



Nymphaea 'Mangala Ubol' in the hospital.

Waterlily Hospitals Open

By Soni Forsman

My field hospitals for hardy waterlilies are open. Closed for three years due to no patients, two cultivars require treatment this year.

The hospitals are shallow containers of water sitting in full sun locations. Patients are hardy waterlilies that showed no signs of foliage growth this spring but the tubers visible at or near the tops of the pots were firm to the touch. Ideally, about three inches of water will cover the top of the barren lily pots. At this depth the water warms quickly and the tubers bask in the spring sun.

Once the waterlilies are in the hospitals all that is required of me is patience, lots of it. It takes a minimum of two weeks or up to six to see tiny new growth. And, even more time before that growth is large enough to divide out and start a new plant. Of course, an occasional pot of tubers will not put out new growth.

The patients are *Nymphaea* 'Clyde Ikins' and *N.* 'Mangala Ubol', both peach-in-color. As I write in mid-May, a tiny new pad is visible in a container of each. Showing new growth in two-plus

weeks is a sign they are responding.

Over the years, I've observed...

The waterlilies I admit to the hospitals are ALWAYS yellow or shades of yellow – orange to peach. But, NOT all yellows need care. I have NEVER admitted waterlilies in shades of white, red or pink.

If a variety needs help 'waking up' in the spring every pot of that variety requires the same. All containers of the above two cultivars are in the hospital now – three of one and two of the other. Several years ago, it was two different varieties. It makes no difference in which of my two water gardens they winter. Another tidbit, the same variety has never been in the hospital two consecutive springs.

I've thought about the winters - El Nino, normal or colder than normal. Water garden freezes early in the fall or ice goes out late in the spring. None of these factors seem to make any difference. This was an El Nino winter.

What's happening – parent to blame?

My best guess as to what causes one or two yellow/yellowish variety(s)

to suffer every few years is parentage. All yellow hardy waterlilies have the species *Nymphaea* 'Mexicana' in their background. This species is native to Mexico and now the southern United States. It is considered marginally hardy this far north. I've even heard it referred to as a tropical hardy waterlily.

Why do it?

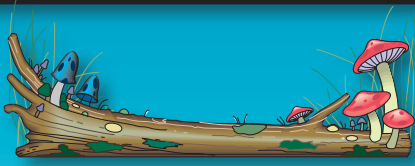
Why not? They dazzled me with their 'flower shows' last summer. And, when the varieties are drop-dead gorgeous, like the two this year, it is definitely worth the effort. I expect to have blooms this summer but probably not until August.

I could have purchased new plants,



Nymphaea 'Mangala Ubol' last summer.





~ Waterlog ~

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Waterlog Submissions

Contributions to the Waterlog are always welcome and strongly encouraged. Please submit any proposals to Content Editor Jan Schreier at mwgs@comcast.net or call 612 865 0440

Deadline for next issue is June 21, 2016.

The Minnesota Water Garden Society is a nonprofit organization. Our mission: to increase the enjoyment and enthusiasm for water gardening through promotion, education and shared experiences.

Reeds and Rushes

a letter from the editor

By Jan Schreier

Your editor still has her head under water (sometimes literally), and so it is another short and quick issue. We were not able to get information about the Arboretum Sale out to meet the deadline, but word has it that we held our own in plant sales, and were down substantially in fish sales. We made up for quite a bit with our abundance at the picnic. At least this time, no one can blame the weather. Fantastic weekends for both were welcomed by many who have braved cold and rainy in the past. I have been digging and dividing plants by the hundreds over the past several months. I counted 700 plus plants that I personally divided for the Arboretum sale, and with the help from a few fellow Master Gardeners, I also divided 1500 plants for their sale which just finished May 21st. I was babysitting the newly divided plants in our driveway, and they were looking great with only a week to go and some lovely weather for them to grow. And then it happened... My bunny buffet was open for business. It started with a few Lambs Ears, I noticed when I was watering. Hmmn, maybe that light frost we had the other day hit them. The next day, wiped out 30 or so plants. I sprayed. The really stinky stuff. That didn't stop them. Word was out on the block, and they were undeterred. By the time Thursday night rolled around, I was at wits end. I had lovingly divided, potted,

labelled and cared for these 1,500 plants for nearly 4 weeks and all my hard work was being wiped out by a few rodents! By now, I had dug up about 50 plants to replace the eaten ones and repotted them, but about another 100-200 were gone. I had sprayed 4 times over the weeks with two different stinky sprays. With only one night to go, I didn't have to worry about who had to sit in the shade, and which ones could handle the sun, so I gathered all the trays to the middle of the driveway. Yummy plants went in the middle. Ones they didn't like so much, like the large ornamental grasses when around the perimeter, and one more stinky spray did the trick. The only problem was, I had a driver coming on Friday morning to pick up my plants in their van and deliver them to the sales arena. They noticed the smell. At the sales arena, they noticed the smell too. I was the one with the "smelly plants", but at least, I still had plants. Maybe my bunnies were suffering from a nasal problem, and couldn't smell my smelly spray. Whatever, they have been brutal both through the winter and now in the spring. Anyone know of a rental pack of coyotes or foxes that I can host for a few weeks? How about a few owls? One way or another, these bunnies and I must come to a truce, because one of us is not going to make it through this growing season... ✂



President's Pad

By Gary DeGrande

As I write this, the tug of the beautiful weather outside as well as a number of nagging garden tasks are pulling me away from the computer, so I will try to keep this short.

Those of you who missed out on the Microbelift Discount offer may want to read the article on the subject in this issue. This was the first time we have tried something like this and the savings and convenience of delivery were significant. The Board was happy to provide this benefit of being a member of MWGS.


