

# Summer 2015

# the BeeLine

Summer 2015

Newsletter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society



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[www.wcfs.org](http://www.wcfs.org)

### Prinlew Plum, Loaded with large fruit June 2015!

Developed by H. A. Lewis, Russellville Nursery, Portland, 1918 and introduced 1923. PRINLEW plum (Italian prune x Bradshaw), one of the parents of SENECA (Fellenberg x Prinlew) a desirable prune developed by Cornell University, The New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva. (H. A. Lewis was Marilyn Couture's Great Grandfather). Tree is located in Beaverton, Oregon.



The BeeLine is a quarterly publication of Western Cascade Fruit Society, a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation in the State of Washington.

### ATTENTION: WCFS Teleconference Meeting

Saturday, June 27, 2015, 10:00-12:00 noon. Chapter Directors please contact Marilyn Couture and let her know that you will be participating. [couture222@msn.com](mailto:couture222@msn.com)

Phone 509-335-4700

Meeting ID: 7174#

Press 1 to attend meeting  
Enter meeting ID number from above followed by the # sign and follow voice prompts. You should now be an active member of the conference. There are a limited

Attention WCFS members,

It is Good Fruit Grower magazine sign up time for renewals and new subscriptions. The deadline is 01 July 2015.

As WCFS members we get a substantial group rate reduction. Our individual subscription cost is unchanged for the coming year. This is a Washington State Fruit Commission magazine that contains cutting edge information. Magazines arrive monthly and some months semi-monthly.

Questions: Email to [jerrygehrke60@gmail.com](mailto:jerrygehrke60@gmail.com) or 206-567-5907

Make \$20 check payable to WCFS and mail to:

WCFS Treasurer  
PO Box 2282  
Vashon, WA 98070

Also include:

1. Your mailing name and mailing address
  2. Your phone number and email address
- Your deadline is 01 July for me to receive your check and contact information.

Thanks.

Jerry Gehrke

WCFS Treasurer/Membership

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### The New Cider Maker's Handbook

(a comprehensive guide for craft producers), by Claude Jolicœur, 2013, Chelsea Green Publishing, Vermont.

I found it very readable and complete. everything from making your own mill and press, varietal selection, balancing of sugars, acid, tannins, and other substances, yeast selection, process monitoring, and troubleshooting. I don't want to make hard cider myself (now, fresh cider might be another story!), but the book really helped to understand my son's approach to cider making and allows me to keep up my end of any conversation about cider.

In other words, I liked the book and can recommend it.

Pat Volk, Olympic Orchard Society

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### About WCFS

Western Cascade Fruit Society (WCFS), formerly Western Cascade Tree Fruit Association (WCTFA), was founded in 1980. Its primary objective is to bring together new and experienced fruit growers who will promote the science, cultivation and pleasure of growing fruit bearing trees, vines and berry plants in the home landscape. We provide the public with the knowledge and ability to cultivate their own fruit-bearing trees and plants. Local chapters in geographical areas of Western Washington, disseminate information through education, fruit shows, orchard tours, meetings, workshops, publications, and give financial and other support to fruit research organizations.

As a 501(c) (3) Non-Profit organization WCFS is Parent organization to eight affiliated Chapters. The newly formed Bainbridge Island Fruit Club will make nine. WCFS provides 501(c) (3) Non-Profit status to Chapters via IRS group exemption, provides liability insurance for Chapters, maintains financial records, and makes annual reports to IRS. A Board of Officers and Directors manage WCFS.

WCFS publishes a quarterly BeeLine newsletter to inform members of events, tours, articles, and reports; a Web site — <http://wcfs.org>; and, a digest forum: <http://lists.ibiblio.org/mailman/listinfo/wcfs>. Members receive automatic membership in WCFS after joining an affiliated Chapter. A portion of chapter dues go to WCFS. Please refer to <http://wcfs.org> for chapter membership and dues structure.

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The Summer 2015 BeeLine was produced by Gathering Editor Marilyn Couture, with input from membership. Please contribute your articles for our next Fall issue!

**Issue Deadlines:**  
**Winter December 15;**  
**Spring February 15;**  
**Summer May 15;**  
**Fall August 30**

Email your articles to: [couture222@msn.com](mailto:couture222@msn.com)  
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## Apples of Uncommon Character: 123 Heirlooms, Modern Classics, & Little-Known Wonders by Rowan Jacobsen Photography by Clare Barboza Bloomsbury: New York, 2014

□

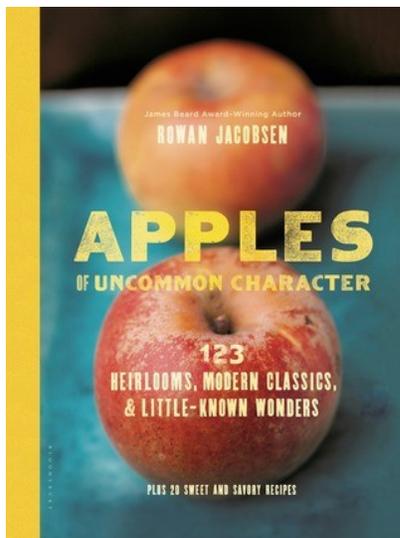
Reviewed by Deb Schneider, NAFEX

My very first impression of Apples of Uncommon Character was “apple erotica!” Here were apples laid out and posed like beautiful ladies, polished, exposed, with artful exposures and soft focus highlights. Photographer Clare Barboza deserves great credit for the lovely images.

