

July 2021



**H
O
E
D
O
W
N**

Board members 2021

President: Nancy Glick, 541-330-6260, nnglick@bendcable.com

Vice Pres: Liz Anderson, 541-968-1626, ragingangel61@yahoo.com
 Elizabeth Hughes-Weide, 916-803-2309, hecbend@aol.com

Secretary: Vickie Minor, 541-213-2329, geovick92@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Tim Schindele, 541-526-1490, TJSFishes@bendbroadband.com

State Rep: Janet Dart, 818-486-1583, janetdart@gmail.com

Alt. State Rep: Evie Cox, 949-677-0767, eviecox1@icloud.com

Historian: Mimi Thomas, 503-320-4178, mormormimit@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator: Jolene Dodge, 541-771-7882, ajdodge@yahoo.com

Communication Liaison: Rocky Bessette, 541-548-0789, rockyb820@gmail.com

Table of Contents

President's Message	2
Calendar	2
Judy's Gems	3
Plant sale report	3
Project Updates	4
Lowdown from the board	6
Plant sale photos	8
Predatory Insects	9
Plant of the Month	9

President's message



So, I'm sitting there in my springy turquoise aluminum chair, bunny slippers on my feet, Yankee cap on my noggin and a cool drink (possibly 'spirited') in my hand when it hits me: the summer is already one-third over and I don't have anything to show for it.

Oh, I've got plenty of plants in the ground. The gorgeous tomato plants

Liz D. sold me are fat and happy, the carrots are finely frilled and the nasturtiums are putting out mounds of green, leaf-like disks. The broccoli's insect netting is in place & the corn's growth is checked daily.

But what can I brag about to cause envy in the local high kahunas? What exploits, feats of bravery can I share that will cause the desired stunned awe in my audience?

My mind is a blank.

But wait!

I'm a Master Gardener!

I have recently performed magic in Plant Clinic! I have astounded fresh legions with research-based horticultural solutions. After a Covid pause of 12 months since last clicking through the ECCO database, I've found a great opportunity to knock some rust off my Plant clinic skills.

I've researched invasive weeds, pear trees and pine forests. I've looked at flying bugs, crawling insects and pond scum. And I've talked with interested homeowners, assisted new gardeners and listened to veterans who enjoyed sharing their own veggie successes.

The most amazing part of my 2021 Plant Clinic experiences is that I did it all from my favorite living room chair, using the ECCO database, two apps and online OSU publications. It was so satisfying to be back helping homeowners while building the ECCO plant clinic log of horticulture solutions. As of July 6, Plant Clinic will return to the Deschutes County Extension Office. This in-person Plant Clinic will be covered by any Master Gardener who has been trained to work Plant Clinic. Trainees who did not train for remote Plant Clinic will have to wait until 2022 for Plant Clinic training and experience.

I hope to work alongside **you** in Plant Clinic soon. Check your calendar & sign up on Sling <https://app.getsling.com/shifts?mode=month&date=2021-06-01&tab=fullschedule> and if you have any questions, you can email me, Nancy Glick (nglick@bendcable.com) or Toni Stephan (toni.stephan@oregonstate.edu). We'd love to show you the ropes.



COMGA Calendar for contact persons go to gocomga.com

July

- 1 Board meeting, Zoom, 10am
- 6 OSU & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 6 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Fire-wise Landscaping
- 10 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 15 Discovery Park Community Garden workday, 9:00am
- 16 OMGA Virtual Mini-College
- 17 OMGA Virtual Mini-College
- 20 OSU Demo & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 20 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Clematis
- 22 Hollinshead CG volunteers meeting, 10:00am
- 24 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon

August

- 3 OSU & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 3 KPOV radio, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Season Extension
- 5 Board meeting, OSU Extension Service, Redmond, 10:00am
- 14 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 17 OSU & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 17 KPOV radio, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Spiders
- 19 Discovery Park, Community Garden workday, 9:00am
- 26 Hollinshead CG volunteers meeting, 10:00am
- 28 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 31 KPOV radio, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Roses in C. O.

