

## Summary from PFAC and New Garden Township Meeting on 5/14/2019 at 2pm

PFAC attendees: Colin Carson, Joe Miscione, Peter Thomas

NGT attendees: Tony Scheivert

Chester County Conservation attendee: C Strohmaier

PSU attendees: C Michel, M Wolfin

AMI attendee:

PA Dept of Agriculture:

PA State attendees:

Apologies: Maria Gorgo-Gourovitch, D Vymazal

PFAC Mission: The mission of PFAC is to educate residents, government officials, and government agencies about the phorid fly. PFAC welcomes all residents who are suffering from this fly invasion of their homes. We support and take action in defense of our property, we offer and assist government agencies, state officials, community organizations, and academic research in the eradication of this infestation.

### ☐ News and Social Media

- Membership of the Facebook Public group is now 418 with no activity in the past two months.

### ☐ Status on items from PSU students in the field

- Planned/ Controlled Trials are in progress in mushroom houses (not Kaolin) to evaluate the use of the organic insecticide and determine an application strategy. There are two different types of treatment being tested in conjunction with control houses. The measure being monitored is 'how quickly the phorid population gets to peak'.

- Very little fly activity being seen at the houses in the trials other than sciarid flies.

- These insecticides being used in the trials are organic and therefore, if successful, will be able to be used in the mushroom industry without additional label changes.

- Research on the pheromones continues at PSU.

### ☐ Update from E Toedter on Kaolin Mushrooms progress

- No update.

### ☐ Harrogate PFAC/ HOA update

- There are no reports of phorids in the Harrogate community this year.

- The last two years (2017/2018) the numbers of phorids counted showed a significant increase in the last week of May and first week of June, so we are approaching these dates.

### ☐ NGT update

- Tony has not had any residents calling about the phorid fly activity.
- Tony will follow up on arranging a date for visit to Harrisburg. A list of possible dates has been provided by Don Vymazal.

☐ PSU extension update

- A Phorid Fly Hotline has been set up by Penn State Extension on 1-833-574-6743 for residents to contact Caryn. Details on this will be made available to communities and townships and will be posted on the Facebook Public group page. This will enable collection of data across the region.

- "If you have been seeing phorid flies in your home or business or if you have questions pertaining to Phorid Flies please contact the above number set up by Penn State Extension. Information received will help in ongoing research and testing being conducted by Penn State,"

☐ Chester County Conservation District update

- Christian will continue to attend these meetings. He also shared information about a USDA grant that may be available to PSU Extension for the work on phorids.

☐ American Mushroom Institute update

- No update