



EXECUTIVE

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Sept 2018 Newsletter

Meeting will be at 7:00 pm, Wed, Sept 26th, in upper level of Heritage House, 100 Lorne St. Guests are always welcome. Our meetings are always the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Speaker: As I sent all an email 2 weeks ago we do not have a speaker as we need all the time for our very fun Fall Harvest Auction, where club members bring produce from their gardens, or pickles, jams, jellies, pies, etc. and flowers, which are raffled off by Rae Wilson. I will be making, a low sugar fruit marmalade made with Xylitol, a sugar made from birch trees that has no calories and does not raise blood sugar, and apple pies made with regular sugar. So invite friends and neighbors and bring loonies and toonies, perhaps a \$5, for a good deal on mostly organic products.

Thank You To our June speaker Teresa Atkinson who did a very interesting and comprehensive demo on worm composting with red wigglers. She had stacking bins, and a small bucket of castings (worm poop) made in her basement by non-union worms working for room and board only. She always freezes her compost items before thawing it for the worms, and this avoids fungus knats developing in the bins. Also if the mixture is too wet it will be smelly, if too dry the worms will die.

Reminder that our meetings are scent free, no perfumes or colognes please as a couple members are very allergic to scents.

Don't forget Grocery Receipts from Independent Foods which we exchange for gift certificates that pay for our turkeys and rib roasts, and give them to Mary Bianco.

Goodies: this month's will be brought by Joan Campbell and Lorna McMillan.

Thank You to Frank Dwyer who saw a sale on plastic folding tables and bought 4 of them, as some of our have disappeared in the Heritage house renovations, but the city has told our president that they will replace them. We now have new cupboards to hold our flower show items, coffee cups, pots, Xmas décor, etc., and thanks to our very efficient flower show director Liv Sallows, for purging lots of unnecessary items and organizing all the rest.

Our club now has 79 members, wow the addition of staff from Purity feed has really upped our membership.

As you all know the Southern Interior Horticultural Association is a group of Garden Club in Southern B.C. who get together in the spring and fall. This October 13th we are hosting the meeting here at Heritage House, from 11 am to 3pm. Members are welcome to attend, but only 4 can vote. We will need volunteers to bring goodies for about 30-40 people, a signup sheet will be passed around.

Keynote Speaker

Frank Ritcey, Provincial Coordinator for WildSafe BC

Through the Eyes of a Kamloops Conservationist

(WildSafe BC is run by the BC Conservation Foundation and their program focuses on how we can minimize impact on wildlife we observe and keep ourselves safe at the same time. Frank is also a very popular host/commentator on CBC radio.

Have a look at our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/KamloopsGardenClub/>

Our 2 scheduled picnics at Riverside Park for July 17th and August 22nd seemed to have been forgotten by most members, so next year we will advertise them more, or plan a potluck BBQ somewhere.

The weather channel is predicting a warmer dry October, and a milder winter, so if we don't get frost soon we can hope our flowers last through next month, that would make up for the coldest September I can remember in 20 years.

Slugs and Snails from Perennial Pulse Newsletter

Although snails and slugs are often considered insect pests, they're not insects at all. They belong to the phylum Mollusca, which contains clams, crustaceans, oysters and octopus (it would be cool to see an octopus wandering around the perennials).

The brown garden snail (*Helix aspera*), the gray garden slug (*Agriolimax reticulatus*) and the greenhouse slug (*Milax gagates*) are some of the most common species feeding on perennials.

Slugs and snails chew irregular holes with smooth edges with their numerous strong teethlets. Feeding injury resembles the injury from some caterpillars, so this often causes some confusion for growers. To confirm the injury was caused by slugs or snails, look for the distinguishing silvery mucous slime trails they leave behind.

Baits Used for Controlling Snails and Slugs

Commercial baits are the most common method used to control snails and slugs. Baits work by several modes of action: metaldehyde baits cause over-production of mucous leading to desiccation; methiocarb baits poison the slugs and snails; and iron phosphate baits cause them to stop feeding leading to starvation.

Baits can be broadcasted throughout the production area. To improve the control with baits, consider irrigating the crop prior to applying them. Another tip is to make evening applications; this is when the snails and slugs are the most active. Baits are valuable tools used to reduce slug and snail populations, but will not eliminate them altogether.

Controlling snails and slugs is a process; it takes time and patience. Besides baits, the only insecticide I know of that's labeled for snails and slugs on ornamentals is Mesurol 75-W. Mesurol can be sprayed in the evenings when the snails are active to provide some knock down. However, even these sprays will not provide 100% control.

Product	Active Ingredient	Highest Labeled Rate	
		Per 1,000 Square Feet	Interval
Deadline M-Ps	4% Metaldehyde	0.46 pounds	Every 3 weeks
Durham Metaldehyde Granules 7.5	7.5% Metaldehyde	0.31 pounds	Every 3 weeks
Mesurol Pro	2% Methiocarb	1 pound	>10 Days - Only 2 Applications
Sluggo	1% Iron Phosphate	1 pound	Every 2 Weeks
Ferroxx 5%	5% Ferric Sodium EDTA	0.44 pounds	Every 2 Weeks
IronFist	2% Ferric Sodium EDTA	1 pound	Every 2 Weeks

From Discover Magazine Jan/Feb 2018

On the bright side slugs have given medicine a new tool to help save lives. Some slugs produce a mucus so strong, stretchy and effective it secures them to virtually any surface even wet ones. Scientists have been able to mimic this slug mucus using extracts from shrimp shell and algae which copy the biochemical and microstructural characteristics of the mucus. Tests have demonstrated effective adhesion to animal hearts, livers, cartilage and arteries, so it could be used to plug and patch slippery organs in humans.

Pictures from Hospice sorry they are not the quality we get from Frank Dwyer.



Dahlia Nick Sr. bought from Ferncliff Gardens in Chilliwack



Dahlia AC Paint from Ferncliff Gardens



These 2 are on the same plant, name unknown.