September

- 2 Board meeting, OSU Extension Service, Redmond, 10:00am
- 7 OSU & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 7 KPOV radio, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, 12 Plants to Entice Pollinators
- 11 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 16 Hollinshead CG volunteers meeting, 10:00am
- 21 OSU & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 21 KPOV radio, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Garden All Year: Build a Cloche
- 25 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon



Add this native plant to your moonlight garden

by Judy Shearer

Granite phlox or granite gilia (*Linanthus pungens*) puts on a show beginning at dusk in spring/early summer. It is a small shrub 4-24" that begins blooming as the sun sets, lasting through the night to the next day if there is cloud cover. The tiny leaves that surround the stem are needle-like with sharp tips. As they mature, the lower ones may blacken and dehisce. A member of the Phlox family (Polemoniaceae), the flowers are funnel shaped with five white flaring petals with yellow centers. An additional plus is both the flowers and herbage are sweet scented. The fruit is an egg shaped capsule. Found in rocky or sandy areas east of the Cascades into Idaho, they are common in the shrub-steppe habitat of Deschutes county. As they are night bloomers, pollination is mainly by moths seeking nectar. The genus name *Linanthus* refers to its flax (*Linus*) like flower, *pungens* to the sharp tipped leaves.



Photo by Samantha Shearer

References:

Fagan, D. 2019. Wildflowers of Oregon. Falcon Guides, Guilford, CN.

Turner, M., and P. Gustafson. 2006. Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest. Timber Press Inc, Portland, Oregon.

Turner, M., and E. Kuhlmann. 2014. Trees and Shrubs of the Pacific Northwest. Timber Press Inc., Portland, OR

Oregon Wildflower APP

COMGA PLANT SALE PROJECT SUMMARY

June 29, 2021

Early December 2020, there was a OMGA Zoom Meeting and discussion on if or how Master Gardener Chapters could or would be having a plant sale sometime in 2021 with the unknown COVID protocol predictions. With approx. 80 folks attending this zoom meeting, it was quite an experience! By January 2021, it seem that we could possibly get approval but still no protocols to work from. By March 7, 2021 we received approval to proceed with planning a plant sale if the sale had pre-orders, payment and scheduled plant pick up times all online with a drive through plant pick up.

The fun begins with purchasing perennials on March 23rd and transplanting them on March 24th to root up in gallon size pots. Direct seed sowing took place on May 3rd, 10th and 17th. Transplanting of these plants took place on May 24th & 28th and June 1st. This was a challenge for scheduling with the COVID protocol restriction of a maximum of 3 volunteers in the greenhouse at any one time.

Orders and payment for plants started on May 10th and continued on until June 9th with Plant Sale Day plant pick up on June 12, 2021. There was a total headcount of 125 customers that went thru the drive thru check-in for plant pick up.

This project would not have been possible without the help from Nancy Glick, setting up the online processes, all of the folks that volunteered in the greenhouse and the 26 volunteers that helped on June 12th with the plant sale setting up tables, carrying plants, customer check-in, filling orders, assisting add-on plants and payment for add-on's.

Unsold plants were donated to OSU Extension Service, SNAP Ed Program Manager, Katie Ahern.

Following is a list of Income and Expenses for the Plant Sale Project:

Income: Pre-order & Payment \$ 2859 Add-on Plants at Drive Thru or after 6/12th \$ 916 Total Income \$ 3775 (This does not include the 24 row cover packages or 10 soil thermometers sold online)

Expenses: Seedling Mix \$ 14, Potting Soil \$ 58, Plant Labels \$ 17, Tomato Seedlings \$ 482, Perennials \$ 325, Bleach \$ 3, Temp. Nursery License \$ 5, OSU Greenhouse Utilities \$ 400, Advertisements \$ 8, Pay Pal Fees \$ 101, Photocopying \$ 10?, Fairgrounds Table Rental \$ 40, Total Expenses \$ 1463.

Net Income \$ 2312

Thank you to all of you that volunteered for this project!

