related plants. Hand-pick or control with [Bacillus thuringiensis](#). Do not remove caterpillars that are covered in white pupae as they have been parasitized by beneficial wasps.
- Check [brassicas](#) for cabbageworm, diamond-back moth caterpillars, cross-striped caterpillars, and cabbage loopers. Use row covers or [Bacillus thuringiensis](#) to control them.
- Pick up, bag, and trash (do not compost) any dropped apples that show signs of [apple maggot](#).
- Check roses, Mugo pine, hibiscus, and dogwood for sawfly larvae. [Insecticidal soap](#), [Horticultural oil](#), and [pyrethrins](#) are among the [low-toxicity insecticides](#) recommended for control.
- Apply [grub control](#) no later than July 15th so that it is systemically in place in grass roots when the grubs hatch in early August.
- Check family members and pets for [ticks](#) after being outside, especially when in tall grass or wooded areas.
- Leaky garden hoses and fittings can waste water. Check hoses while they are under full pressure and make repairs.

[For a more extensive list of tips visit Gardening Tips for July](#)



Have Your Soil Tested for Macro- & Micro Nutrients

Beat the spring rush and send your soil sample in for testing now. Our standard nutrient analysis includes pH, macro- and micro nutrients, a lead scan and as long as we know what you are growing, the results will contain limestone and fertilizer recommendations. The cost is \$12/sample. You are welcome to come to the lab with your 'one cup of soil' but most people are content to simply place their sample in a zippered bag and mail it in. For details on submitting a sample, go to [UConn Soil and Nutrient Laboratory](#).

Photo by dmp, UConn

Click on the Following Links to Visit Any of Our Sites:

[UConn Extension](#)

[UConn Food Safety](#)

[UConn Home & Garden Education Center](#)

[UConn Plant Diagnostic Laboratory](#)

[UConn Science of GMOs](#)

[UConn Soil & Nutrient Analysis Laboratory](#)

Events/Programs/Save the Date

Connecticut College

Visit the Plant Collections The Connecticut College Arboretum manages four major plant collections containing 6,195 individual, accessioned living plants.

Guided Tours Join Arboretum docents for free guided tours at 10:00 a.m. starting at the Olin Science Center. **Native Plant Collection:** July 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, and Nov. 3, 2019. **Caroline Black Garden:** July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, and Nov 10., 2019

CT DEEP Programs

Kids Plant Program: Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Belding Wildlife Management Area, Vernon, CT. Contact [Jane Seymour](#) for the free required registration.

Kids Insect Program: Tuesday, July 9 or Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Belding Wildlife management Area, Vernon, CT. Contact [Jane Seymour](#) for the free required registration.

Edible Plants Walk: Sunday, July 14, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the James L. Goodwin Conservation Center, Hampton, CT. Free, no registration is required.

Butterflies: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at Sessions Woods, Burlington, CT. Contact [Laura Rogers-Castro](#) to register.

CT's Most-wanted Species: Saturday, July 20, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Kellogg Environmental Center, Derby, CT. Contact [Donna Kingston](#) for the free required registration.

All About Trees: Saturday, July 27, 2019 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Kellogg Environmental Center, Derby, CT. Contact [Donna Kingston](#) for the free required registration.

Summer 2019 Riding Lessons

Looking for something fun to do this summer? How about horseback riding or polo? The University of Connecticut's Animal Science Department offers a summer horseback riding program to the public with something for everyone! **Dressage, Hunt Seat, Polo, Western riding lessons** and **Trail Riding** are open to adults and children who meet the minimum age and skill level requirements. Prior to registering, individuals interested in riding in the trail program who have never ridden in UConn's trail program, or who have not participated in the trail program for over a year, will be required to take a riding evaluation lesson (one hour assessment, cost \$36.25) to confirm their riding level. This assessment needs to be completed one week prior to the session starting.

