

Auglaize County ANR

News from OSU Extension

April 7th, 2023



Source: OSU Wexner Medical Center

Wild Parsnip Burns

Author Joe Boggs
Edited Jamie Hampton

Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa* L., family Apiaceae (= Umbelliferae)) plants are now large enough to be readily identified in Ohio. Parsnips have been cultivated as a root crop in Europe for centuries. Wild parsnip, however, is a cultivated plant that's returned to its dark side. Both the cultivated type we grow in our vegetable gardens and the escaped wild type which is the focus of this alert, share the same scientific name. It is clear in the toxic biochemical properties that there are significant differences between the two types.

Both types contain a plant defense chemical called **psoralen** in the sap, a naturally occurring phytochemical grouped in a family of organic compounds known as linear furanocoumarins. However, the wild type of parsnip contains much higher

concentrations of psoralen to defend against herbivores. Indeed, herbivory applies selective pressure that rewards plants that produce more psoralen.

Psoralen acts as a photosensitizing compound by inhibiting DNA synthesis in epidermal cells, killing these light-shielding cells responsible for protecting us from long-wave ultraviolet radiation (LWUVR) bombarding us in sunlight. Severe blistering occurs when affected skin is exposed to LWUVR. The synergistic effect is called **phytophotodermatitis** (a.k.a. Berloque dermatitis) and the burn-like symptoms and skin discoloration may last for several months. Connecting skin blistering to exposure to wild parsnip sap can be a challenge. It takes around 24 hours for symptoms to first appear *after exposure* to LWUVR and severe blistering typically doesn't peak until 48 -



Wild Parsnip Spring Seedling

Joe Boggs, OSU Extension

72 hours. The time required for symptoms to appear after exposure to the sap means the effect may be disconnected from the cause.

Psoralens are also found in other members of the Apiaceae family including the notorious giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) which has captured national attention in the past. It needs to be noted that giant hogweed has only been confirmed in Ohio growing in the extreme northeast part of the state. Wild parsnip is found throughout the state and is equally damaging. Of course, giant hogweed has a more threatening-sounding common name; wild parsnip just sounds like a vegetable gone wild; which it actually is!

For the Full Article Click [HERE](#)

Spring Pasture Readiness

Author Victor Shelton, Retired NRCS Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

I've seen a lot of livestock already out grazing fields. That is OK if they are still grazing stockpiled forages left from last year's growth, but if they are consuming only new growth and chasing after each new green blade of grass like a chicken after a bug, then you're usually doing more harm than good. Fields that were grazed hard last fall, especially prior to dormancy, and fields that were grazed early this year because the cows needed someplace to go, could absolutely use a longer deferment prior to grazing again this spring. Those fields will need to first try to grow or regrow their new solar panel (blades of grass) off the reserves that are left, and then spend valuable time rebuilding roots and root reserves before allocating energy and resources on growing forage. The plant is going to try and preserve itself and yield is the last thing on its mind. It's thinking about survival. If you push it too much, production is altered and seed head production will be more of a focus for the plant. Ideally, it is best to wait and let the forage grasses develop a good solar panel prior to starting to graze.



"Can I start grazing?"

In most tall, cool season forages like tall fescue and orchard grass this is at least eight to 10 inches. A little more is usually better. If you say, "I can't wait that long," then you better keep the animals moving and rotating them quickly and not allow any grazing of regrowth. Nothing is more important than rest and recovery for forage plants. Multiple removal and multiple bites off the same

plant, especially of regrowth, will hamper growth for the season and that forage plant will never fully express itself.

For the Full article Click [HERE](#)

USDA to Aid Distressed Farmers Facing Financial Risk

Author Chris Zoller

Beginning in April, the USDA will provide approximately \$123 million in additional, automatic financial assistance for qualifying farm loan program borrowers who are facing financial risk. Funding is through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and builds on the same program announced in October 2022.

Like the program announced in October 2022, qualifying borrowers will receive an individual letter detailing the assistance as payments are made. Distressed borrowers' eligibility for these new categories of automatic payments will be determined based on their present circumstances. More information about the new categories that make up the \$123 million in assistance and the specific amount of assistance a distressed borrower receives can be found in this fact sheet, [IRA Section 22006: Additional Automatic Payments, Improved Procedures, and Policy Recommendations](#).

USDA will provide information and training to program participants about the potential tax consequences of the funding program. USDA will also sponsor a webinar featuring farm tax experts to review the program and answer questions. Further information about tax implications of USDA program is available here: farmers.gov/taxes.

If you have further questions, please reach out to your local USDA Farm Service Agency office. If you are unsure where of the location of the nearest office, please use this tool: <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.

Garden Crop Rotations

Author: Doug Higgins and Kristin Krokowski, UW-Extension
Waukesha County Edited by Jamie Hampton



Crop rotation is one of agriculture's oldest cultural practices. In a home vegetable garden, crop rotation involves changing the planting location of vegetables within the garden each season. Crop rotation is used to reduce damage from insect pests, to limit the development of vegetable diseases, and to manage soil fertility. Each vegetable can be classified into a particular plant family. Plants belonging to the same family oftentimes are susceptible to similar insect pests and diseases and have similar nutrient requirements. When vegetables classified in the same plant family are grown year after year in the same area of a garden, they provide insect pests with a reliable food source and disease-causing organisms (i.e., pathogens) with a continual source of host plants that they can infect. Over time, insect pest and pathogen numbers build in the area and damage to vegetable crops increases. Using crop

rotation helps keep insect pest and pathogen numbers at low levels. In addition, the type of vegetable grown in a particular area in a garden has a direct effect on the fertility of the soil in that area. Each vegetable is unique in the type and amount of nutrients it extracts from the soil. Crop rotation can even out the loss of different soil nutrients and allow time for nutrients to replenish. For crop rotation to be most effective, DO NOT plant an area with vegetables or cover crops/green manures from the same plant family more than once every three to four years. This length of crop rotation can be difficult to achieve in small gardens, but even changing plant families grown in an area of a garden from year to year is helpful in managing insect pests and diseases. To help in planning crop rotations, keep a garden log or map as a reminder of where vegetables are planted each year.