Vicky Kemp, Plant Sale Coordinator

Hollinshead Water-wise Garden

Despite the heat wave, the first WaterWise Landscape Field Day sponsored by the City of Bend Water Conservation Department was held on Sunday June 27 from 10-1. Participants included the City of Bend WaterWise Program, City of Bend Clean Water Works Program, Oregon Bee Atlas, Hunter Irrigation Industries and OSU Master Gardeners with tours of the Hollinshead Water-wise Garden. A panel discussion was held with Amy Jo Detweiler, Eileen Obermiller and Dan Denning. They discussed aspects of a waterwise landscape including water use, sustainability, and the judicious use of resources for landscapes in the future. Around 60 community members attended. Garden tours were held in the Water-wise garden. The garden looks beautiful now, if you haven't come by, now is a good time to enjoy the mature plantings.

Pat Kolling and Chris Miao

One of the booths at the WaterWise Landscape Field Day



Hollinshead Community Garden

by JoAnne Abbott

Welcome to cooler weather! Even though we'll be in the 90's for a 'few' more days, it certainly feels cooler than what we just went through, with temperatures well over 105 degrees. Many of the Hollinshead gardeners were artistic with their row cover/shade cloths to help their tender veggies from getting sun scald/sun burn. I'm sure the mentors will have questions from their gardeners about what happened to their plants, or why they aren't producing as much.

As you enter Hollinshead Community Garden (HHCG), you will come across our three raised beds. This year they will be planted with Amy Jo's All-America Selections (AAS) vegetable starts that she provided. We have the brand-new Midnight Roma's, (the new anti-oxidant rich, just released Oregon State University-developed tomato), Green Light cucumbers, a Mini-love watermelon and a Mambo watermelon. The tomatoes are still a little young to be planted yet, so you'll be able to experience them in a few weeks.

In addition, the two plots whose soil had manure tainted by an herbicide two summers ago, continues to be cared for by the HHCG mentors this year. By the end of last year's growing season, we were uncertain whether all the herbicide had dissipated from the soil. We need to be 99.999% sure there is no residual pesticide before we offer these plots to new renters. So, again this year, our mentors have planted some great crops, and if able, most of the vegetables will be donated to NeighborImpact, once ripe for picking. There are tomatoes, potatoes, pole beans, carrots, lettuces and container squashes, just to name a few. Hopefully it will be an abundant harvest.

Finally, a big THANK YOU to all our HHCG mentors, assistants, volunteers and our Coordinator for doing such a superb job, helping keep our beautiful community garden healthy and weed free!



OSU Extension Demo Garden

The OSU Demo Garden workdays begin at 9am while it's still cool outside and makes for a pleasant experience. Thank you to those who joined us in June, Vicky Kemp, Alice Spencer, Linda Gregory, Jill Kendall, Nathalie Smith, JoAnne Abbott, Mimi Thomas, Wanda Kuklis, Vickie Minor, Jan Even and myself. We are keeping up with weeding, watering, and enjoy watching the corn and pumpkins grow. There are spots open for volunteering! If you'd like to join us on the 1st or 3rd Tuesday of each month, bookmark this link. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/136UN9EGFVBjJxkSPITSwVdBTMQb5fRRQ/view?usp=sharing>. The excel spreadsheet will default to our opening day signup sheet, back in April. Look at the bottom of the page, and look for the date that you'd like to volunteer. Click on that date and the spreadsheet opens where you can sign up. Please email me directly if you have any questions. emsnurse1923@gmail.com Please bring your own mask, gloves, weeding tool and bucket, kneeling pad, hand pruners, drinking water and sunscreen, etc. Join us for good conversation, teamwork and smiles!

Thanks, Karen Simonet and Vicky Kemp



Discovery Park Community Garden

by Gary Weber

June has been a tough month for gardeners at Discovery. Cold weather and a few frosty mornings kept us from daring to get transplanting till almost the middle of the month. That isn't particularly late and in comparison the garden didn't open till June 17 in 2020 and still did very well. Our current heat wave will probably bring some benefit to the heat lovers if it doesn't stress plants too much to set them back. This season we have full occupancy in the garden with every bed fully active. We are seeing more diversity in the use of cloche materials and design ideas which hopefully lead to longer term improvements. Rodents so far have been scarce. A failed solenoid valve in the irrigation system caused one section of the garden to not get water and gave us a bit of a scare during a hot weekend. Bend Parks has provided the garden with a new bulletin board. A very substantial one at that, and delivered a nice pile of wood chips. Last week a dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteers helped us get those chips spread over the many bare spots. The garden overall looks really good and is all set for the summer ahead.



