



## CCE Master Gardener's of Glenn County Newsgram July 2020

### Welcome

### Mary Ann & Sheila

The Glenn County Master Gardeners are welcoming two new members. Mary Ann Deeming and Sheila Skemp. Both completed the class and final exam. This year the class was challenging due to the in-person courses being cancelled and the course work was completed remotely.

We all want to welcome you and look forward to working together as soon as we can resume our regular activities.

#### Blossom End Rot

Michigan State University Cooperative Extension has a tip sheet explaining blossom end rot. It's a good explanation of the disorder. It is caused by an insufficient supply of calcium but adding calcium or egg shells to the soil does not help. The calcium deficiency is caused by inconsistent watering. Calcium is taken up by the roots and settles in one part of the plant. When there isn't enough water the calcium does not move to the developing tomatoes.

When tomato plants are rapidly growing the plant tissue can use all the available calcium, that is why the first set of tomatoes will sometimes develop blossom end rot.

Here is a link to the tip sheet and a copy of the tip sheet will be in the reference binder in the office.

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/blossom\\_end\\_rot\\_tip\\_sheet](https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/blossom_end_rot_tip_sheet)



Blossom end rot on the first set of tomatoes



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UC Master Gardener Program



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### **Pesticide Residue in Milkweed**

A recent news article in Nevada Today summarized a study published in *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*. In the study milkweed samples were taken in California's central valley. Residues from 64 pesticides were found in the milkweed, some in levels harmful to monarch butterflies and other insects.

This data does sound alarming but it is a first step to determine the effects of pesticides on butterflies. According to Chris Halsch, a doctoral student at University of Nevada, Reno's Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology program, "This study is the first necessary step for understanding what butterflies are actually encountering. Now we can use these data to design experiments to test hypotheses about the relative importance of pesticide use and other stressors such as climate change on local butterflies."

Here is a link to the article. [https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2020/butterflies-and-pesticides?utm\\_source=newsletter061120&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=butterfly&utm\\_campaign=NevadaWeekly](https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2020/butterflies-and-pesticides?utm_source=newsletter061120&utm_medium=email&utm_content=butterfly&utm_campaign=NevadaWeekly)

### **Master Gardener Business**

#### **Calendar**

Monthly Meeting on July 1 at 1:00. Zoom call information was sent out in an email.

Plant Clinic-We are still getting a few call and email for the plant clinic.

Reappointment- There are still a few people that have not completed reappointment. Remember you do not need to meet the requirements for volunteer or CE hours. Anyone who wants to continue being a master gardener can be reappointed.

#### **Volunteer Survey**

On July 8 all UC Master Gardener Volunteers will receive an email with a link to a survey. The survey is about the impacts of COVID 19 on volunteer activities. The survey will taken minutes or less to complete and can be done on a phone, tablet or computer. All volunteers are encouraged to complete the survey.

#### **Demo garden**

We have yet so see any monarch butterflies or eggs.

The plants are doing great. Bees and hummingbirds are happy.