Another benefit of being a member of MWGS was the picnic/auction held May 15. I don't recall ever seeing such a large array of plants available at this event. In particular, there was a lot of quality, named varieties of water lilies at amazingly low prices. There were so many choices available that we ended up giving away plants by the end of the day! Special thanks to all MWGS members who donated plants and food to this fun day.

Thanks also to the many volunteers who helped with MWGS participation in the Arboretum Sale and the MWGS Information Table at the Friends School Plant sale. The Board is now evaluating the results and will be discussing options of where to hold our sale in the future. Those of you who attend the Friends School Plant sale at the MN State Fairgrounds are aware of the success of

this event in attracting a large number of attendees. It seems that there was a disappointing turnout at the Arb Sale this year.

The MWGS Tour is now set, with 13 gorgeous sites, most of which are brand new to the Tour (see article later in this issue). Tour coordinators Marla Davenport and Pauline Danielson deserve our praise and thanks for working so hard on finalizing the Tour. Let them know it when you see them. Now that the sites are finalized, we can move on to the next phase of raising awareness of the Tour and encouraging attendance. I continue to be amazed at the number of fellow gardeners who are not aware of MWGS and the Tour. YOU can help. Tell your friends. Spread the word to your local garden clubs. Hand out the "Save The Date" flyers. Use social media to promote the Tour. We can use help with advertising in any way you can.

I am looking forward to our June 12 meeting. Local author Rhonda Fleming Hayes will review her new book, "Pollinator Friendly Gardening". Perhaps you caught the informative March 27 Mpls Star Tribune article interviewing Rhonda. Rhonda recently gave a similar presentation at the Arboretum at a cost of \$22 per person and we get to hear her for free!

Now time to put on my waders... 

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"The MWGS Tour is now set, with 13 gorgeous sites, most of which are brand new to the Tour"

Member ponds on our website – check it out!



UNDER CURRENT

OFFICIAL MINUTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MWGS BOARD MEETING April 28th, 2016

Board Meetings are always open to all MWGS members. The Board met on Thursday, April 28th, 2016 at President Gary DeGrande's home. All Board members were present: President Gary DeGrande, Vice President Ken Ellis, Treasurer Marv Platt, Secretary Lee Strong and Board Members Star Platt, Pauline Danielson, Marla Davenport, Marty Barke, Bill and Dottie Lindblade, Jim and Geri Claytor. MWGS member Steve Hedberg, owner of Hedberg Supply, joined the meeting midway.

President Gary DeGrande called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

POND TOUR

Pauline and Marla updated the group on the Pond Tour. Major progress has been made since last meeting when only three sites were confirmed. 11 sites are now confirmed with two more pending.

A map of the Tour sites was distributed. (Post meeting: 13 sites have been confirmed.)

Jim Claytor reviewed plans for the Bus Tour.

MWGS WEBSITE

Marla updated the Board on her progress on taking over responsibility for the MWGS website. She has been able to make improvements to the website and is trying to adapt it for use by smaller devices, eg mobile phones. Unfortunately, an offer by another MWGS member to assist with this complicated task fell through. Marla is considering switching to a different system that she is more familiar with. The Board emphasized the need to have the website functional by June 1st so the site can be tested prior to Tour time. Gary suggested that all Board members look at the website and contact Marla with any issues they have on their electronic devices. (Post meeting: Based on input from Board member Lee Strong, Marla discovered and corrected a format problem that corrected a problem with

some computers unable to read all the website info.)

RESPONSE TO DISCOUNTED MICROBELIFT OFFER

Gary reported that 20 members took advantage of the discounted "dealer pricing" offered by Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center on all Microbelift products. Gary consolidated all the orders into one total order for \$2364. Several Microbelift products were ordered; the majority of the orders were for Microbelift PL and Microbelift Liquid Sludge Away. The savings from retail pricing was estimated at over \$1600. Gary will propose to Waterlog editor Jan Schreier an article in the upcoming issue with details. The Board hoped that the success of this new venture will allow continued cooperation with Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center in the future on discounts for Microbelift products.

RESULTS OF RECENT SURVEY

Gary passed out the detailed results of the survey conducted last March in cooperation with Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center. Gary will prepare a summary of the results and submit to Waterlog Editor Jan Schreier for inclusion in the next issue of the Waterlog.

VENDOR SUPPORT OF MWGS

The Board was delighted to have MWGS member Steve Hedberg, owner of Hedberg Supply, join us to discuss issues regarding MWGS interaction with vendors. Gary explained that the policy of MWGS is that we do not endorse any particular vendor or product but that we are interested in doing whatever benefits our membership. The Board will review any proposal from any vendor on product discounts such as the recent offer from Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center, which was of particular interest given that Microbelift products were preferred by the majority of responders in a recent survey of MWGS members. Steve proposed that Hedberg Supply offer special pricing on Aquascape products to MWGS members, perhaps as a fundraiser with MWGS. (Hedberg Supply does not

sell Microbelift products). The Board responded positively to this generous offer and told Steve they will be happy to review the details when they are available. Steve also inquired about what other opportunities there may be for Hedberg Supply to work with MWGS in a cooperative manner. Gary proposed that Hedberg Supply consider becoming exclusive sponsor of the Tour, at a cost of \$2500. Such sponsorship would include prominent display of Hedberg Supply on all Tour literature, Tour advertising, Tour signage and at all Tour sites. Hedberg Supply would also be able to provide their own marketing materials at all Tour sites and have promotional product sales such as a bubbling rock kit. The Board emphasized that there would still be exhibitors at selected sites, eg Cook Water Farms has been an exhibitor at the Tour for many years, selling water plants, and would be offered this opportunity again. Steve responded positively to becoming Tour sponsor and said that he would review it with his team and respond soon. The Board thanked Steve for taking the time to meet with us.