IT'S KPOV TIME GARDENING: GET GOOD AT IT

Tune in to The Point on KPOV 88.9 FM, Tuesdays between 9:00 and 9:30 AM. Here is our lineup of upcoming Gardening: Get Good At It segments.

July 6 Fire-wise Landscaping

July 20 Clematis



Mini-College 2021

July 16 and 17, 2021

Experience and participate in a dynamic program of interactive educational classes and workshops

Keynote presentations by:

Robert Michael Pyle and Gail Langellotto

Watch for details when our website goes live at:

mastergardenerminicollege.org

Registration is open now

Newsletter Notes: Deadline for submission of material to the HoeDown is 1st Friday after the board meeting. All articles, notices and other journalistic efforts are welcome and appreciated. All information provided by the "HoeDown" is believed to be accurate but readers must assume all responsibility for their own actions based on this information.

Occasionally a product or company may be named in an article but this does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of said product.

Published by : COMGA Send ideas & articles to: **HoeDown** Rocky Bessette, 8200 NW Yucca Ave., Redmond, OR 97756 or rockyb820@gmail.com

LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD

July 1, 2021, Via Zoom Online

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy Glick (President), Liz Anderson (VP-MG Education), Vickie Minor (Secretary), Tim Schindele (Treasurer), Mimi Thomas (Historian), Janet Dart (OMGA State Representative), Rocky Bessette (Communications Liaison), Carroll Minium, Liz Douville, Kate Applegate, Marilyn Clark, Kirsten Hinton, Vicky Kemp, Chris Miao, Karen Simonet, and Linda Gregory.

The meeting started at 10:00 AM and adjourned at 11:35 AM. The board discussed the following items:

Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Motion to approve the amended minutes dated June 30, 2021, made by Rocky Bessette, seconded by Tim Schindele, and approved by the board with no objections.

OSU Report

Amy Jo was unable to attend the meeting but she provided an update by email. She reported that until she receives updated guidance from OSU and local staffing issues are resolved, she would like us to maintain the projects we started earlier this spring (e.g., KPOV, community gardens, demo gardens and plant clinic-remote and live). For the time being, any other activities are on hold. She is focusing on preparing for 2022 MG training so we can hit the ground running. She will also get back to us about a recognition night and what that might look like, considering recertifications and certifications being rolled over to 2022. She thanked everyone for all we do and asked that we let her know if there are questions.

BOARD REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report

Tim sent the budget report by email, before the meeting. He noted that we are doing remarkably well financially. The Plant Sale was very successful and generated \$2,325 in net income. We had good sales of row cover at Discovery Park and as part of the Plant Sale (\$360). He could not get exact CD income amounts until July 1 or July 2, but expects it to be about \$15.50. Expenditures in June included \$152.99 from the Discretionary Fund to purchase a farewell gift card for Carrie Sether; \$96.68 for a patio umbrella and base for the Discovery Park Community Garden; a \$30 refund to one DPCG plot renter who decided not to garden this year; Plant Sale expenses of \$1,0721.20 included \$400.00 to OSU to reimburse for use of the greenhouse and greenhouse utilities; \$458.07 for two more rolls of row cover; \$60 for Trowel Awards for Volunteer Appreciation; \$27.90 for replacement plants and \$19.99 for nematodes at the Water-wise Garden.

