Thanks for Making This Year's Conference Spectacular!

What do
95+ speakers
150+ volunteers
25 sponsors
40+ exhibitors
and 2000 attendees
have in common?

They all came together to make this year's Spring Conference a huge success! Stay tuned for photos, class summaries, and additions to our Spring Conference Library.

Gardener's Corner

Ask Ruth

Dear Ruth,

I planted some cabbage and kale

Farmer's Corner

Ask Tom

Hello Tom,

Thank you very much for your article about
in my garden, and I am already seeing holes in the leaves. My friend suggested using Bt on the plants to prevent damage. I always hear about genetically-modified Bt corn in the news. Since Bt corn is GMO corn, doesn’t that mean that Bt is a bad thing?

Bill J.
Marion, NC

Dear Bill,

Great question. I can see why using Bt might be confusing, but it is a great organic insecticide.

All cole crops attract the attention of some sort of cabbage lepidoptera (cabbage looper, cabbage webworm, cross-striped cabbageworm, diamondback moth caterpillar, imported cabbageworm) almost immediately...even while still in the 4-packs! The moths or butterflies lay their eggs on the leaves, a baby caterpillar emerges and starts eating AND eating AND eating some more. All it does is eat and poop. Eventually it gets “too big for its britches” and must shed its skin several times to continue to grow and reach maturity. If you were to compare a caterpillar’s growth rate to a human baby, the newborn human baby would be the size of a school bus within two weeks of birth!

Looking up Entrust I find it is very expensive (between $505 and $600 per pound), and I also don’t want to purchase too much and have to dispose of it later. Apparently the EPA prohibits the selling of Entrust in amounts smaller than a pound, so I have two questions for you:

1. Do you know if, rather than buying Entrust, I can buy the active ingredient Spinosad in amounts more appropriate for my size of berry patch? If so, how do I know the correct strength of Spinosad?

2. Do you know of small scale berry producers going together on the purchase of Entrust?

Any information or advice you can provide is very much appreciated.

-- Gordon

Gordon -

I also had sticker shock when I looked more closely at the Johnny’s Catalog. $600 is a lot for a product that might work on SWD. You also raise a good point about disposal problems when a small grower is unlikely to use a pound in a season or two.
On March 5th, 880 the Revolution invited our own Meredith McKissick for a live interview to talk about the history of the School, the Annual Conference, and some of the issues facing organic-minded folks! Click the link below to listen to the interview:

OGS on the Revolution

Community Partners
Mountain Rose Herbs
Organic Valley

Grassroots Partners
Johnny's Selected Seeds

Reems Creek Nursery

Reems Creek Nursery
ORGANIC GARDENING SUPPLIES
ORGANIC SEEDS
VEGGIE STARTS
70 Monticello Road
Weaverville, NC 28787
www.reemscreek.com
828-645-3937

Organic Home Gardening Classes in Asheville, NC

OGS Teaches Organic Gardening at Jubilee

https://www.mynewsletterbuilder.com/email/newsletter/1411678355[11/18/16, 12:00:20 PM]
Classes will cover all topics on organic home gardening including site selection, planning, soils, composting, companion planting, seed sourcing, disease management, favorite varieties, and more. No advance sign up necessary--drop in for one class or attend the entire series!

$10 donation suggested at the door.

For more details, visit our website.

Hillcrest Unity Garden Workday
Together, we more than doubled the square footage of the garden, erected one solid groundhog-proof fence, built two big, beautiful raised beds, and generally made good food that much more accessible. You took the vision and turned it into a reality! Thanks to everyone from the Hillcrest Community and beyond who came out and brought their tools, their time, and their talents!

Questions? Thoughts? Comments?

Email them to jenn@organicgrowersschool.org

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