Many familiar varieties are highlighted in this book, such as Honeycrisp, Fuji, and Braeburn as well as heirloom favorites like Gravenstein, Cox's Orange Pippin, and Rhode Island Greening. Jacobsen includes historical information on each apple variety as well as a description of appearance, flavor, texture and use.

His writing style is enjoyable: “Everything about summer apples is evanescent. The window between ripe and rot can be so narrow that you are advised to stand under the tree and eat them before they know they've been picked.” p. 17 It is more a browser's book, to flip through and stop at a particularly appealing photo of SweeTango or Lady Williams and to read the story of the variety and wonder at its flavor and scent. The photos are luxurious and mouthwatering.

With that in mind, I think this book would make a great gift to someone who does not understand the NAFEXer's obsession with growing a plethora of apple varieties. It also would be fine as a supplemental book in your apple library, but for the grower books like Apples of North America by Tom Burford or Old Southern Apples by Creighton Lee Calhoun would be much more useful.



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## Peninsula Fruit Club

Recently we just had our grafting show which was a great success. We had many people attend. It gave our members the opportunity to share their knowledge of growing fruit and dealing with the problems we face here on the Kitsap Peninsula. At the grafting show we had experienced and less experienced grafters there helping the public graft their scions onto root stock.

We are losing our building where we hold our shows so we are moving our fruit show and grafting show to Bremerton. We will be able to have more room to provide presentations and grafting. We expect our number of scions to grow as well. More information will follow in the next BeeLine article.

As a club, we have recently submitted a research grant proposal we are excited about. If selected, the club plans to start development of columnar type apple trees that are disease resistant here in the Pacific Northwest.

PFC President, Mike Geiser



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## Fruit Thinning for High Quality

G.A. Moulton and J. King, WSU – Mount Vernon

A fruit tree in spring, covered with flowers, is a beautiful sight. Yet most people don't realize that if just 5% of all those spring flowers set fruit, it will be enough to provide a full crop. Too many fruits on a tree means fewer cells for each fruit, which translates into smaller fruit that is often of poor quality. Timely thinning of excess fruit increases the number of cells per fruit and maximizes the potential fruit size. Thinning also improves the tree's productivity in the year to come.

The earlier the better for thinning fruit. In the 30–40 days immediately after flowers are pollinated, the newly set fruit undergoes rapid cell division and growth. Since the total number of cells determines the potential size to which the fruit can grow, it is important to thin fruit early, so that the ones that remain will have more cells and can grow bigger as they mature.

Early thinning promotes the development of fruit buds for the following spring's bloom. The fruit buds that develop during this summer will determine next year's crop. The presence of seeds, even the immature seeds in the current year's fruit that is just forming, will inhibit the formation of flower buds for next year. By thinning early and heavily, the total amount of hormone produced by immature seeds is greatly reduced.

Thinning helps to even out crop load from year to year. Trees can get into a cycle of alternate bearing, overloaded with fruit one year, and cropping very poorly in the year following. Some varieties such as Gravenstein are very prone to this. In a heavy bearing year, removing half or more of the blossom clusters at bloom time can help reduce the problem in varieties with this tendency.

Remove the smaller fruits and leave the larger ones, because the smaller fruit have fewer cells and will remain relatively smaller even after thinning.

Remove fruit with disease spots, hail damage, or other defects.

Aim for an even spacing as much as possible. Keep in mind the size that fruits will be at maturity and leave enough room so that fruits won't crowd each other along the branch. Some varieties, called tip-bearing, often have fruit clustered at the ends of long shoots. In this case it may be necessary to keep two fruits together in the end cluster if the rest of the branch is bare.

Apples, pears, and Asian pears almost always need heavy thinning. Apple varieties that bear heavily year after year can be thinned at the bloom stage. The king bloom, in the center of the blossom cluster, is the first to open and produces the biggest fruit. Remove all the other flower buds on that spur, then after fruit has set, check back and thin again where spurs are too close together. A good spacing for apples and pears is one fruit per 6" of branch. Asian pears should be spaced at one per 6–8".

