

GERANIUM BUDWORM

By CPVGC MEMBER & MASTER GARDENER JAN BEHLER

One creature that may be enjoying summer at the expense of your plants is the geranium budworm. They like geraniums and petunias and eat the developing bud so your plants won't flower or the buds that develop look empty or never produce a beautiful flower.

The fix is simple. Spray the plant with an insecticide containing acephate (Orthene). Re-spray if needed after 7 to 10 days. A bacterial insecticide containing BT can also be used. I sprayed my geraniums before going on a trip and when I returned they were flowering again.

HAPPY SUMMER!!

