



TPM/IPM Weekly Report

for Arborists, Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers

July 29, 2011

In This Issue...

- Weather notes
- Tree crickets
- Euonymus scale
- Spotted winged drosophila fly
- White prunicola scale
- Thousand cankers disease
- Fall webworm

Weed of the Week
 Plant of the Week
 Degree days
 Conferences

**Integrated Pest
 Management for
 Commercial Horticulture**

www.ipmnet.umd.edu

If you work for a commercial horticultural business in the area, you can report insect, disease, weed or cultural plant problems found in the landscape or nursery to sklick@umd.edu

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Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Stanton Gill and Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialists) and Brian Clark (Extension Educator, Prince George's County)

Disease Information: Karen Rane (Plant Pathologist) and David Clement (Extension Specialist)

Weed of the Week: Chuck Schuster (Extension Educator, Montgomery County)

Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)

Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Regional Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)

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Record Heat

It was obviously hot on Friday through Sunday and there is not much relief in sight for the rest of the week. The prediction is for a few scattered showers, but this will just increase the humidity! BWI broke a heat record by reaching 106 °F last Friday. The previous record was 101 °F set in 1957. Plants have been under very severe drought



and temperature stress in July and are showing symptoms of leaf scorch and trunk cankering and oozing. Look for increased borer damage this season and secondary disease problems on plants due to this very stressful summer. Any area that is not irrigated has powder dry soil at this point. Setting up a trickle irrigation system with a timer is not a bad idea.

Tree Crickets

Tree crickets are very active in the evening with their loud mating calls. With these warm summer evenings their frequency of calls is very close together making some nights really noisy in many urban yards. It is just one of those things of summer and once it cools down, if it does, then the frequency of mating calls will decrease making the noise less oppressive.

Euonymus Scale

Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts, is reporting a heavy infestation of euonymus scale that is defoliating *Euonymus obovatus* (a native ground cover) in Carroll County. This scale also damages boxwood and camellia. It causes yellowing of the foliage, dieback of twigs, and general thinning of infested plants. Marty noted that many crawlers of the second generation are active on the plant.

Control: A mixture of 1% horticultural oil and Distance does a great job of controlling this scale. Dinotefuran (Safari) applied as a soil drench also works well.



Euonymus scale damage on *Euonymus kiautschovicus* 'Paulii'



Univ. of MD
Male and female euonymus scale

Spotted Wing Drosophila Fly (SWD)

Robin Rosetta, Oregon State University, sent information on organic control for the spotted wing Drosophila fly:

Hey, in case anyone should ask, out this way the organic folks use Entrust (the organic version of spinosad) in fruit production. Back yard folks can usually get their hands on spinosad in garden stores. Also, they suggest mass trapping in back yards too. Sanitation is really important. Get rid of the fruit on the ground, if possible. The bad news, they buried fruit three feet down out this way and the adults still emerged up through the soil. Only plastic covered piles and solarization reduced some of the emergence.

There is a fair amount of info at OSU's SWD website for both gardeners and commercial growers at: <http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/>

White Prunicola Scale

Bob Mead, Mead Tree Experts, is reporting a lot of male covers of white prunicola scale on cherry laurel. When the males emerge, they will mate with the females so now is the not the time to spray for control. The next generation of crawlers will be in early September.



Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD)

Seems like everything is really accelerated this year in the bug and disease world. As reported last week, thousand cankers disease which was found in Kentucky last summer has now been found in our neighbor to the south, Virginia. Be sure to be vigilant and watch for symptoms of this disease on your customers' walnuts and let either Karen Rane, David Clement or myself (Stanton) know if you have any TCD infected walnuts.

Fall Webworm

Look for the activity from the second generation of fall webworm this week. The webbing on the tips of branches is becoming more noticeable. Fall webworm feed on a variety of deciduous trees.

Control: Be sure to see if there are active caterpillars in the tents. Prune out webbed terminals. There are numerous predators and parasitoids that attack and kill fall webworm. If control is warranted, treat with Confirm or Conserve. Contact is difficult because caterpillars are inside the webbed terminals.

