

Mid-July best for shrub cuttings

Taking slips or cuttings from a favorite shrub with the intention of growing more has an attraction for many gardeners.

But this is something that has to be done at the right season advise Extension personnel.

Mid-to-late July is about right. Make the cutting from this year's growth as it begins to harden for the Summer. A cutting taken too soft will rot. One that's too hard will not root, says Schutzki.

Take a cutting four to six inches long and stick it into a rooting medium. This can be half-and-half mixture of peatmoss and coarse sand, or perlite, a white volcanic ash, in a large flower pot.

First dip the woody cuttings in a rooting hormone, (that you can buy at a garden store) and then place the end about an inch deep in your rooting medium.

Water the cutting well, then cover the spot and cuttings with a plastic bag. A few garden labels or sticks will keep the bag from collapsing.

Place your pot of cuttings in the shade or indoors. You won't have to add much water, if any, for several weeks.

Plant your rooted cuttings in a coldframe the first Winter and shade them next Summer so they don't stand in the full sun.

Spray to control Japanese beetles

The Japanese beetle is a destructive plant pest that feeds on shrubbery, trees, fruits, and some shade trees. Its appetite for roses also causes home gardeners a great deal of concern. Beetle grubs live in the soil and cause damage to turf.

The adult beetles emerge from the ground from late June until the beginning of August. Females deposit their eggs in the soil during the Summer months. When the eggs hatch, the young grubs start feeding until cold weather forces them to move deeper into the soil. During the Spring months, the grubs resume feeding. About two weeks before adults emerge, the grubs enter the stage of their life when they transform from grubs to adult beetles.

Carbaryl (Sevin) is an effective insecticide to use to protect your ornamental plants from attack by Japanese beetle adults. Use two tablespoonsful of 50 per cent wettable powder to each gallon of water.

Methoxychlor is also effective for Japanese beetle control. Repeat applications when necessary.

Flies destroy gypsy moths

HARRISBURG -- Are there gypsy moth caterpillars in your oak woodlot plus a lot of flies, flies that land on your arm and refuse

to be shooed away? If so, you're not alone.

The flies, found in gypsy moth infestations throughout the world, are strictly

beneficial but in the past few weeks the Department of Environmental Resources Bureau of Forestry has been receiving complaints about the flies which are attracting more attention in some areas than the gypsy moth.

Milk price announced

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Middle Atlantic Order Market Administrator Joseph D. Shine has announced a Class I milk price of \$12.04 per hundredweight for August 1978. Shine said that the price is up one cent from July and is 66 cents higher than the August 1977 price. Order No. 4 prices are announced for milk testing 3.5 per cent butterfat, f.o.b. plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia, and also within 75 miles from the nearer of Washington, D.C. or Baltimore. There is also a 6-cent direct-delivery differential applicable to producer milk received at plants located within 55 miles of Philadelphia.

Shine announced a Class II milk price of \$9.17 per hundredweight for June 1978 and a butterfat differential of 12.3 cents. The Class II price is up two cents from the previous month.

Substituting

When substituting whipped butter for regular butter in recipes, use the following conversions. One-third to one-half more than the recipe calls for if the measurement is by volume, if the measurement is by weight, use the amount called for

These class prices are based on the June 1978 Minnesota-Wisconsin manufacturing milk price of \$9.26 per hundredweight adjusted to a 3.5 per cent butterfat content.

The USDA reported that the wholesale price of Grade A butter at Chicago for June was \$1.0671 per pound and the nonfat dry milk price as \$.7075 per pound f.o.b. plants in the Chicago area.

There are two species of flies involved — "Blepharipa pratensis" and "Parasetigena silvestris" — which are not being released in Pennsylvania by any pest management agency, reports DER's Division of Forest Pest Management. They were introduced into North America from Europe at the turn of the century to fight the gypsy moth and the flies you see are the

descendants of the early immigrants.

Both species are extremely valuable in reducing the gypsy 1977 the "Parasetigena" killed about half the large caterpillars in most of the infested areas of Pennsylvania, while "Blepharipa" can be credited for the demise of about a quarter of the gypsy moth population.

The flies do not bite or sting humans or spread disease. Their survival depends on the gypsy moth caterpillars for when the gypsy moth are gone the flies will disappear.

So put away your insect sprays, swatters and fly paper, suggests DER, and bear with the "superflies" as they help manage the gypsy moth population.

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