What’s Wrong with My Tomatoes?

Answering Questions Collaboratively

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Bob Furbee, Communications & Technology
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College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
Connecting people with information

- Libraries and Extension have similar missions
- Customers come to Libraries and Extension for information
- Our methods of answering questions differ
- How can we work as partners?
OhioLine and Ask-A-Librarian
Composting At Home, HYG-1189-99

... such as leaves, grass, thatch, chipped brush, and plant cuttings. It can be easier and cheaper than bagging or paying to have them removed. Compost also improves your soil and the plants growing in it. If you have a garden, a lawn, trees, shrubs, or even planter boxes, you have a use for compost. Why ...  

http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/1000/1189.html
07/06/01, 19306 bytes

Not finding what you need? Click Here to Ask-A-Librarian.
Questions Answered

Librarians on vacation
Filtering Questions

Before you send that e-mail...

Please take a look at the suggestions below. If your question falls into one of the categories identified below, we have provided some suggestions that might help you answer your question.

Are you trying to identify something?

Try entering your search term below, and click the "Identification Search" button. A new search page will be launched in which we've added some terms to help narrow your search.

Identification Search

Are you outside of Ohio?

If you're not looking for Ohio-specific information, your needs would be better served by getting in touch with your local Extension office. You can find a list of county Extension offices, sorted by state, here.

Are you looking to obtain a specific publication?

We maintain a listing of available Ohio State Extension publications, including prices. You're invited to call Janis Crigger at (614) 292-1697 for ordering or general information. Research publications of the OARDC can be requested by calling (614) 292-2780.

Are you looking for information related to 4-H?

You can find specific 4-H information, including contact information, at http://www.ohio4h.org/

If you still can't find what you're looking for...

Click here and your question will be sent to the Ask-a-Librarian service.
Where Did Questions Originate?

- Ohio: 60
- Other States: 40
- International: 10
- Unknown: 180

May 18, 2005
Source of Answer

May 18, 2005
Who Answered Questions?

- Librarians
- Referred
- Comm Tech Staff
- Don't know
Q. I am trying to locate information for my grandson and he needs to know what is the state fruit of Ohio. I have found the state tree, flower and bird but not the fruit. Please help.

A. The list of Ohio symbols from the Ohio Secretary of State's office does not include a state fruit for Ohio.

http://www.oplin.lib.oh.us/products/ohiodefined/symbols.html

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Q. Where would I find information on pruning Basil and any other information on the growing of Basil? Please respond ASAP.

A. Here is an Ohio State University Extension factsheet on growing basil:

Growing, Selecting And Using Basil  http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/1000/1644.html

Feel free to contact your local extension office if you have further questions.  http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/library/county_extension_offices.html

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Q. We had a question from one of watershed residents. If one keeps up with streamside vegetation procedures, what would keep the rats away. This is a very urban city. The residents are afraid if there is tall grass, there will be rats. How can we assure them they should keep up with the process and no rats will come?

A. Referred to specialist who compiled a number of responses and resources to share with customer.
Service Challenges

- Coordinating responses was an intensive process
- Lack of an FAQ meant that excellent answers were not available for re-use by librarians or discovery by searchers
- What could we learn from other states?
Survey of Extension Web

- 39 States have links to submit a question
- 15 States have question filter pages
- 12 States have FAQ pages
- 7 States have searchable FAQ pages
Where is the Contact Link Found?

- Every page: 12
- Most pages: 10
- Home page: 6
- Subject page(s): 8
- After search: 1
- Not found: 12

May 18, 2005
How Are Questions Submitted?

- Form: 14
- Email: 10
- Phone contact: 4
- Filter: 4
- Miscellaneous: 6
Do you have a question?

Visitors from Michigan  Visitors from other U.S. states  Visitors from other countries

Visitors from Michigan - This page has been designed to facilitate timely and accurate routing of your message. Route your message by selecting your Michigan County from the list below.

Please enter the following information:
* = Required fields
* = Please enter your Email Address, Phone number or Address for us to respond

*Your Name: 

*Choose the county you are from: 

Visitors from other U.S. states 

*Your email address: 

*Your Phone Number: 

*Your Address: 

Type your comments below:


To find answers for residents of other states and countries, see below.

**Visitors from other U.S. states** - The link below will show you a map of the U.S. If you click on your state you will be shown several links. One of those links will be for the Extension Service in your state. Many states allow you to send email to the Extension Office in your county. For the most accurate information regarding your question, please direct your question to an expert in your state.

[http://www.rewusa.gov/1700/statepartners/usa.htm](http://www.rewusa.gov/1700/statepartners/usa.htm)

**Visitors from other countries** - The link below will connect you to the National Agricultural Library web site. The library has extensive resources in its collections and the NAL staff is extremely knowledgeable. They may be able to help you find the information you seek.


**Return to top**

For questions regarding the web page, send to webdir@msue.msu.edu

Return to main page [www.msue.msu.edu](http://www.msue.msu.edu)
# Cooperative Extension System

**UCONN**

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

For a list of UConn Cooperative Extension faculty and staff who can help you with your question, please select from the list of general topics, then from the list of specific topics.

