

July 15, 2019

Good afternoon!

How are you handling the heat? At least we haven't hit 100 actual degrees and the rain has lessened – despite some localized storms. We are waiting to see if Barry will make his way to our area.

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 14, 2019:

Adams Mills/43821	1636 (+346 GDD from 6/30/19)	1731 GDDS for 7/14/2018 (last year)
Conesville/43811	1616 (+348)	1678
Coshocton/43812	1572 (+350)	1639
Fresno/43824	1530 (+353)	1621
Walhonding/43843	1532 (+352)	1631
Warsaw/43844	1550 (+351)	1636
W. Lafayette/43845	1557 (+351)	1635

Some phenological events 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 will wrap up in a few short weeks.

We have a range of 1530 to 1636 GDD units across the county, disregarding micro-climates. Those 106 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. 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 80's and 90's; nightly lows will likely range in the upper 60's to lower 70's. A chance of scattered thunderstorms is indicated for several days.

Over the last 2 weeks, many of our native plants have been attracting pollinators. We saw 2 monarch butterflies this weekend and a couple of monarch caterpillars. We continue to see lots of flies, butterflies, honeybees, bumblebees, and beetles – and wasps, which can also pollinate. Blooms now include liatris, purple coneflowers, daylilies, bee balm, Joe Pye, Culver's root, hyssop, rattlesnake master, swamp milkweed, yarrow, quinine, button bush, and pinnate prairie coneflowers. The clustered mountain mint and some New England

asters just started to bloom and will continue into the fall – which is a good thing for our pollinators that linger into the later months. The butterfly weed is covered with seed pods and we will make seeds available as soon as they “ripen”. Watch for some sunflowers to develop over the next few weeks too.

We would like to remind everyone again to avoid putting pesticides on blooming plants in order to protect the pollinators! We have replenished some of the fact sheets at the information station; topics include attracting pollinators and watching for damage to coneflowers. We should have some photos of pollinators we have seen in the garden posted soon.



This button bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis* – ‘Sugar Shack’) attracted a honeybee to its unusual bloom.



There were 2 monarch caterpillars, about a week old, on the swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) this weekend.



New England asters (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*) are starting to bloom and will provide nectar and pollen to pollinators into the fall.



This bumblebee was enjoying the wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) along the ball field fence.