(Post meeting: Steve emailed a detailed proposal to become Tour sponsor. A separate Board meeting has been scheduled for May 15th to discuss it.)

ARBORETUM SALE

Marty reviewed plans for the Arboretum sale on Mothers Day weekend. Many MWGS members have volunteered to help; there was an abundance of volunteers for Friday, although there was a lack of volunteers for Sunday. The Board suggested that Marty contact the volunteers to see if they would change from Friday to Sunday. Several Board members who had volunteered for the Arb sale instead switched to volunteering at the Friends School sale (see below). Lee Strong kindly volunteered to transport left over plants from the Arb Sale to the MWGS picnic May 15.

FRIENDS SCHOOL SALE

Gary reviewed plans for the first ever presence of MWGS at the Friends



School Sale to be held at the MN State Fairgrounds May 6, 7 and 8, with setup on May 5. A table and tent/awning will be used. The purpose of the MWGS presence there is to raise awareness of MWGS, especially of the Pond Tour, and also to encourage MWGS membership. No sales will be made of water garden products. Two MWGS members who had volunteered to be at the MWGS table had to cancel, so Gary asked for help. Geri and Jim Claytor, Marla Davenport and Lee Strong kindly volunteered.

MWGS STATE FAIR SITE

Ken Ellis and Lee Strong reviewed plans for the annual spring clean up and start up of the MWGS State Fair site. Start up is planned for May 11. Marla agreed to contact the appropriate State Fair personnel to ensure water and electricity is turned on. A call for volunteers will be made at the MWGS picnic/auction for the clean up planned for Saturday, May 21.

MWGS PICNIC/AUCTION

Marv and Star Platt reviewed plans for the picnic.

LOGO MERCHANDISE

Star suggested and the Board unanimously approved a simple tee shirt design (MWGS logo on a white tee shirt) for use by Tour monitors and for sale to Tour goers. Cost is \$10. Sale price has not yet been decided. MWGS member Nancy Pinke kindly offered to provide a unique, creative design as well, but the Board felt that this would entail additional cost, so the idea was tabled for now. It's also not clear whether there is real interest in buying the tee shirt. Ken Ellis moved that the tee shirts be provided free to Tour monitors; total cost to MWGS would be about \$500. There was considerable discussion whether approving this cost would violate our pledge to a balanced budget this year. In spite of this, the motion carried, with one "no" vote. (Post Meeting: Additional discussion within the Board has suggested that we ask Tour Monitors to pay a minimal cost, just to ensure that there is a real desire for the tee shirt to be used, similar to the minimum cost we ask for Pond Parties to ensure a real head count. This idea will be discussed at the next Board meeting.)

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

There was unanimous support for moving to a "last name, first name(s)" format for the Membership Directory. Gary agreed to contact Warren Mosier at Cornerstone Copy to make the change.

Gary adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the home of Gary De Grande on Thursday, June 2nd, 2016 from 7 – 9 PM.

OFFICIAL MINUTES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SPECIAL MWGS BOARD MEETING

May 15, 2016

A special meeting of the Board was held on May 15, 2016 at Roseville Central Park, prior to the picnic. Board members present were: President Gary DeGrande, Vice President Ken Ellis, Treasurer Marv Platt, Secretary Lee Strong and Board Members Star Platt, Marty Barke, Bill and Dottie Lindblade and Jim and Geri Claytor. Board members Pauline Danielson and Marla Davenport were unable to attend.

President Gary DeGrande called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM

The purpose of the meeting was to review a proposal from Steve Hedberg, owner of Hedberg Supply, offering to be official sponsor of the 2016 Tour. The Board unanimously approved the proposal with a few clarifications:

1. Hedberg Supply will be the official sponsor of the 2016 Tour.
2. MWGS will promote Hedberg supply as 2016 Tour sponsor on all literature, advertising and at all pond sites. Hedberg Supply will provide marketing materials at all pond sites, including whatever sales promotions, eg bubbling rock kits, Hedberg Supply wishes. It was suggested that Hedberg Supply provide a separate display for each site since table space is limited. Hedberg Supply is welcome to sell items at Tour sites also, although MWGS asked that Hedberg Supply staff be on hand to do so.
3. MWGS agrees to add "Sponsored by Hedberg Supply" to all signage that

is used to direct Tour goers to the sites, although it was stipulated that Hedberg Supply provide a separate sign to put next to the MWGS sign, due to limited space on existing Tour signage.

3. MWGS will promote Hedberg Supply pond seminars via direct email(s) to all MWGS members, with details provided by Hedberg Supply. MWGS will also promote Hedberg Supply seminars in the MWGS newsletter, The Waterlog, but since Waterlog space is limited, MWGS suggested that a direct email would allow more detail to be communicated and be more effective.

4. MWGS will do a fall fundraiser and product promotion with Hedberg Supply with details to be worked out at that time. MWGS envisions a direct email to all members and promotion at monthly meetings.

5. Hedberg Supply will promote the MWGS Tour and promote MWGS membership by displaying MWGS literature at all three Hedberg Supply sites. MWGS requested Hedberg Supply to further promote MWGS by encouraging water garden contractors to provide MWGS literature to their clients.

6. As mentioned to Steve Hedberg at the April 28th Board meeting, Tour sponsorship by Hedberg Supply does not preclude other vendors being exhibitors at the Tour. For example, Cook Water Farms is a long standing Tour exhibitor and will be offered the opportunity again this year.

