

## **Beetle Banks, Beneficial Insects and Native Pollinators**

**A Xerces and Farmscaping for Beneficials Field Class for Small Farmers, September 11, 2009 10 AM – 4 PM Dancing Roots Farm, Troutdale, OR**

A free on-farm field class for small farmers interested in learning about insect predators, parasitoids and native pollinators and the on-farm habitat that support them. We will cover in-depth the life cycles, ecology and identification of these organisms, the characteristics of the habitat that help keep them on the farm. During the class we will be creating an on-farm beetle bank, perennial habitat for generalist predators such as predacious ground beetles and spiders. The expert organic vegetable growers at Dancing Roots Farm will guide us through the bank raising and their operation and there will be plenty of opportunity to interact with beneficial insects up close and personally. Matthew Shepherd of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation will lead our exploration of native pollinators. Gwendolyn Ellen and Paul Jepson of the Farmscaping for Beneficials (FSB) Program at OSU's IPPC will cover the beneficial insects. A free, organic lunch will be provided. This field class is sponsored by the USDA Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. It is also a BYOB (bring-your-own-bug) event so if there is an insect that has been bugging you this summer but you don't know who it is just plop it in a jar and we'll help you figure it out! Registration is required. Please contact Gwendolyn Ellen at 541-737-6272 or [Gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:Gwendolyn@science.oregonstate.edu)