

# Bugs & Blights

Sharon J. Collman | WSU Snohomish County Extension



**Red lily leaf beetle**, (*Lilioceris lilio*) is also called the scarlet lily beetle. This is the first record from Bellevue, WA, and should be added to our "watch" list. WSDA found it in Bellevue, WA, this spring. Lovely as it is, this beetle can devastate lilies and fritillarias, and lightly damage several genera including, lily-of-the-valley, Solomons's Seal, Solanum and potatoes, hollyhock, and hostas. Action by an alert public can reduce the spread and impact of this pest. Nurseries and cut flower growers will likely be most affected, as well as lily collectors and gardeners. Inspect incoming host plants for all stages. **If found, collect beetles and larvae and take them to your Extension office, call your nursery inspector, or send me an email ([collmans@wsu.edu](mailto:collmans@wsu.edu)) for more instructions.** More details at <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/nurspest/RLLB.pdf> or <http://extension.umass.edu/floriculture/fact-sheets/lily-leaf-beetle> Caution: pesticides listed may not be registered (legal) in your state. (Photo by Eric LaGasa, WSDA, used by permission).

## Columbine

**sawfly** (*Pristophora aquilegiae*) is responsible for those disappearing columbine leaves. Sawflies typically feed on the leaves, leaving behind only the three pathetic petioles. I've been surveying to determine just how many generations we have in the Puget Sound area. Sawflies feed voraciously then disappear into the ground to pupate. Adults emerge, lay eggs and the next generation of larvae devour more of the plant, and so it goes. Look for tiny circular feeding and tatters of leaves on plants. The website below gives more detailed information for Maine. Caution: pesticides listed may not be registered in your state. <http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pi/pestsurvey/pestinfo/cs.pdf>



## Fall webworm

(*Hyphantria cunea*) tents start out small in August – that's the best time to prune or use microbial pesticides to prevent further harm. The tents will eventually engulf entire branches, and sections of trees, with large silken tents filled with leafy debris, bug poo and caterpillars. These large tents protect them from the hordes of yellowjackets and paper wasps seeking food for the thousands of grubs wasps in the nest back home.



Help predators get through the silk barriers by tearing the webs with a long pole with screws partially inserted in one end or blast holes in it with the garden hose. <http://jenny.tfrec.wsu.edu/opm/displaySpecies.php?pn=590>; <http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/eb0827/eb0827.pdf>

**My new blog adventure** is a work in progress: <http://bugsandblights.wordpress.com> The goal is to provide quick notices and timely information on hatching pests, detection of new invasives, research reports, beneficials, and resources, upcoming classes with the goal of improving diagnostic skills, and IPM options for pests in Washington. It is also linked to a bugsandblights Facebook page. You can sign up to get notifications when new info is posted. I also have created a bugsandblights listserv if you would like to get pest management notices and other resources contact me at [collmans@wsu.edu](mailto:collmans@wsu.edu)

**Pesticides must have the host or site on the label and be registered in the state in which it will be applied.** A host-specific list of pesticides for homeowners in Washington can be found at <http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/> or <http://pep.wsu.edu/pestsense/>

**Target the Pest** with appropriate timing, pesticides, application and equipment; Protect the Rest of the environment, water, bees, birds, home, human and pet health.