

July 23, 2019

Good afternoon!

What a relief – the heat wave has broken, at least temporarily! A stop at the phenology garden this afternoon was rewarded with several sightings of pollinators visiting our plants. The rain gauge there registered over an inch of rain which was less than some other parts of the county; some areas were cooled for a time by rain and clouds.

The OSU Phenology Calendar is online at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/CalendarView.asp>. It is available to those who would like to see the status of growing degree days or even check on past dates. We have submitted some data on local pollinators to The Great Sunflower Project. The committee usually works on Wednesday mornings – subject to weather and changes in personal plans. Please feel free to stop and ask questions while we are there or contact us through the Extension office (find the contact info above).

Keeping in mind that we skipped last week's date, here is the data by town/zip code for the number of growing degree day units (GDD units) in our county as of July 21, 2019:

Adams Mills/43821	1771 (+135 GDD from 7/14/19)	1895 GDDS for 7/21/2018 (last year)
Conesville/43811	1761 (+145)	1841
Coshocton/43812	1733 (+161)	1801
Fresno/43824	1709 (+179)	1783
Walhonding/43843	1700 (+168)	1794
Warsaw/43844	1714 (+164)	1798
W. Lafayette/43845	1739 (+182)	1798

Some phenological events or the progressions that you may still be seeing are:

- Panicked Goldenraintree (*Koeleruteria paniculata*), full bloom at 1251
- Rose-of-Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*), first bloom at 1347
- Pine Needle Scale (*Chionaspis pinifoliae*), egg hatch - 2nd generation at 1349

Events that should be occurring next are:

- Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*), 50% adult emergence at 1887
- Mimosa Webworm (*Homadaula anisocentra*), egg hatch - 2nd generation at 1920
- Euonymus Scale (*Unaspis euonymii*), egg hatch - 2nd generation at 1923
- Magnolia Scale (*Hemiptera sternorrhyncha*), egg hatch at 1938
- Banded Ash Clearwing Borer (*Podosesia syringae*), adult emergence at 2195

The *Banded Ash Clearwing Borer adult emergence* is the last event listed on the OSU phenology calendar and will not appear for a while; our phenology season is just about over. We will not be writing any reports for a few weeks, but will resume reporting on pollinators as the summer winds down next month.

We have a range of 1700 to 1771 GDD units across the county, disregarding micro-climates. Those 71 GDDs can still make a bit of difference regarding when a particular insect emerges or a plant blooms. We are still a little bit behind last year's numbers; it will be interesting to see what effect the cooler temps make this week. Looking at the forecast for the next week, we will again see an increase in GDDs in our area. According to *Weather.com*, daytime highs will range in the 70's and 80's; nightly lows will likely range in the 50's and 60's. The next few days look fairly dry as well – a nice change!

Many of our native plants are still in bloom and attracting pollinators. In addition to last week's list of flies, butterflies, honeybees, bumblebees, beetles and wasps, we have also seen tachinid flies, eastern tiger swallowtails, swallowtails and clearwing hummingbird moths. Unfortunately, we also found two monarch caterpillars deceased and don't know the cause. The butterfly bush has some blooms on it now; although it is not native and has been classified as invasive in some states on the west coast, our Ohio climate keeps it in check for the most part.

We will continue to put out fact sheets at the information station; fact sheets on more topics are available at the local Extension Office. We have also pinned some photos of pollinators and other interesting things we have seen in the garden on the info station. Please protect the pollinators - avoid putting pesticides on blooming plants! Master Gardener Volunteers will have a display at First FARM Friday on Main Street on August 2 – hope to see you there!



We saw several eastern tiger swallowtails this week like this one resting on a button bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis* – 'Sugar Shack').



Our clustered mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*) played host to a tachinid fly this week. These flies are as large as some bee species.



We have posted some photos on the information station of pollinators visiting our native plants plus some other interesting things found in the phenology area.



Clearwing hummingbird moths have returned this season; this one is enjoying our wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*).

