



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

September 28, 2007

Coordinator of the electronic weekly IPM report:

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Regular Contributors:

Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Stanton Gill and Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialist)

Disease Information: David Clement (Extension Specialist), and Rich Anacker (MDA)

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)

Design, layout and editing: Suzanne Klick and Shannon Wadkins (Technicians, CMREC)

Go to 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 or call Stanton Gill at 301-596-9413.

**Central Maryland Research and Education Center Open House
4240 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042
October 6, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Composting Materials for the
Landscape and Nursery Industry**

October 9, 2007

Chesterfield Farms and the Big Fish Grille, Crofton
For more information: 301-596-9413

**Getting Green: Sustainable Energy
Use for the Green Industry**

November 8, 2007

Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium
For more information: 301-596-9413

Conference registration forms are available on-line at <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/ipmnet>

Survey

Thank you to all of you who have submitted your electronic survey on the IPM ALERT report. We have seen very strong support for this report. It is because all of you who have been contributing what insects and diseases that are in your area during the season that make this report so valuable. We will keep up the effort if you continue to work with us.

Thank you to the Maryland Arborist Association, the Landscape Contractors Association of MD, D.C. and VA, Professional Grounds Management Society, Maryland Nursery and Landscape Association and FALCAN for your financial support in making these weekly reports possible. Photographs by Suzanne Klick, Stanton Gill or Shannon Wadkins unless otherwise noted.

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The Grateful Dead or Grateful Dead-head?

Last week's comment on the pruning of crepe myrtle to obtain re-blooming resulted in a comment from Jim DeRamus at Brookside Gardens:

The implied message in the short entry about severely cutting back crepe myrtle after it bloomed and getting a second bloom is that severe pruning is necessary to get a second bloom on crepe myrtle. Simply deadheading a crepe myrtle is enough to initiate re-bloom. One year Sid Porterfield and I experimented on a client's crepe myrtle in Georgetown. We kept deadheading it after every bloom cycle and it continued to bloom through October 30th. In all there were five cycles of blooms throughout the summer and into fall. We often see the results of misguided attempts at pruning crepe myrtle for various reasons, often ending in mutilation. Lets not give them another reason to 'severely prune' grand specimens when a light touch is all that is needed.

Drought and Borers

Dry weather continues to prevail and “wow!” are the plants suffering? We are seeing early fall color on maples, oaks and tulip poplars in the forest. We have already seen increased damage from borers this season. Expect to see much more next season. Consider applications of protectant sprays for susceptible tree species.

Gall on Oak

After sending last week's report, we heard from more people who have seen other swamp white oaks with these galls. We sent a picture to specialists in other states and received a comment back from Dan Gilrein, Cornell University. He said, “*The oak galls, which I suspect might not be distorted acorns but growths from the twig, could be caused by Adleria strobilana (a gall wasp), which is reported on this host (Weld). We had a very similar case from upstate NY, looked almost identical to your photo. There are two photos of A. strobilana in Weld's book that look like the galls in your photo.*”



Lace Bug Damage on Amelanchier

We received a report of a lot of lace bug damage on the foliage of Amelanchier that was in a hot, sunny spot. The lace bugs are done for the season.

Control: Imidacloprid can be used when you start seeing lace bugs next year.



Azalea Bark Scale

Marty Adams, Barlett Tree Experts, brought in a sample of azalea with a heavy infestation of azalea bark scale that had produced a lot of sooty mold on the honeydew secreted by the scale insect. It has two generations in Maryland and the active crawler period was in May and June. Immatures overwinter on bark.



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Antlions

Brian Clark, Extension Educator, reports that adults of antlions have emerged this week. Antlions are beneficial insects. The larvae, which burrow in the soil, feed on insects such as ants, beetle larvae, and termites. Antlions belong in the order Neuroptera which includes another predator – lacewings.



Adult antlion

Photo by Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org



Antlion larva

Weed of the Week

Oriental bittersweet, *Celastrus orbiculatus*, is a woody vine that is being found throughout the landscape. It is very similar to American bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens*, which can be distinguished from the invasive type by noting the location of the berries. Berry location on the American bittersweet is only at the tips of the vines where with the Oriental bittersweet, the berries occur all along the vines.