**General topic:** Plant Agriculture/Horticulture/Gardening

**Specific topic:** Organic gardening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Title and Programs</th>
<th>Projects and Web Links</th>
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</table>
| John Castagni (Extension)  
email: jcastagni@canr.uconn.edu  
(860) 345-4511  
Middlesex County Extension Center | Master Gardener Program Coordinator, Coordinate Middlesex County Master Gardener Program. |  |
| Mary Collins (Extension)  
email: mcollins@canr.uconn.edu  
(860) 870-6834  
Tolland County Extension Center | Master Gardener Program Coordinator, UConn Certified Advanced Master Gardener, Coordinate Tolland County Master Gardener Program. |  |
| Robert Durgy (Plant Science)  
email: robert.durgy@uconn.edu  
(877) 436-6271  
Storrs Campus | Research Assistant, Assist the Integrated Pest Management team with research and outreach education programs. Also offer an educational program for organic farmers and home gardeners. | Home and Garden Education Center  
Integrated Pest Management |
| Norman Gauthier  
WEB CV (Plant Science)  
email: norman.gauthier@uconn.edu  
(860) 486-0189  
Storrs Campus | Associate Professor, Certified Entomologist, Insect and arthropod pest diagnostics and recommendations, fruit specialist -- pest management advice to growers, pest control, pruning, educational programs, organize pesticide recertification training for fruit growers; development of small fruit pest control recommendations for New England |  |
| Katie Melvin (Extension)  
email: kmelvin@canr.uconn.edu  
(860) 570-9013  
Hartford County Extension Center | Master Gardener Program Coordinator, Coordinate Hartford County Master Gardener Program. |  |
| Carl Salcedo (Extension)  
email: carl.salcedo@uconn.edu | Extension Educator, My expertise is in the area of sustainable landscapes for. |  |
Do you have a question?

Hello, and thank you for contacting The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. We welcome your questions, but ask that you direct them appropriately. Many questions can be answered if you search our website. If you cannot find an answer to your question online, please contact your County Cooperative Extension Office.

Arizona Cooperative Extension Offices

For questions on:

- Bugs, rodents, and wildlife
- Cooking, food safety, and purchasing
- All other questions

Other State Cooperative Extension Web Sites

- Plants, gardening, and landscaping
- 4-H — clubs and volunteer opportunities and questions
- Technical comments about our web site or permission requests
Food Preparation  (Full Question and Answer Listing)

- What do I need to do to safely prepare a turkey in the oven?
- What is the best way to thaw a turkey?
- Why do some cooks soak turkey in a brine? What is brining?
- How do you deep fry a turkey?
- What is the best way to handle turkey leftovers?
- I left the giblets inside the turkey cavity while it was in the oven. Is it safe to eat?
- Why are my cookies spreading more as they bake?
- I have purchased dry active yeast in bulk. How much do I use when a recipe calls for one package?
- Can I substitute applesauce for oil when baking to reduce fat and calories?
- What can size should be used when a recipe says "no. 2" can?
- How can I make a substitution for buttermilk from milk?
- When a recipe calls for a fresh herb and I have it in the dried form, how much should be used?
- Is there a substitution for "self-rising" flour or do I have to buy a package for a new recipe?
- How can I make a meringue that doesn't weep and leak?
- What is the difference in the white flours available in the grocery store?
- How can I prevent milk from curdling when I make cream of tomato soup or scalloped potatoes?
- Can eggs be frozen?
- Is it a good idea to freeze cheese?
- What is the best way to freeze a fruit pie like apple or cherry?
Welcome to Colorado State University Cooperative Extension's new question and answer forum--AnswerLink!

Search Our Frequently-Requested Questions
We store thousands of answers to questions in AnswerLink. You can search by topic, keywords or phrases. If you still can't find your answer, you can ask us!

Ask A Question
If you can't find your answer in our frequently-asked questions, you can submit your question and receive an answer by e-mail.

Announcements
- AnswerLink is designed for Colorado situations.
- A new way to access Cooperative Extension information--online 24 hours a day/seven days a week.

My Info
Login to check the status of your current questions, update your personal information, or let us know if you want topic updates.

How Are We Doing?
Submit a suggestion or other feedback about this site.
1. Will my entire county, or the state, be sprayed either by truck or aircraft?
2. We planted a honeylocust tree ten years ago. 3-4 years ago it started produci...
3. I have a weeping fig houseplant and it was doing very well. I had it in a so...
4. Years ago I got a recipe from you to boil pumpkin seeds in salt water and the...
5. What is being done about the possibility of transfusion-related West Nile virus
6. How safe are pesticides that are used around the home?
7. What is the best way to deal with plants that have bee damaged by hail? Shou...
8. I was searching through the FAQs; I read a mention of planting sour cherry on t
9. I have an Alaska Daisy that was infested with aphids last summer. I would lik...
10. Can frequent hand washing make a difference in the amount and frequency of colds
11. What are the training requirements to become ornamental technicians?
12. Where did West Nile virus come from?
13. What do I do if a pesticide is spilled?
14. I have a thriving boston ry in a container on my patio. It sits protected un...
15. Should I be pruning my overgrown farsytha and lilacs now?
16. I am getting the garden ready for winter. I have a nicotonia plant that was p...
17. Is there a human vaccine against West Nile virus?
18. Should I invest in the stock market now?
19. What happens when an inspector from the Colorado Department of Agriculture comes
What if...
Next Steps?

- **Ohio**
  - Move to web-form and query management system (QuestionPoint)
  - Enlist greater participation by Extension Educators

- **National/International**
  - Monitor eXtension prototype
  - AgNIC collaborative reference service
Practical Partners for Success

Librarians
- Access to electronic and print resources
- Skilled in locating and organizing information

Extension professionals
- Subject expertise
- Produce new materials

Desire to meet the needs of our customers
Presented at Globalization of Information: Agriculture at the Crossroads.

- XIth World Congress of the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists
- 2005 Biennial Conference of the United States Agricultural Information Network
- May 18, 2005, Lexington Kentucky