

CROSS POLLINATION

Halton Master Gardeners Monthly Newsletter
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Halton Region
Master Gardeners



Purple Prairie Clover (*Dalea purpurea*)

By Janet Mackey, Halton Master Gardener

Imagine a plant that enhances your garden's beauty during the heat of summer while also nurturing the soil, feeding wildlife and attracting pollinators. It seems impossible, but *Dalea purpurea* meets these objectives and even more with its very attractive purple flowers. As a member of the [Fabaceae](#) (Pea) family, Purple Prairie Clover [fixes nitrogen](#) in the soil and has been used as forage for livestock and wildlife. Its natural range extends through the Canadian prairie provinces and into the extreme northwest of Ontario, including the Kenora region. It is not a native plant to our region in southern Ontario but there are plenty of reasons to include this flower in your garden. It is drought tolerant, adaptable to a wide range of soil conditions, and can thrive in rocky terrain. The flowers, supported by a sturdy taproot, have a long period of bloom, opening in a ring which gradually moves upwards as the season progresses. As the plant matures in the garden, several stems will shoot up, creating vase-shaped clumps.

Once established Purple Prairie Clover is a low-maintenance plant. It rarely needs division and does not spread aggressively. Be careful not to weed it out in early spring as it looks rather inconspicuous with only the very fine leaves. It is recommended that during the first year, the plant be mulched to prevent frost heaving.



Early spring growth

Continued on next page

Purple Prairie Clover (*Dalea purpurea*) CON'T

Since Purple Prairie Clover is very high in protein, it's a favourite food of many herbivores including rabbits. A barrier might be necessary to prevent foraging if you're just getting it started. In addition, a little patience might also be needed as this plant is also known to be a slow starter in the garden while establishing its thick fleshy taproot.

Propagation:

It's relatively easy to start Purple Prairie Clover from seed. It's available from Canadian sources such as [Wildflower Farm](#), [Hundred Fold](#), [Blazing Star](#) and [Northern Wildflowers](#).



Seeds should be stored in a dry, cold area before propagation. While some sources mention that Purple Prairie Clover doesn't require pre-treatment (scarification or stratification) it's noted that the rate of germination is improved with some scarification using sandpaper.

Indoors

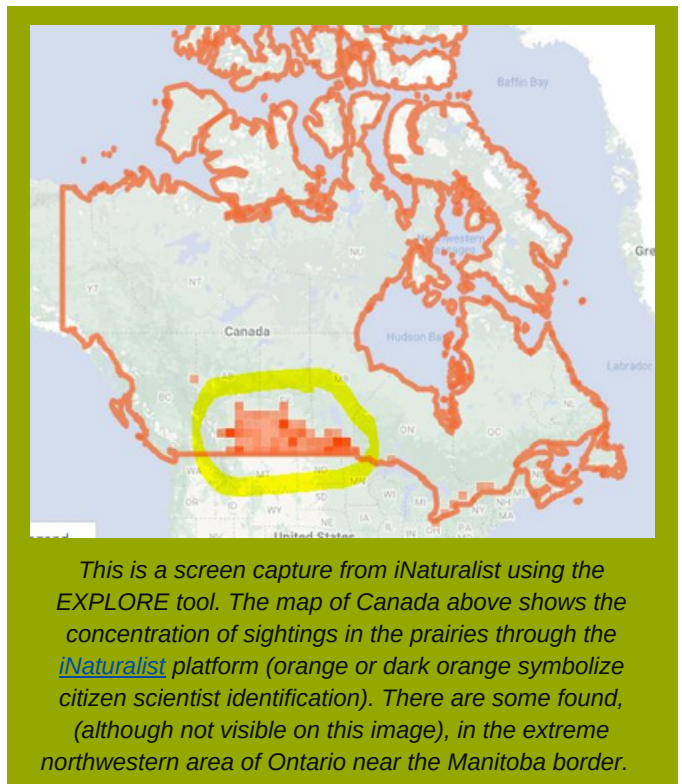
- Start 4 weeks before outdoor night temperatures are consistently above 10 degrees. In my region of 6b, that may be sometime from late March to early April.
- Plant the seeds just under the surface of the soil (3mm deep) and keep them moist (not soggy) and warm (21 C) until they begin to emerge.
- When seedlings are about 5 cm (2 in.) tall, transplant them into the garden spaced 30 cm apart. You may need to deter small mammals from foraging by providing a barrier.

