



Event Release

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A Farm Walk On the Edge of the Hedgerow, Where Biodiversity and Crop Production Meet.

EVENT DATE: Friday, August 18th, 2006

PLACE: Sauvie Island Organics and Howell Territorial Park, Portland, OR

TIME: 2:00-5:00 P.M.

CONTACT: Gwendolyn Ellen, 541-737-6272, gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu or Mace Vaughan, 503-232-6639, mace@xerces.org

Farmers and fellow bugscapers are gathering for our first farm walk of the season at **Sauvie Island Organics, and the Howell Territorial Park in Portland, OR from 2-5 P.M., on Friday, August 18th**. Sauvie Island Organics is nestled between farms and a wildlife refuge on an island flanked by the Columbia River and the Multnomah Canal just fifteen minutes from Portland. Owner Shari Raider and her partners have been growing vegetables and fruits on small intensively grown plots for twelve years. They manage a 200 member community supported farm, and market to several restaurants in the Portland area. Howell Territorial Park is a 120A park managed by Metro. Sauvie Island is a unique area that hosts more than 2-3 million migratory water fowl and many other species of wildlife, including beneficial insects and pollinators. Come join the Integrated Plant Protection Center (IPPC) at Oregon State University (OSU), The Xerces Society, Metro, NRCS representatives and the farmers at Sauvie Island Organics for an afternoon of intrigue and discovery about beneficial organisms on the farm and the conservation biological control methods that help keep them around. We will be highlighting hedgerows and their margins. Don't miss this unique opportunity to follow veteran vegetable farmers and fellow explorers as we attempt to understand and observe how the complex web of biodiversity and crop production interact right before our eyes!

Sauvie Island Organics and Metro's new conservation hedgerow is sure to provide us with an excellent opportunity to investigate the relationships of this unique landscape and how it interfaces with the ecological systems on and off the farm. We will concentrate on observing and assessing the biodiversity that exists in the insect and plant realms of hedgerows and their margins and how it relates to farm biological pest management. Be prepared for some field insect identification, active observation, and fun. To find out more about Sauvie Island Organics Farm visit their website at www.sauvieislandorganics.com. To find out more about Sauvie Island and its unique features visit www.riversedge-bb.com/sauvie.shtml. To find out more about Howell Territorial Park visit www.ohs.org/exhibitions/exhibit_bybeehouse.htm.

This is a BYOB (bring your own bug) event so if something has been *bugging* you and you don't know what it is, pop it in a jar and bring it along. Participants are invited to bring a vegetarian food dish, your own plates and cutlery, and share a pot luck meal at the end of the walk. Contact Gwendolyn Ellen at 541-737-6272, gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu or Mace Vaughan, 503-232-6639, mace@xerces.org for more information and directions to the farm.

The farm walks are sponsored by OSU's, Farmscaping for Beneficials Project at IPPC and The Xerces Society who are working together on a project to support grower-led activities that build the knowledge and implementation of conservation biological control (CBC) on local farms. Such methods may include insectary plantings, grassy field margins, beetle banks and hedgerows.