Peaches and nectarines should be spaced at one per 6–8" and fruits that are joined together should be removed.

Plums, especially European plums such as Italian or Stanley, often need thinning when fruit set is heavy. They can be spaced somewhat closer depending on the size of fruit. Apricots in our area do not need to be thinned in most years.

Cherries don't need thinning.

Fruit thinning is the key to producing good sized fruit of high quality, but other factors are also important. Be sure to provide plenty of water during the season when fruit is ripening, particularly if it is a dry year, as good watering helps increase fruit size. Serious stress on the tree can adversely affect fruit quality or even cause some to drop. Fruit trees repay good care by providing the gardener with an ample harvest of ripe, tasty fruit – just as beautiful, to the fruit enthusiast, as the flowers of early spring.

Excerpted from WWFRW 2009 Newsletter.

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## Suggestions for chemical control of insects by Robert Purvis, NAFEX

**Assail** is a 70% wettable powder, for agricultural use only, manufactured and sold by United Phosphorus, Inc. The signal word on the label is **Caution**. It is a group 4A insecticide.

Assail is labeled for control of aphids, tentiform leaf miner, leafhoppers, codling moth (!), Oriental fruit moth, lesser apple worm, mealybug, pear psylla, campylocoma, European apple sawfly, Japanese beetle, apple maggot, plum curculio, dogwood borer, and for suppression of San Jose scale. However, it is not listed as a control for any mite species, including pear leaf blister mite. My container of 16 oz. cost \$420, so you can see that this stuff is darned expensive (\$26.25/oz), but the label rate that Wilbur-Ellis recommends is 2 oz/acre. For dwarf trees, that's 2 oz/100 gallons; for semi-dwarf, 2 oz/200 gallons; for standards, 2 oz/400 gallons. Thorough coverage is essential.

### **Assail is not for pear leaf blister mite.**

Assail could be highly useful for many of the pests that you have in western WA, but not for pear leaf blister mite. Good news! In the 2011 WSU crop-protection guide for tree fruit, they list Sevin 4F as a control for pear leaf blister mite, in late spring and summer. They also suggest Agri-Mek (abamectin) with summer oil as a control measure. I'd try using Sevin and seeing if you can control pear leaf blister mite. **CAUTION USING SEVIN**. It may be harmful. Affected bees may return it to the hive and kill off the entire hive. Bob Purvis (in correspondence to Erik Simpson, June 20, 2015.)

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## Who was Justus von Liebig (and Why Should We Care)?

Justus Freiherr Von Liebig was a German scientist who discovered that nitrogen was an essential plant nutrient. He also studied the effect that individual nutrients have on plant growth which became known as the “Law of the Minimum,” or more commonly, “Liebig’s Law.” Even though it has been over 210 years since von Liebig was born, the importance of what he taught us is as valid today as it was then.

### Law of the Minimum

In a nutshell, what Liebig’s Law says is that the growth of an organism is controlled by the availability of the scarcest resource. For example, if an insufficient amount of potassium is available to the plant, but all other nutrients and conditions are ideal, the plant will only be as productive as the limited amount of potassium will allow. If this deficiency is discovered and corrected, the productivity of the plant will increase to the point where the next limiting resource level is found. An illustration often used to depict this condition is shown to the right. On paper this looks easy but difficult in practice. Identifying what is going on in your plant and correctly assessing what it needs are keys toward maximizing productivity. What Liebig teaches us is that if we do not constantly address all the plant’s needs, productivity will suffer. These needs are constantly changing, which requires the gardener to play an active role in the gardens management to identify and correct deficiencies when they occur.

### A Simple Example

Let’s say that you are walking through your garden and notice that the older leaves are pale (chlorotic) and there is little new growth. This condition is likely a sign of nitrogen deficiency which can be corrected by an application of a high nitrogen containing fertilizer. Once corrected, the plant will likely be better able to produce more leaves, which, in turn, produce photosynthates that provide the food source for fruit development, leaf production, new roots and other plant material. Without correct identification and prompt action to address deficiencies, productivity will diminish.

### Don’t Waste Your Money

Imagine the gardener who only applies nitrogen fertilizers to their garden. If the garden is young, this practice may be acceptable if there are sufficient naturally occurring nutrients available in the soil. Over time, these nutrients will be removed by the plants rendering the soil less fertile. If the gardener continues to apply only nitrogen fertilizers and does not replace these now scarce nutrients, the plants’ productivity and health will decline. No matter how much more nitrogen the gardener applies, the plants will continue to suffer. While not as evident as the above example, most of us are probably wasting money by putting an excess of something on the garden from time to time that is not needed. The practice of speed injection of fertilizer is a prime example of this as your garden seldom needs these massive amounts of fertilizer at any one time during the year. Smaller fertilizer applications made more frequently are almost always more efficient. A

careful observation of your garden’s condition, and correcting any deficiency when observed, will help eliminate such waste.