Outdoors

- Direct sow in early spring at a depth of 1 cm on firmly compacted soil.
- Keep soil moist until the seed germinates.

Ecological Benefits:

The pollen and nectar have been known to be attractive to solitary bees in the native range of *Dalea purpurea*.



Cultural Conditions:

Light: Full Sun

Soil: Average to Dry, well-drained soil. Adaptable to loam, sandy, clay, gravelly or alkaline soils

Height: 30-60 cm

For more information/Reading/References

- [Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Centre](#)
- [USDA NRCS Plant Guide - Purple Prairie Cover](#)
- [Purple Prairie Clover](#) Illinois Wildflowers



JULY GARDEN 'TO DO' LIST

By Claudette Sims, Halton Master Gardener

- ☐ **Keep Things Blooming** – Deadheading, pinching, cutting back and thinning are excellent [techniques](#) to keep flowers blooming longer, larger and healthier. Cut back early blooming perennials, e.g., [hardy geraniums](#), spiderwort and delphiniums after the first flush of flowers to encourage new growth and blooms. Shorten stems of fall flowering plants like asters, mums, Joe-Pye weed and [goldenrod](#) to keep them sturdy and compact. Trim just above a set of leaves.
- ☐ **Common Milkweed** – Trim back some of your Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) stems the 2nd or 3rd week of July to [stimulate new, young growth](#) which is more attractive to monarchs for egg laying.
- ☐ **Veggies** – Water during dry or hot weather to avoid stressing plants. Do not over fertilize **tomatoes, peppers or squash** as this can lead to [blossom end rot](#). Snip **herbs** and **chives** to encourage new bushy growth. Harvest lettuce by [snipping greens](#) at soil level for continued growth.
- ☐ **Weeds** – Check this [Ontario Weed Gallery Guide](#) to help ID weeds & find management options. (Note that some native plants like milkweed are included as "weeds"). Target removal of seedheads to reduce the seed bank for next year. **Lawn weeds** that are actively growing can be killed using an approved herbicide such as [chloroindole](#) (a naturally occurring organic compound) or [iron](#). **Weeds in bricks/driveways** can be cut using a line trimmer, solarized or sprayed with an approved herbicide.
- ☐ **Invasive Plants** – Be aware that invasive plants are still sold at nurseries, so make sure new purchases are not on invasive plant lists. Check this [Grow Me Instead Guide](#) for info on what is invasive as well as non-invasive alternatives.

“Explore the wonderful world of leaf galls! Look for [leaf galls](#) in your garden or a nearby natural area. They are amazing creatures!”



Maple trees are host to several species of leaf galls, including this “bladder gall” (caused by an Eriophyidmite). Most galls do not harm trees.

- ☐ **Summer Watering** – Water earlier in the day, and at the base of plants or using soaker hoses. Water spring planted trees and shrubs regularly and existing trees less frequently, but deeply. **Potted plants** may need watering twice a day in hot, dry weather. **Stop watering garlic** 2-3 weeks before harvest (about mid-July).
- ☐ **Lawn** – Mow high (3”/7.5 cm) to shade out weeds. Leave the clippings on the grass to return nutrients & water to the soil. Let the lawn go dormant in dry hot spells (it may yellow) by watering only every other week. Water dormant grass if the blades don’t spring back upright when you walk on it or if they fold to show their lighter blueish green underside. Learn more about [summer care of lawns](#).
- ☐ **Nurture Nature** – Water is essential to life. Leave a shallow dish of water out for thirsty critters like butterflies, chipmunks and squirrels



Watering the Garden: Tips and Techniques for Thriving Plants

Sean James, Guelph-Wellington Master Gardener



Up to 60% of our (very expensive and heavily subsidized) potable water goes onto our landscapes. The Environmental Protection Agency in the U.S. estimates 30%, and the National Wildlife Federation estimates 50 – 70%(!) of our water use is for irrigation. According to Canadian Geographic, “In North America, 60% of household water use happens outdoors.” 🤖

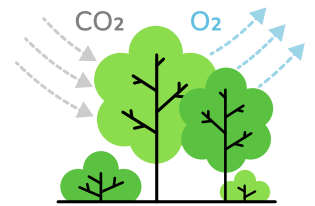
Getting off to a good start

Make sure plants are watered before planting. If plants are dry in the pots, water them twice. (When organic matter dries out, it actually becomes hydrophobic, meaning that it repels water.)

