PERIODICAL CICADAS: “17 YEAR LOCUST”

No other insect causes as much curiosity as do periodical cicadas. Late May or early June is usually noisy as the males produce a seemingly endless whirring sound.

How concerned should we be? Oaks are commonly attacked, but the most seriously damaged are newly planted fruit and ornamental trees such as apple, dogwood, peach, hickory, cherry and pear. You might want to cover them with cheese cloth to prevent any damage. Cicadas are not poisonous and do not have a stinger.

Once the ground is of certain temperature, (64°, 8” below soil surface), they will emerge from the earth. If giant, noisy bugs creep you out, head for the hills. Otherwise get ready to enjoy the show!