



Much of the county experienced a frost on the 16th! One person said he even had some damage to a few of the plants he covered. Unfortunately, the frost underscored the advice about the May 15th "frost-free" date not being guaranteed - good to remember next spring! The forecast for this next week looks a little sunnier and warmer - and I think we're all ready for that!

Here is the data by town/zip code with the number of growing degree day units for May 13th:

Adams Mills/43821	520	GDDs
Conesville/43811	506	
Coshocton/43812	476	
Fresno/43824	439	
Walhonding/43843	449	
Warsaw/43844	463	
W. Lafayette/43845	477	

We have a range of 439 to 520 GDD units across the county, a difference of 81 units, disregarding micro-climates. This maintains about the same difference as before. Our GDD units did not increase substantially this past week; only 34 and 35 units depending on the area of the county. We still are seeing as much as a week's worth of difference in bloom or emergence times from one area of the county to another.

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

- Red Prince weigela, first bloom at 446
- Black locust, first bloom at 467
- Common ninebark, first bloom at 478
- Sweet mock orange, first bloom at 482 GDD units
- Oystershell scale, egg hatch at 497
- Smoketree, first bloom at 501
- White fringetree, full bloom at 517

Due to last weeks cool temperatures, the list of next events hasn't really changed! Events that should be occurring next are:

- Sweet mock orange, first bloom at 482 GDD units
- Oystershell scale, egg hatch at 497
- Smoketree, first bloom at 501
- White fringetree, full bloom at 517
- Multiflora rose, first bloom at 548
- Emerald ash borer, adult emergence at 550
- Potato leafhopper, adult arrival at 568
- Chinese dogwood (*Cornus kousa*), first bloom at 593

I'll repeat this thought from last week, since it is appropriate with current phenology data. Notice that the first bloom of multiflora rose coincides with the adult emergence of emerald ash borer. This can be helpful when



monitoring for that insect. We certainly are seeing a lot of damaged ash trees in our area. BTW, dead ash trees tend to snap off and fall eventually; it's a good idea to be aware of them, especially where falling limbs and trunks could damage property.

We are still watching the buds on the butterfly weed, which the Monarchs love, and on other plants such as astilbe, arrowwood viburnum and Siberian iris. The first bloom has been set back a bit by the cooler temps.

The Miss Kim lilac is attracting some pollinators - its scent permeates that part of the phenology garden. Despite missing part of its right wing, an Eastern swallowtail was observed browsing there on Thursday. We have attached a new picture of the swallowtail; one of the young fringetree near the walking path behind the office at Lake Park; and one of the mapleleaf viburnum to show its development.



Continue to watch for poison ivy and black-legged ticks. Remember to empty containers that have filled with rain water - standing water will attract mosquitoes as the weather warms. Have you noticed any dime-sized holes under trees? We're hearing reports of (and seeing for ourselves) "escape tunnels" for cicadas; they won't emerge until the ground temperature reaches 64 degrees, but it won't be long.

Hope you all waited a bit to plant tomatoes and peppers - they really do like warmer soil temperatures and will do better if planted at the end of May or first of June.

For more information on the phenology calendar and GDD units, go to <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/default.asp> The site includes pictures of the plants and insects which can help in identifying specimens.

Enjoy the next week - hope it really is sunnier and warmer!