There is a technique known as [pulse watering](#) which involves giving plants a light water, then taking a break to allow them to absorb that water. Give them a second drink, and allow time for absorption. This helps the soil expand (it contracts when it dries out) and push against the side of the pot, making something of a seal, so subsequent waterings will stay in the pot and do the good they're meant to do. With large trees, consider using a bucket with a small hole in the bottom. Perch it on top of the pot or rootball and fill it with water.

Water will slowly seep out and thoroughly wet the root zone, as opposed to just running off.

With larger plants (trees and large shrubs), after the plant is placed in the hole, fill the hole $\frac{1}{2}$ way with (unamended!) excavated soil, then fill the hole with water. Let that drain away/get absorbed, then finish filling the hole and build a watering saucer around it.



Folks often forget about trees during dry periods. Trees desperately need water to cool themselves on hot days. Absorbing water is also how trees bring up nutrients from the soil, so it is doubly important. The good news is they cool your yard at the same time AND sequester carbon. To water a tree, set the hose on the lowest trickle possible and leave it at the base of the tree overnight. But don't over water! Roots need carbon dioxide too, and they can't get it from waterlogged soil. Get a [soil moisture sensor](#) to see if the rootball and environs have started to dry out. Overwatering kills the tiniest roots that are just trying to get growing. Watering bags such as [Treegator](#) are great for helping trees make it through their first season.



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WATERING THE GARDEN (CONT'D)

Here, we will deal with 'broad brush strokes', but be aware, there are always exceptions. Veggies, for instance, are thirsty, and need more regular watering than 'landscape plants'.

The Basics:

- Drip is best, since it allows water to slowly soak into the root zones with minimal evaporation. Applying water directly to the base of the plant (as opposed to from above via sprinklers or pop-up irrigation) via drip hoses/systems, or otherwise, avoids wetting the leaves and puts the water RIGHT at the base of the plant.
- Water early in the morning. Water should evaporate off the leaves early and quickly.
- The worst time to water is the early evening, since leaves will stay wet all night. The longer water sits there, the more time it allows for fungal spores to germinate. However, watering at mid-day means huge losses to evaporation.
- It is better to water less often, but deeply. Measure rainfall with a gauge so you know what you're really getting from the sky, then you can augment. Water pressure varies from home to home, so however you irrigate, put out an empty tuna can and irrigate for a half hour. Measure how much is in the can, then you can calculate how long you need to irrigate to put down an inch (2.5cm) of water.
- When it all comes down to it, the only way to tell if a garden needs water is to stick your finger in the soil. If it's cool and moist, it's ok. If it's warm and dry, give it a drink.
- Plants in pots and planters need to be watered pretty much every day!

New Plantings (subtracting rainfall!):

- For the first 4 – 6 weeks put down ½" (1.3cm) water two times per week.
- After that, water until the snow flies; 1" (2.5cm) per week, all at once.
- A well-designed landscape should be drought-tolerant, so after that establishment period, water only during periods of extreme drought.
 - A great irony? To get their roots deep into the ground, drought-tolerant plants, including many native species, require MORE watering care during the first year (two years in the case of some ferns, such as Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) than do 'regular' landscaping plants such as Astilbe. The good news? After that first year, the rest is easy, since they'll be established from then on.



Drip hose irrigation allows water to soak into the root zone.

Methods:

There are many methods of watering, each of which has its own merits. Just standing with the hose, watering the lawn or garden really doesn't do the job. It takes a while to apply enough water.

Watering methods include:

- Oscillating sprinklers that you move around as needed;
- DIY irrigation, such as these micro-pore hose systems like the one pictured here from [Lee Valley](#), and professionally-installed automatic systems.

