

8 March 2006

It's finally FINAL –

We **WILL BE OFFERING STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS** for beginning Master Gardeners via live interactive video and web-based streaming video on 14 Mar and 21 Mar 2006.

Please share these details with your local Master Gardeners. There is lots of important information in this announcement, so please read through the entire document. **For questions about these seminars, contact**

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#### **SEMINAR SUBJECT-MATTER, DATES & TIMES**

session #1: **14 Mar 2006 (TUESDAY)**  
**5-8pm Pacific, 6-9pm Mountain**

*“Commonly Encountered Insects Around Home Landscapes & Gardens”*

Ed Bechinski, Professor of Entomology, UI Moscow

I will cover the biology, identification, damage & management of pests of trees & shrubs (esp. bark beetles, borers, scale insects, aphids and other homopterans), pests of houseplants, pests of vegetable gardens (esp. caterpillars, root maggots, wireworms) and yard & garden spiders.

session #2: **21 Marc 2006 (Tuesday)**  
**5-8pm Pacific, 6-9pm Mountain**

*“Plant Diseases: Concepts, Causes and Symptoms”*

Krishna Mohan, Professor of Plant Pathology, UI Parma

Importance of plant diseases in the broader area of plant protection; definition of plant disease and how it is different from injury or damage; importance of accurate diagnosis of the cause; causes of diseases in plants; non-living factors and living agents; discussion of examples of diseases caused by non-living factors and those caused by living agents; the concept of disease triangle; basics of plant disease diagnosis; symptoms and signs of disease; discussion of characteristic symptom types with examples of diseases of field crops, ornamental, landscape and home garden plants, and lawn and turf.

#### **WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?**

Our intended audience is beginning Master Gardeners, but experienced Master Gardeners surely are welcome. Participation by all is entirely voluntary and optional. Participate to learn about

insect pests and plant diseases, but especially participate to help us decide how we should use outreach technology – specifically interactive video and/or streaming video – to deliver Master Gardener educational workshops next year. **WE WILL REQUIRE THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS COMPLETE AN EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE.** We need to hear your perspectives about the pros and cons of statewide interactive video and/or streaming video as a supplement to local, on-site live workshops for Master Gardener education.

<b>WHERE TO PARTICIPATE?</b>
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**Option 1: VIDEO CONFERENCE**

You can travel to any of the 7 sites listed below and participate in a live 2-way interactive video conference. Two-way conferencing means you directly can ask questions of the speaker on-air; it also offers the best screen resolution (i.e., image sharpness and detail). If you choose to drive your personal vehicles to these sites, we will reimburse your mileage expenses at the standard UI rate of 44.5¢ per mile. Travel funds are quite limited so I ask that participants please car pool. **NOTE THAT REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE ONLY IS BEING PROVIDED FOR THE 14 MARCH AND 21 MARCH SEMINARS.** It is not standard UI policy to reimburse Master Gardener volunteers for mileage expenses.

<b>INTERACTIVE VIDEO SITES</b>	<b>14 MARCH SESSION #1</b>	<b>21 MARCH SESSION #2</b>	<b>room capacity (no. persons)</b>
conference room UI Aberdeen Research & Extension Center 1693 S 2700 W Aberdeen, ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Kristi Copeland, 208.397.7000 ext. 102	YES	YES	50+
Room 248A Idaho Water Center 322 E. Front Street Boise, ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Liz Ridgeway, 208.334.2999	YES	YES**	14
Room 112 UI Coeur d'Alene Harbor Center 1000 W Hubbard Ave Coeur d'Alene, ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Connie Peterson, 208.667.2588	YES	YES	15
Room 350A Tingey Administration Bldg. (TAB) OR Room 321B Tingey Administration Bldg. (TAB) University of Idaho – Idaho Falls 1776 Science Center Drive Idaho Falls, ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Carol Spain, 208.282.7960	YES  NO	NO  YES	20-30  6-8

<b>INTERACTIVE VIDEO SITES</b> continued	<b>14 MARCH</b> SESSION #1	<b>21 MARCH</b> SESSION #2	room capacity (no. persons)
Room 104 Ag Science Building (corner 6th and Rayburn) OR Room 64 Ag Science Building University of Idaho Moscow, ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Anita Mackey, 208.885.2085	YES**	NO	40
conference room UI Parma Research & Extension Center 29603 U of I Lane Parma, ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Maurine Baucom, 208.722.6701 ext. 228	YES	YES	10-20
conference room (room B66) OR library (room B56) Evergreen Building, College of Southern Idaho campus UI Twin Falls Research & Extension Center 315 Falls Ave Twin Falls ID <u>local contact</u> (for room access): Linda Brandon, 208.736.3603	YES	NO	20-25
	NO	YES	10

\*\* designates site from which workshop will originate (i.e. speaker Bechinski or Mohan will be physically present)

**SPECIAL NOTE: room seating capacity at some sites:dates is limited; all seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.**

**Option 2: WEB-BASED STREAMING VIDEO**

You alternatively can participate via live 1-way streaming video on a personal computer. **CURRENTLY THIS OPTION ONLY IS AVAILABLE FOR SESSION #1 ON 14 MARCH**; our UI Video Network Services staff are working on making streaming video available for session #2 on 21 March and I will let you know as soon as I know more.

Live one-way conferencing means that you can hear and see the live workshop but cannot directly ask questions of the speaker on-air; we instead will provide a phone number for call-in questions. One-hundred PCs can simultaneously access streaming video on a first-come, first-served basis. But rather than viewing the streaming video as individual Master Gardeners, I ask that groups of Master Gardeners meet together to view the streaming video (perhaps via PC projectors) so that all can participate.

To see and hear these seminars by streaming video on a personal computer, **GO TO THE HOMEPAGE of the University Outreach Video Network Support Services**

<http://aee.ag.uidaho.edu/uovnss/>

and then click on the link “Master Gardeners” at the bottom of the menu on the left-side of that HomePage. **Log-in at 5-8pm Pacific, 6-9pm Mountain on 14 Mar 2006** for seminar session #1. Note that the “Master Gardener” link will not appear until Monday 13 March, so don’t not be concerned that you cannot immediately find it.

Your personal computer will need RealPlayer to receive the video stream. Your PC likely has RealPlayer, but if not, free trial copies can be downloaded at [www.real.com/player](http://www.real.com/player).

### **HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE SEMINARS**

**step 1. DOWNLOAD the Seminar Notes** BEFORE you travel to an interactive video site or BEFORE you log-on to the streaming video conference on a PC. Our Notes will save you some time and effort that you otherwise would spend in keeping your own written seminar notes. **GO TO THE HOMEPAGE** of the UI Department of Plant, Soil & Entomological Sciences at

<http://www.ag.uidaho.edu/pses/>

and then click on the link “Master Gardener Seminars” at the bottom of the menu on the left-side of that HomePage.

Seminar Notes for SESSION #1 will be posted on Monday 13 Mar 2006.

Seminar Notes for SESSION #2 will be posted on Monday 20 Mar 2006.

The Seminar Notes are rather big files and will take some time to download on slow internet connections.

**step 2. DOWNLOAD from the same site the SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE** so that you can voice your opinion about how we might best use distance education technology for future Master Gardener seminars. The funding source that we are using to pay for this training absolutely requires that every participant complete a survey questionnaire. This form too will be posted on Monday 13 March.

**step 3.** Check the website for other downloadable files that I might add between now and Monday 13 March!

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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