

It's out to take over world; stop bindweed everywhere

Now is the time! Actually we're almost out of time, but that is my normal. What is it time for? Bindweed control.

It really is the appropriate time for this topic - Halloween and my viewpoint of bindweed - the plant out to "take over the world." Yes, we have had some freezes, but as long as the bindweed is still green you can still tackle it.

During the spring and summer when bindweed is blooming, I see the pretty little innocent looking flower - everywhere. I have to admit, I have a bindweed problem too. I'm always going to get it sprayed and then run out of time so set my sights on the next season. Just like "tomorrow," it never happens and the bindweed quietly and quickly spreads and spreads and spreads....

Bindweed is difficult to control, especially for homeowners. For bindweed control in your lawn, selective herbicides are available. One with the trade name Drive (quinclorac) has, until recently, only been available to commercial applicators. There is now Drive packaged for homeowners and available from Monterey Lawn and Garden (www.montereylawn-garden.com). There are also homeowner combination herbicides that contain quinclorac, such as Ortho Weed-B-Gon Max + Crabgrass Control and Bayer All-in-One Lawn Weed and Crabgrass Killer. K-State requires that I also tell you brand names appearing in this article are for product identification purposes only. No endorsement is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

Talking with Ward Upham, K-State Horticulture specialist, about the information for this article he also mentioned this important point about reseeding the lawn. You don't want to use quinclorac or any product containing it



Diann Gerstner

• Knowledge for Life

if you are planning on reseeding your lawn soon. There should be a minimum of four weeks between application and reseeding turf.

Also note that lawns treated with quinclorac should not use clippings in compost or as mulch. We recommend clippings be returned to the lawn anyway, but if they are bagged they should be discarded. Do not apply products with Drive over exposed roots of trees and ornamentals. It would be best to avoid spraying beneath the canopy of any trees to avoid possible damage. If there are plans to convert a section of lawn to a vegetable garden, do not use Drive on that area. Eggplants can be damaged if planted within 12 months of areas treated with Drive, and tomatoes can be damaged if planted within 24 months.

Speaking of home vegetable gardens, now is a great time to work on bindweed control as it is easiest when your garden is not in production. If your garden is done, but the bindweed is there and green, get out the Roundup.

Roundup is a non-selective herbicide that will kill whatever it hits - this is vital to remember. That is why you don't use it for bindweed control in your lawn. It will kill the grass and you will have lovely brown spots everywhere you spray. Believe me, I've tried it. But what is nice about Roundup is that it is inactivated when it contacts the soil so it doesn't linger to cause you problems with future planting.

If you want to use Roundup on bindweed again in the spring and

summer remember these tips.

- During spring and summer, Roundup is most effective when applied to bindweed that is at or beyond full bloom. You can treat earlier, but don't skip the late summer to fall application - hopefully you are doing this now.

- Do not apply to bindweed that is under moisture stress or not growing well.

- If spraying bindweed close to plants that you don't want to damage or kill, use a shield to keep spray from contacting green plant material

Take action now. Get bindweed control on your "To Do" list and stop it from taking over the world.

As a sidenote, you read in last weeks Extension article that we have lost Clint Milliman to the Farm Management office. We are sorry to lose him, but wish him well in his new endeavor.

We are currently looking for his replacement. Extension hiring data shows that many times successful candidates have some sort of tie to the area. Do you know someone who should apply? Please make sure they are aware of the vacancy and direct them to www.ksre.ksu.edu/jobs for responsibilities, qualifications, and application procedure.

Application deadline is Friday, Nov. 9. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Employment is contingent upon results of a background and driving record check.

Diann Gerstner is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Thomas County Extension office.



Home Free

Concert season to continue in Oakley with a capella group

If you enjoy male a cappella groups, and you've probably heard several, you will find yourself breathless when you hear Home Free at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Oakley High School Auditorium. Their performance is part of the current 2012-2013 concert season presented by the Western Plains Arts Association.

While Home Free has singers like other a cappella groups, and produces percussive effects with their own voices and microphones, they are carving new ground, expanding their audience's horizons, and introducing their own unique flavor to the musical world.

