

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OSU MG STUDY GROUP SHOW AND TELL: SEPTEMBER 5, 2015

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Join our friendly OSU MG Study Group on the first Monday of each month from 1 to 3 pm for Diagnostic Show-and-Tell. Have fun while learning! We explore bugs, diseases and more. Below are a few samples of what MGs brought to our last session.

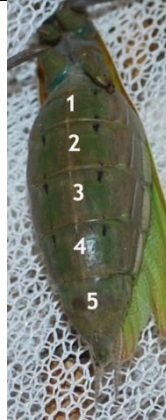
For more information contact Elizabeth Price: [llgmicroeap@mindspring.com](mailto:llgmicroeap@mindspring.com)

### European praying mantis/*Mantis religiosa*

Carol brought in this charming insect. The bull's eye mark on the inside of the foreleg identifies this individual as the common *Mantis religiosa*. The 5 segments on the abdomen mean it's a female; the males have 7 segments. They are predators known for their voracious appetites and use the spines on their legs to hold prey. The females often eat the males after mating and then lay a mass of eggs in a liquid that hardens and protects the eggs through the winter. Nymphs emerge in the spring. The common name comes from the way they hold their forelegs as if in prayer.

For more information:

<https://bugguide.net/node/view/22947>

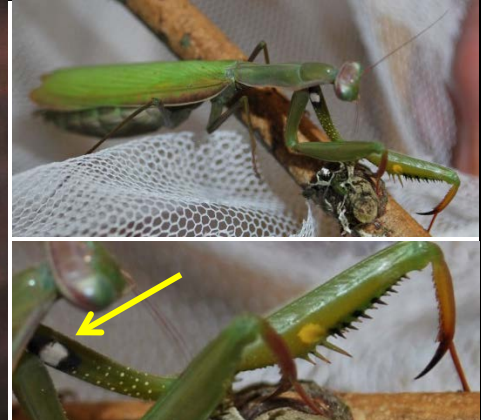


5 segments  
on the  
abdomen =  
female



European  
praying  
mantis

Triangular  
head



The bull's eye mark on the inside  
of the foreleg identifies  
this specimen as  
*Mantis religiosa*.

### Deodar cedar cones/*Cedrus deodora* (True cedar)

Elizabeth brought in samples of the striking cones of true cedars. True cedars can be identified by their foliage, which is stiff and grows in spur shoots, as well as by their cones, which stand upright on the branch tops. The cones ripen over 18 months. And right now you can see both the immature year 1 cones and mature year 2 cones on the tree. The small year 1 cones have opened their scales to receive pollen. Once pollinated, the scales close for about a year while the seeds develop. When the seeds are mature, the scales open and the cones disintegrate.

For more information:

[www.conifers.org/pi/Cedrus\\_deodara.php](http://www.conifers.org/pi/Cedrus_deodara.php)



Foliage grows  
in spur  
shoots.



1-2" year 1  
female cone



3-4" year 2  
female cone



1½" male  
pollen cone

All three cones are visible right now.  
They grow erect on the branch tops.  
Male cones release pollen in the fall.

### Aphids on day lilies and a rhododendron

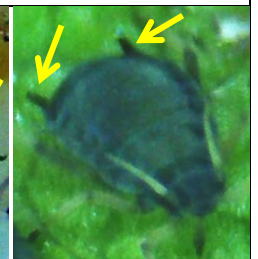
Judy and Sue brought in aphids, which we observed on the display of our microscope. Aphids have a pair of tubes called cornicles that extend from the back end of their bodies. These cornicles are unique to aphids and differentiate them from all other insects. Plant material infested with aphids is sticky with their excrement, which is clear and sweet and is called 'honey dew.' Usually aphids can be removed with a strong spray of water.

For more information:

[www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7404.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7404.html)



Praying  
mantis



The yellow arrows point to the aphids' cornicles.  
Aphids are the only insects with these structures.  
(Highly magnified)