### Reaching Production Potential

Some of the factors affecting production are largely outside of the gardener’s control such as climate and soil that can have a limiting effect on production. Other factors such as nutrition, water, and light management are within our control and can have a profound impact on our garden’s productivity.

Identifying and acting on the least available resource is what Liebig’s Law is all about. Recently, I spoke with a gardener whose garden was overgrown with little to no direct light penetrating the canopy of his trees. For a few years, he has known that this condition was affecting his productivity, but he never seemed to find the time to prune his garden. This year, he has selected one centrally located branch within the canopy to remove and commented on what a huge difference this has made in light penetration into the rest of the tree. While it is too soon to say if this simple step will improve productivity, my sense is that it is a very good first step. He is a very good gardener but never seemed to address his light management problem. Every one of us has something going on within our garden which is limiting our production. In some cases, it may be light management as noted above. In others, it might be a nutritional issue, and still others might have root rot or other diseases, infestations, or some other limiting issue that needs to be identified and corrected.

### A Checklist of Common Problems and Cures

Below you will find a number of potential problems common in plant gardens and their remedies.

#### Nitrogen

**SYMPTOMS** Older leaves are yellow with newer growth being a light green with slow overall plant growth.

**REMEDIES** Apply a high nitrogen containing fertilizer.

#### Phosphorous

**SYMPTOMS** Small leaves are reddish or purple tint with reduced fruit set.

**REMEDIES** Apply a high phosphate containing fertilizer.

#### Potassium

**SYMPTOMS** Older leaves look scorched around edges with yellowing between the leaf veins with reduced fruit set and size.

**REMEDIES** Apply a high potassium containing fertilizer.

#### Zinc

**SYMPTOMS** yellowing appears between veins of new growth and stunted fruit.

**REMEDIES** Apply zinc sulfate or other zinc containing compounds to garden.

#### Iron

**SYMPTOMS** Leaves become yellow or brown with green veins and chlorotic new growth.

**REMEDIES** Apply iron containing fertilizers to garden and check soil pH. The nutrient deficiencies described above can be readily measured by a foliar analysis. These are fairly simple and inexpensive to arrange. Please contact your local crop care consultant for a referral to a reputable laboratory.

Cont. on page 5

**Von Liebig from page 7****Light Deficiency**

**SYMPTOMS** The plants are tall with almost all the canopy at the very top, and very little direct sunlight hitting the ground.

**REMEDIES** Depending on severity, prune or remove plants.

**Water Excess or Deficiency**

**SYMPTOMS** Plants appear stressed with drooping leaves and stunted growth.

**REMEDIES** Adjust watering patterns and invest in soil moisture monitoring equipment.

**Excess Chlorides**

**SYMPTOMS** Leaves develop dead tissue on ends and edges. Excessive leaf drop.

**REMEDIES** Apply extra water when irrigating and monitor soil chloride levels.

**Root Rot**

**SYMPTOMS** The leaves are small and have large sets of small fruit.

**REMEDIES** Apply phosphorous acid containing product and mulch affected plants.

The previous list is not complete but represents most of the things that we should all be looking for when we walk through our gardens. Two publications that include information on these and many other plant growing topics are:

[http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/IPMPROJECT/ADS/manual\\_plants.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/IPMPROJECT/ADS/manual_plants.html)

<http://www.ucavo.ucr.edu/General/WhileyBook.html>

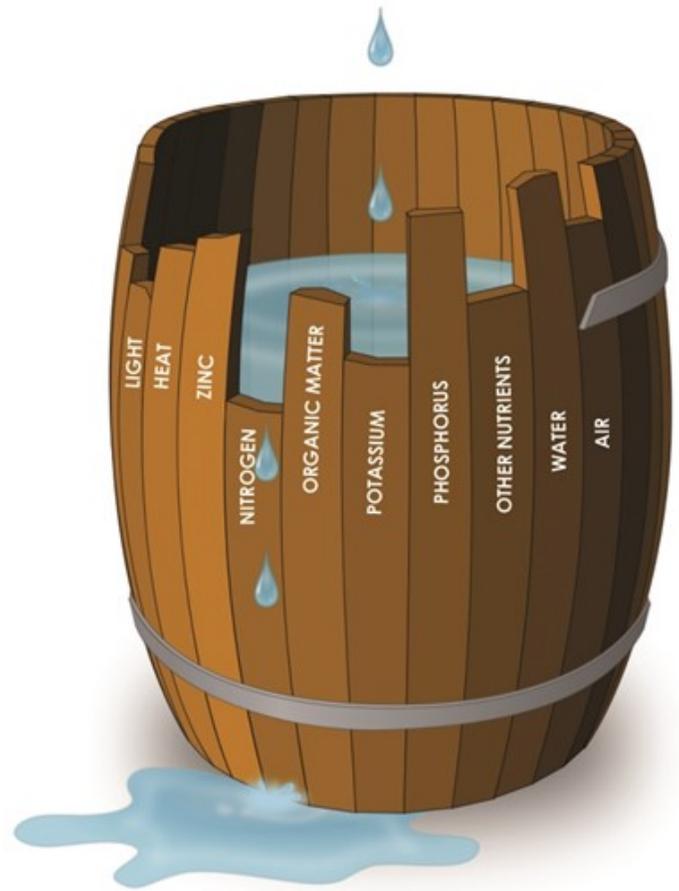
These books provide excellent pictures and descriptions of many garden deficiencies. The Trick to Getting 20,000 Pounds per Acre The successful gardener is never satisfied with their production and is always looking for that bottleneck or limiting factor holding back production in their garden. Once the most obvious factor is identified and addressed, there will always be some second factor that takes its place and, once corrected, another factor. The pursuit of these limiting factors, and correcting them quickly, is what makes the difference between an average and outstanding garden.