7. MWGS requested that the payment of \$2000 be provided as soon as possible, prior to the printing of Tour materials planned for the week of May 23.

Gary De Grande agreed to contact Steve Hedberg with these clarifications on Monday, May 16.

(Post Meeting: Steve Hedberg approved the clarifications above and a meeting has been set up with Hedberg Supply personnel to sort out the details.)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM 🌸



Welcome

On Membership Pond

By Geri Claytor

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION UPDATE:

As of April 17, 2016 we had a total of 343 members with 197 paid household memberships; for the period of April 17, 2016 through May 13, 2016 we gained 5 members with 3 households because of new memberships and renewals and we lost 0 members with 0 household because of non-renewal/non-payment. As May 13, 2016 we have 348 members with 200 paid household memberships.



Please send Memberships/
Renewals along with your check for
\$35.00 to:

MWGS MEMBERSHIP

c/o Geri Claytor
15496 Dresden Trail
Apple Valley MN 55124

Or payment can now be made
on our MWGS Website under Join
Today Tab, click on Membership, at
the bottom of the page click on Pay
Online.

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Please check out the emails we
send you with the upcoming events
or information. Also I send out
Membership reminders via email. ✨

Member Spotlight: Your Name Here

If you have enjoyed reading the Member Spotlight in past issues and would like to see it back, I need your help. Let's get to know you. Everyone thinks that their story isn't interesting enough but that's not true. I will help you with that. Doesn't it make sense that others would like to get to know you too or maybe talk to you at a meeting because maybe you have more in common than you think? I send you some questions which you simply answer. You don't have to worry about grammar or spelling, someone else checks that, not me. So please contact me, sooner than later so we can have the Member Spotlight back in the Waterlog. Getting to know each other is the fun part for me. We are not just an educational group we are also a social group and by taking the time to do this, you are doing your part.

I look forward to talking to you.

Oralee Kirk
ok@usinternet.com
763-566-7686 ✨

Privacy Information: Please note that membership information may be used ONLY by members of MWGS for personal, non-business networking purposes. Use of this information for sales or business solicitations or the like, by or for commercial entities or interests is strictly prohibited. Use of member's addresses for the purpose of mailing sales or business solicitations through the US Postal service is prohibited unless previously approved in writing by the MWGS and the member has not requested his/her address be deleted from the mailing list. The MWGS Board reserves the right to telephone, mail or e-mail solicitations that are deemed necessary for the operation of the MWGS. ✨

Café Corner

By Star Platt

Oh My Gosh! The food we had at our picnic! There was so much, I had to put in more tables to put it all on. Everything was so delicious I hope everyone had a good time. These appetizers definitely will be the biggest hit at your next party! This is such an easy appetizer to make and it tastes just like the jalapeno poppers. The hardest part of this recipe is not eating it all by yourself! Serve with sliced sourdough baguettes, tortilla chips or crackers.



HOSPITALS continued from page 1

and I have, but within a spring or two or three it is the same all over again. I've come to accept that this is just what occasionally happens with some varieties of yellowish hardy waterlilies in my water gardens. So, why buy new when I can revive the old?

Among my 'yellow' waterlilies that never need any special care in the spring are N. 'Chromatella,' N. Helvola,' N. 'Pink Grapefruit,' N. 'Charlene Strawn,' N. 'Comanche' and N. 'Little Sue.' ✨

JALAPENO POPPER SPREAD

INGREDIENTS

- 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 (4 ounce) can chopped green chilies, drained
- 2 ounces canned diced jalapeno peppers, drained
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese

DIRECTIONS

1. Stir together cream cheese and mayonnaise in a large bowl until smooth. Stir in green chiles and jalapeno peppers. Pour mixture into a microwave safe serving dish, and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.
2. Microwave on High until hot, about 3 minutes.

MARINATED GRILLED SHRIMP

A very simple and easy marinade that makes your shrimp so yummy you don't even need cocktail sauce! Don't let the cayenne pepper scare you, you don't even taste it. The kids will eat more shrimp than their parents! It is a big hit with company, and easy to prepare. I make this with frozen or fresh shrimp and use my indoor electric grill if the weather is not good for outside grilling. Try it with a salad, baked potato, and garlic bread. You will not be disappointed!!

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup tomato sauce
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 pounds fresh shrimp, peeled and deveined
- skewers

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large bowl, stir together the garlic, olive oil, tomato sauce, and red wine vinegar. Season with basil, salt, and cayenne pepper. Add shrimp to the bowl, and stir until evenly coated. Cover, and refrigerate for 30 minutes to 1 hour, stirring once or twice.
2. Preheat grill for medium heat. Thread shrimp onto skewers, piercing once near the tail and once near the head. Discard marinade.
3. Lightly oil grill grate. Cook shrimp on preheated grill for 2 to 3 minutes per side, or until opaque. ✨



Nymphaea 'Clyde Ikins' in 2015.



A tiny pad just visible above the top-dressing gravel and dormant tubers.



