



**TPM/IPM Weekly Report for Arborists,  
Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers  
University of Maryland Cooperative Extension**

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**Coordinator of the electronic weekly IPM report:**

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Go to [www.agnr.umd.edu/IPMNET](http://www.agnr.umd.edu/IPMNET) to view past issues of this IPM report and to find about upcoming classes and seminars. Please call in if you are a commercial horticultural business finding insect, disease, weed or cultural plant problems. Send submissions to [Sklick@umd.edu](mailto:Sklick@umd.edu) or call Stanton Gill at 301-596-9413.

**Stressed Out Cherry Trees**

The drought is taking its toll on cherry trees this season. Take a look at the gummy, amber colored sap on the trunk of the cherry tree. When the root system of the cherry is damaged by drought it will often result in a canker in which a bacterial infection moves in causing oozing of sap from the trunk of the cherry. There is not much you can do at this point other than keep the tree watered and reduce the stress. If it is a newly transplanted tree it may end up dying. If it is well established we have seen the trees survive and eventually grow out of the damage. The peachtree borer (clearwing moth) can also cause the cherry tree to produce copious amounts of sap but it is generally at the base of the tree.



**Rain – Oh, Yes!**

The RAIN that breezed into our area on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday was greatly needed. A lot more would be greatly appreciated by all nursery and landscape managers.

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### Scorching from Drought

On a pest walk this week in Montgomery County, Mary Kay Malinoski and Dave Clement, Home and Garden Information Center, found a Japanese maple with significant interveinal scorching from the heat and drought in Wheaton this week. The tops of the tree and edges of leaves were severely scorched.



### Pollution Damage

Dave Clement and Mary Kay Malinoski found signs of air pollution damage on plants including climbing hydrangeas and viburnums. Look on the upper surface of the leaves for the damage. On the viburnums, lower leaves covered by foliage from above, and therefore protected from exposure, weren't showing damage. The viburnum plants had shiny leaves and bronzing of foliage. Leaves of the climbing hydrangeas (photo) were showing purple to brown spotting. Depending on environmental conditions, amount and length of exposure to ozone and plant species' response, plants exhibit variations of the typical symptoms of stippling, flecking, bronzing, and reddening. Air pollution damage can be confused with damage from thrips, mites, foliar diseases such as anthracnose, and herbicide injury.



### White grubs

Although we have been in a drought since those scarab beetles started to lay eggs, white grubs can still be a problem on irrigated turfgrass.

**Monitoring:** Now is the time to monitor for white grub activity and apply controls if necessary. Grubs are feeding in the root zone of turf. You should use a sharp knife to cut a section of turf (usually 1 sq.ft. sections) and pull it up. Examine the root – soil interface for white grubs. Most grubs are approximately ¼ to 3/8” in size now. You should focus on sunny areas of turf that receives irrigation, appears drought stressed even though irrigated, turf that historically has had grub problems, or where you have seen lots of adult Japanese and other scarab beetle activity.



**Control:** This is about the last week or so you have to use some of the more effective grub controls such as Merit, Arena, Meridian (Neonicotinoids), or Mach II (insect growth regulator). After this time the effectiveness of these products goes way down (they don't work well on late instar grubs). **Photo of white grub by Alton N. Sparks, Jr., University of Georgia, United States**

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## Banded Ash Clearwing

I found a pupal case projecting from green ash on August 19 in Frederick City. Last week we had the first report of adult males in pheromone traps. Mark Adams, The Brickman Group, found several clearwing ash borer males in pheromone traps on August 20 in Sparks, Owings Mills, Garrison and Towson. One trap in Towson near the university had 27 males in it. The adults do not all emerge at the same time. In most years we see pupal cases continuing to project out of the trees and adults emerging over several weeks.

**Control:** You still have time (about 2 weeks) but when you are ready Onyx or Astro applied to trunks and main branches in the landscape and Onyx in the nursery.

## Horntails

Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts, found a horntail wasp on a sycamore that was declining in Ellicott City. Horntails are wood boring wasps that infest recently killed or dying trees.

**Control:** Control is not necessary.



## Tree Cricket Damage

Mary Kay Malinoski saw tree cricket damage on a variety of plants in Wheaton this week and Steve Sullivan, The Brickman Group, brought in a sample with the damage. Tree crickets can injure plants when laying eggs into the bark or stems of plants. Tree crickets are omnivorous predators. They feed on and skeletonize the upper side of leaves and also feed on other insects such as aphids and scales.

**Control:** Usually not necessary. If causing significant damage, Neem (Azatin, Neemix, or Ornazin) acts as a repellent for feeding activity. Synthetic pyrethroids such as Mavrik or Talstar should provide protection of foliage.