Fall webworm larvae, damage and fecal droppings



Weed of the Week, Chuck Schuster

Johnsongrass, *Sorghum halepense*, is showing its ugly seed head in many areas now. This perennial weed can reach six feet or more in height, has a dense rhizome and produces a large number of seeds. From the southwest, it has been used as a forage, but when moved to the east it quickly became a noxious weed. This weed tolerates many settings, from low fertility to high, from low moisture to high and even tolerates a wide array of pH levels. Johnsongrass is a weed that needs to be controlled. It is found throughout the United States in agronomic and horticultural settings and in fringe areas of lower management. The leaves are rolled in the shoot, and will be without auricles. Each leaf can reach twenty inches in length, and up to three quarters of an inch in width. Leaf blades are without hairs, but some may be found at the base of the leaf blade. Johnsongrass will have a jagged-edged and membranous ligule. The stems are round, but may be flattened, sheaths will be green to maroon in color, and the plant will have a fibrous root system with a dense thick rhizome that has orange scales. The flowers/seedhead is a large open panicle with a reddish to purple color. Seeds are oval and dark red in color. Similar to barnyardgrass and fall panicum, johnsongrass will not have hairs on the lower leaf blades as Fall Panicum does. Also, johnsongrass has a membranous ligule and neither of the two other weeds do. It may also look like shattercane, but shattercane does not have rhizomes.



Johnsongrass

Photo: Ted Bodner, Southern Weed Science Society, Bugwood.org

Control of johnsongrass can be achieved using several different products. The pre emergent prodiamine (Barricade, Factor - be cautious with some varieties of turf) can be used. Post emergent control using a glyphosate product can achieve control, but monitoring for seed production the following year is important. Culturally johnsongrass can be managed using proper mowing which prevents it from going to seed.

Plant of the Week, Ginny Rosenkranz

Hydrangea paniculata, hardy hydrangea, can thrive from USDA zone 3-8, making it the most cold tolerant hydrangea. The plants grow in many soil types as long as it is slightly acidic and can be kept moist but well drained. They need full sun to partial shade to bloom their best, but they will also require regular watering to provide the beautiful panicle- or cone-shaped flower clusters. The plants can grow as tall as 6-15 feet and wide and are vase-shaped, while the panicle of flowers can grow 8-12 inches long. *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Grandiflora' are also called Pee Gee hydrangea. These plants can also be pruned to create a tree form with a single stem or multi-stems. Unlike most hydrangeas, *Hydrangea paniculata* can be pruned almost any time except when they begin to form the bloom heads. Many of these hydrangeas like 'Limelight', 'Chantilly Lace',

‘Tardiva’ and ‘White Moth’ are grown as cut flowers because they bloom almost all summer long and produce 20-30 stems per plant. The summer foliage is dark green, a good background color for the white, pink or light green flowers. As the flowers mature, they will darken to a light pink or rose color. Aphids, oystershell scale, two spotted spidermites and nematodes are the most common insect pests while bacterial wilt, leaf spot, powdery mildew and rust can be disease problems.



Hydrangea ‘Limelight’
 Photos: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

PLANT	PLANT STAGE (Bud with color, First bloom, Full bloom, First leaf)	LOCATION
<i>Buddleia hemsleyana</i>	Full bloom (July 27)	Silver Run
<i>Cyclamen purpurascens</i>	Full bloom (July 27)	Silver Run
<i>Diervilla sessilifolia</i>	Full bloom (July 27)	Silver Run
<i>Eutrochium (Eupatorium) purpureum</i> Joe Pye Weed	Bud (July 29)	Ellicott City
<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>	First bloom (July 25)	Ellicott City
<i>Pardanthopsis</i>	Full bloom (July 25)	Silver Run
<i>Rhododendron</i> ‘Northern Lights’	Full bloom (July 25)	Silver Run

Degree Days (As of July 28)

Baltimore, MD (BWI)	2511
Dulles Airport	2421
Frostburg, MD	1581
Martinsburg, WV	2211
National Arboretum	2703
Reagan National	2741
Salisbury	2601

Upcoming Programs:

August 23, 2011

Twilight Tour: Aronia Research

Location: Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, MD

Contact: Debby Dant, 410-827-8056, ext 115 or ddant@umd.edu

Note: The event is free, but registration is requested

August 4, 2011

PGMS DC August Branch Meeting

Location: Bartlett Tree Experts, 1 Metropolitan Ct, Gaithersburg, MD

Contact: RSVP (space limited) to Adam Newhart, City of Gaithersburg, (O) 301-258-6370 ext. 103

October 20, 2011

Green Industry Energy Program

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