

June 26, 2018

Good evening!

We had some glorious days this week to offset the deluge of rain – never a dull moment weather-wise! We hope you all made it through the storms without too much inconvenience.

Each zip code increased 140 GDD units this week – we must have had fairly even temperatures across the county! We still have an 89-GDD difference in range here in Coshocton County due to varying temperatures in our micro-climates. We have almost identical GDD numbers for the same date last year; therefore, we have no long-term phenology effects from our cool spring. Here is the current data by town/zip code and the number of growing degree day units (GDD units) in our county:

Adams Mills/43821	1276 (+140 GDD this week)	1275 GDDs for 6/19/2017 (last year)
Conesville/43811	1233 (+140)	1233
Coshocton/43812	1202 (+140)	1202
Fresno/43824	1187 (+140)	1188
Walhonding/43843	1195 (+140)	1197
Warsaw/43844	1199 (+140)	1200
W. Lafayette/43845	1199 (+140)	1200

Some phenological events that you may be seeing now or will see soon are:

- Ural Falsespirea (*Sorbaria sorbifolia*), first bloom at 1170
- Panicked Goldenraintree (*Koeleruteria paniculate*), full bloom at 1251

Events that should be occurring next are:

- Rose-of-Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*), first bloom at 1347
- Pine Needle Scale (*Chionaspis pinifoliae*), egg hatch - 2nd generation at 1349

The next event listed in the calendar will be at 1887 GDDs, so we won't see it for a bit.

You can find the OSU Phenology Calendar at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/CalendarView.asp>. Plug in your zip code (or the one closest to you if your code is not in the network) along with the date and you can see what potential events are occurring in your area or check on past dates. There are pictures of the plants and insects listed and a list of the events in the order they generally appear. Keep in mind that these are general values for each particular zip code and may vary a bit within that area.

Our local forecast for the coming week shows probable high temperatures in the 80's and 90's with low temps in the 60's and low 70's, so our GDD numbers will increase quite a bit. It looks as though we'll have plenty of moisture too, so we shouldn't need to water our plants too much – but do watch those container plants!

Japanese beetles are out and will plague us into July. If there is not a big infestation, control them manually by holding a jar of soapy water under the beetle and quickly pushing it into the water.

Still in bloom in the phenology area are: oakleaf hydrangea, butterfly weed, speedwell, lamb's ear, American black elderberry "Bob Gordon", and some daylilies. The common milkweed is still blooming and attracting pollinators; we found a monarch caterpillar this week and will be watching for more. Wild quinine is a new plant and one that is not very familiar to us; it's hard to tell when it is really in bloom, so we're learning as we go! We are watching the buds on the swamp milkweed, bee balm, rattlesnake master, Joe Pye weed, and pinnate coneflowers for first bloom.

We are posting gardening items of interest on the information station located in our pollinator area along the walkway leading from the office at Lake Park. Currently there are bee and lady beetle identification charts posted; see if you can find some of the different kinds of either species. At the moment the brochure boxes contain fact sheets on ticks, viburnum leaf beetles, and attracting pollinators to your garden; feel free to take those fact sheets from the boxes! Watch for more seasonal fact sheets and information to be posted soon.



This Japanese beetle was on the 'Raspberry Wine' bee balm (*Monarda didyma*) this week. We will be ushering as many as we can into a jar of soapy water to protect our plants!



We spotted some milkweed leaf beetles (*Labidomera clivicollis*) on the swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) this week. We saw larvae last week; one is pictured below, left, with the monarch caterpillar.



A milkweed leaf beetle larva and a monarch caterpillar were munching on a leaf of common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) in the pollinator area at Lake Park this week.



Wild quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*) is a newcomer to our phenology garden – we're watching and learning!