Full article [HERE](#)

Companion Planting

Author Amber Kanuckel,
edited by Jamie Hampton



Friends: Corn and beans grow well together because beans will grow up the cornstalks, which means you won't have to build them a trellis. Beans also fix nitrogen in the soil, which is good for the corn. Marigolds, nasturtiums, rosemary, and summer savory repel bean beetles, and summer savory improves growth rate and flavor. Other companions include broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and other members of the cabbage family along with cucumbers, peas, potatoes, and radishes.

Foes: Beets or anything from the onion family. Onions, in particular, impede the growth of bean plants.



Friends: Corn and squash make good companion plants since the cornstalks give squash vines a place to grow. Squash also does well planted alongside beans, peas, radishes, dill, and marigolds.

Foes: Potatoes, as both plants are prone to blight.

Click [HERE](#) for the full article

Battle for the Belt: Episode 4

Authors:

Laura Lindsey, Osler Ortez, Kelley Tilmon

Episode 4 of Battle for the Belt is now

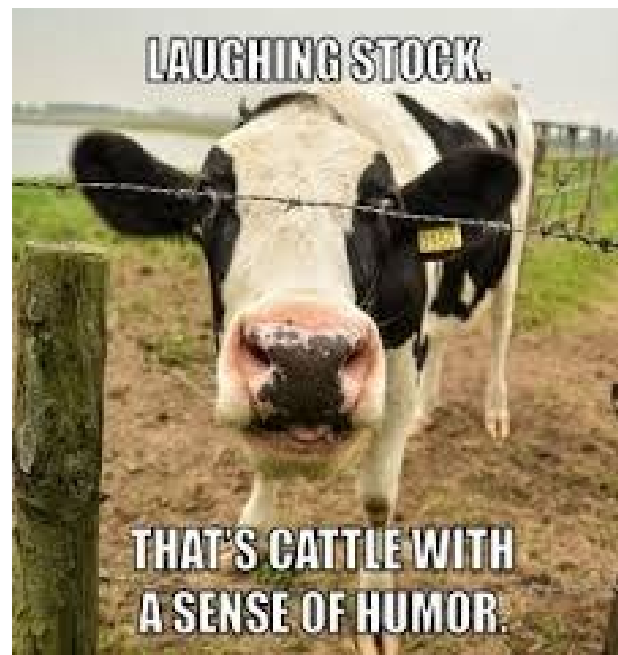
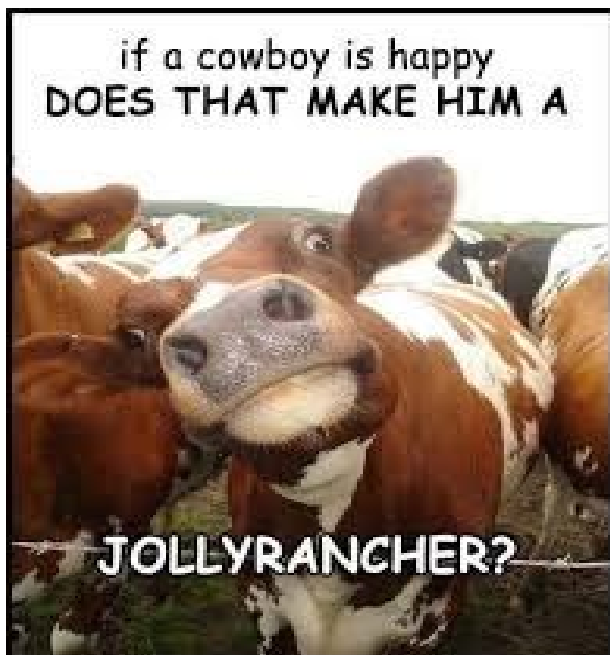
available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPPaWVMYmoQ>

In Episode 4, Dr. Kelley Tilmon, Field Crop Entomologist, discusses the effect of planting date on slugs as well as some management tactics that can help to alleviate this concern. The Battle for the Belt project aims to look at five planting date windows, from ultra-early (late March/early April) to very late (mid to late June). Slugs can be a problem in both corn and soybean but tend to cause more problems in soybean. A particular problem is leaving the planting trench open. This open trench can act as a slug 'buffet line', even eating the seeds. Other situations where slugs are found include no-till systems and fields with cover crops.



The trick to avoid slugs? Get your plants growing ahead of the slugs. Slugs will be there, but if the plants have a head start, the feeding damage will not be as destructive. When we plant soybeans really early, it can take plants several weeks to emerge, leaving them vulnerable to slug damage. In corn, slugs can cause damage to leaves, but the growing point is still below the ground and protected. Thus, through the lens of risk damage from slugs, prioritizing corn planting over soybean planting is important in field situations

where slug damage may be expected (no-till systems, cover crops, early planting with cool/wet soils). A recommendation is to make sure that the planting trench is being properly closed at planting and adjusting as needed. Keep following 'Battle for the Belt' this growing season to learn more and get further updates! You can find the full video playlist of Battle for the Belt on the [Ohio State Agronomy YouTube](#) channel.



April Events



Auglaize County Events:

- April 14th, Cover Crop Roundtable at Happy Daz in Wapakoneta. 8:30 am
- April 19th, Beef Quality Assurance at Allen County Fairgrounds. 6-8:00 pm
- **Have a safe and successful planting season.**

Nearby Happenings:



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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