Response to Offer to Purchase Microbelift Products at a Discount

By Gary De Grande

Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center generously offered “dealer pricing” (40% below retail) on all Microbelift products to MWGS members at our April 10th General Meeting and also via an email blast to all MWGS members. 20 members took advantage of this opportunity, sending their individual orders to me by April 25th. I consolidated all the individual orders into one total order of \$2364 of Microbelift products. The products were ordered on April 30, picked up at Mustard Seed and delivered at the May 15th MWGS picnic. Mustard Seed and Ecological Laboratories kindly provided all products, even though some items were well below the minimum amount of a normal dealer order. One item had been discontinued but Mustard Seed kindly provided a substitute Aquascape product. Overall, the process went very smoothly and the savings were significant....an estimated \$1600 off retail pricing! It was interesting to note that the majority of the order was for Microbelift PL (20 one gallon containers) and Microbelift Liquid Sludge Away (10 one gallon containers). Each of these products list for over \$80 retail but we were able to purchase each for \$47.97. Many thanks to Mark Halla of Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center for approaching us with this unique opportunity. The success of this new endeavor may result in another offering this fall, so stay tuned! ✂

Results of Survey of MWGS Members March 2016

By Gary De Grande

Those of you who attended our General Meeting March 13 will recall that a survey was conducted in cooperation with Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center. There was a follow up email to all members to also encourage participation. Overall participation was relatively limited, with a total of 54 respondents, the vast majority being those who were at the March meeting. It's hard to know whether the results reflect the consensus of our total membership of over 300, but the results are interesting nonetheless. In particular, responses to the question “Are you brand loyal to the products you use in your water garden?” showed that the majority are brand loyal to Microbelift products, with Aquascape coming in second. Responses to the question “Where do you shop for your products?” showed the majority shop at Independent Garden Centers, with online purchase coming in second

and only a minority shopping at “Mass Merchants”. Responses to the question “Is there a product you can't live without?” listed algae control as the primary concern, with Microbelift supplying the preferred products. “Fish of Choice” were a tie between Koi and Goldfish. “Favorite Pond Plants” were first water lilies, then Lotus and after that Water Hyacinth. The “Mosaic Plant” was nearly tied with Water Hyacinth as a preferred plant. As you might expect from an “open ended” survey, rather than “multiple choice”, there was a wide variety of responses to all the questions. Many thanks to all of you who participated in the survey. Those who did respond were given 40% off the entire inventory of pond care products at Mustard Seed Landscaping and Garden Center until April 30, 2016. I know I took advantage of this generous offer!! ✂



MWGS Picnic a Huge Success

Thanks to an overabundance of fantastic donations to the Arboretum Sale, and other members bringing auction items and other great plants and pond products to the picnic, we had record sales. Of course, it helps to also have had really fantastic weather. Geri and Marv report sales of \$2,561 which is almost twice what we sold last year (\$1,981). A special Arboretum/Picnic sales and thank you will be in the next Waterlog, as it did not make this month's deadline. The breakdown of sales is as follows:

- Waterlilies \$478.00
- Lotus Plants \$111.00
- Rest of Plants \$777.50
- Fish \$838.00
- Misc. Items \$117.50
- Auction Items \$143.00
- Microbelift \$ 96.00
- Totals Sales \$2,561.00

Food was overflowing and delicious, company and weather was fantastic, plants and fish were plentiful. A great time was had by all who attended. For those who missed it, here are some photos to enjoy. 🌸



Sawflies of Trees and Shrubs

This is the time to be on the lookout for sawfly caterpillars which can quickly defoliate conifers. This article is reprinted from the University of Minnesota Extension website at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/insects/find/sawflies/> by Robert P. Wawrzynski



Figure 1: Caterpillar showing prolegs.

Sawflies are a group of insects related to wasps and bees. Their name is derived from the saw-like ovipositor the adult female uses to lay eggs. Adult sawflies are inconspicuous wasp-like insects that do not sting. The larval or immature stage of sawflies are plant feeders and look like hairless caterpillars (the immature stage of butterflies and moths). The most distinguishing character between sawflies and caterpillars is the number of prolegs (fleshy, leg-like projections) on the abdomen. Caterpillars have 2-5 prolegs on the abdomen (Fig. 1), while sawflies have 6 or more. Sawflies often feed in groups and can quickly defoliate portions of their host plant. There are many different species of sawflies and each prefers specific plants or groups of related plants. Some of the more common sawflies that feed on trees and shrubs in Minnesota are described in this publication.

Evergreen plants

European pine sawfly, *Neodiprion sertifer*



Figure 2: European pine sawflies on mugo pine.

Appearance

Larvae are gray-green with a black head and legs. They have a single, light longitudinal stripe down the back, two light green stripes and one dark green or black stripe on each side, and are 18-25 mm (3/4 - 1") when full grown.

Hosts

Mugo, Scot's, red, and jack pines are preferred; eastern white, Austrian, and ponderosa pines may also be fed on if they occur near a preferred host.

Damage

Larvae feed in groups on the previous year's needles and eat all previous-season needles on a single branch before moving to another branch to continue feeding. They will vacate a tree for a new host once all previous-season needles have been eaten. Larvae never eat new needles, but may feed on the bark of new shoots. European pine sawfly seldom kills trees since new foliage is never eaten; however, repeated defoliations can slow growth. Feeding on bark of new shoots may cause twig mortality but it is rarely serious.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as eggs in the previous season's needles. Larvae begin feeding around mid-May and continue through June. After feeding, larvae pupate in the soil or on the tree and adults begin appearing in early September through late fall. Adults lay eggs in the current season's needles near the ends of branches where they overwinter. There is one generation per year.

Introduced pine sawfly, *Diprion similis*



Figure 3: Introduced pine sawfly

Appearance

Larvae have black heads, a yellow-green body with a black double stripe and many yellow and black spots; they are 20-25 mm (3/4 - 1") when full grown.

Hosts

White pine is preferred, but they will also feed on Scot's, jack, and red pines.

Damage

First generation larvae eat the previous year's needles; second generation larvae feed on both new and old needles. Young larvae feed in groups and eat only the outer, tender parts of the needle while older larvae feed singly and eat entire needles and bark if foliage is absent. Defoliation is usually most severe in the upper half of trees, but entire trees can be defoliated if populations are high.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. First generation larvae begin feeding from late May/ early June to early July; second generation larvae feed from late July through early September.

