



**TPM/IPM Weekly Report for Arborists,  
Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers  
University of Maryland Cooperative Extension  
Central Maryland Research and Education Center**

**June 17, 2005**

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**July 7, 2005 Maryland Arborist Association Pest Walk in Salisbury**

**Contact:** Jeanne Brooks (888-638-7337) or Ginny Rosenkranz (410-749-6141)

**Japanese Maple Scale**

Ellery Vodraska, found crawlers of Japanese maple scale active on June 10 in Frederick. We are also starting to see crawlers emerge on a few zelkova here at the Research and Education Center in Ellicott City, MD. Crawler activity peaks in June but will continue into July and maybe August.

**Monitoring:** Use a hand lens or magnify glass and look for small (< 1mm) light purple crawlers active on the trunks and branches of infested trees (near where adults are found).

**Control:** Once crawlers become active, treat plants with Distance and 1% oil. This should have about 2-3 week residual activity. At that time monitor your plants again to see if you still have crawler activity. Read the label for Distance, it has a 2 application per season restriction.

**Fall Webworm**

Fall webworm continues to be active this week. We are finding them on maple, sweetgum, and ash trees. Mark Adams from The Brickman Group brought crabapples loaded with fall webworm on June 14<sup>th</sup>. He noted that there were lots of assassin bug nymphs actively feeding on the fall webworm larvae.

**Monitoring:** Look for webbed “tents” on tip growth.

**Control:** *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), Confirm, or Conserve give excellent control. The webbed branches can be pruned off and the webbing and caterpillars destroyed.



Fall webworms and webbing on foliage

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### **Japanese Beetles**

We've received the first report of the season of Japanese beetle adults on June 15 in Charles County, Southern Prince George's County and St. Mary's County from Rick LaNore of MRW Lawns, Inc.

**Monitoring:** Look for adult beetles on foliage of plants.

**Control:** Orthene, Carbaryl

### **Calico scale**

Steve Sullivan reports that one of the PC Specialists with The Brickman Group in Northern Virginia found Calico Scale crawlers active in Northern Virginia this week.

**Control:** For crawlers, use 1% horticultural oil and Distance

### **Anthracnose on oaks**

Jeff of Environmental found oaks in the Potomac area with heavy damage from anthracnose. **Control:** Not much at this time of year.



### **Potato leafhopper activity increasing**

Last week we had the first report of adult potato leafhopper in the Libertytown area. Since then we have had reports of activity in several counties. Monitoring of maples in Laytonsville indicates that potato leafhopper populations are higher this year than last year at the same time.

**Control:** Orthene, Tristar, Marathon (nurseries)

### **Willow leaf beetle**

Marty Adams with Bartlett Tree Experts reported willow leaf beetle larvae and adults on pussy willow and corkscrew willow on June 10 in Ellicott City.

**Control:** Labeled synthetic pyrethroids work well on leaf beetles.

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## Bagworm

Marty Adams brought in a sample of Leyland cypress with first instar bagworms on June 13 from Fallston. Rick LaNore found bagworms (1/16 – 1/8” long ballooning out of Arborvitae, Leyland Cypress and other trees on June 15 in Charles and St. Mary’s counties and southern Prince George’s County. First instar caterpillars will be silking down out the bottom of bags from last year. They move onto new foliage, begin feeding and forming bags. Bags will start out very small (1/4”).



of

**Monitoring:** Closely examine plants for signs of bagworm activity, especially plants with bags from last year. Look for shothole defoliation, caterpillars, and small bags.

**Control:** *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), Confirm, or Conserve should give excellent control.

## Redheaded ash borer, *Neoclytus acuminatus*

Redheaded ash borer, *Neoclytus acuminatus*, adults were reported by Don Johnson of Holly Hill in Ijamsville. I visited the site on June 15 and found adult beetle females ovipositing in a dead zelkova tree. The zelkova trees had many exit holes on the trunks and trees that had been completely killed. The owner says the trees appeared heavy before this year. The redheaded ash borer feeds on several species of hardwood but generally attacks dying or dead trees. This may have been why there were adults present on the trunk. The body of this beetle is narrow, brown colored with a reddish head and thorax. The wings have 4 traverse bands that are yellow. We also found another larger *Neoclytus species* on the Zelkova trunk. This beetle is slightly larger than the redheaded ash borer and is marked with yellow stripes on the wing covers. See pictures of the two beetles.



The female redheaded ash borer is on the left and the male is on the right.

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### **Beetle Damaging Yucca, *Carpophilus* sp. (family Nitidulidae)**

We found small beetles with short elytra (wings) feeding on the open and un-opened blooms of the Yucca in Ellicott City on June 13. The beetles chew small holes of 1/16" diameter in the flowers. The beetles are *Carpophilus* sp. (family Nitidulidae). The beetle is found throughout the Atlantic Coast area. The adults overwinter in debris.

**Monitoring:** Examine blooms of Yucca this week for presence of the beetle. The adult beetle is 2-4 mm long with club-like antennae. The beetle is gray or brown and has elytra (front hardened wings) that are shorter than the abdomen.

**Control:** Unopened blooms can be treated with Orthene or a pyrethroid. Do not spray open blooms since it will kill pollinating insects.



### **4-lined plant bugs**

Marty Adams with Bartlett Tree Experts found 4-lined plant bugs on Buddleia and Rudbeckia on June 13. The four lined plant bug should be finishing by the end of June so treatment would not be practical at this time.



