

The MORTON-BURLEIGH BLADE

Get the 'mow down' on local horticulture issues!

July 2020

Volume 1, Issue 2

Kelsey's Korner

Hello Fellow Gardeners,

We are well into the growing season and I can't believe the Fourth of July is already here! Most of the gardeners in the area are hard at work combating weeds and providing sufficient water right now. Some of you may have been able to harvest some garden produce and enjoy the time and labor you have put in to it. If you haven't harvested anything yet, don't worry you will start seeing results soon enough. I always like to tell beginners now is the time to practice patience and not feel frustrated by the end of July your hard work will show!

If some of your seed didn't come up you can reseed and still get produce by the end of the growing season. Cool season crops can easily be planted mid-summer for you to enjoy a fall harvest. Lettuce, spinach, kale, beets, beans, peas, and onion are all great options to reseed with right now.

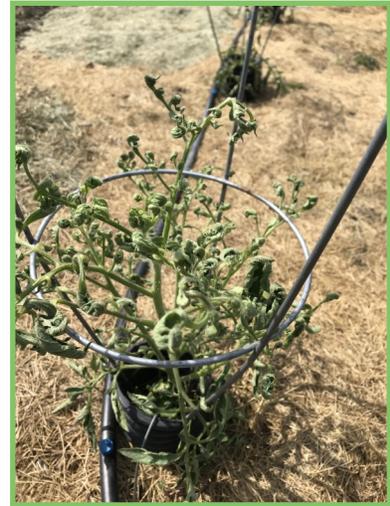
If you have harvested some produce right now and would like to fill that space consider reseeding to grow produce to local food pantries. There is a high need for fresh produce at the food pantries and this is a great way to give back to the community!

If you have questions about your lawn, garden, or trees, please contact me at kelsey.j.deckert@ndsu.edu or you can contact at either Burleigh or Morton County Extension Office.



Herbicide Injury

Are you seeing leaves on your garden plants cup or curl up? You may be seeing herbicide injury in your plants. I have fielded several calls over the past couple weeks related to herbicide injury. Herbicide injury can come from many sources such as: drift, compost, grass clippings, manure, and even foot traffic. There is nothing to do for herbicide on plants. It is recommended to remove any garden plants showing symptoms and not to consume them. Trees can handle an accidental spraying, but also know there isn't any remedies to help them along.



5 Mid-Summer Gardening Tips

- Water mid-morning at the base of plants.
- The best method for weed control in a garden is manually removing by hand or using garden tools, such as a hoe.
- Mulching around plants not only will conserve moisture but will suppress weeds as well.
- Organic mulch is best! Straw, shredded newspaper, coco bean hulls, etc. Grass clippings are an option as long as there is no herbicide on them.
- Monitor for disease and insects.

NDSU Extension Burleigh County

3715 E Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501
701-221-6865
kelsey.j.deckert@ndsu.edu

NDSU Extension Morton County

210 2nd Avenue NW
Mandan, ND 5854
701-667-3340
kelsey.j.deckert@ndsu.edu

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EXTENSION



Tree Galls

Do you have odd bumps on the leaves of your trees? Most likely you are seeing galls. Earlier this spring, mites did some chewing on the leaves causing abnormal cell growth, hence the bumps you see now. Galls are harmless to our trees just causing aesthetic damage. Pesticides aren't warranted as the timing of spraying is critical. Once galls have formed it is too late for any type of treatment.



Root Girdling

Root Girdling is a common problem in our area. Trees that get planted too deep develop this problem. Trees should display a nice flare (think of a bell-bottom pant leg) at its base right above the ground. Tree trunks that go straight into the ground like a telephone pole are planted too deep. As these trees age, their roots will grow in a way that will strangle the tree. Typically the roots will circle and entangle one another preventing the tree to grow and stopping the flow of nutrients and water. These trees are choking themselves. It is best to prevent this problem by properly planting the tree.

This monthly newsletter is to keep you informed about what issues I am seeing around the counties and others are seeing around the state.

If you are a NDSU Master Gardener and would like to contribute to the newsletter, please email me at kelsey.j.deckert@ndsu.edu.

Upcoming Dates:

Happy Houseplants July 22, 2020 7:00pm at the Morton Mandan Public Library, 609 W Main St, Mandan, ND 58554.



Grass Going Dormant?

We are approaching the time of the year where our lawns want to take a break from the heat of the summer. Homeowners may already or will start seeing their lawns yellow and brown up. No worry, your lawn isn't dying. This is a natural response from our lawns to want to go dormant in the heat of the summer. With the lack of moisture from Mother Nature, allowing your lawn to go dormant with help save in your in pocketbook. Our lawns will green back up when temperatures cool down and we approach fall.

Yard & Garden Report

If you are interested in receiving other news related to gardening, please check out NDSU Extension's Yard & Garden Report. It is free to subscribe and you can sign up here: <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/yardandgardenreport>.

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