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Quote for Thought from **Pete Ferretti**

Spread love everywhere you go: first of all in your own home. Give love to your children, to a wife or husband, to a next-door neighbor

~ Mother Teresa

Retirement Luncheon for Pete Ferretti

Please join us as we honor Pete's service to Penn State, the Department of Horticulture and the horticulture industry. We would like to extend an invitation to you to celebrate this special time for Pete. Attached to the email containing this newsletter you'll find the official invitation for this luncheon containing more details. Please pass this around to anyone who you feel might want to join Pete's celebration. We would appreciate all RSVP's by April 1, 2007.

Colony Collapse Disorder

Submitted by [Maryann Frazier](#), Senior Extension Associate, Entomology

During 2006, an alarming number of honey bee colonies began to die across the continental United States. Subsequent investigations suggest these outbreaks of unexplained colony collapse were experienced by beekeepers for at least the last two years. Reports of similar die offs are documented in beekeeping literature, with outbreaks possibly occurring as long ago as 1896. The current phenomenon, without a recognizable underlying cause, has been tentatively termed “Colony Collapse Disorder” (CCD), and threatens the pollination industry and production of commercial honey in the United States. Initial studies on bee colonies experiencing the die offs has revealed a large number of disease organisms present in the dying colonies, with most being “stress related” diseases and without any one disease being supported as the “culprit” underlying the deaths. The magnitude of detected infectious agents in the adult bees suggests some type of immunosuppression. Case studies and questionnaires related to management practices and environmental factors have identified a few common factors shared by those beekeepers experiencing the CCD; but no common environmental agents or chemicals were easily identified by these surveys. The search for underlying causes has been narrowed by the preliminary studies, but several questions remain to be answered.

To better understand the cause(s) of this disease and with the hope of eventually identifying strategies to prevent further losses, a group of researchers, extension agents, and regulatory officials was formed. This group represents a diverse number of institutions including Bee Alert Technology, Inc. (a bee technology transfer company affiliated with the University of Montana), The Pennsylvania State University, the USDA/ARS, the Florida Department of Agriculture, and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Broadly this group has identified its mandate as: “Exploring the cause or causes of honey bee colony collapse and finding appropriate strategies to reduce colony loss in the future”.

Recent Onion Herbicide Options for Weed Control

Mike Orzolek, Department of Horticulture, Pennsylvania State University

Outlook (dimethenamid-P) from BASF is labeled for dry bulb onions, garlic and dry bulb shallots. Because Outlook's mode of action is a shoot and root growth inhibitor, rainfall or sprinkler irrigation or shallow mechanical incorporation after application is required to move the herbicide into the upper soil surface where weed seeds germinate. Outlook will not control weeds that have emerged from soil. Application must be made to clean-tilled soil before weeds emerge from soil or in a program with other herbicides that control emerged weeds.

Application Methods and Timing

Outlook may only be applied by the following methods or systems: Broadcast application including ground, through chemigation or herbigation, and impregnated onto dry bulk fertilizer, lay-by application including post-emergence- directed, or aerial applications.

Early Post-emergence

Notes: Must be applied prior to weed seedling emergence or in a tank mix* with products that control emerged weeds. Apply after onion seedlings (direct seeding) have reached at least the 2 true leaf stage or 2 weeks after transplanting onions. **Do not** apply Outlook within 30 days of harvest. Application made prior to 2 true leaf stage may result in significant crop injury including possible stand reduction.

Split Applications

Use ½ to 2/3 the maximum rate initially and the remaining ½ to 1/3 in sequential application. Maintain a minimum of 14 days between sequential applications.

*Tank mixing: Read and follow the applicable Restrictions and Limitations and Directions for Use on all products involved in tank mixing. The most restrictive labeling applies to tank mixes.

Use Rate per Acre

Soil Texture Coarse/Organic Matter Content <3%	12-14 fl. oz./A	≥3% ¹	14-18 fl. oz./A
Medium or Fine	14-18 fl. oz./A		18-21 fl. oz./A ²

¹On muck soils and those high in organic matter, use Outlook at 21 fluid ounces per acre.

²In a single season, do not exceed a total maximum combined rate of 21 fluid ounces of Outlook per acre.

Weeds Controlled

Annual Grasses

Barnyardgrass, annual roughstalk bluegrass, California downy brome, large smooth crabgrass, southwestern woolly cupgrass¹, fescue, giant, green and yellow foxtail, goosegrass, seedling Johnsongrass¹, wild proso millet¹, fall panicum¹, red rice, Italian ryegrass, sandbur¹, shattercane¹, broadleaf signalgrass¹, and witchgrass.