The June Garden Fair/Plant Sale was unbudgeted this year, but income from that event put us at \$13,833.84, which is well over the \$11,900 in income that was projected for the entire year. We have also spent only \$4,546 of the \$11,900 we budgeted. Tim anticipates that we will not spend more than \$4,000 on budgeted expenses through the remainder of the year. This would leave us with approximately \$5,000 in unbudgeted income by year's end. An extensive discussion followed on how best to use the unbudgeted funds. Vicky Kemp noted that Amy Jo will need money to purchase plants to

put in the plant beds around the new building. The consensus was that the funds should be added to our annual donation to the horticulture program since Amy Jo had to cancel the High Desert Garden Tour and subscriptions to the High Desert Newsletter are down because of the pandemic. Tim Schindele made a motion to give an additional \$5,000 to the horticulture program, for a total of \$7000, which was seconded by Rocky Bessette and approved by the board with no objections. Tim also noted that the annual budget cycle is approaching and he needs a committee to help him review the requests and develop the budget proposal. Tim explained what the committee work includes. Rocky Bessette and Bruce Dart volunteered to be on the committee. Tim will work out the details for meeting with the volunteers.

Membership Report

Jolene was absent and Nancy reported on membership numbers. We currently have 64 members and 28 trainees. There are 84 recertifying MGs so 20 people are recertifying who are not members of COMGA. Nancy also reported that Penny Pinson passed away in May; the obituary is available at the Bend funeral homes website: <https://www.bendfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/obituary-listings#1>. Nancy also reported that Evie Cox's father passed away in June. A list of all members is on the COMGA members' page. Street addresses are not on the website but if anyone wants an address, ask Nancy.

Quarterly Meeting

Liz Anderson reported that she spoke to Amy Jo at the plant sale about social gatherings like the annual BBQ. For now, all planning is paused, until we get more information from Amy Jo. Since the annual election was typically part of the BBQ until 2020, when we could not meet because of the pandemic, we will need to have a plan for the 2021 elections if we cannot meet in person.

OMGA Rep Report

Janet reported that mini-college is going forward July 16-17. OMGA is not getting the attendance numbers they had hoped to get, but all workshops are now full. Non-workshop classes are still available for anyone wanting to attend. More information is available at www.mastergardenerminicollege.org. Discussion followed on our policy of paying for mini-college tuition for the current MG of the Year, given that the last two MGs of the Year (Vickie Minor and Kathy Geary) could not attend since there was no mini-college in 2019 or 2020. The consensus was that people would prefer to attend the event in person and not via a zoom format. Tim will include this in the 2022 budget, so the previous two MGs of the Year can attend along with whoever is the current MG of the Year in 2021.

Community Education

Elizabeth was absent but reported earlier to Nancy that the June 7 vegetable webinar went well. There was no other report.

ACTION ITEMS:

Continued on page 7

LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD continued**G-Suite**

Implementation of G-Suite has been delayed for a variety of reasons, including the pandemic, getting through the first virtual spring seminar, the vegetable gardening webinars, and the plant sale. Now that things have calmed down, work is going to start on developing protocols for the platform. Nancy briefly described how G-Suite works and what the plan is for training and rolling it out. Volunteers working on the protocols include Nancy Glick, Jan Even, Vickie Minor, Janet Dart and if she is available, Nathalie Smith. The tentative roll out is with the new board, beginning January 1, 2022. Protocols will include guidance on what should be uploaded and stored, and how to use the public space. We will also look at including the Water-wise Garden database and the COMGA inventory.

2021 Project Review

KPOV was the project selected for review and Nancy is still looking for volunteers to work on the review committee. Carroll Minium and Marilyn Clark have volunteered to help. Nancy would like three more people on the committee so she will send another email asking for volunteers.

PROJECT STATUS REPORTS:**Hollinshead Garden**

Kirsten reported that the garden is doing great and there is nothing to report. Rocky suggested that Kirsten talk with JoAnne Abbott about writing the garden updates for the HoeDown. Kirsten will follow up.

Discovery Park Garden

Gary was absent and there was no report.

OSU Demo Garden

Karen Simonet reported that the vegetables that were planted are doing well and the pumpkins are starting to fill in. Because of the heat, transplanting could be on hold. The next work day has some vacancies so people are encouraged to sign up. The link to the Google Drive sign-up sheet is <https://drive.google.com/file/d/136UN9EGFVBjJXkSPITSwVdBTMQb5fRRQ/view>. Vicky Kemp will also send an email out with the link, so people can sign up over the weekend.

