Kentucky Nursery LISTSERV Bulletin

University of Kentucky Nursery Crops Team | **End of March 2015**

Spring has sprung…

…and with it, pests and diseases! But before we get to that, many of you may be interested in listening to the recent webinar of Dr. Charlie Hall's annual economic outlook for the green industry. Here is a short description:

In this webinar, Dr. Charlie Hall presents economic outlook for the green industry. Special emphasis will be placed on the sectors in the economy that have a direct impact on grower, landscape service provider, and retail sales. Dr. Hall also hones in on some key dates that will be important to look out for this year and he suggests a dashboard of indicators that all green industry firms should be tracking to better monitor the economic environment.

Common Questions…

Q: What disease is affecting my plant?

A: *Unfortunately, it is not possible to definitively identify a disease by description or photo. While educated guesses can be made, there is too much overlap between symptoms, especially for diseases that simply stress the plant. In those cases, the symptoms could be the result of a drifting herbicide, a specific nutrient deficiency, water availability, or a combination of multiple factors. This is why the University of Kentucky has a plant diagnostic lab. County extension personnel will help their growers through the process of submitting samples.*

Submitting Plant Specimens for Disease Diagnosis *gives detailed instructions on the process.*

Video: Is This A Disease? — Integrated Pest Management in Kentucky

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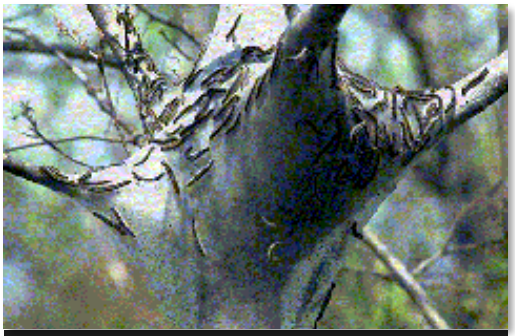
Eastern tent caterpillar— Image: Ric Bessin, UK Entomology

In This Issue

Eastern Tent Caterpillar egg mass— Image: Ric Bessin, UK Entomology



Eastern Tent caterpillar, silken tent—Image: R.L. Anderson, USDA Forest Service 1995

Eastern Tent Caterpillar

Host Plants: Many species including Cherry Laurel, apple, crabapple, hawthorn, maple, peach, pear, plum and others in the Rosaceae family

Life Cycle: overwintering as an egg within an egg mass (above) of 150-400 eggs, the caterpillars hatch around the time the buds begin to open. This is usually in early March. The caterpillars stay together and spin a silken tent in the crotch of a tree, emerging in the morning, evening or on warmer nights to feed on leaves. In 4-6 weeks, the caterpillars are full grown to 2-2.5" long. They then form cocoons about 1" long. After 3 weeks, they emerge as reddish-brown moths with two pale strips.

Adult moth of Eastern tent caterpillar— Image: Ric Bessin, UK Entomology

Control: Apply Bt, horticulture oil, Sevin or Talstar to tents and foliage.

Reported on March 23rd in Scott County:
Egg Hatch Begins in Kentucky

Anthracnose

Host Plants: Many landscape trees, though in Kentucky they are most severe on Ash, Dogwood, Maple, Oak, Sycamore, Euonymous

Other information: These are typically foliar diseases, but twigs, branches and buds may be affected. Twigs and branches may develop cankers or necrotic (dead) areas that girdle the stem. Premature leaf drop commonly occurs on infected trees. Anthracnose is not fatal, except for dogwoods in some circumstances, but weakened trees are more susceptible to environmental stresses and the pathogens of other diseases.

Ash anthracnose—Image: Maine Division of Forestry

Management: Apply Banner MAXX, Daconil Ultrex, Dithane, Eagle, Fore Heritage, or Strider. Resistant varieties available for Ash, Dogwood,

Anthracnose leaf lesions on *Euonymous fortune—Image: Cheryl Boyer, PNW Extension Plant Disease Management Handbook*

For more information specific to Anthracnose of dogwood, see UK extension publications ID-67 and PPFS-OR-W-06.

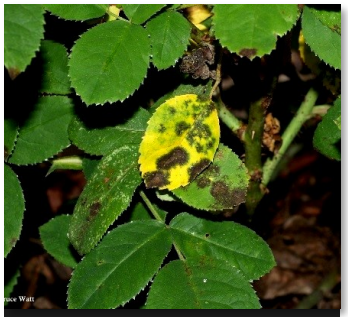
Shot-hole leafspot—Image: J. Grant, UT Entomology and Plant Pathology

Shot-hole leafspot

Host Plant: Genus *Prunus* (Plums, Cherries, Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots, and Almonds)

Symptoms: Reddish/purplish brown spots about 0.1" in diameter occur on new leaves and shoots. The spots expand and their centers turn brown, often falling out as leaves expand creating "shot holes." Buds are sometimes killed in winter.

Management: Bacterial—CUPro 2005 T/N/O, Fungal—Banner MAXX, Eagle, or Strider



Rose yellowing from Black spot—Image: UMaine Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet

Black spot

Host Plant: Rose

Symptoms: Black spots, 1/10" to 1/2" in diameter developing first on upper leaf surfaces. Areas nearby turn yellow and leaves drop prematurely, usually beginning at the bottom of the plant and progressing upward. Less commonly, raised purple-red blotches develop on immature wood of first year canes.

Management: Keep leaves dry by using drip irrigation. Apply Banner MAXX, Daconil Ultrex, Dithane, Eagle, Fore, Heritage, or Strider. Resistant varieties available.

More information: Publication PPFS-OR-W-10

Irregularly-shaped lesions of Downy mildew on rose.—Image: N. Ward-Gauthier, UK plant Pathology

Downy mildew

Host Plant: Rose

Symptoms: Symptoms occur primarily on young apical leaves, starting with purplish-red irregular spots/lesions. Within 10 days, lesions coalesce, resulting in leaf yellowing and/or drop. The "downy mildew" spores occur on the underside and are often difficult to see.

Management: Rapid spread occurs with high moisture and reduced air circulation, as in a greenhouse. Create space between plants to promote air circulation and leaf drying. Practice good sanitation, remove fallen leaves and pruning away diseased parts. Fungicides registered for use on commercial nurseries: Aliette, Banol, Segway, Stature and Subdue MAXX.

Several symptoms of rose rosette—Image: D. Ingram, UK Horticulture

Rose rosette

Host Plant: Roses, all types (including Knock Outs).

Symptoms: Shoot elongation, abnormal red coloring of shoots and leaves, exceptional thorniness, disorted or aborted flowers and a cluster of small shoots called a witches' broom. These appear in spring and intensify over the season. Many of these symptoms look like herbicide damage. See PPFS-OR-W-16

Management: This disease's pathogen is generally introduced to the plant during grafting or by the microscopic rose leaf curl mites moving from infected plants nearby or on wind currents. Unfortunately, due to their size, it's nearly impossible to get good coverage with a miticide. Virus is not curable. Infected plants should be removed entirely as virus can survive on infected root fragments.

The University of Kentucky's **Nursery Crop Extension Research Team** is based out of two locations across the bluegrass to better serve our producers.

The **University of Kentucky Research and Education Center (UKREC)** in **Princeton** serves western Kentucky producers while our facilities and personnel on main campus in **Lexington** serve central and eastern Kentucky producers.

Check out our YouTube Channel!

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