### **Leaf spot on Photinia**

Leaf spot is very prevalent on photinia. With the wet and warm weather the leaf spotting is showing up on new leaves that have emerged over the last 2 months.

**Control:** It's too late to control this disease this season.



### **Collectotrichum on Liriope**

Marty Adams reported Collectotrichum leaf spot on Liriope on June 10 in Woodstock.

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## Maple mite

Ricky Snell reported maple mite activity on June 13 in the areas of Frederick and Mt. Airy. We have also seen them in Laytonsville.

**Monitoring:** Examine the undersides of the foliage of American red maple and look for adults and nymphs with a handlens.

**Control:** Floramite, Avid, Akari and horticultural oil.

## Dusky Birch Sawfly

Dusky birch sawflies are active early this week in Ellicott City.

**Monitoring:** The early instar larvae make shot holes in the foliage. As they get bigger, they feed on the entire leaf.

**Control:** If populations are low, no control is necessary. If the populations are high, you can use Conserve.

## What's in bloom?

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Plant Stage</b> (Bud with color, first bloom, full bloom, first leaf)	<b>Location and Degree Days (DD)</b> (Location in parenthesis indicates degree day site at or close to reported site of bloom)
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> (Butterfly weed)	Buds showing color (June 13 - Ellicott City)	909 DD
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i> (Common milkweed)	Buds showing color (June 13 – Columbia)	909 DD
<i>Cornus racemosa</i> (Gray dogwood)	First bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Crataegus viridis</i> ‘Winter King’ (Hawthorn)	Full bloom (June 12 – Ellicott City)	877 DD
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i> (Oakleaf hydrangea)	First bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Kalmia latifolia</i> (Mountain Laurel)	Full bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Kniphophia uvaria</i> (Red hot poker)	Full bloom (June 10 – Woodstock)	
<i>Mitchella repens</i> (Partridge berry)	Full bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Rhododendron cumberlandense</i> (Cumberland azalea)	First bud (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Rhus glabra</i> Smooth sumac	First bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Sambucus Canadensis</i> (Elderberry)	Full bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD
<i>Viburnum nudum</i> ‘Winterthur’ (Possumhaw viburnum)	First bloom (June 10 – Ellicott City)	819 DD

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### Degree Day Information (as of June 16, 2005):

Annapolis	819
College Park	1015
Ellicott City	996
Frederick	808
Glen Burnie	981
Rockville	804
Silver Spring	927
Waldorf	1061
Washington DC	1009 (June 15)

**Beneficial of the Week:** A beneficial of many names: Flower flies, Hover flies, Syrphid flies, or Drone flies (family Syrphidae)  
(by Michael Raupp and Paula Shrewsbury, images by M. Raupp)



Syrphid fly larva



Syrphid fly adult

When inspecting plants with aphid infestations you need to be looking for the good guys like this syrphid fly: the larvae are maggots; the adults are bee or wasp mimics. Flower fly larvae are legless, lack a true head, and navigate the leaf surface in a series of undulating motions. It searches to and fro until it contacts an aphid on the leaf surface. It snares its prey with some rather nasty mouthparts and sucks the blood from the victim. This often involves rearing back and lifting the aphid into the air. There are reports of flower fly larvae consuming as many as many as 1200 aphids during the course of their development. Little wonder that aphid problems can disappear before your eyes once the syrphids arrive on the plant. Not all syrphid larvae are predators of soft-bodied insects like aphids or thrips. Some eat fungi or pollen.

What of the adults? If you examine perennial plants such as daisies or chrysanthemums or walk through flowering meadows, you will see these bee or wasp-like insects resting on flower heads, or searching plants for colonies of aphids. They have the ability to hover or fly forward and back much like a helicopter over the flower heads. Take a moment and count the wings. If you see two wings, not four, then these are likely to be the adults of the aphid-eating maggots described above. Their striking resemblance to stinging insects such as bees and wasps probably affords protection from birds and

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other predators that have learned to steer clear of stinging insects. The adult flies are not predators at all. They feed on nectar and pollen. When the female hover fly encounters an aphid colony she lays a small white egg near the soon to be victims. The eggs hatch and the syrphid larvae enjoy a feast of aphid tartar.

So, to gain the benefit of these marvelous maggots and enjoy the antics of hover flies, design landscapes with a constant array of flowering plants.

### ***Polygonum perfoliatum*—Mile-a-Minute Weed**

On June 1, 2005 a cooperating team consisting of PPQ, Forest Service, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, conducted an initial bio-control release for *P. perfoliatum* at Codorus State Park near Hanover, Pennsylvania. Nearly 300 stem boring weevils (*Rhyncomimus latipes*) were released in an attempt to control this highly invasive weed. Additional release sites have been identified within Codorus State Park and there are plans for several more releases this summer. A monitoring schedule and protocols have been established to check on the progress of this beneficial insect.

### **Weed of the week: Marestalk**

Marestalk (*Conyza canadensis*,) also known as Horseweed, is an annual weed that is being found in the landscape currently. This weed has a short taproot, erect stout stems, unbranched at the base, with a bushy-branched upper portion. It will grow from 1 to 6 feet in height. The leaves are alternate and numerous, being narrow, with coarse white bristles about four inches in length and a quarter inch in width. Marestalk reproduces by seed and can be found in both turf and ornamental settings. Fertility management in turf to promote thick turf and proper mowing helps keep this weed under control. In landscape beds post-emergent non selective herbicides (glyphosate) can be effective if used when the plant is small and actively growing. Resistance to glyphosate is being found in many regions in the US including in Maryland. Use the maximum label rate to prevent resistance when possible.



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