Of greater concern is the fact that Oriental bittersweet is such an invasive plant. One reason that the plant is so invasive is the color and numbers of berries produced. Oriental bittersweet produces redder berries along the vine, not just at the tips. Since birds help spread the seeds, the redder color makes them more noticeable and with greater numbers the potential is increased. Not surprising is the additional fact that Oriental bittersweet seeds have a higher germination percentage than does its native cousin.

Control of the invasive for of bittersweet can be obtained using Garlon 4, or glyphosate at a 2% solution. Wet the leaves well to make sure appropriate uptake is taken. In areas where spraying foliage may not be the best choice, apply a mix of Garlon 4 in a 20 % solution with basal oil **and** a penetrant to the lower parts of the stems. Avoid contact with any non target plant material.

Photo by Adam Gundlach, Wildlife Habitat Council.



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Plant of the Week

American arborvitae, *Thuja occidentalis*, was once the plant of choice for evergreen hedges and wind breaks until the Leyland cypress became popular. With all the problems inherent in the Leyland cypress which include poor root systems and insect and disease pressure, the Arborvitae is coming back into favor. Arborvitae are almost as attractive to bagworms as the Leyland cypress, but the disease pressure is much less and the root system, once established, is well balanced and very drought tolerant. A slower grower than the Leyland cypress, the arborvitae grows about 20-30 feet tall and although it will take trimming well, doesn't need to be topped to stay under control. The newer cultivars of the American arborvitae include 'Green Giant' and 'Emerald'. They both have dark green foliage year round unlike the older cultivars which turned a yellow green in the winter. (Photo by Ginny Rosenkranz)



Degree Day Information (as of September 27):

Baltimore, MD (BWI)	3747
Dulles Airport	3879
Hagerstown, MD	3489
Mechanicsville, MD	3489
National Arboretum	4135
Reagan National	4078
Salisbury	3278

Advances in Irrigation Scheduling Twilight Tour: October 25, 2007 4:00 to 7:00 PM Wye Research and Education Center Research Nursery

- Interested in making more precise irrigation scheduling decisions?
- Interested in reducing nutrient runoff and keeping more of those expensive nutrients in the container?
- Interested in knowing how your substrate physical properties affect the water immediately available for your plants?
- Interested in how our research is moving towards providing you with real-time data that you can view by production area/species and/or container type?

Then join us for this twilight session at Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown MD, and help us customize this research project toward your needs as a grower.

Registration is FREE. To register, contact Debby Dant @ 410-827-8056 X115 or ddant@umd.edu by OCTOBER 19TH. For additional program information, please contact John Lea-Cox @ 301-405-4323 or Andrew Ristvey @ 410-827-8056 X113.

For the complete schedule and directions, go to <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/ipmnet/crses97.htm>

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**Being Greener in the Landscape and Nursery Industry –
How to Compost Green Industry Materials Seminar and Field Day**

October 9, 2007 (10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Location: The Big Fish Grille and Chesterfield Farms, Crofton, Maryland

TOPICS AND SPEAKERS:

Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going With Compost?

Dr. Frank Gouin, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland

How We Make Our Compost and How We Market the Product

Marsha and Allen Boehm, Chesterfield Farms, LLC

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Requirements

Edward Gertler, Maryland Department of the Environment

Marketing Compost/Grasscycling Services to Your Customers

Ana Arriaza and Alan Pultyniewicz, Montgomery County Government

Evaluating Compost for Use in Soil Mixes

Dr. Andrew Ristvey, Regional Specialist, Maryland Cooperative Extension

Compost Tea

Dr. Pat Millner, USDA

Hands-on Use of Field Equipment to Evaluate Compost

Benny Erez, Central Maryland Research and Education Center

Lime Stabilized Compost Pads

Randy Townsend and Pat Millner, USDA

Tour of Chesterfield Farms, LLC

Marsha and Alan Boehm

Name(s): _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____ Phone: _____

MC Visa Discover American Express Amount Enclosed: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration date: _____

Security code: _____ Name on card: _____

Signature of cardholder: _____

You can also fax your registration with credit card info to 301-596-9632.

Please make checks payable to: University of Maryland

Send to: Composting Seminar, 11975 Homewood Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Cost: \$30 per person by October 3, 2007; \$40 per person after October 3, 2007 (Lunch not guaranteed)

Directions are available on-line at <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/ipmnet/crses97.htm>
by downloading the full brochure.

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