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Comments from the Editor

I received an email from Ted Gastier this morning regarding the passing of Jennifer Burnham. Please remember her family in your thoughts and prayers at this time.

The warm weather pushed things along quickly so if you don’t have your equipment ready to go it is time. I was able to do our first phenology evaluation of the South Centers Crabapple Evaluation this morning. Unfortunately I can’t access current weather data from our weather station for total growing degree days. We hope to get that updated soon. Currently I can say that our early selection ‘Indian Summer’ is at ½” green while our late selection ‘Firebird’ is still dormant. Growers in southern Ohio are reporting bud break on some blackberry varieties.

Thanks to all you responded the zoomerang request. I will share more results in the future. It was a fairly even split over those who want this sent as an email, a PDF attachment, and/or a web link. I am using a new email program but will continue on as before unless the Ohio Fruit ICM News develops too many formatting problems as an email. If that happens I will switch to just a PDF and a web link. The current issue should be posted on our website within a couple of days and we are trying to get it to the same day.

In Memoriam - Jennifer L. Burnham (Source: Sandusky Register)

Jennifer L. Burnham, 42, passed away suddenly Saturday, March 7, 2009, surrounded by her family in Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, after a courageous six-year battle with cancer. Her strength and spirit have inspired many people.

Jennifer graduated from Milan Edison High School in 1984, and received her bachelor’s degree in international affairs and marketing from The Ohio State University in 1989.
She received her master’s degree in business administration from Franklin University in 1998. Jennifer most recently was a marketing manager with the American Ceramic Society. She also was a lifelong member of First Congregational Church in Berlin Heights. She enjoyed family gatherings, crafts, gardening, travel and Ohio State football.

Jennifer is survived by her husband, Mark Weitzel; sister, Julia (Todd) Whittington; brother, Joseph (Lily) Burnham Jr.; parents, Joseph Sr. and Martha Burnham; and in-laws, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews, particularly her little niece, Julianna Burnham, with whom Jennifer had a special bond.

Calling hours will be 4-8 p.m. Wednesday at Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell, 450 W. Olentangy St. (Powell Road/ Ohio 750, one-quarter mile east of Sawmill Parkway), Powell, Ohio. A memorial service will be 1 p.m. Thursday at First Congregational Church, 5 E. Main St., Berlin Heights.

In lieu of flowers, friends and family are asked to make donations to the Memorial Fund at First Congregational Church.

Condolences may be shared at rutherfordfuneralhomes.com.

**Northwest Ohio Agricultural Law Conference** by Peggy Kirk Hall
Director, OSU Agricultural & Resource Law Program

A wide variety of legal issues relating to agriculture is the focus of a unique one day conference hosted by OSU Extension on Wednesday, March 25, 2009.

The Northwest Ohio Agricultural Law Conference will feature sessions taught by attorneys on Using Flexible Farm Rental Agreements, Ohio Conservancy District Law, Legal Risk Assessment Issues, Authority over Large Livestock Operations, Farm Business Planning Strategies, and a general Agricultural Law Update.

“Operating in today’s agriculture requires legal knowledge” said Peggy Hall, attorney with OSU Extension, “and this program will help farmers and others understand important legal issues that impact agriculture.”

Joining OSU Extension in sponsoring the program are the law firms of Robison, Curphey and O’Connell in Findlay; Wright Law Company, LPA in Dublin; Ohio Farm Bureau Federation; Ag Credit and Farm Credit Services of Mid-America.

Featured speakers include Bill Beach and Kathryn Mohr of Robison, Curphey and O’Connell; Larry Gearhardt and Dave Pennington of Ohio Farm Bureau Federation; Peggy Hall of The Ohio State University Agricultural & Resource Law Program and Robert Moore of Wright Law Company, LPA.

Early registration is necessary for the conference, which takes place from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at The Lighthouse Banquet Facility, 10055 W US 224 in Findlay, Ohio. A
brochure and registration form are available through local OSU Extension offices or online at [http://www.aede.osu.edu/programs/aglaw](http://www.aede.osu.edu/programs/aglaw). The registration fee of $30 per person or $20 for additional family or company members covers lunch and materials. For registration questions, contact OSU Extension, Hancock County at 491.422.3851.

**Calendar** - Newly added in *Bold*

March 11, Pesticide Applicator Workshop, John S. Knight Center, Akron. Ohio State University Extension and the Department of Agriculture will offer several workshops throughout the state. For more information phone (614) 292-4070.

*March 14, Growing Ohio Farmers' Markets workshop*, A La Cart Catering, 429 Lisbon St. Canfield, 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. This workshop will provide information on best practices employed by successful markets, an overview of steps and tasks to launch a farmers market, and information about additional resources to assist you in Growing your Ohio farmers market. There is no fee for this workshop, but registration is encouraged to ensure adequate materials and meals for the networking lunch. To register, please contact Melissa Hurtt by email hurtt.8@osu.edu or phone 800-860-7232 (Ohio only) ext 222.

*March 18 and 19, How to Leverage Resources to Impact Your Bottom Line and Identifying Best Practices* (9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m)
March 18 - OSU South Centers Piketon
March 19 - OSU Extension Muskingum County, Zanesville.

This workshop will highlight available resources and best practices to grow and sustain markets and producers. Presentations will include information about Ohio Proud as well as Good Agricultural Practices to name a few. Come learn how you can grow your farmers' market! There is no fee for this workshop, but registration is encouraged to ensure adequate materials and meals for the networking lunch. To register, please contact Melissa Hurtt by email hurtt.8@osu.edu or phone 800-860-7232 (Ohio only) ext 222. You can learn more about these training programs at [www.ohiofarmersmarkets.osu.edu](http://www.ohiofarmersmarkets.osu.edu)

*March 25, NW Ohio Ag Law Conference*. The registration fee of $30 per person or $20 for additional family or company members covers lunch and materials. For registration questions, contact OSU Extension, Hancock County at 491.422.3851.

June 22-26, The 10th International Rubus and Ribes Symposium. Zlatibor, Serbia.

NOTE: Disclaimer - This publication may contain pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. These recommendations are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. Due to constantly changing labels and product registrations, some of the recommendations given in this writing may no longer be legal by the time you read them. If any information in these recommendations disagrees with the label, the recommendation must be disregarded. No endorsement is intended for products mentioned, nor is criticism meant for products not mentioned. The author and Ohio State University Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.
Ohio Poison Control Number

(800) 222-1222
TDD # is (614) 228-2272