## Redheaded Pine Sawfly

Mary Kay Malinoski found redheaded pine sawfly on Japanese pine in Wheaton on August 20. Larvae of this second generation can be found feeding now through October in Maryland.

**Control:** Prune out branches with clusters of sawflies or hand remove. If multiple plants are infested and mechanical removal is not practical then an application of Conserve should provide control.



## Hemlock Woolly Adelgids

Hemlock woolly adelgids in Columbia and Wheaton area are starting to produce wax in which the females lay eggs for the second generation.

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### Fall Webworm

The second generation of the fall webworm is active in Ellicott City and other areas this week. These webworms feed on a wide host range of deciduous trees.

**Monitoring:** Look for webbing over the terminal ends of branches of deciduous trees. Caterpillars feed within the “tent” and they enlarge as they feed and grow. Be sure to see if there are still caterpillars active in the tents. I am beginning to see tents where the caterpillars have already moved off.

**Control:** 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.



### Ambrosia Beetles

We're still receiving reports of ambrosia beetle activity. Norm Brady sent us a picture taken on August 16<sup>th</sup> of ambrosia beetle frass tubes coming out of American hollies. There are multiple generations of this beetle, but usually we do not see much activity later in the season.

**Control:** Too late for control this season. The adult beetles are already moving into the tree.



### Eriophyid Mite

Steve Sullivan brought in a sample of bald cypress with heavy damage from an eriophyid mite. Eggs and cast skins were found on the foliage. The heavy infestation is a result of the dry weather this summer.

**Control:** It's too late for control at this time.



### Tuliptree Scale

Marty Adams brought in a magnolia sample last week with tuliptree scale. No crawlers were found. Look for them in September. This scale prefers tuliptree and magnolia. There is only one generation a year and the scale overwinters as black immatures on twigs.

**Control:** When crawlers are out, the IGR Distance mixed with 1% horticultural oil gives excellent control.



### Phyllosticta on Witch Hazel

Dave Clement found quite a bit of *Phyllosticta* leaf blight on witch hazel in Wheaton this week. The fungus causes irregular necrotic spots with a purple margin on the foliage and tip dieback of branches. In the June 29, 2007 report, we included the following information on susceptible and resistant cultivars: Casey Sclar, Longwood Gardens, and Bob Mulrone, Delaware State University Cooperative Extension, evaluated various cultivars of witch hazel to see which ones

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were most susceptible and which were more resistant to *Phyllosticta* which is a disease that attacks witch hazel and causes tip dieback. The results were published in the American Nursery Magazine in the January 2006 issue. They found that *H. x intermedia* 'Arnold Promise' and *H. x intermedia* 'Pallida' were most susceptible to the disease. Suggested alternatives include *H. mollis* 'Early Bright' and 'Princeton Gold', *H. x intermedia* 'Primavera', *H. vernalis*, *H. x intermedia* 'Jelena' and 'Luna' and *H. virginiana*.

**Management:** At this time no management is needed. Next spring a fungicide spray might be used to prevent infection on individual specimens that had severe leaf blight in 2004. Many fungicides should work including but not limited to: BannerMaxx; Cleary's 3336; Cleary's Protect TO; Heritage; Compass; Daconil Ultrex; Medallion; Terraguard.

### **Kabatina**

Dave Clement found juniper infected with Kabatina this week. The early tan spots will eventually darken as the disease progresses. This fungus infects the branch tips and usually does not cause dieback of the plant itself.

The fungus enters where plant tissue has been wounded by insect feeding damage or some type of mechanical injury. The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Plant Pathology Mimeo #54 lists the following as highly susceptible to Kabatina blight: *Juniperus chinensis* 'Sparton', 'Kaizuka' (= 'Torulosa', Hollywood juniper); *Juniperus horizontalis* 'Bar Harbor', 'Blue Horizon', 'Emerson Creeper', 'Plumosa Compacta', 'Wiltoni (= 'Blue Rug'); *Juniperus scopulorum* 'Sky Rocket'; and *Juniperus virginiana* 'Nova'.



**Control:** No fungicides are labeled for control. Spacing of plants to allow for good air circulation reduces the spread of this disease. Avoid wounding plants and prune out diseased plant tips when possible.

### **Septoria Leaf Spot**

Septoria was found on dogwood this week in Montgomery County. Dark brown leaf spots caused by *Septoria* fungus are common in wet seasons or where overhead irrigation is used. Keep foliage as dry as possible to reduce infection. Septoria leaf spots are circular to angular in shape, a dark brown purple in color, later developing light brown or gray centers with dark borders, and are usually limited by leaf veins.