**And Now for a Little Zen**

Following Liebig's Law is not only a good idea to maximize plant production, but can be applied to life in general. Want to be more popular and have more friends? Identify what's holding back your likeability and correct it. Want to make more money? Identify a weakness in your productivity and correct it. Want to have a better relationship with your spouse? If any reader has figured this one out please let me know.

Submitted by John Cornell  
Snohomish County Fruit Society

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Liebig.jpg

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**Attention WCFS Members**

Want to know instantly what's happening in the organization?

Subscribe to the WCFS Forum. It's a benefit of membership. The Forum is private and closed to the public. It keeps us together and on top of what's happening in our chapters. Click on this link and follow the prompts:

<http://lists.ibiblio.org/mailman/listinfo/wcfs>

Judi Stewart, Forum Administrator

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## North American Fruit Explorers

NAFEX Annual Meeting 2015  
July 22 thru 24, 2015  
Days Inn, LaCrosse, Wisconsin

Bob Purvis and Pete Scott have been lining up interesting and informative speakers, including the following:  
Liza Greenman, Fruit Exploring for Millennials;

Nick Howard, Fruit Breeding for the Backyard Grower;

Jim Riddle, owner and operator of Blue Fruit Farm speaking on culture and marketing of blueberries, elderberries, blackcurrant and aronia;

Dan Busey, Saving Heirloom Seeds;

Dell Christianson, Foliar Nutrition for Fruit Trees;

Jacquelyn Kuehn, The Future of NAFEX;

Harry Hoch, owner Hoch Orchards, Operating a Farm Fruit Market;

Ron Dickie, Cultivating and Marketing Strawberries;

Paul Bingham, Accessing the ARS (USDA) Germplasm Repository and Obtaining Materials and Designing Edible Landscapes;

Brian Nelson, Spotted Wing Drosophila;

Oriana Kruszewski, Asian Pears for the Upper Midwest;

Bob Purvis, Growing Apricots in the Cold North.

Contact Bob Purvis or Pete Scott to make arrangements for your presentation. Better hurry as the roster is nearly full and there may be some openings due to cancellations. If we have extra presentations we may continue at 7:00 PM. The auction is also planned for Thursday evening. The Friday bus tour presently has 5 stops scheduled. This will be a full, interesting day. We began the day with a visit to Ron's Barry Farm in Minnesota operated by Ron and Peggy Dickie where they cultivate strawberries and asparagus. Another stop is the Blue Fruit Farm where they have 4 acres of aronia, blackcurrant, blueberry and elderberries. Owner Jim Riddle will also address us during the technical sessions. Lunch is planned for the Hoch Apple Orchard catered by the Harry Hoch family who operate the orchard, farm market and kitchen. For complete meeting information and a downloadable registration form which includes motel reservations information, see <http://www.nafex.org/meeting.php>.

Jerry Lehman, Bob Purvis, Peter Scott

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## FRUIT ENTHUSIASTS

Please join the Tahoma Chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society at the Washington State Fair formerly known as the Western Washington or Puyallup Fair. Help spread the word about fruit growing on the Westside of the Cascades in Washington. Usually ranked in the top five or ten Fairs in the United States, it will be happening between Friday, September 11 and Sunday, September 27, 2015. The hours are Monday thru Thursday, 10 AM to 10 PM; Friday & Saturday, 9 AM to 11 PM and Sunday, 9 AM to 10 PM.

If you are interested in helping the Tahoma Chapter staff the WCFS booth, please contact Bill Horn, [hornbill66@msn.com](mailto:hornbill66@msn.com) 253-770-0485. Although we will have generic membership forms available that go to the WCFS treasurer, you are welcome to bring copies of your newsletters and/or membership info for display while you are staffing the booth. Admission tickets and free parking are available. We should have tickets available for distribution by mid August.