Plant Sale

Vicky Kemp reported that overall, the plant sale was a great success. Between December 2020 and March 2021, we did not have any firm guidance on whether we could proceed. We received approval March 7, 2021 and things were kicked into high gear. Perennials were purchased and transplanted during March. Direct seed sowing happened in May, along with transplanting later in the month. Pre-orders and payments started May 10 and continued through June 9. Plant pick-up was June 12 with a drive-through format for customers. Comments were extremely positive and people appreciated the organized and well-run nature of the sale. There were some lessons learned related to the number of plants, distribution of varieties and sources for plants we do not directly sow. Vicky shared that there were some stressful surprises with the tomato plant vendor, as plants were delivered that we did not order and plants we did order were never

delivered. Vicky had to find those plants elsewhere, as customers had already pre-ordered and paid for them. Going forward, Gail Hoagland, a former MG who owns Plainview Farms, said she would be willing to grow what we need. This would allow us to stay local while supporting a local business and former MG. There were also some problems with fairgrounds staff spraying near the greenhouse and the fence, which then drifted and negatively impacted on the plants that were being held outside.

Vicky thanked Nancy Glick for her work in getting the online processes set up and the volunteers who helped in the greenhouse, along with the 26 volunteers who helped the day of the plant sale setting up tables, carrying plants, managing customer check-in, filling orders, and assisting with add-on plants and associated payments. Unsold plants were donated to OSU Extension Service, SNAP Ed Program Manager, Katie Ahern. Total income was \$3775 (which does not include the row cover and soil thermometers sold online). Total expenses were \$1463, leaving net income at \$2312.

Water-wise Garden

Chris Miao reported that the garden looks fabulous and the plants are thriving despite the heat; many are in bloom. The first public event was held the last weekend in June – the Water-wise Field Day, done in conjunction with the City of Bend. A panel discussion was held in the barn; Amy Jo and Eileen Obermiller participated as panelists. 60 people registered and 35 were allowed in the barn. The event was well received and included an area outside the barn, where vendors had booths and tents. The MGs had a tent and approximately 30-35 people visited to ask questions and get information.

Open Forum

Nancy reported that the trowel awards for the first half of the project year, were submitted and approved. She will announce winners next month, to give the project coordinators time to make their presentations. Pins are in the President's in-box in the plant clinic office.

Nancy reported that the old plant clinic office is now being used by an OSU staff person, Kim. Our files and supplies are still in there but once we return to in-person plant clinics, we will be moved to a space in the new building.

Rocky asked that articles for the newsletter be sent to her by Saturday.

Nancy is not sure if we will be able to meet in person in August. She will follow up with Amy Jo and will let us know when things change.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Vickie Minor, Secretary

P
L
A
N
T



S
A
L
E



P
I
C
K



U
P
D
A
Y



Predatory Insects

by Toni Stephan

Hundreds of people enjoyed the OSU High Desert Garden Tours. At one of the homes we sighted some garden warriors helping to control insect pests. Most of you know some of these garden warriors like lady beetles, praying mantids and maybe green lacewings but do you know an ambush bug, a snakefly, a tachinid fly, braconid wasp or minute pirate bug? All of these and more are warriors against pests in your garden. They are part of the predatory and parasitoidal armies that feed on and lay eggs inside of many pest insects. Let's find out about a couple of these warriors I have mentioned.

On a rudbeckia, several ambush bugs laid in wait for a meal. One was already successful, its beak piercing deep into the abdomen of the fly it was feasting on. An ambush bug is a true bug. It is only about a half inch long and can be yellowish-green or brownish-tan with angled markings on its wings. It has very powerful forelegs built for grabbing and holding on to its prey. The mouth of a true bug is called a beak and acts somewhat like a syringe and needle, piercing the tissue of its prey and sucking the fluids out of it. This kills the prey insect. If ambush bugs have a bad side to them it is that they are not selective. They would just as soon feast on a honey bee as a fly.