Redheaded pine sawfly, *Neodiprion lecontei*



Figure 4: Redheaded pine sawflies.

Appearance

Full-grown larvae have reddish brown heads and yellow bodies, with six rows of irregular black spots and are 20-30 mm (3/4 - 1") long.

Hosts

Many species of pines; however, red and jack pines that are less than 15 feet tall are preferred.



Damage

Larvae feed in groups and can completely defoliate a tree from the top down. Young trees are preferred and stressed trees are especially vulnerable to damage.

Life history and habits

Winter is spent as a pupa in the soil. First generation larvae feed between mid-June and late July; second generation larvae feed between mid-August and late September.

White pine sawfly, *Neodiprion pinetum*



Figure 5: White pine sawfly.

Appearance

Larvae are pale yellow with black heads and have four rows of black spots from the head to their posterior end; they are about 25 mm (1") when full grown.

Hosts

Eastern white pine is preferred, but they will also feed on red pine.

Damage

Larvae feed in groups on both new and old needles, generally defoliating one branch before moving to another. Larvae attack trees of all sizes and because they feed on both new and old needles, trees can be completely defoliated.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Adult females lay eggs in needles in the spring. Larvae feed from late June to early August. After feeding, larvae drop to the ground and pupate. There is usually one generation per year.

Larch sawfly, *Pristiphora erichsonii*



Figure 6: Larch sawflies.

Appearance

Larvae have black heads, gray-green bodies with white undersides, and are

16 mm (1/2") long when full grown.

Hosts

Tamarack and various larch species.

Damage

Adult egg-laying activity in new shoots can cause shoots to become curved or curled as they grow. These curved shoots are an indicator of impending larval feeding. Larvae feed in groups on tufts of needles found on short shoots of older twigs. Because larvae don't feed on the single needles of elongating shoots, 100% defoliation seldom takes place. Trees usually refoliate but repeated, heavy feeding can cause thin foliage and reduced growth.

Life history and habits

Winter is spent in the soil as a prepupa. Adults emerge and lay eggs on currently elongating shoots on branches. Larvae then move to feed on tufts of needles (beginning around early June) found on short shoots of older twigs; they feed for about three weeks. All stages of this insect may be found at once due to the long period of emergence by the adults; larval feeding may continue into September. There is one generation per year.

Yellowheaded spruce sawfly, *Pikonema alaskensis*



Figure 7: Yellowheaded spruce sawfly and damage.

Appearance

Full-grown larvae have yellow or reddish brown heads and olive-green bodies with six gray-green stripes. They are 18 mm (3/4") in length.

Hosts

Isolated white, black, and blue spruce such as those found in most landscapes are preferred.

Damage

Larvae prefer new needles, but older larvae will eat previous season's needles when new foliage is scarce. Three or four years of consecutive defoliations can kill a tree.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Adult females deposit eggs in the

current year's needles and larvae appear and begin feeding in late May to mid-June; larvae feed from four to six weeks and complete development by late July. There is one generation per year. Yellowheaded spruce sawfly should not be confused with the spruce budworm caterpillar that also feeds on white spruce in the spring. Spruce budworm occurs very early in the spring feeding on newly emerging foliage. Webbed foliage is also common with spruce budworm.

Deciduous plants

Blackheaded ash sawfly, *Tethida cordigera*

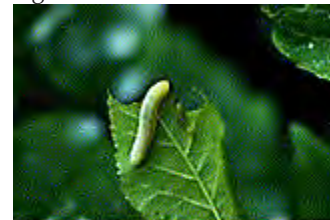


Figure 8: Blackheaded ash sawflies and damage.

Brownheaded ash sawfly, *Tomostethus multicinctus*

Appearance

Blackheaded larvae have black heads and legs, are white/yellow and about 18 mm (3/4") when full grown. Brownheaded larvae are green/yellow-white, have a brown head capsule, and are 14-20 mm (1/2 - 3/4") in length.

Hosts

Ash.

Damage

Larvae are voracious feeders. They consume entire leaves, and heavily infested trees may be completely defoliated in a very short time.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Adults emerge, lay eggs in leaves, and larvae begin feeding in early May through June. There is one generation per year.

Dusky birch sawfly, *Croesus latitarsus*





Figure 9: Dusky birch sawflies.

Appearance

Larvae are yellow-green with black blotches on their sides and have a black head; they are about 24 mm (1") long when full grown.

Hosts

Birch.

Damage

Larvae feed in groups around the edges of leaves. Heavy defoliation by this insect is rare.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. First generation larvae feed from May to early July. A second, overlapping generation may occur and feed through September.

Mountain ash sawfly, *Pristiphora geniculata*



Figure 10: Mountain ash sawflies

Appearance

Larvae are a pale green-yellow with black spots and 16-20 mm (1/2 - 3/4") long when full grown. The head may be either black or orange.

Hosts

Mountain ash.

Damage

Larvae feed in groups and eat entire

leaves, leaving only the mid-veins. They defoliate an entire branch before moving to another. Trees usually survive even when completely defoliated. However, repeated heavy defoliations will reduce tree vitality and could cause death.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Adults emerge to lay eggs over about a 6 week period beginning around early June. First generation larvae are active from mid-June through early August. Second generation larvae are usually found in late August or September.

Willow sawfly, *Nematus ventralis*



Figure 11: Willow sawfly.

Appearance

Larvae are black or greenish black with large yellow spots along their sides. They have black heads and are 18 mm (3/4") when full grown.