**Control:** Septoria is a common late season leaf spot which usually doesn't require control unless it is causing severe defoliation. Fungicides that can be used if necessary include Mancozeb, thiophanate-methyl, iprodione, and chlorothalonil.



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## Eastern Filbert Blight

Dieback on Harry Lauder's walking stick from Eastern filbert blight was reported this week. This disease, caused by the pathogen *Anisogramma anomala*, is native to the eastern United States and causes a severe disease on cultivated hazelnut and has been reported on other *Corylus* species. EFB is considered a minor pathogen in the eastern US, including Maryland, but it is a quarantine pest in both Canada and Europe. The pathogen has a 12-16 month latent period (the time between infection and the first appearance of symptoms) and infection results in the formation of sunken cankers on the branches and twigs. These cankers expand at an average rate of .3 meters per year and eventually cause canopy dieback by girdling. Mature trees can be killed in 5-15 years and young trees can be killed within 4-7 years. **(Disease information from Rich Anacker, Maryland Department of Agriculture, July 21, 2006).**



## Plant of the Week

Ornamental grasses are getting used in so many more places with excellent results. They provide color, texture and motion in the landscape for all four seasons. They green up and look tidy in the spring, they stay green all summer, in the fall they go to seed with many different colors and textures of seed heads and in the



winter the grasses look great as tan sculptures. The only needs for most grasses include full sun, moist, well drained soils and room to grow. Grasses should be left alone in the winter and trimmed back to four to six inches in February or March, depending on the winter. By trimming



them back in the spring the grasses will warm up in the spring sunshine and grow unencumbered by the old dead grass of the year before. Some ornamental grasses only grow to the height of one foot like Japanese Blood Grass and Little Bunny Grass, while others grow about two to three feet tall like Hamlin grass. Other grasses can grow very tall which include Ravenna grass at twelve feet, Miscanthus grasses from four to eight feet, Panicum grasses from four to six feet and the Pennisetum grasses from two to six feet. Many grasses are very drought and pollution tolerant, making them excellent choices for roadside plantings. There are a number of diseases that attack grasses and mealybugs can become a problem with some grasses.

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## Weed of the Week

Stinging Nettle: *Urtica dioica* is an herbaceous perennial weed found throughout the United States in landscapes, nurseries and orchards. This weed can grow to more than six feet in height, in an erect unbranched growth pattern. Stinging nettle prefers fertile sites with adequate nitrogen and phosphorus levels. The plant has a yellow root and spreads by way of rhizomes. The leaves are opposite, lanceolate in shape with a serrated margin. The leaves and stem can have long hairs which when touched will release formic acid which will create a stinging reaction on the skin. The reaction can be similar to poison ivy, but with a much shorter duration time. The flowers are small and will be green to yellow, occurring in clusters between the near the leaf petioles.

Control of this can be obtained through continual mowing in turf areas, and through post emergent use of products that include glyphosate. In locations where landscape plants are not a concern, 2, 4-D can also be used. Never use 2, 4-D near any desirable landscape plantings.



## Compost in the Nursery

I spoke to Jerry Faulring last week about the IMANTS European tiller that he uses to penetrate into the ground to 18". Jerry comments that this machine mixes soil without beating it up like a typical rototiller. He has been adding a layer of compost on the field, and then running the IMANTS across the area. The soil is in beautiful condition when he is finished. The quality of liner being grown in these fields is outstanding.

If you want to learn more about compost then mark your calendar for October 9, 2007. The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension is working with MNLA and MGGA in conducting a session that includes a tour of a working compost operation – Chesterfield Farms in Anne Arundel County. We have a great line up of top experts on compost and hands on demonstrations of equipment. A copy of the brochure is available at <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/ipmnet/crses97.htm> See you there.

## What's in bloom?

Plant	Plant Stage (Bud with color, first bloom, full bloom, first leaf)	Location
<i>Buddleia hemsleyana</i>	Full bloom (August 20)	Silver Run
<i>Cyclamen purpurescens</i>	Full bloom (August 20)	Silver Run
<i>Pardancanda 'Sangria'</i>	Full bloom (August 20)	Silver Run
<i>Rhododendron prunifolium</i>	Full bloom (August 20)	Silver Run

## Degree Day Information (as of August 9):

Baltimore, MD (BWI)	2955	Dulles Airport	3056
Hagerstown, MD	2751	Mechanicsville, MD	2857
National Arboretum	3229	Reagan National	3269
Salisbury	2602		

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