I was moving some stems of a Shasta daisy when I noticed a very tiny dark speck on my hand. As I looked closer at it, I could see the black and white markings of a minute pirate bug. These predators of aphids, mites, thrips and insect eggs are tiny, only one-twelfth to one-fifth of an inch. They too are true bugs so they have that piercing-sucking mouth. The gardener usually doesn't even know that these soldiers are present. I took my little friend over to the homeowners to show them. They were excited to know their garden was attracting predators of pest insects. Another gentleman wanted to know how he could get these types of beneficial insects in his garden; did he have to buy them somewhere? No, I said, they will come naturally to your yard as long as there is food for them and their young. We have hundreds of predatory, parasitizing and pollinating insect species in Central Oregon. I shared that in order to attract these warriors to his garden he would have to tolerate some plant disfigurement, in other words, don't kill off all the prey pests such as aphids, mites, flies and caterpillars. Don't spray your garden with insecticides, then there will be food insects for the predators and host insects for parasitoid larvae. Really, about the only time we need to use an insecticide is when there is an exotic insect that has been imported to the area and there are no predatory or parasitoidal insects to keep them in check. Okay, those of you entering special flowers or a possible prize winning rose into fair may want to use an insecticide for those plants. Just remember, when insecticides are used, especially ones that kill off many types of insects, it always kills more beneficials than pest insects. Then, the pest insect population rebounds way faster than the good insects and you have an even worse problem than before. Try this, sit out in your garden some evening, take note

of all the activity going on, insects flying to and fro and insects moving swiftly over leaves. Most of the insects moving about quickly are beneficial, either pollinators, predators or parasitoids. They are constantly in search of food and habitat for themselves and their young. The pest insects, once they are on a plant have about everything they need so they don't have to be as busy. They just sit lazily on the plant and either suck out plant juices or chew the leaves or other plant parts.

Your garden is full of big and tiny warriors, if you give them the chance, they will take care of most of your garden pest problems.



PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Lisa Nakadate and Julie Hill

Featured Plant - Coreopsis *Coreopsis grandiflora*
'Jethro Tull'

Height: 10 - 24"
Spread: 12 - 15"
Flower: Golden yellow, light yellow, pink, red
Bloom time: July - September



Why Should I Plant Coreopsis in My Garden? •

Colorful and abundant flowers. • This plant adds a delicate element with loads of blooms. Also works well in containers or hanging baskets. • Good for beginners and low-maintenance gardens. • Generally deer resistant and drought tolerant once established.

Fun Facts •

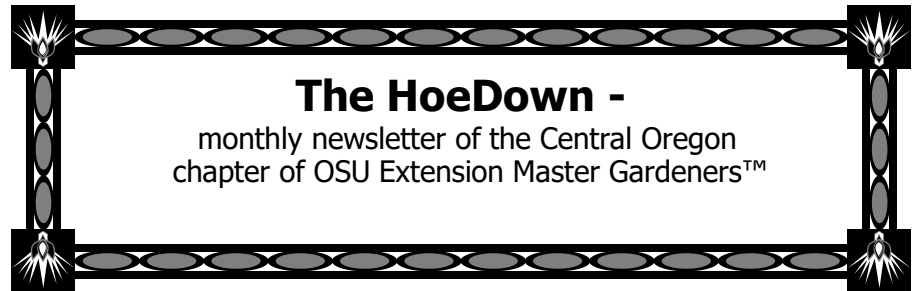
Also called Tickseed due to the resemblance of seeds to the insect. • Native Americans boiled the flowers into teas or dyes for fabrics. • The 100 or so species are native to North and South America. • it is the state wildflower of Florida and Mississippi.

Information Sources Water-wise Gardening in Central Oregon: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9136> University of Vermont Department of Plant and Soil Science: <http://pss.uvm.edu/pss123/percoreo.html> Monrovia: <https://plants.monrovia.com/search?w=coreopsis>

Central Oregon Chapter of OSU Extension Master Gardeners™
3800 SW Airport Way Bldg.#4
Redmond, OR 97756



Crook
Deschutes &
Jefferson Counties



“Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without discrimination based on age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran’s status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.”

