

Gustave Wiegardt: My name is Gustave Wiegardt. My grandfather started farming oysters in Willapa Bay in 1874. I was involved in Wiegardt Brothers for many years. I am now retired. But I have seen the effects of ghost shrimp over the many years and I support the use of a chemical to control it. It was mentioned about bees. I have a little experience on that. I live in Pacific County, Southern Oysterville. 16 acres of tideland, and I also have a large garden next to the bay and this summer we sprayed for Japanese eelgrass and I have a lot of marionberries -- in fact, 25 plants. And we depend on the bees to pollinate the marionberries, otherwise there is no crop. This year we had a good crop. We produced enough marionberries for 80 pies and they're in the freezer. But I saw no problem with having the bees pollinate my berries. I don't know if this helps you or not but it's been mentioned before. I'd like to emphasize again -- the garden is right next to the bay and we sprayed just outside of it, so I support the use of the chemical.