



UCCE Master Gardener's of Glenn County Newsgram

September 2022

Pesticides in Milkweed

As we all know monarch butterflies lay their eggs on the milkweed plant and the monarch larva feed on the milkweed. A recent study done by a scientist at the University of Reno in collaboration with the Xerces Society found that "every single plant tested in stores across the nation--every single one!--contained multiple pesticides, "even those that were labeled 'wildlife-friendly," according to the researchers. The team collected leaf samples from 235 milkweed plants purchased at 33 retail nurseries across the United States to screen for pesticides. "Across all samples, we detected 61 different pesticides with an average of 12.2 compounds per plant," they wrote in their abstract. "While only 9 of these compounds have been experimentally tested on monarch caterpillars, 38% of samples contained a pesticide above a concentration shown to have a sub-lethal effect for monarchs."

What is the best way to make sure the milkweed you plant does not contain pesticides? Grow them from seed or purchase them from a source that you know does not use pesticides.

More information about this study can be found in the UCANR Bug Squad Bog published on August 31, 2022. <https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm>

For those interested in the plight of the Monarch and want to know more, the Western Monarch Advocates will hold their second annual conference in San Luis Obispo on January 20-22, 2023. The conference brings together both scientist and citizen scientist together to present the most recent data about the migration and overall status of the Monarch butterfly population. Here is the link:.

<https://www.westernmonarchadvocates.com>



(c) Kathy Keatley Garvey

Photo of monarch eggs on milkweed. Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey



(c) Kathy Keatley Garvey

Photo of monarch on milkweed. Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey



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Master Gardener Business

Monthly Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday September 7 1:00 in the office in Orland. Curt Pierce UC Irrigation and Water Resources Advisor will a speaker at the meeting.

Continuing Education

It is not too early to start earning those continuing education hours for the new fiscal year that started on July 1. Here are some opportunities.

Butte County Master Gardeners have listed their fall workshops on their website. Here is a link <https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops/>

Butte County Master Gardeners are having their annual plant sale on Saturday October 1 from 9-1. get their early for the best selection. They are also having some workshops at the plant sale. Information about the plant sale can be found on their website at the following link.

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/sale/>

Santa Clara County Master Gardeners have several opportunities for CE hours. Information has been mailed to the members.

UCIPM has a webinar every month on the third Thursday of the month. Webinars are free, pre-registration is required. For more information visit their website. <https://ucanr.edu/sites/ucipm->

Its Hot Outside

During a heat wave the goal is for plants to survive. When temperatures are exceptionally high and prolonged, plants can lose water through evaporation much faster than the roots can absorb it.

Here are the things to NOT do during a heatwave

1. Don't Fertilize
2. Don't Prune
3. Don't plant, transplant or seed
4. Don't water midday

Here is what you can do during a heatwave.

1. Water thoroughly in the morning
2. Add mulch
3. Provide shade using shade cloth
4. Harvest ripening fruit.