Hosts

Willow and to a lesser extent poplar.

Damage

Larvae feed in groups, initially eating small holes in leaves and eventually consuming entire leaves. Occasionally, heavy defoliation takes place, but this is uncommon.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Larvae first appear in May and feed through June. A second generation occurs in July, feeding until the end of the summer. Willow sawfly may be confused with the imported willow leaf beetle which also defoliates willows (see Leaf Beetles in Urban Landscapes).

Pear sawfly (pear slug), *Caliroa cerasi*



Figure 12: Pear sawflies and damage.

Appearance

Larvae are slimy and slug-like, and shiny olive green in color. They are 12

mm (1/2") when full grown.

Hosts

Plum, cherry, cotoneaster, pear, mountain ash, and hawthorn.

Damage

Larvae feed on the upper leaf surface, leaving only the leaf veins. Heavy defoliation gives the tree a scorched appearance and leaves may drop prematurely. Severe defoliation can adversely affect tree health.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Larvae begin appearing in early June and feed for about 1 month, then drop to the soil to pupate. A second generation can begin in early August.

Roseslug sawfly, *Endelomyia aethiops*



Figure 13: Roseslug sawfly.

Appearance

Larvae are light green with orange heads and are about 13 mm (1/2 ") when full grown.

Hosts

Rose.

Damage

Larvae feed on the upper leaf surface, leaving only the leaf veins. Populations of this insect are generally low, so severe defoliation is rare.

Life history and habits

Overwinter as prepupae in the soil. Adults emerge, lay eggs in the leaves, and larvae appear and feed from mid-May through June. There is one generation per year.

Management

It is important to regularly inspect plants that you suspect may encounter sawfly damage. Early detection of a sawfly population will allow for easier control and reduced damage to the host plant. The average dates listed in this publication for sawfly occurrence should be used as guides for determining when to begin looking for a particular sawfly species. However, variation will occur from season to season so adjustments may be necessary. The decision of whether to attempt control for a sawfly population will depend on the following



- consider all factors before making a final decision.

Plant condition: Healthy, mature plants are better able to withstand defoliation damage from sawflies. Plants that are newly planted/transplanted or that are in poor health have the potential to suffer more severe injury.

Sawfly population: The size and distribution of the sawfly population will also aid in determining if control measures should be taken. Large, widespread populations have the potential to produce more severe defoliation. Smaller, more restricted populations (i.e. sawflies occurring on only a single branch) are less threatening and should be monitored to determine if damage is increasing or remaining static.

Sawfly age: Treatments should be attempted only if sawflies are 1/2 full-grown size or less. If sawflies are full grown, treatment is not necessary since they are finishing or have finished feeding; most damage to the plant has already taken place by this time.

Time of year: For deciduous plants, late season defoliations (i.e. late August - September) usually have little effect on tree health, as the plant will not try to produce new leaves and it has stored most of the reserves it needs for the following season. Defoliations at other times of the year may present problems for health and/or aesthetic reasons. Evergreen plants typically keep their needles for several years (depending on species) so defoliation time may be less important here as anytime of the year could produce health-threatening damage.

Sawfly species: Severity of defoliation will vary depending on the life history and habits (i.e. number of generations, feeding on new or old growth, etc.) of the specific sawfly species in question. The individual descriptions in this publication should aid in determining the defoliation potential.

Host: Because most evergreens keep their needles for several seasons, losing some or all of their needles in one year may present problems in future seasons. For this reason, in general, defoliation on evergreens should be taken more seriously than on deciduous plants.

If it is determined that control

measures are needed, use the following as a guide for selecting the best method:

Mechanical control: Examples here include methods such as hand picking larvae from plants, physically dislodging them by using forceful water sprays, or other means of nonchemical control. Population size and distribution will determine the effectiveness or suitability of the chosen method.

Biorational insecticides: Insecticidal soap-best for low populations of young larvae. A note here -*Bacillus thuringiensis* (BT) will not control sawflies. Strains of this biological insecticide are effective against various caterpillar pests (larvae of butterflies and moths), but will not control sawfly larvae.

Conventional insecticides: Any of the insecticides listed in Table 1 will provide good control of sawflies. These products should be considered only after all other management tactics have been explored.

If it is determined that chemical control measures are needed, they should be directed toward the young larvae. Young larvae are much more susceptible to chemical applications than larger, more mature larvae. This is especially true when using biorational products such as insecticidal soap. If larvae are nearly full grown, control measures should not be attempted as chemicals will not be as effective, and most of the damage that the plant will sustain has already been done. Finally, because sawflies often feed in groups, chemical applications should be directed only to the areas they are feeding on; entire tree sprays are unnecessary unless populations are wide-spread throughout the plant. A list of some insecticide options for sawfly control is given below.

A final note on control. The best control for sawflies or any other pests is preventive measures related to plant health. Correct plant selection, proper site selection when planting, and then continued recommended cultural care will ensure that plants are in excellent health. The better condition a plant is in, the more damage it can tolerate without affecting its health status.

Some insecticide options for sawfly control:

acephate (Orthene)

bifenthrin
carbaryl (Sevin)
insecticidal soap (M-Pede)
malathion (Malathion)
permethrin

Read all directions carefully before buying insecticides and again before applying them. Be sure the insecticide you plan to use is labeled for the plant you are treating or if the product is generally labeled for trees and shrubs, that the label does not exclude the plant. Information on the label should be used as the final authority. ✂





IT'S POND PARTY TIME.

Look at all the Pond Party times lined up. Now we need people signed up to attend. Come and meet you fellow ponders, get some new ideas or enjoy someone else's hard work.

