



UConn Home & Garden Education Center Knowledge to Grow On!

www.ladybug.uconn.edu



Like us on Facebook!

JUNE is for Juglone Toxicity, Japanese Andromeda and Blue Jean Baby

Hello Fellow Gardeners! You are receiving this email because you have provided us with your email address either when subscribing to our quarterly newsletter, 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! Or, we just might have thought you would enjoy this e-newsletter. 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.

Pest Patrol/Current Concerns/Topics of Interest:



Gypsy Moth Caterpillar by John H. Ghent, USDA FS, bugwood.org



Black Walnut from UConn Plant Database



Andromeda lace bug from ohioline.osu.edu

Gypsy Moth Caterpillars

This past week had numerous callers contacting the Center about the gypsy moth caterpillars that are crawling over homes and decks, drowning in pools and feeding on leaves, particularly oak leaves. This is the second year they have been so abundant, especially in New London, New Haven and Middlesex counties. This is in part because last year's large brood laid plenty of egg clusters which hatched in late April. The caterpillars feed through June, then pupate and emerge as moths in July to once again mate and lay eggs. The best control for them now would be rain as wet weather encourages the growth of a gypsy moth caterpillar killing fungus. For more information check out: <http://www.ladybug.uconn.edu/FactSheets/gypsy-moth.php>

Juglone Toxicity

Black walnuts are a tough nut to crack not only for us humans seeking a delicious treat but they also make life difficult for many neighboring plants. This is because the black walnut produces a compound called juglone that inhibits the growth of many plants growing under or near the tree. The two most common questions we get are what plants can grow under a black walnut tree and how far away from the tree does my vegetable garden need

to be? The University of Wisconsin has a list of plants tolerant of black walnut at: <https://hort.uwex.edu/articles/black-walnut-toxicity/> As to how far away the garden should be – at least 50 to 100 feet from the trunk but keep in mind that as the tree grows, the garden may need to be moved farther away.

Andromeda Lace Bug

If the leaves on your Japanese andromeda are looking a bit off color and stippled, check the undersides for andromeda lace bug. These tiny insects pierce the leaves and feed on the plant's sap injuring the affected leaves and weakening the plant. For least toxic control measures, see: <http://www.ladybug.uconn.edu/FactSheets/lace-bugs.php>

Needle Browning on Eastern White Pine

Last week's UMass Extension Landscape Message addressed the browning and premature needle drop that many folks in eastern Connecticut, eastern Massachusetts and southeastern New Hampshire are noticing. In some cases just one or two branches are affected while in others, the problem is seen throughout the whole tree. The reason for this condition is not entirely clear but it seems to be related to fungal diseases, last year's weather and in some cases the use of road salt. Read more about the white pine problem: https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/content-files/alerts-messages/2016_white_pine_update.pdf

Our Plant Sample Submission App Now Available for Android Devices

The Plant Sample Submission App, developed in cooperation with Purdue and other universities, is supported by the UConn Plant Diagnostic Lab. The download is free and is available for iPhones, iPads (at app store) and now Android devices at: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.in3.samplesubmission> If UConn is the selected lab in the app, submissions, including information & images, go directly to the UConn diagnostician's email. You will receive a response within 1-2 business days.



New Tick-Borne Disease

A new tick-borne disease is popping up in Connecticut and May is a perfect time to start taking precautions, a UConn veterinary expert says. [Read more.](#)

Topics that the Center is getting calls or emails on include aphids, lily leaf beetles, plant ID, mealy bugs on conifers, lead in vegetable garden soils, controlling weeds, cedar apple rust and spots on pachysandra. If you have specific questions, gardening queries or pest problems, check out our website, www.ladybug.uconn.edu or call the UConn Home & Garden Education Center (877) 486-6271 (toll-free in CT). Your County Cooperative Extension Centers are also listed on the website.