[Contact Coach Alena Meacham](#)

UConn Extension



UConn IPM

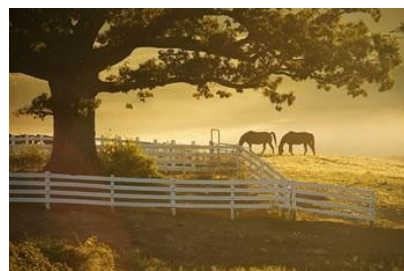
Meet our new UConn Extension and the Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture Plant Pathologist, Assistant Extension Educator Abby Beissinger. Abby graduated from Washington State University with a M.S. in Plant Pathology. Her research focused on how management decisions of *Potato virus Y* impact the epidemiology and etiology of the virus. She then relocated to University of Connecticut to run the Conservation Ambassador Program in the Department of Natural Resources & the Environment. She fostered a statewide volunteer network of 90+ community partners including schools, non-profits, and government agencies to mentor high school students conducting long-term conservation projects. She enjoyed helping students make an environmental impact, and was drawn back to plant pathology to support growers and agricultural networks.

Please join us in welcoming Abby to UConn Extension! Please visit our website for more information on the Plant Diagnostic Laboratory.

[UConn Plant Diagnostic Lab](#)

Visit the UConn Animal Barns

Everyone is welcome to explore our animal barns that are open to the public and to learn more about the animals that are used in the Department of Animal Science program. Visitors can see dairy and beef cows, sheep, and horses. The poultry units are closed to the public. Young animals can be found in the barns at the following times of year at barns that are opened to the public: baby foals in the summer in outside paddocks at Horse Unit II, lambs during February and March outside only at Livestock Unit 1, dairy calves year-round at the Cattle Resource Unit and beef calves beginning in mid -March outside at Livestock Unit 1. Every day visitors can view the UConn dairy cows being milked from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. at the Kellogg Dairy Center.



UConn Garden Master Classes



Garden Master Classes such as the following items are offered through the UConn Extension Master Gardener Program. These classes provide continuing education for Certified Master Gardeners as part of the Advanced Master Gardener certification process. These classes are also open to the General Public. Anyone with an interest in gardening and horticulture is welcome.

Groundcovers and Grasses: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Fairfield County Extension Center, Bethel, CT. Instr.: Renee Marsh

Introduction to Wild Mushrooms & Fungi: Saturday, July 27, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Tolland County Extension Center, Vernon, CT. Instr.: Bill Yule

Additional Master Gardener Classes



Japanese Haskaps

The Yezberry® Japanese haskap is a deciduous honeysuckle shrub that produces an elongated, edible blue berry that tastes like a cross between a blueberry and a raspberry. Blooming in early spring with a tubular yellow flower, Japanese haskap require two different varieties, both of which will bear fruit, for pollination. Japanese haskaps are hardy in zones 3 to 7, very cold tolerant, deer resistant and will bear shade. Image by Prove Winners.

KNOWLEDGE TO GROW ON!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

[Eating blueberries every day improves heart health.](#)

[Why you should try rhubarb.](#)

[Keep pets away from gardens to prevent food-borne illness.](#)

CLIMATE CORNER

[Save the bees \(and time and money\) by creating a bee lawn.](#)

[Leaving microbes out of climate change conversation has major consequences, experts warn.](#)

[How climate change will affect the rural northeast: Expect three weeks of heat.](#)

WHO KNEW?

[Backyard chickens and the risk of lead exposure.](#)

[Why do Bumblebees have stripes?](#)

[How should I care for a stunned bird after it flies into a window?](#)

UConn Extension Home & Garden Education Center

The UConn Home & Garden Education Center (**HGEC**) is a horticultural informational resource for the citizens of Connecticut and beyond. The staff at the Center reach nearly 400,000 citizens in outreach efforts each year. We're ready to assist you.

You are receiving this email because you have provided us with your email address either when having your soil analyzed or testing the horticultural prowess and investigative abilities of our incredibly well-versed staff at the UConn Home & Garden Education Center! If you do not wish to receive our monthly email updates on gardening tips, pest problems, events and other information, please email us at ladybug@uconn.edu and ask to be removed from this list.

We Need Your Support!

If you enjoy our efforts to keep you informed about horticultural and UConn-related items, please show your support by liking us on Facebook, following us on Pinterest or Instagram, checking out our weekly Ladybug blog, or visiting our the Home & Garden Education center website.



[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

UConn Extension Home & Garden Education Center: We are on a collaborative journey.

How. We co-create knowledge with farmers, families, communities, and businesses. We educate. We convene groups to help solve problems.

What. Food, Health, and Sustainability.

Join us.

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