Thanks for all your help.

Bill Horn  
WCFS Tahoma Chapter Treasurer

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## Home Canning Workshops

**Online and hands-on courses teach how to preserve local foods safely.** Learn how to preserve fresh foods safely in a series of four evening workshops at WSU Snohomish County Extension's Evergreen Room in McCollum Park, 600 128th St SE, Everett. The series repeats three times during the season on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings.

Basics of Safe Canning 6:30-9pm June 9, June 15, Sept. 23

Jams, Jellies, June 30, July 6, Sept. 30

Tomatoes, Salsa & Relish, July 21, July 27, Oct. 7

Pickling & Fermenting, Aug. 11, Aug. 17, Oct. 14.

Class size limited and pre-registration is required. Cost \$20/workshop.

For more information on any of the courses, contact Kate Halstead, WSU Snohomish County Extension Food Safety Program, [foodsafety.snoco@wsu.edu](mailto:foodsafety.snoco@wsu.edu), (425) 357-6004.

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## SPOTTED WING DROSOPHILA WORKSHOP: Team Approach from Around the World

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 9 am - 1 pm  
Eugene Unitarian Universalist Church  
1685 W 13th Ave, Eugene, OR  
Cost: \$20 (includes lunch)

### AGENDA:

#### Understanding SWD Biology, Behavior, & Seasonal Needs

#### SWD Management Tools & Practices

- Early Season Mass Trapping
- Reducing Risky Situations
- Monitoring Traps
- Degree-Day Modeling
- Sanitation, Netting
- Timely Picking
- Pruning & Irrigation
- Treatment Timing
- Biological Controls
- Trellising
- Vacuuming
- Cold Storage
- World Wide SWD Research Advancements (e.g., sound, repellents, & visual cues)

Presented by: Amy J. Dreves, Oregon State University, Beverly Gerdeman, Washington State University, Emilio Guerrieri & Massimo Giorgini, Institute for Plant Protection at the National Research Council of Italy

#### Monitoring, Identification, and Fruit Sampling Demonstrations

Presented by: Amy J. Dreves

Register Early:

Jennifer Miller [jmiller@pesticide.org](mailto:jmiller@pesticide.org) 208-850-6504

Sponsored by: NW Center for Alternatives to Pesticides, Oregon State University College of Agricultural Sciences, Washington State University, and USDA.

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## Thank you to WCFS from TOC

Joanie Cooper, HOS and Temperate Orchard Conservancy, reported that TOC is very appreciative of the gift of \$2500 they received from WCFS. They received a grant of \$25,000 from Lillian Goldman Foundation for fencing, but it was insufficient until they received WCFS gift. That put them over the top, and they were able to do an 8 ft. fence on 17 acres in the Botner Block, and additional acreage for the Nursery Block. WCFS gift allowed them to protect 2600 trees that they planted.

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## Where else do spotted wing *Drosophila* like to feed?

New online resource provides a list of non-crop host plants of spotted wing *Drosophila* in North America.

Posted on April 15, 2015 by Rufus Isaacs, Michigan State University Extension, Department of Entomology

"Noncrop Host Plants of Spotted Wing *Drosophila* in North America" is available as a free PDF on the MSU Spotted Wing *Drosophila* website.

A new guide to the non-crop host plants used by spotted wing *Drosophila* (SWD) has just been published by Oregon State University, compiling information from collections made in Michigan, New York, Florida, California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. The article titled "Noncrop Host Plants of Spotted Wing *Drosophila* in North America" is now posted as a free PDF on the Factsheets page of the Michigan State University Spotted Wing *Drosophila* website.

This information combines what was learned from collections of fruit in wild and agricultural habitats since this pest arrived in North America seven years ago. The researchers, including Steve Van Timmeren from MSU's Department of Entomology and myself, collected fruit and then held it to see what insects emerged from them. This provided definitive information on whether SWD does use a specific host plant.

The information can be used by growers and others to consider which areas may be most likely to provide a reservoir of habitat for this pest, and would therefore pose the greatest risk as a reservoir for pest infestation. There is little information on the effectiveness of removing these non-crop host plants from a landscape, but high densities of these suitable hosts are expected to increase pressure from SWD. Dr. Isaacs' work is funded in part by MSU's AgBioResearch.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>.

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## Chapter News WCFS

### Snohomish County Fruit Society

The Snohomish chapter had a busy spring. We processed scionwood, placed a group bareroot strawberry order, held a pruning workshop, and joined forces with STFS to host a very successful grafting event. We've learned about organic gardening through a portion of a Michael Phillip's video, general plant propagation, solutions to wildlife in our orchards and garden, the cranberry industry, and how to compost better. The club continues to grow and is over 60 people just three years after it began. Dave Pehling will be joining us for our last regular meeting of the spring to speak on pollinators. Then we'll take a break for the summer until we gather again to staff a booth at the Evergreen Fair, sharing with the public about growing fruit. Topics we plan to tackle in the fall include raspberries, making cider, decorating with fruit, and grapes."

