

July 2009

- Control hollyhock rust by sanitation, picking affected leaves, or spraying with a recommended and registered fungicide. Read and follow label directions.
- Early morning is the best time to water vegetable and flower gardens to reduce evaporation. Water deeply and infrequently.
- Hanging baskets of flowers or vegetable plantings need careful attention to watering and feeding during extended periods of hot weather.
- Watch for cutworm damage in the garden. (In July, climbing cutworms become a problem, and large portions of foliage will begin to disappear on established plants.) Use barriers, remove by hand, use beneficial nematodes when soil temperature is above 55°F, or spray with Bt per label directions.
- Midsummer plantings of beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale, and peas will provide fall and winter crops.
- Place traps to catch adult apple maggot flies. You can use pheromone traps to monitor presence of pests.
- July 10: spray filbert trees for filbertworm.
- July 10–15: spray peach and prune trees for root borers.
- July 17–23: third spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees.
- Cover blueberry bushes with netting to keep birds from eating all the crop.
- Stake tomatoes, watch for blight (prune for air circulation, pick off affected leaves, treat with approved fungicide).
- First planting of Chinese cabbage, kohlrabi, rutabagas on Oregon coast.
- Monitor camellias, holly, and maple trees for scale insects. Treat if necessary.
- Monitor rhododendrons for root weevil adults. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap weevils.
- If a green lawn is desired, make sure lawn areas receive adequate water. Deep watering less often is more effective than frequent shallow watering.
- Check leafy vegetables for caterpillars. Control with Bt or Sevin. Never use Sevin during bloom period or in the presence of bees.
- Weed and fertilize rhubarb and asparagus beds, water deeply to develop crowns for next year. A mulch of compost or rotted cow manure works well.
- Mulch with paper, plastic, sawdust, etc. to conserve soil moisture.
- Mound soil up around base of potatoes, gather and eat a few “new” potatoes from each hill.
- Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.
- Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine.
- Aerate lawns for better water and fertilizer usage.

- Spider mites can become a problem on ornamental plants, vegetables, and fruit plants during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray with appropriate pesticides.
- *East of the Cascades*: spray for corn earworm as silking begins. Protect bees from spray.