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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Free Garden Seminar – New Location

The next OSU Extension Brown Co. Master Gardener Seminar will be held in the conference room at the Brown Co. Board of Ed. Building on Hamer Road on Thursday May 19 at 7:00 p.m. Danielle Thompson (Brown County Soil and Water) will talk about prairie plants and how we can incorporate them into our landscape. All seminars are free and open to the public

Rust Showing Up on Wheat and Barley

I have talked to a few producers in the area that have seen some rust showing up in wheat. Scouting fields is recommended at this time, as the conditions continue to be favorable for the development and spread of this disease. The following information was in this week's C.O.R.N. newsletter from OSU Extension Specialist, Pierce Paul.

Last Thursday I received reports of, and confirmed through pictures, stripe rust in southern Ohio. Reports coming in today suggest that the disease has since spread and may even be increasing in severity. This is very early for Ohio and is a cause for concern, especially since this disease develops best and spreads quickly under cool, rainy conditions, similar to what we have had over the last few weeks and will likely continue to have this week. Developing this early (before heading) on a susceptible variety under favorable weather, this disease has the potential to cause substantial yield loss.

Reports and pictures coming in today also indicate that rust is developing on barley. This has led to questions about rust spreading from wheat to barley and vice versa. Both crops can be affected by leaf rust, stripe rust, and stem rust, but the fungi are different. In other words, the leaf rust pathogen does not cause stripe rust and the stripe rust pathogen does not cause stem rust. In addition, the wheat rust fungi generally do not jump from wheat to barley or vice versa. Each crop has its own specialized and specific set of rust fungi. For instance, wheat leaf and stripe rust are caused by *Puccinia triticina* and *Puccinia striiformis f. sp. tritici*, respectively, "strains" that are specific for wheat, whereas leaf and stripe rust of barley are caused by *Puccinia hordei* and *Puccinia striiformis f. sp. hordei*, respectively, "strains" specific for barley.

However, regardless of the rust disease and the crop, the important thing to note is that they can all be managed with the same set of fungicides, but applications have to be well-timed in order to be effective against any of these diseases - once symptoms are seen, the earlier, the better in most cases. Please refer to the updated factsheet # PLPATH-CER-12 for more on rusts diseases of wheat (<http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/plpath-cer-12>) and go to the link below for a comparative look at different rust diseases of wheat and barley:

https://www.ars.usda.gov/SP2UserFiles/ad_hoc/36400500Cerealrusts/Rust_Diseases_National.pdf



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On another note, Dr. Paul also included an article concerning rain fastness for fungicides in light of the current forecast. The entire CORN Newsletter can be found at corn.osu.edu This edition includes information about other wheat issues, late planted corn and more.

Dangers of Poison Hemlock

In the past few weeks I mentioned the opportunity to spray for control of such weeds as Canada Thistle, Multiflora Rose and Poison Hemlock among others. The Multiflora Rose leaves are pretty much fully developed at this point, so herbicide coverage would not be too difficult at this time. Canada Thistle has bolted and may be more difficult to control, and the same can be said for Poison Hemlock. The Poison Hemlock is getting near bloom, and will be more difficult to control with a herbicide.

So if the Poison Hemlock was not controlled earlier other precautions now may need to be taken as we near the hay making season. This stuff can be poison to humans to the touch. Protective clothing should be considered if you are going to have to mechanically control it by pulling or cutting by hand.

The other part of the concern for the “poison” is livestock consumption. This stuff can be toxic if consumed by livestock. The following is from the weed page of a few different Extension pages from various universities.

Virginia Tech’s information on Poison Hemlock includes: this weed is poisonous to cattle, swine, poultry, horses, goats, and sheep that consume it, but it is rarely eaten.

Cornell has information that includes that all parts of the plant are toxic to livestock. It also points out that the flower or seeds have higher concentration of toxins. This plant typically is in full bloom when the majority of hay is being made.

The following is from a Guide to Toxic Plants in Forages from Purdue which you can access online with a simple google search for the entire write up.

The symptoms include Nervousness, trembling, loss of coordination, depression, coma, death, and birth defects.

Control of Poison Hemlock: Apply triclopyr + 2,4-D (Crossbow®) at a 1.5% v/v solution with water or a 2 to 4 qts/A application in the first year of growth. Control may be inconsistent once bolting occurs. Control decreases as the plant nears blooming stage.

Glyphosate also can control or suppress poison hemlock. Most glyphosate labels recommend applying 1% to 1.5% v/v solution with water to the plants until they are wet using handheld equipment. The optimum application times are from bud to full bloom. Complete coverage is crucial.

Dates to Remember

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| May 25 | Strawberry Field Night at OSU South Centers in Piketon. Call 800-297-2072 or go to http://southcenters.osu.edu for more information. |
| June 16 | Nature Photography at 5:30 p.m. at Chatfield. Call 378-4424 ext. 125 |