



Good morning!

What nice summery weather we've had this week! Mild nights and very warm days have increased our growing degree day units substantially. The units should increase rapidly over the next weeks - yay, summer!

Here is the data by town/zip code with the number of growing degree day units for May 27th:

Adams Mills/43821	631	GDDs
Conesville/43811	617	
Coshocton/43812	586	
Fresno/43824	547	
Walhonding/43843	559	
Warsaw/43844	573	
W. Lafayette/43845	587	

We have a range from 547 to 631 GDD units across the county, a difference of 84 units, disregarding micro-climates. This maintains about the same difference as last week, only an increased difference of 3 units. Our GDD units did increase substantially this past week, 108 to 111 units depending on the area of the county. We still can see as much as a week's worth of difference in bloom or emergence times from one area of the county to another, but that difference isn't as relevant as it was at the beginning of spring - GDD units will accrue very quickly now with the warm temps.

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

- Multiflora rose, first bloom at 548 GDDs
- Emerald ash borer, adult emergence at 550
- Black vine weevil, adult emergence at 560
- Potato leafhopper, adult arrival at 568
- Juniper scale, egg hatch at 571
- Chinese dogwood (kousa), first bloom at 593
- Arrowwood viburnum, full bloom at 621
- Bagworm, egg hatch 630

Events that should be occurring next are:

- Two-spotted spider mite, egg hatch at 627 GDDs
- American holly, full bloom at 642
- Multiflora rose, full bloom at 643
- Northern catalpa, first bloom at 675
- Sweet mock orange, full bloom at 717
- Red Prince weigela, full bloom at 727
- Calico scale, egg hatch at 748
- Greater peach tree borer, adult emergence at 775

The arrowwood viburnum, Red Prince weigela and Siberian iris all achieved first bloom early this week in the phenology garden. We are still watching the buds on the butterfly weed, but it should open any day now. We were excited to see new sprouts around our milkweed plant - at least 5 plants now for the Monarch caterpillars to munch on! A photo is attached. The Miss Kim lilac is almost finished; the blooms are withering, but the scent is still strong! The flowers on the Vanhoutte spirea are rapidly blowing away in the breeze.



The 17-year cicadas, Brood V (five), began to emerge in the last several days; some areas in the county are reporting high numbers. There is a FAQ sheet available online at the Coshocton Co. OSU Extension office or online at: <http://coshocton.osu.edu/> We've attached a picture - but no recipes!

We've been asked what that pretty lavender flower is that is blooming along roadways etc.; it's phlox, a native plant that the pollinators enjoy! A picture is attached.

If you waited to plant tomatoes and peppers - go for it! :) These warm, sunny days are just what they like. Remember to "harden off" new plants before planting them in the ground so that they transition from greenhouse to gardens/beds more readily - it can be a bit of a shock to new plants to go from that protected environment to the hard reality of Mother Nature's sun, wind, and temperature fluctuations. Set the new plants in their containers outside for a few hours every day for a few days to let them acclimate or "harden". It's also a good idea to plant them on a cloudy day so they can slowly adjust to their new surroundings.

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.

Hope you all enjoy the 3-day weekend!