There are always exceptions. Veggies, for instance, are thirsty, and need more regular watering than 'landscape plants',



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WATERING THE GARDEN (CONT'D)

Methods (Cont'd):

If you must have an irrigation system installed (perhaps, because of time, or physical ability, you just can't haul hoses!), make sure the installer is [WSIP certified](#) to get the best, 'smartest' system. State-of-the-art systems are tied into satellite weather radar and forecasts, have built in soil moisture sensors, and use a mix of delivery devices, including low-pressure drip hoses and large-droplet spray heads, using the best method for the precise location and purpose. Think about turning off the system after the first year.

Reducing Usage:

Reducing your municipal water consumption will help reduce rainwater run off from your property and save you money. Use [Low Impact Development \(LID\)](#)

techniques to capture stormwater; rain barrels, rain gardens, bioswales and evaporation ponds (ornamental ponds/water features to which downspouts are guided so the water will hold and evaporate). From there it will soak into the soil and be available to your garden plants. These methods reduce local flooding, protect our waterways as well as the creatures that live in them and so much more.

Mulch slows evaporation, keeps soil cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter, reduces weed germination and promotes the [soil microbiome](#). Keep mulch topped up (to 2 – 3" (5 to 7cm)— no more, and never against tree trunks!) every year or two. A composted mulch, such as that sold by [Elmview Farms](#), is a good blend of wood shavings that keep weeds down, and compost that feeds the plants and soil.



RAIN BARREL

Raise the barrel up for ease of use

Rain Barrels (and How to Use Them):

The folks that give/subsidize rain barrels don't do a great job explaining the essence of using them well. Yes, you get to use the water to water your plants, but that's not really the purpose. The important part about rain barrels is to empty them a day or so before it rains so the barrel is empty before it rains again, ready to catch that rain. For YOU, try and put your rain barrel on a pedestal, metaphorically and literally, since raising it up increases the gravity that can force the water through the pipes, and also make it more physically easy (you don't have to bend down so far) to get the water out. Two simple ways to use the water in your garden, beyond just using rain barrel water to fill a watering can? Attach a sweating hose (the kind with little pores) and run it through the garden. When it's time to empty it, just open the barrel's bottom valve and let gravity slowly deliver the water to your plants. The second option is a system such as [Irrigatia.ca](#) which is an automatic solar gizmo designed to slowly and constantly pump the water from the barrels out into the garden. Before winter, make sure you empty the barrel and lay it on its side. If it freezes it may crack.

Some Bits and Pieces

Sometimes, if it's hot and humid, as it often is in Ontario summers, and the soil has moisture in it, plants can still fall behind cooling themselves. There's a handy technique/treatment known as syringing. It's often used on golf course greens but works in gardens too. At the heat of the day, just give wilting plants a light misting (VERY light – so it evaporates quickly). (That bit about water droplets on leaves in sunlight burning them – MYTH!) This syringing cools them and allows them to catch up on drawing up water from the soil, taking stress off-both you and the plants! 😊.

Continued on next page

WATERING THE GARDEN (CONT'D)**Watering Turf Grass**

There are drought tolerant turf types such as perennial rye, and the new varieties of rhizomatus tall fescue, which reduce water use, repel insects and resist fungal attack. They also spread by rhizome, under the soil surface, so they're 'self-healing' just like Kentucky Blue. Look into these if turf is important in the landscape. Used together, over-seeding and topdressing are an excellent way to upgrade an existing lawn since minimal work is required, and disturbance of the existing soil is minimized. Use of improved varieties of seed means fewer pests and less water use.

All new lawns, both seed and sod, should be watered lightly (never allow water to pool) two or three times a day, depending on heat and humidity, for about 10 minutes each time. New sod must never be allowed to dry out. When seeding, avoid overwatering as the seed can float and move with the water, causing it to wash away.

This watering regimen needs to be continued until sod has rooted, or seed has germinated and rooted. After that, watering can be reduced to once a day for two weeks (again, depending on weather), then to ½ inch (1.3cm) twice a week for two weeks, then to 1" (2.5cm) a week for the remainder of the season. Seed applied through [terrasedding](#) will need considerably less attention.

Preparing for Winter

Woody plants (especially evergreens) need to be well-watered going into winter. Once the ground freezes, they can no longer uptake water, yet still lose water to evaporation. If the fall is dry, give woody plants a good soaking before the snow flies. New evergreens should be wrapped for their first winter. This is especially important for White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), hemlock (*Tsuga* spp.) and fir (*Abies* spp.) and broadleaf evergreens such as rhododendrons.