Beckie Jackson, President <http://snohomishcfs.wordpress.com/>

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### Seattle Tree Fruit Society

It looks like this spring west of the Sound is not as warm as last year's but still warmer than years past. I think the term "June drop" is somewhat of an anachronism here, with most of the drop having taken place early in May. Most of our footies are on by now but we have a discussion taking place about the use of **Surround At Home** both by itself and possibly in combination with footies. Personally I am planning some additional measures to control codling moth, possibly with a Neem oil spray. It's an unusual year for pears in my yard. Foliage looks very healthy, no sign of the pear rust that hit so hard last year. Unfortunately there aren't any pears. I guess you just can't have everything. Sandy Bowman, who coordinates our orchard activities, reports that the May 9<sup>th</sup> work party at the Magnuson Park orchard brought out a crew of about twenty people who spent a couple of hours pruning trees, thinning fruit and applying footies. They reported a total of about 25 hours. That was great. Those work hours help offset rental fees of the Brig meeting rooms we use most of the year. Thanks to everybody who helped. So have a wonderful summer everybody,

Paul Mallary, President STFS

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### South Sound Fruit Society

In March SSFS had our grafting event and scion exchange and many thanks to everyone who helped make it a successful event.

In April, Lowell Cordas and Jeb Thurow gave our group an introduction to some of the more common insect pests that affect apples and some soft fruits. And then in May Lowell explained his research into trapping them. Now we are all back rummaging through our gardens and determining who or what may be eating our fruit. Lowell's favorite lure for apple maggot monitoring purposes is either a red plastic sphere or a Red Delicious Apple coated in Tanglefoot hung in a tree.

His suggestions for an apple maggot trap, spotted wing drosophila and other fruit flies, were a clear plastic drink cup with four 3/16th inch holes evenly punched about 2 inches from the bottom and top same size holes near the cup top for a wire hanger, and then covering the bottom of the cup with an inch or so of apple cider vinegar, cover the cup with a snap lid and hang. He stated that trapping is not 100% effective and how many traps per tree, where in the tree or vines and when they are put out are all important variables.

As a codling moth to some effectiveness, Lowell uses a mixture of one cup apple cider vinegar, 1/3rd cup light corn syrup, 1/8 tsp. ammonia mixed into 4-2/3 cup-water. He cuts a 2.5 inch x 1.5 inch window in the side of a 32 oz. plastic juice jug about 2 inches from the bottom and put in 1.5 inches of the solution. Again effectiveness varied based on trap numbers, location and timing of placement.

He suggests that all traps be monitored and the solution be changed when there is a large accumulation of bugs or there is evaporation.

The design for the trap can also see a trap at:

<http://spottedwing.org/system/files/SWD%20Monitoring%20Trap%20PROTOCOL%205-26-2011.pdf>

Upcoming on June 2 meeting will be "Native Bees for Fruit Production". Rusty Burlew, our speaker has a bachelor's degree from Oregon State University in Agronomic Crop Science and a master's degree from The Evergreen State College in Environmental Studies. She also been involved with bees and farm crops since her childhood in Pennsylvania, and as a plant breeder has helped develop cultivars of alfalfa and daffodils. She also has considerable experience as a writer, journalist, and editor. Her website HoneyBeeSuite.com is now in its sixth year and currently draws about 10,000 views per day from a number of countries around the world. She also write a column for Bee Craft, the journal of British Beekeeping, and speaks to various groups about native bees and bee conservation.

We are meeting at a new location at the **Eastside Urban Farm and Garden Center**. It is located at 2326 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. E., Olympia. SSFS has a new Facebook page! Like us at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthSoundFruitSociety> and new SSFS website: <http://southsoundfruitsociety.org/>.  
Francesca Ritson, Acting President SSFS

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**Mark Your Calendar**

October 10, 2015 Vashon Island's Ciderfest. VIFC presses several thousands of pounds of apples into sweet cider but is only one of the attractions at this community festival. Local cideries and a local distillery also figure prominently in the celebration.

Oct. 10, Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation's "Sample the Apple and Pear Harvest" at Mt. Vernon Research Center.

Oct. 4 Salt Spring Island Apple Festival

Oct. 24, Peninsula Fruit Society Fall Fruit Show, Bremerton, 10:00-4:00, West Side Improvement Club, 4109 West E. Street.