Ten Tips for the June Gardener:

1. Move houseplants outside to the deck or patio and enjoy them outdoors in the summer. It is best to gradually introduce them to more direct sunlight to prevent the leaves from being burned.
2. Warm season lawns like Bermuda grass and zoysia grass are best aerated during June and July as this is their period of rapid growth. Wait until August and September for fescues and Kentucky bluegrass.
3. Tomato transplants that are leggy can be planted deeper and will root along the buried stems.
4. Control and reduce aphid numbers on vegetables, roses, perennial flowers, shrubs and trees with a hard spray from your garden hose or two applications of insecticidal soap.
5. White grub preventative control should be applied prior to egg hatch and a target date of June 15th is recommended although it can be done up to July 15th.
6. Cut back shrubby perennials, such as catmint, dianthus and veronica, when they finish blooming. This will tidy them up and encourage them to produce a second flush of flowers.
7. For the sweetest pea harvest, pick regularly before pods become over-mature and peas become starchy.
8. A spray of *Bt* will kill emerging tent caterpillars but is not toxic to beneficial insects, birds, or humans.
9. Try a non-toxic potassium bicarbonate spray, such as Remedy, to protect roses against black spot disease.
10. If you have plants that you suspect may be facing a pest or disease problem bring in your sample to the Home & Garden Education Center or your local Cooperative Extension office and they will help diagnose the problem and recommend the appropriate control.

Events/ Programs/Save the Dates:

Bethel Gardening Fair Saturday June 18, 2016 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Fairfield County Extension Center in Bethel, CT. The theme this year is Sustainable Solutions. Join them for demonstrations, walks, presentations, a plant sale and farmers' market. <http://www.bethelgardenfair.org>

.....
Colchester Garden Club Fundraiser – Coir Liners for sale. Excellent for Vermicomposting bedding OR container/planter liner. Saturday, June 11, 2016 11 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 178 Bull Hill Road, Colchester, CT (please park on adjacent cul-de-sacs of Apple Lane, Orchard Farms, or Farm Gate Road since home is on a narrow country road).

Original prices - \$4.99 to \$9.99 Fundraising sale price – small/medium \$1.00, large \$2.00 Also for planters in colors – blue, maroon, black and white pattern with canvas - \$3.00.

For questions contact, Katherine M. Kosiba, Advanced Master Gardener / Colchester Garden Club, President at kmk178@att.net or 860-267-4471

Connecticut Historic Gardens Day June 26, 2016. Rain or shine. Multiple venues. www.cthistoricgardens.org.

Rose Show at Pond House June 19, 2016. Elizabeth Park, West Hartford. www.ctrose.org

June 21, 2016 - New Advances for Biological Controls For Indoor and Outdoor Production of Ornamentals. Click [here](#) for program brochure. Contact: Leanne.pundt@uconn.edu, 860-626-6855

ALL DAY LYME DISEASE CONFERENCE
LYME DISEASE: Restoring Balance in the Body

SATURDAY, June 11, 2016
Tolland County Agricultural (TAC) Center, 24 Hyde Ave., Vernon, CT

Pre-registration is Required -[go to the Registration page](#)

Even after taking a course of antibiotics, Lyme disease infection can leave a person with severe symptoms and co-infections. This conference focuses on the **successes** and approaches of two holistic medical practitioners who treat Lyme disease and related tick-borne illnesses:

- **Jason Elias**, Acupuncturist, Chinese and Western Herbalist, Nutrition
- **Tonya Pasternak**, Naturopathic Physician Specializing in Infectious Diseases and Tick-borne Illness

And as a bonus, two foresters will demonstrate how to dramatically lower tick populations by destroying their habitat:

TICKED OFF! Preventing Lyme Disease by Removing Invasive Plants

Jeff Ward, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and **Tom Worthley**, UConn Extension Service and Department of Natural Resources

The barberry control handbook can be found at: <http://www.ct.gov/caes/barberrycontrol> .

The Reason You Feel So Bad Might Not be Lyme Disease: Unknown and Emerging Tick-borne Illnesses

Sandy Bushmich, Extension Section Head for Diagnostic Testing Services, UConn.