As well as being a Master Gardener, Sean owns 'Sean James Consulting & Design'. Named by Landscape Ontario as 2020 and 2021's Garden Communicator of the Year, gardening has been Sean James' passion and profession for almost 40 years. A graduate of Niagara Parks School of Horticulture, writer, and teacher, Sean focuses on eco-gardening techniques. Sean had the honour of being part of creating the new Ontario Landscape Tree Planting Guide, the Grow-Me-Instead Guide, the Ontario Horticultural Apprenticeship Curriculum, the National Red Seal Occupational Standard, and the Master Gardeners Reference Manual.

Transplanting in the Heat:

If you HAVE to move a plant in the heat of summer, cover them as soon as they're dug from the soil (and keep them covered) with a thin old sheet or some burlap (something that lets light through and doesn't weigh too much) and mist them a couple of times a day. It's not about watering the plant, but rather about taking stress off, so it can concentrate on growing new roots. The moist/misted fabric creates an envelope of humidity around the plant, reducing [transpiration](#) and keeping it cool. This should probably stay on about three weeks to a month, until the plant has had a chance to grow new root hairs.



GARDENING

Myths
WATERING

UNDERSTANDING FACT FROM FICTION

By Janet Mackey, Halton Master Gardener

MYTH: Watering each day is best to keep plants hydrated.

- Every plant is different in their moisture requirements.
- Even two identical plants, planted in different locations may have different watering requirements (soil, exposure, heat from hard surfaces, stage of growth etc.).
- Watering frequently with a small amount of water can cause plants to develop a shallow root system.
- Established plants and trees require slow, deep watering.
- Don't use a watering schedule - probe the soil with your hand near the roots.

**MYTH: Watering on a hot, sunny day will burn the leaves**

FACT:

- Leaves are not damaged by the sun reaching water droplets, in fact it may cool the leaves somewhat.
- However, watering near midday is not ideal as it is likely to evaporate before reaching the plant's roots.
- The best time to water is early in the morning. Watering in the evening may spread fungal diseases.
- If a plant is showing drought stress, WATER!



*In the garden, beauty grows in
silence and strength in the watering.*

**MYTH: There was a big rainstorm so you don't have to water.**

FACT:

- A big sudden rainstorm may seem to provide the needed moisture, however more often the water runs off before it can soak into the soil. Runoff can be worse when the soil is dry and exposed to heat.
- Improve the moisture-holding capacity by adding organic matter to the soil.
- Reduce the effect of heat on soil by applying a mulch if there is bare soil.

**MYTH: Plants that are drought tolerant don't need watering.**

FACT:

- Newly-planted 'drought-tolerant' plants will need water to get established in the garden.
- If you can, plant in the fall so they have time (3 seasons) to establish before hot summer weather arrives.
- Water deeply and frequently (possibly every other day), during a period of heat. If it's in a windy spot, more water may be needed during the first year.
- During the 2nd year, monitor for moisture levels by probing the soil with your hand (15 cm). Water slowly and deeply if needed.



MYTH:

The automatic sprinklers will keep the plants watered.

FACT:

- Most irrigation systems are set for turf grass which has a shallow root system.
- A drip irrigation system is a more effective automatic method of watering plants as it can be tailored to the needs of the plant.

**MYTH: Once plants slow their growth in the fall, you don't need to water.**

FACT:

- Insufficient moisture in the soil can effect the ability of plants ["to undergo the biochemical and physiological changes needed to obtain maximal cold hardiness."](#)
- If there is insufficient precipitation in fall, newly planted shrubs and trees should be watered until the soil freezes.