Their genre of music is an expansive mix ranging from pop songs to classical and even techno - all successfully done with only the human voice, micro-

phones and state-of-the-art sound systems.

However, their music is put to the explosive beats of one of the most exciting vocal percussionists in the a cappella scene. This specialist, Adam Rupp, is featured as a vocal percussionist soloist. Other members of Home Free include Adam's brother Chris Rupp, Chris Foss and Matt Atwood, plus one or two additional backup singers who join in when needed.

Home Free has performed for a diverse clientele ranging from the Minnesota Vikings to the Mall of America, as well as universities, schools and on tour.

Home Free is doing what they love and are anxious to see a great and exciting audience in Oakley.

Admission is by season ticket or at the door - adults \$20, students \$10.

Website launched for KanCare

The State of Kansas has developed and launched a website for the new Medicaid program, KanCare, at www.kancare.ks.gov.

The site was created by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. It has information and material from the former KanCare Web page plus more content to assist consumers and service providers during the system transition.

Once KanCare is underway, the site will serve as the launching pad for all Medicaid-related content and applications in Kansas.

KanCare, a new integrated system of care coordination will cover the medical, behavioral health and long-term care services for all Medicaid consumers beginning Jan. 1, with the exception of long-term services and supports

for individuals with developmental disabilities, which will launch Jan. 1, 2014.

Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

Earth-sized planet found nearby

By Seth Borenstein

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON - European astronomers say that just outside our solar system they've found a planet that's the closest you can get to Earth in location and size.

It is the type of planet they've been searching for across the Milky Way galaxy and they found it circling a star right next door - 25 trillion miles away. But the Earth-like planet is so hot its surface may be like molten lava. Life cannot survive the 2,200 degree heat of the planet, so close to its star that it circles it every few days.

The astronomers who found it say it's likely there are other planets circling the same star, a little farther away where it may be cool enough for water and life. And those planets might fit the not-too-hot, not-too-cold description sometimes called the Goldilocks Zone.

That means that in the star system Alpha Centauri B, a just-right planet could be closer than astronomers had once imagined.

It's so close that from some southern places on Earth, you can see Alpha Centauri B in the night sky without a telescope. But it's still so far that a trip there using current technology would take tens of thousands of years.

But the wow factor of finding such a planet so close has some astronomers already talking about

how to speed up a 25 trillion-mile rocket trip there. Scientists have already started pressuring NASA and the European Space Agency to come up with missions to send something out that way to get a look at least.

The research was released online Tuesday in the journal *Nature*. There has been a European-U.S. competition to find the nearest and most Earthlike exoplanets - planets outside our solar system. So far scientists have found 842 of them, but think they number in the billions.

While the newly discovered planet circles Alpha Centauri B, it's part of a system of three stars: Alpha Centauri A, B and the slightly more distant Proxima Centauri. Systems with two or more stars are more common than single stars like our sun, astronomers say.

This planet has the smallest mass - a measurement of weight that doesn't include gravity - that has been found outside our solar system so far. With a mass of about 1.1 times the size of Earth, it is strikingly similar in size.


Stephane Udry of the Geneva Observatory, who heads the European planet-hunting team, said this means "there's a very good prospect of detecting a planet in the habitable zone that is very close to us."

And one of the European team's main competitors, Geoff Marcy of the University of California Berkeley, gushed even more about the scientific significance.

Ralph Ostmeyer

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- ✪ 6 Years on Soil Conservation Board
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"I have a common sense approach to governing in Topeka. I believe that a government closer to the people it serves, the better. This philosophy has guided me during my service in the Senate and I will continue this record of leadership."
-Ralph Ostmeyer

Re - Elect

Ralph Ostmeyer

State Senate - 40th District
Republican

Vote November 6 - General Election

Pol. Adv. paid for by Ostmeyer Campaign Fund, Lori Edwards, Treasurer

Endorsements:

- Kansans for Life (voted for HCR 5007)
- National Rifle Association & Kansas Rifle Association
- National Federation of Independent Businesses
- Kansas Hospital Association
- Kansas Medical Society
- Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Kansas Livestock Association
- Kansas Farm Bureau
- Kansas Contractors Association
- Senator Moran
- Senator Roberts
- Congressman Huelskamp

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day
Hi-Plains Co-op

Wheat (bushel)	\$8.17
Corn (bushel)	\$7.43
Milo (hundredweight)	\$12.73
Soybeans (bushel)	\$14.03



KIWANIS PANCAKE FEED

"Batter made from scratch"

Saturday, October 20th

7 a.m. - 2 p.m. • VFW

220 N. Lake, Colby

Proceeds go towards Christmas Projects, Youth Projects and Other Community Service

Tickets available from any Kiwanis member.



