



This barn is stopping traffic. The farm scene is painted on the barn of Blaise Liffick and Alanna Berger, 680 Cloverleaf Rd., Elizabethtown. Learn the story behind the scene on Sat. May 6, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., when artist Wayne Fetro unveils the mural. "Harvesttime in the 1920s," features a 1920's steam engine owned by a farmer in the Rheems area. The original steam engine and model replicas also will be displayed, and light refreshments served by the Hornafius Insurance Agency.

Research Predicts Pest Emergences

WOOSTER, Ohio — An Ohio State University scientist has developed a "biological calendar" that predicts the emergence of tree and shrub pests, and thus the best time to spray for control, based on the blooming of ornamental plants.

The calendar shows, for example, that European pine sawfly eggs hatch at the same time as first bloom in PJM rho-

dodendron, and gypsy moths hatch at full bloom in Spring Snow crabapple.

Dan Herms said the research can help nursery managers and gardeners make fewer but more effective pesticide applications. Furthermore, it can help them switch from long-lasting pesticides, which may soon be limited by new federal regulations, to shorter-lived "biorational" types.

Penn State Pointers ▶ **Mulching Plants and Shrubs for Growth and Health**

Coarse mulch applied at the proper depth allows:

- Oxygen to enter the soil
- Carbon dioxide to exit soil
- Water to reach soil and roots
- Soil to retain moisture

Choose a mulch...

- with consistent color and texture
- that resists compaction
- that resists wind and water erosion
- with a slow rate of decomposition
- that reduces weed growth

Typically apply mulch from 2 to 4 inches deep.

To help reduce rot, avoid piling materials against trunks or stems.

SOIL MOISTURE

Graphics / Illustration: Tom Land, College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State 2000

aginfo.psu.edu/psp

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