Attending the conference is free, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. [You can register on the Registration page.](#)

A delicious gluten free vegan lunch made from mostly locally grown organic produce may be pre-ordered online on the [Lunch page](#). **There is a cost for lunch which must be pre-ordered by June 5.** You may also brown bag your lunch. [Please register for the conference on our Registration page](#) whether you do or don't order lunch.

For More Information: contact Jasmine Wolf 860-742-5253 or jbirdsings@aol.com

UConn Blooms Has Some Beautiful Wing Begonias

UConn Blooms has some beautiful Angel Wing and other types of blooming begonias for sale. They make wonderful outdoor and indoor plants with their colorful foliage and rosette-type blooms. Angel wing begonias are an old-fashioned plant much in demand because of their beauty and easy cultivation. Grow them in shady outdoor areas in the summer and place on a sunny windowsill for the winter months for years of pleasure.

We also have Alberta spruce shrubs and tall ornamental grasses on sale. The Alberta spruces are only 25 inches tall now but will mature at to 4 to 5 feet. Our grasses are 3 feet tall now but will get taller and wider in two years. UConn Blooms still has annuals and herbs on sale. Keep in mind we always have a nice selection of tropical plants and we also carry an assortment of fresh flowers and floral arrangements.

During the present construction period around the Floriculture building, we have 5 designated parking spaces available in T-Lot right near us across from the yellow barn on Route 195. Our front door is open from 10:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday during the month of June. We will be closed in July.

Look for us online at <https://web9.uits.uconn.edu/uconnblooms/> or email uconnblooms@uconn.edu. For more information, contact: UConn Blooms at 860-486-60002-5253.



From: extension.illinois.edu

KNOWLEDGE TO GROW ON!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Wood components to boost quality of food products

Meat consumption raises mortality rates, analysis of more than 1.5 million people finds

Silk keeps fruit fresh without refrigeration, according to study

What foods can help fight the risk of chronic inflammation?

Stave off cognitive decline with seafood

CLIMATE CORNER

How to talk about climate change so people will act

Skepticism about climate change may be linked to concerns about economy

Climate change may contribute to rising rates of chronic kidney disease

In cities, flooding and rainfall extremes to rise as climate changes

WHO KNEW ?

Green Thumbs Up! Why You Should Skip Gym and Go Gardening Instead

Why vultures matter, and what we lose if they're gone

Common antibacterial triclosan found in most freshwater streams

Finicky white-tails may aid invasives. [READ MORE...](#)

Green Infrastructure – It's Hip!

UConn PLANT DIAGNOSTIC LAB WEBSITE: www.plant.lab.uconn.edu

UConn SOIL NUTRIENT ANALYSIS LAB WEBSITE: www.soiltest.uconn.edu

UConn EXTENSION WEBSITE: www.extension.uconn.edu

UConn FOOD SAFETY WEBSITE: www.foodsafety.uconn.edu

UConn SUSTAINABLE LIVING WEBSITE: www.sustainableliving.uconn.edu

CT 10% Campaign: Take the pledge!

Pledge to spend 10% of your food dollars locally at <http://www.buyctgrown.com/ct-10-percent>. Locally grown food sustains CT's farming community but more importantly, locally grown and raised food will also increase food security in our Northeast region and support local economies.

PEROVSKIA ATRIPLICIFOLIA ‘Blue Jean Baby’



Need a shorter, more manageable Russian sage that is still vigorous in the landscape and production? Try ‘Blue Jean Baby’! Lavender blue flowers held in smoky purple calyxes bloom for a long period starting in midsummer, with the color from the calyxes extending appeal into fall. This variety is one of the earliest perovskia to bloom. Hardy zones 4-9. A Walters Gardens exclusive. From: Perennial Pulse

We Need Your Support!

If you do enjoy our efforts to keep you informed about horticultural and College-related items, please consider showing your support by **liking us on Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/UConn-Home-Garden-Center/136211899745967>, **checking out our weekly blog** www.uconnladybug.wordpress.com, or **subscribing to our printed, 20-page quarterly newsletter for \$12/year (new price starting March 1st) or sign up for free email version**. Find the subscription form at <http://www.ladybug.uconn.edu/newsletter/index.html>