\$4.00

per person donation

ALL YOU CAN EAT!

Tammy Lou (Timm) Draper

Tammy Lou (Timm) Draper, 45, of Ford, Kansas died October 5, 2012 at Western Plains Medical Complex in Dodge City, Kansas. She was born March 8, 1967, in Brighton, Colorado to Robert William and Pamela Kaye (Arnold) Timm. Tammy moved to Ovid, Colorado with her family in 1970. She grew up on the family farm. Tammy was active in 4-H, FFA, athletics and was a lifeguard for many years. She attended school in Holyoke, Colorado, where she graduated in 1985. She began her college career at Colby Community College, where she played volleyball. While a student at there, Tammy met and began dating her future husband, Neal Draper. After graduating with her associate's degree, she transferred to Fort Hays State University, earning both a bachelor's and master's degree in speech-language pathology.

Upon completing her graduate education, Tammy moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico to begin her career. She and Neal moved to Hobbs, New Mexico and were later married on September 11, 1993 in Holyoke, Colorado at Zion Lutheran Church. To this union, two children were born, Chance William, in 1995, and Braden Tate, in 1998. Also through her marriage, Tammy gained a daughter, Megan Jo.

In 1996, the family moved to Ford, Kansas. Tammy continued her career as a speech-language pathologist. She had expertise in working in a compassionate, effective way with a wide variety of people, including persons with disabilities, the elderly and students.

Tammy was a woman of faith. She was baptized at Zion Lutheran Church in Brighton, Colorado and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Holyoke, Colorado. Tammy was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church in Offerle, Kansas.

Tammy served on the Ford County Fair Board and was a community leader for the Valley Boosters 4-H Club. She was also involved with the Ford City Library Board and Ford Beautification and Improvement. Tammy was the queen of the thrift store. Her other interests included Bunco, reading, and she loved all things related to clothes, jewelry and crafts.

Tammy was an incredibly family-oriented person. She loved to host Thanksgiving and other family events. Anyone who knew Tammy knew of her passion for her children's activities. She devoted much of her time and energy to Chance and Braden's 4-H involvement, livestock shows, and sporting events. Tammy is remembered by her family and friends as someone who always had a ready smile, an infectious laugh and a kind word for all.

Tammy is survived by her husband, Neal and two sons, Chance and Braden, of the home; daughter, Megan and husband, Tim, and granddaughter, Claudia Zerr of Colby, Kansas; parents Robert and Pamela Timm of Ovid, Colorado; brother Tom Timm and wife Tammie and their children, Vanessa and her fiancé Austin Tharp, Victoria, Kendra, and Kody of Haxton, Colorado; sister, Tracy Roll and her sons, Tristen and Theron of Holyoke, Colorado; mother-in-law, Susan Draper of Colby, Kansas; brother-in-law, Nolan Draper and daughter Emma of Atwood, Kansas; sister-in-law, Tanya Draper Douthit and husband Chad, and their son, Oliver of Basehor, Kansas; and sister-in-law, Shanda Mattix and husband Caleb of Colby, Kansas.

She was preceded in death by paternal grandparents, William and Francis Timm; maternal grandparents, George and Ida Arnold; mother-in-law, Lynda Franklin and father-in-law, William Draper.

Visitation will be held at Minnis Mortuary from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 10, 2012. The funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at the Bucklin High School Gymnasium in Bucklin, Kansas. Burial will follow at the Ford City Cemetery.

Memorials have been established with the Ford County 4-H Foundation and the Education Fund for Chance and Braden Draper. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Minnis Mortuary, P.O. Box 516, Bucklin, Kansas 67834.