Sedges

Rice flatsedge, and yellow nutsedge²

Annual Broadleaves

Palmer, powell Amaranth, Florida beggarweed¹, carpetweed, mayweed chamomile, eclipta¹, common lambsquarters¹, black, eastern black, hairy, and cutleaf nightshades², prostrate, redroot, smooth, and tumble Pigweed, common purslane, Florida pusley, common Ragweed¹, nodding, and spotted Spurge, common and tall Waterhemp².

¹ Partial control or suppression. To complement control, Outlook® herbicide should be used in tank mixes or sequential applications with other herbicides that provide additional control of these weed species.

² For best control of these species, use the highest rate recommended by soil type. If dry conditions exist near application, or excessive rainfall occurs early in season, a postemergence herbicide or cultivation may be required to help control these weeds.

In situations where Outlook has been applied to dry bulb onions, garlic and dry bulb shallots and crop failure occurs due to adverse weather or other reasons, the re-planting (re-cropping) of dry bulb onions, garlic and dry bulb shallots is **not recommended**. If re-planting of a crop is necessary, plant any crop (e.g. corn, dry bean, grain sorghum, soybean) where a soil application of Outlook is registered. **Do not** make a second application of Outlook in re-cropping situations if the original application was broadcast. Fall-seeded cereal crops may be planted 4 months or more following an Outlook application. There are no further rotational crop restrictions the spring following the previous year's application of Outlook.

Chateau (flumioxazin – Group 14) from Valent is labeled for dry bulb onions. Apply post-emergence to onions at the 2 to 6 leaf stage of development (transplants) and 3 to 5 leaf stage of development (direct seeded) but pre-emergence to weed emergence in field. Chateau will not control any weeds that have already emerged.

Directions for Use

- Do not apply more than 1.5 oz. of Chateau WDG per acre during a single application.
- Do not apply more than 3.0 oz. of Chateau WDG per acre during a single growing season.
- Do not make sequential applications within 14 days of the first application, unless otherwise directed by supplemental label issued by Valent USA Corporation.
- Do not apply more than 1.0 oz of Chateau WDG per season on soils that contain greater than 90% sand plus gravel.
- Application with an adjuvant, or as part of a tank-mix, may result in unacceptable crop injury.
- Chateau can be tank mixed only with Prowl H2O at labeled rates.
- Do not apply within 45 days of harvest.

Weeds Controlled

Carpetweed, chickweeds, dandelion, cutleaf evening primrose, Florida pusley, henbit, kochia, common lambsquarters, little mallow, marestail/horseweed, nightshades, pigweeds, prickly sida, puncture vine, common purslane, wild radish, shepherds-purse, small flower morningglory, spotted spurge and Venice mallow.

Words of Wisdom

Anonymous, Submitted by [Mike Orzolek](#)

... to all the kids who survived the 1930's 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's ...

We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle, and no one actually died from this. We ate cupcakes, white bread, and real butter, and we drank Kool-Aid made with sugar, but we weren't overweight because we were always outside playing! We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the lights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. And we were OK.

We would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem. We did not have Playstations, Nintendo's, X-boxes, or any video games at all, no 150 channels on cable, no video movies or DVD's, no surround-sound or CD's, no cell phones, no personal computers, no internet or chat rooms ... we had friends and we went outside and found them.

We fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents. We ate worms and mud pies made from dirt, and the worms did not live in us forever. We were given BB guns for our 10th birthdays, made up games with sticks and tennis balls and, although we were told it would happen, we did not put out very many eyes. We rode bikes or walked to a friend's house and knocked on the door or rang the bell ... or just walked in and talked to them.

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers, and inventors ever! The past 50 years have seen an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success, and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

Kind of makes you want to run through the house with scissors, doesn't it?

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Upcoming Meetings

If you have a meeting you would like to announce, please send the meeting title, date, location and contact information to esanchez@psu.edu.

Local

- ✓ March 8, 2007. Southeast PA Vegetable Day, Neshaminy Manor Center, Doylestown, PA. For more information contact Scott Guiser at (215) 345-3283 or sxg6@psu.edu.
- ✓ March 24, 2007. **Pond Management Meeting**, Chambersburg, PA. For more information contact Steve Bogash at (717) 263-9226 or smb13@psu.edu.
- ✓ July 25, 2007. **Kutztown Produce Auction Meeting**, Fleetwood, PA. For more information contact John Berry at (610) 391-9840 or jberry@psu.edu or Mena Hautau at (610) 378-1327 or mmh10@psu.edu.

Regional

- ✓ March 20, 2007. **2007 Farmers Market Alliance of Western Pennsylvania Annual Workshop: Purple Cows and Your Farmers Market**, The Regional Learning Alliance, 850 Cranberry Woods Dr., Cranberry, PA 16066. Keynote Speaker: Cheryl Cook, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, PDA. For more information visit: www.farmersmarketalliance.com.

National

International

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The newsletter is also posted within three days on the Department of Horticulture Vegetable program website at: <http://hortweb.cas.psu.edu/extension/veg crops/newsletterlist.html>.

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