June 2009

- First week: spray cherry trees for cherry fruit fly and brown rot if fruit is ripening.
- First week: spray for codling moth and scab in apple and pear trees. Continue use of pheromone traps for insect pest detection.
- Apples and crabapples that are susceptible to scab disease will begin dropping leaves as weather warms. Rake and destroy fallen leaves; spray with summer-strength lime sulfur, wettable sulfur, Immunox, or Captan.
- Learn to identify beneficial insects, and plant some insectory plants (Alyssum, Phacelia, coriander, candytuft, sunflower, yarrow, dill) to attract them to your garden. Check with local nurseries for best selections.
- Lawn mowing: set blade at 0.75 to 1 inch for bentgrass lawns; 1.5 to 2.5 inches for bluegrasses, fine fescues, and ryegrasses.
- Spray with Orthene to control adult root weevils in rhododendrons, azaleas, primroses, and other ornamentals. Or, use beneficial nematodes if soil temperature is above 55°F.
- Remove seed pods after blooms have dropped from rhododendrons, azaleas.
- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons, and azaleas after blooming.
- Harvest thinnings from new plantings of lettuce, onion, and chard.
- Construct trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans, and vining ornamentals.
- Use organic mulches to conserve soil moisture. An inch or two of sawdust, barkdust, or composted leaves will minimize loss of water through evaporation.
- Pick ripe strawberries regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- Blossoms on squash and cucumbers begin to drop: nothing to worry about.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Watch for cabbage worms, 12-spotted beetles on beans and lettuce, flea beetles in lettuce. Remove the insect pests or treat with labeled pesticides.
- Spray peas as first pods form, if necessary, to control weevils.
- Late this month, begin to monitor for late blight on tomatoes.
- Last week: second spray for codling moth and scab in apple and pear trees.
- Birch trees dripping means aphids are present. Control as needed.
- After normal fruit drop in June, consider thinning the remainder to produce a larger crop.
- Control weeds by pulling, hoeing, or mulching.
- If indicated, spray cherries at weekly intervals for fruit fly.
- Fertilize vegetable garden 1 month after plants emerge by side-dressing alongside the rows.
- Move houseplants outside for cleaning, grooming, repotting, and summer growth.
- Make sure raised beds receive enough water for plants to stay free of drought stress.
• High elevations, central and eastern Oregon: fertilize lawns, late June to early July.
• Western Oregon: apply fertilizer to lawns.
• Western Oregon: plant sweet corn, other tender vegetables.
• Oregon coast: plant cauliflower, broccoli, cabbage, and kale.