Oct. 31 Olympic Orchard Society Fall Fruit Show, Sequim, 9:00-3:00, Trinity United Methodist Church

**WCFS NEW MEMBERS****SSFS**

Jim Gouin  
Jayni Kamin  
Penny Longwell  
Barry McDonald  
Patti May

**WCFS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

President	Ron Weston <a href="mailto:ronweston09@comcast.net">ronweston09@comcast.net</a>
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Jerry Gehrke <a href="mailto:bercogehrke@comcast.net">bercogehrke@comcast.net</a>

**Directors**

2015

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2017

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South Sound	Francesca Ritson acting president <a href="mailto:ssfsoly@gmail.com">ssfsoly@gmail.com</a>
Tahoma	Terry Tomlinson <a href="mailto:terryatmarys@comcast.net">terryatmarys@comcast.net</a>
Vashon Island	Carolina Nurik <a href="mailto:carolinanurik@comcast.net">carolinanurik@comcast.net</a>

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## Links

Here is a list of sites on the web that may be of interest to you.

## Related Organizations

- Backyard Fruit Growers  
[www.sas.upenn.edu/~dailey/byfg.html](http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~dailey/byfg.html)
- California Rare Fruit Growers  
[www.crfg.org](http://www.crfg.org)
- East of England Apples and Orchards Project  
[www.applesandorchards.org.uk](http://www.applesandorchards.org.uk)
- Indiana Nut Growers Association  
[www.nutgrowers.org](http://www.nutgrowers.org)
- Midwest Fruit Explorers  
[www.midfex.org](http://www.midfex.org)
- North American Fruit Explorers  
[www.nafex.org](http://www.nafex.org)
- Northern Nut Growers Association  
[www.northernnutgrowers.org](http://www.northernnutgrowers.org)
- Oregon Sustainable Agriculture Land Trust  
[www.osalt.org](http://www.osalt.org)
- Western Cascade Fruit Society  
[www.wcfs.org](http://www.wcfs.org)
- Western Washington Fruit Research Foundation  
[www.wwfrf.org](http://www.wwfrf.org)
- Home Orchard Society  
[www.homeorchardsociety.org/](http://www.homeorchardsociety.org/)
- Seattle Tree Fruit Society  
[www.seattletreefruitsociety.com/](http://www.seattletreefruitsociety.com/)
- Seattle Tree Fruit Society—Apple ID program  
[www.seattletreefruitsociety.com/appleid.php](http://www.seattletreefruitsociety.com/appleid.php)

## Fruit Research

- National Clonal Germplasm Repository  
[www.ars-grin.gov/cor](http://www.ars-grin.gov/cor)
- Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Washington State.  
[www.tfrec.wsu.edu](http://www.tfrec.wsu.edu)
- Northwest Berry and Grape Infonet.  
[berrygrape.oregonstate.edu](http://berrygrape.oregonstate.edu)
- Pedigree: A Genetic Resource Inventory System  
[www.pgris.com](http://www.pgris.com)
- Oregon Department of Agriculture  
[www.oda.state.or.us](http://www.oda.state.or.us)

## Government Sites

- US Dept. of Agriculture  
[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)
- USDA Agricultural Research Service  
[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)

## Helpful Sites

- Orange Pippin  
[www.orangepippin.com](http://www.orangepippin.com)
- Kiyokawa Family Orchards  
[www.mthoodfruit.com](http://www.mthoodfruit.com)
- Red Pig Tools  
[www.redpigtools.com](http://www.redpigtools.com)
- Friends of Trees  
[www.friendsoftrees.org](http://www.friendsoftrees.org)
- Cornell Gardening Resources  
[www.gardening.cornell.edu](http://www.gardening.cornell.edu)  
[http://www.fruit.cornell.edu/tree\\_fruit/GPGeneral.html](http://www.fruit.cornell.edu/tree_fruit/GPGeneral.html)
- The National Arbor Day Foundation  
[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)
- UBC Botanical Garden  
[www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org)
- The Reckless Gardener  
[www.recklessgardener.co.uk](http://www.recklessgardener.co.uk)
- Farm & Garden  
[www.farm-garden.com](http://www.farm-garden.com)
- SeeMeGarden.com  
[www.seemegarden.com](http://www.seemegarden.com)
- GardenGuides.com  
[www.gardenguides.com](http://www.gardenguides.com)
- VitiSearch: Helpful Resources about Grapes  
[www.vitisearch.com](http://www.vitisearch.com)
- Avant-Gardening: Creative Organic Gardening  
[www.avant-gardening.com](http://www.avant-gardening.com)
- The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon  
[www.hardyplantsociety.org](http://www.hardyplantsociety.org)
- Ask the Berry Man  
[www.asktheberryman.com](http://www.asktheberryman.com)
- BackyardGardener.com  
[www.backyardgardener.com](http://www.backyardgardener.com)
- Tom Brown's website  
[www.applesearch.org](http://www.applesearch.org)

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