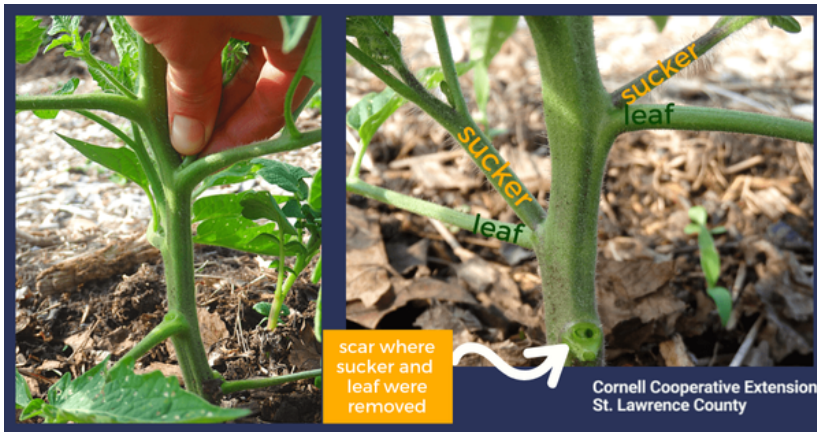




By Hariette Henry, Halton Master Gardener

Pruning tomato plants is not essential to achieving a successful harvest, but many experts agree that [pruning can result in stronger healthier plants](#), improved harvestable yields and decreased disease prevalence.

There are two different types of tomato plants: [determinate and indeterminate](#). These two types require different approaches to pruning. If you're not sure what type of plant you have, you can find this information on the tag or on the seed packet.



Before getting into the details of how to prune, it's important to understand the role that [suckers](#) play in the health and productivity of tomato plants. Tomato suckers are small shoots that grow out of the joints (axils) where leaves attach to the main stem. If left unchecked suckers can grow into full-sized branches, complete with their own leaves, flowers and fruit. This means that they can significantly increase the bushiness and overall size of a plant.

Determinate tomatoes have a bush growth habit. These varieties stop growing once they set a terminal bud, usually when they are around 4' to 5' tall.

“Do tomato plants need to be pruned and how should I go about it?”

At that point they stop putting on leafy growth and start focusing on flowering and fruit set. If you remove the suckers or branches from determinate tomatoes, you're reducing their fruiting capacity and overall yield. With these plants it's best to limit pruning to the removal of foliage at the base of the plant, to avoid them being stricken with [soil-borne diseases](#) such as Early Blight, Septoria Leaf Spot and Alternaria.

Indeterminate tomatoes, also known as vining tomatoes, grow indefinitely until frost. These plants are vigorous and can grow up to 6' or 7' tall. They are typically staked to keep the plants off the ground. New growth is tied or clipped at regular intervals.

The goal with these plants is selective pruning to control growth and encourage good air flow while maximizing tomato yield and fruit size. Suckers produce flowers and eventually fruits, but allowing all suckers to grow could result in a massive plant that would be difficult to support and more prone to insect problems and plant diseases. For this reason, many gardeners will prune out the majority of suckers leaving only the main stem + a few more suckers at the base of the plant that will grow into secondary stems.

[The key to selective pruning is finding the right balance](#). Fewer stems will limit yield while too many can overcrowd the plant and lead to poor fruit quality and higher disease risk. As the plants grow, remove any blemished or yellowing foliage.

While pruning, it is always recommended to keep gardening tools cleaned and sanitized with rubbing alcohol prior to pruning and between treating each plant. Mulching plants with straw or shredded leaves to stop water from splashing disease spores onto the foliage can also be a good idea.



Garden Inspiration!

The Predatory Pollinator You Need to Know: Flower Fly

Alice Dabrowski & Dr. Andrew D. Young University of Guelph

WHAT DO THE ADULTS EAT?

Adult flower flies feed primarily on flower nectar and pollen. Some even have specialized pollinator relationships with specific flowers.

WHAT DO THE LARVAE EAT?

Predatory larvae feed on a variety of soft-bodied insects, including aphids. They use their piercing mouthparts to suck fluids from their prey – just like a juice box!

Larvae of the Maize Calligrapher are vegetarians that feed on corn pollen, unlike other related species.

WHY ARE THE ADULTS IMPORTANT?

Given their flower-associated diets and fuzzy bodies, flower flies are phenomenal pollinators. They contribute significant pollination services to wild flowers and agricultural crops.

Click Here to View Life Cycle

Flower flies pollinate 70% of animal-pollinated plants

WILL THE ADULTS HURT ME?

Even though many adults look like bees and wasps, flower flies are incapable of biting or stinging.

Phew!

WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE ADULTS?

Adults are usually found in proximity to blooming flowers, with a preference for humid, sunny spots. Many inhabit both natural and urban settings.

ARE THEY THE SAME AS 'HOVERFLIES'?

Yes, adult flower flies are best known for their prolonged suspended flight – this remarkable feat is the inspiration for their other common name.

HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY FLOWER FLY ADULTS?

All adult flies have only two wings (the *di-* of Diptera). Adult flower flies can be identified by an unconnected vein in the center of their wings, known as the *spurious vein*.

WHY ARE THE LARVAE IMPORTANT?

Wild predatory flower fly larvae help balance pest insect populations. Work is being done to integrate flower fly larvae into crop systems as a non-pesticide pest-control option.

Click Here to View Flower Flies

Predatory larvae have been found to eat 30 to <100 aphids per day

HOW DO THE LARVAE MOVE AROUND?

No eyes, no legs – travelling is tough as a flower fly larva! Terrestrial larvae have a limited ability to move long distances. Predatory larvae inch forward, pausing to swing their head from side-to-side to find a prey item.

Many species overwinter as larvae in leaf litter

WHERE CAN YOU FIND THE LARVAE?

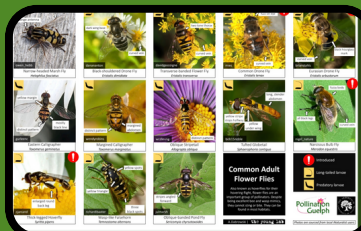
There are terrestrial and aquatic flower fly larvae, but only the terrestrial groups are predatory. They are never far from their prey items, often on the stems of infested plants. Many are well-camouflaged and active at night to avoid potential predators.

Some larvae mimic bird poop to avoid unwanted attention.

HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY FLOWER FLY LARVAE?

Flower fly larvae have no eyes, no legs, and no head capsule. They can be identified by a fused breathing tube at their rear.

Common
flower fly
larvae



Common
flower fly
adults

Click for
original
poster and
webinar on
flower
flies.

Click [here](#) to enlarge images.

What's Growing On?

By Trish Moraghan, Halton Master Gardener

Halton Master Gardener Advice Clinic at the Famers' Market in Hamilton



Answering your
Gardening
Questions!

Ottawa Street (Municipal
Parking Lot # 2)
Dates: Saturdays
June 1, July 6, August 3,
September 7 and Oct.5



Watch for slugs and earwigs!

Check our [calendar](#) for events



Hamilton
Naturalists'
Club

Summer Events

- July 10th, [Summer Tree Walk at Hamilton Cemetery](#)
- July 18th, [Evening Volunteer Gardening](#)
- July 24th, [Evening Hike at the Grimsby Wetlands](#)



- July 4 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm [Hidden Gems of Purple Hill Garden Tour and Tea](#) Orangeville
- July 7 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm [The Secret Gardens of Milton 2024](#)
- July 7 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm [Garden Stratford Garden Tour](#)
- July 8 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, [Cannington Hort Society Youth Hike: Exploring Native Plants & Pollinators](#)

For more events check the [OHA calendar](#).

What's Growing On?



Celebrating Summer Games-Floral Display



Jun 7 to Sept 2 - [Multiple Gardens](#)

Ontario Regional Lily Society Show



Saturday, July 6: 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Sunday, July 7: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
RBG Centre (680 Plains Rd W)

[For more info](#)

Junior Gardener's Club



Summer session Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
See [website](#) for more information.

The Enchanted Garden



Saturday July 13 to Sunday July 14, 2024
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (*time ticketed); Rock Garden

[Learn more here](#)

About Our Newsletter

Cross Pollination is published monthly from February to December and is written and prepared by our dedicated volunteers. Halton Master Gardeners are experienced gardeners who have studied horticulture extensively and continue to upgrade their skills through technical training. We strive to provide science-based, sustainable gardening information to the general public. The information in our newsletter has been verified by our volunteers to the best of our abilities, but given the scope of horticulture and science some concepts may not reflect current knowledge. The content displayed in our newsletter is the intellectual property of Halton Region Master Gardeners and their authors. It can be shared in its entirety, but specific content should not be reused, republished or reprinted without the author's consent.

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