We welcome you to bring future pond members for free. Just contact, me, Timm Weiss and send your \$5.00 commitment fee. (Not committing me, just confirming that you will show up). Checks made out to MWGS. The money collected goes directly to the Hosts to offset the cost of any treats or beverages. You could even tell us to eat before coming if you only want to put out water bottles. We are simply looking for a way to get to know more people from MWGS. There's limited space at all of them so reserve you place ASAP.

We are also looking for parties this fall. We chose to move past August. We figured there is the bus tour, pond tour, pond meeting and State Fair all just a few weeks apart. Think about it and give Timm a call to plan when, where and what. He and his lovely wife, will help you the details.

Check your calendar so you can come to the following

Wednesday June 22, 2016 around 5:00 pm, (Again it is okay to come later, after traffic but before dark).

Dave and Nancy Pinke (Room for 14 more people)

8151 255th St. E.
Elko, MN 55020
952-435-3428

Sunday, July 10, 2016 5:00 – 9:00 pm. (No traffic issue other than maybe road construction or coming home from up North).

Gary De Grande and Mary Boss (Room for 33 more people)

4100 Oakmede Lane
White Bear Township, MN 55110
651-653-3958

Sunday, September 18, 2016 2:00-4:30. Come meet some new members.

Karla and Brad Anderson (Room for 20 more people)

1810 Magnolia Lane N
Plymouth, MN 55441
651-226-1643

Contact

Timm Weiss
2500 Pearson Pkwy
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444
763-560-8686

timmweiss@usinternet.com ✂

2016 MWGS Water Garden Tour

The Minnesota Water Garden Society will conduct its 19th Annual Water Garden Tour on July 30 & 31, 2016. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the tour. Open 9 am-5 pm both days. Visit our website (www.mwgs.org) for tickets, garden descriptions, directions and detailed maps. The tour will feature 13 gardens located in the south east metro with a variety of water gardens including different construction techniques, container water gardens, water plants, Koi and goldfish, plants, and garden art and structures. Many of the water gardens on the tour were built by the home owner.

As we approach the tour dates it is important to get the word out to the public about the tour. Save the date flyers are available to distribute at garden centers, garden clubs, community centers, church bulletin boards, and any other places you may think of to reach the larger Twin Cities Metro area. Save the Date flyers and tour tickets will be available at the June meeting. For more information contact Pauline Danielson 651-774-0797. Help to make the 2016 MWGS Water Garden Tour a success by promoting the tour. Now that we have the sites selected, we will need members to be monitors at each site. Please consider volunteering. ✂



2016 MWGS Calendar



- June 12, 2016 2 - 4 PM, Ridgedale Library, Presentation and book signing: Pollinator-Friendly Gardening: Gardening for Bees, Butterflies and Other Pollinators by Rhonda Fleming Hayes
- June 22, 2016 5-8 PM, Pond Party, Dave & Nancy Pinke, Elko, MN
- July 10, 2016 5-9 PM, Pond Party, Gary De Grande and Mary Boss, White Bear Township
- July 30 & 31 2016 Annual Minnesota Water Garden Tour
FOR FURTHER INFO, CONTACT GARY DE GRANDE AT 651 653 3958 OR
DEGRANDEBOSS@COMCAST.NET
- August 14, 2016 General Meeting, Location TBD
- September 11, 2016 General Meeting and Picnic, State Fairgrounds
- September 18, 2016 2-4:30pm Pond Party, Karla & Brad Anderson, Plymouth MN
- October 9, 2016 Annual Meeting & Elections, Location & Speaker TBD ✨



Crosspollination is a community of local garden related events. There are many events coming up, which can be found at www.crosspollination.weebly.com, like the upcoming events highlighted here:

Garden TOUR - Native Plants for Pollinators!, Maplewood Nature Center

When: Sat, June 25, 10am – 11am

Where: Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 E 7th St, St Paul, MN 55119, United States

Description: Tour the nature center butterfly and rain gardens to see the colorful flowers. Learn how to attract butterflies to your yard by planting native plants with nourishing leaves for caterpillars and flower nectar for adults. Learn which flowers attract bees and hummingbirds. Free. Pre-register by June 23. To register, go to maplewoodnaturecenter.com and click on the Register Online Go button. You can also pay by cash or check, call 651-249-2170.

Hosta Sale, Minnesota Hosta Society

When: Sat, June 4, 9am – 2pm

Where: Dunn Bros Coffee, 8107 Eden Prairie Rd, Eden Prairie, MN 55347, United States

Description: Hosta Sale, Also visit the MHS Display Garden with over 400 varieties of hostas at this location. ✨





Visit our website at
[www.MWGS.org!](http://www.MWGS.org) 

c/o Gary DeGrande
4100 Oakmede Lane
White Bear Township, MN 55110

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Next Meeting:

Sunday, June 12, 2016
2-4pm Ridgedale Library

Pollinator Friendly Gardening by Rhonda Fleming Hayes

Bees and other pollinators are a hot topic for gardeners these days, especially with the buzz about overuse of pesticides. Rhonda Fleming Hayes, author of the recent book "Pollinator Friendly Gardening. Gardening for Bees, Butterflies and other Pollinators" will share her passion on the subject, with practical advice on encouraging pollinators into your garden. Rhonda is a Master Gardener and columnist for the Mpls Star Tribune and Northern Gardener magazine. Her book will be available for purchase and signing.

ADDRESS: 12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305

DIRECTIONS TO RIDGEDALE LIBRARY:

From I-394, exit Plymouth Road in Minnetonka. Turn South on Plymouth Rd. Turn Left onto Ridgedale Drive. The library is immediately on the right. 

