



MASTER
GARDENER



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The Chelan County Chapter - Serving the Chelan-Douglas Area

March 1998

Welcome to the start of the second year of this news letter. My thanks to all who have helped, as this is very new to me. Keep the articles and notes coming in.

Soon you will be raking the leaves from the flower beds, discovering how many volunteers have sprung up from last year's plants. Please remember that we can use "starter" plants at the farmers market; your fledglings can be set out in pots until our first market day, 13 June 1998.

And remember, too, that the Master Gardeners will have a plant exchange scheduled again for this year. Please set aside some of your surplus plants for this exchange. Time and place to follow.

Annual Meeting

Another reminder to all Master Gardeners. On the 4th of March 98, at 3 PM, the annual meeting of the chapter will be held at the MSC building. Following is the proposed slate of officers for the chapter new year.

President	Ken Bauer
Vice President	Judy Marts
Secretary	Verna Heinicke
Treasure	Vivian Sarles

Project meeting results

Project	Chair
Diagnosis	Judy Marts & Karen Cossey
Schools K-5	Kim Lasich
Farmers Market	Bonnie Orr
Home Page	Susan Peterson & Tiffany Stadler
Fairs (all 4)	Verna Heinicke, Gale Courtney & Ken Bauer
Make a Difference Day (all year)	Bonnie Orr & Ken Bauer
Memorial Park	Vivian Sarles
Phone Tree	Thelma Jahn
Ohme Gardens*	Ramona Cole
Arbor Day	Rachel Scown
City of Wenatchee	
1 Garden of month	John Manhart
2 Tree City USA	Ken Bauer
3 South entrance	Orv Vanderlin
Photography	Sam Bokma
Awards	Thelma Jahn
News letter	Ken Bauer & Gil Biles

* Ohme Gardens. We will take a small section and refurbish that area, under the guidance of the park manager

Insects

(continue from last month)

Common Pest

Aphids

Aphids are sucking insects with soft rounded bodies. They range from 1/2" to 1/8" long and their color may vary. They occur in clusters on buds or new foliage. Aphids suck sap, causing reduce growth or stunting of the plant. Feeding by some species may produce distorted leaves. Aphids secrete "honeydew" which gives the leaves a shiny appearance. A black sooty mold may grow on the honeydew. Dip, spray, alcohol swabbing, or washing can reduce infestation.

Fungus Gnats

Fungus gnats are slender, delicate, mosquito-like flies. The larval stage is small, active, thread-like white worm with a black head. The larvae live in damp soil and damage small roots. Plants may drop leaves and general lose vigor and color. Isolate infested plants. Insecticide sprays will kill adults. Allow soil to dry more between watering should help to control the larvae.

Mealybugs

Mealybugs are soft-bodied sucking insects that are covered with white, powdery wax filaments. They occur in leaf axils or branch crotches. Mealybugs suck plant sap and produce honeydew and produce symptoms like those from aphid infestations. Isolate infected plants and treat as for aphids.

Millipedes

Millipedes are worm-like hard-bodied creatures with 2 pair of legs on each body segment. They may coil in a circle when disturbed. They hide under boards, flower pots and other sheltered areas that are damp. Millipedes usually feed on organic matter, but may attack roots, tubers, bulbs, and other fleshy plant parts. Eliminate hiding places and use a bait containing (Seven) or direct spray of insecticidal soap control.

Cyclamen Mites

Cyclamen mites are microscopic and almost transparent that infest African Violets and Cyclamen. They usually occur in protected places tender growth. Leaves of the infested plants are twisted and brittle and may turn black. The buds are deformed and fail to open. Also, the flowers are deformed and may be streaked. Isolate infested plants and trim off or prune damaged parts. Hot water dipping may provide some control.

Spider Mites

Spider mites are very small and infestations may be overlooked until mites become very numerous or they begin to spin webbing on the plants. Mites remove sap from the plants, causing leaves to turn yellow and drop. Infested are stunted and unthrifty. Water sprays may be used to break up the webbing and reduce mite numbers. The plant foliage may be sprayed or dipped with insecticidal soaps. Be sure to treat the under side of the leaves. Treat at least two times, 10 days apart, to control newly-hatched mites. Eggs are not susceptible to insecticides.

Scales

Scales are stationary insects with shell-like coverings that protect their body. Some scales may be flat or convex, round, oval, or pear-shaped. Most are brown, but color can range from white to black. Scales produce honeydew, a substance that gives the leaves a shiny, sticky appearance. Sooty mold, a dark growth, may appear on the leaves of the infested plants. Plants infested with scales show poor growth or are stunted. Spray or dip the foliage with a soapy wash. Repeat the treatment in 3 weeks and at intervals as needed.

Slugs

Slugs are fleshy, slimy animals. They may be light brown or black. Slugs rasp leaves, stems, flowers, or roots. Slugs may produce holes in leaves or just scar the leaf surface. Silver slime trails appear where they have crawled over the surface. Slug baits containing metaldehyde may be used.