UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

TPM/IPM Weekly Report

for Arborists, Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers

Commercial Horticulture **August 29, 2025**

In This Issue...

Integrated Pest Management for Commercial Horticulture
extension.umd.edu/ipm

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

Coordinator Weekly IPM Report:
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Regular Contributors:
Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialist) and Nancy Harding, Faculty Research Assistant
Disease Information: David Clement (Extension Specialist) and Ana Fulladolsa (Plant Pathologist and Director, UMD Diagnostic Lab)
Weed of the Week: Kelly Nichols, Nathan Glenn, (UME Extension Educators), and Chuck Schuster (Retired Extension Educator)
Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)
Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)
Design, Layout and Editing: Suzanne Klick (Technician, CMREC)

Upcoming Conferences

The Cut Flower Tour on the Eastern Shore will be on September 24, 2025. The day will start at the Wicomico County Extension Office in Salisbury. We will have presentations and lunch before heading out for the tours. Masterpiece Flowers is located just over the border in Worcester County and Wildwood Lavender Farms is only 15 minutes away from the Extension Office.

Andrew Ristvey has scheduled a program on Operator Certification (FTC) for Writing Nutrient Management Plans for Nurseries, Greenhouses, and Controlled Environments on October 2, 2025 at the Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, MD

More Programs: Other programs include the MNLGA Nursery Tour at Raemelton Farm, the Montgomery County Parks/Casey Trees Urban Tree Summit, and the FALCAN Annual Truck and Trailer Safety Seminar.

Go to our Conferences' web page to get details and the links to register for these programs.

Tupelo Leaf Edge Galls – Two Types of Galls and Two Causal Agents

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found damage (galling) on the edge of tupelo (*Nyssa* spp.) leaves this week in Gaithersburg. The causal agent of the tupelo leaf edge galls can be the eriophyid mite, *Aceria dina* (Eriophyidae) OR the phylloxerid, *Phylloxerina nyssae* (Phylloxeridae; relatives of aphids and adelgids), both of which cause galling on the edges of tupelo leaves and distortion of the leaves.

Curled leaf edges caused by the feeding of a phylloxerid (an aphid-like insect).
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Below are several references (see links) that describe the damage caused by each of the mentioned causal agents. *Aceria* and *Phylloxerina* cause galls on the edges of Tupelo leaves that look very different from one another. The tupelo leaf edge gall that Marie found this week was caused by the leaf curling gall phylloxerid (*P. nyssae*). This just so happens to be the causal agent of leaf edge galls on the Tupelo in my yard (see image) that has been occurring for the last 6-7 years, with some years showing greater damage than others. Mike Raupp (UMD) did a "Bug of the Week" episode on this phylloxerid. Also see Raupp's YouTube video where he unrolled the leaf edge gall showing an adult phylloxerid and her eggs.

What are the differences that help distinguish the Tupelo leaf edge galls caused by *A. dina* and *P. nyssae*?
Galls caused by the eriophyid mite, *A. dina*, are densely curled in various places around the edge of the leaf giving a "scalloped" appearance to the leaf edge, and the gall color ranges from green to red to brown. Whereas, the phylloxerid, *P. nyssae*, presents as deeply incised and crescent-shaped rolled galls on the edge of Tupelo leaves formed from smooth yellowish folds, in addition to significant leaf distortion on the developing leaves.

Both of these galls are not known to detrimentally impact the health of the tree and are mainly aesthetic so there should be no need to control them. In addition, to my knowledge, there are no chemical controls that have been shown to control these leaf galling organisms.

Resources for additional information and images of leaf edge galls on Tupelo:
Information on the differences between the two types of leaf edge galls on Tupelo
- https://www.gallformers.org/gall/701
Great images of the Tupelo leaf curling gall caused by the phylloxerid, Phylloxerina nyssae.
- https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/466561-Phylloxerina-nyssae
Great images of the Tupelo leaf edge gall caused by the eriophyid mite, Aceria dina.
- https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/911512-Aceria-dina
Good information on the biology, image, and video of the Tupelo leaf curling gall caused by the phylloxerid, Phylloxerina nyssae.
- https://bugoftheweek.com/blog/2020/11/16/tiny-culprit-behind-my-gnarly-nyssa-a-leaf-curling-gall-aphid-phylloxerina-nyssae

Oak Lobed Stem Galls

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found oak lobed stem galls (aka pine cone galls) on oak stems this week. They start out pink and turn tan to brown as they mature. They are caused by the larvae of a small cynipid wasp, *Andricus quercusstrobilanus*. Each gall houses a single wasp larva. These galls eventually fall off and do not cause overall harm to the tree. No control is necessary.

Oak lobed stem galls start out pinkish and then eventually turn brown.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

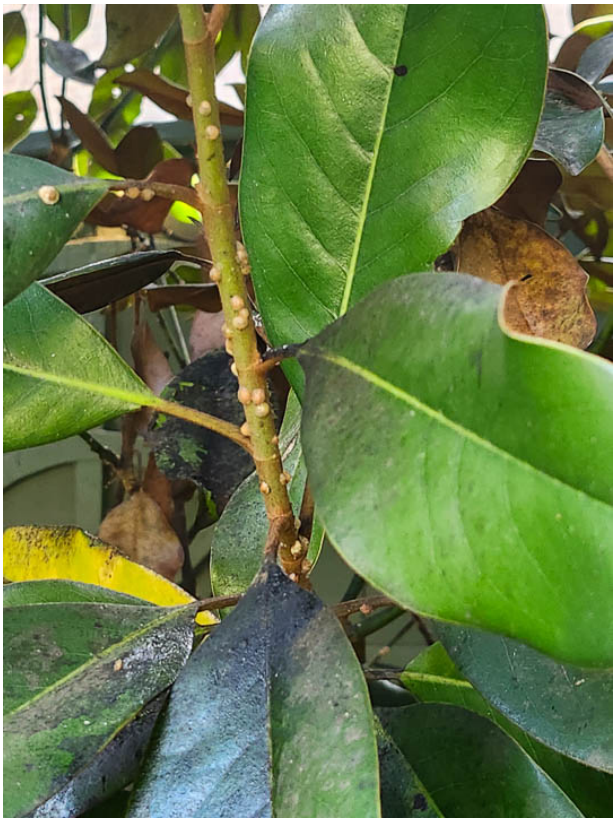
White Prunicola Scale

In the August 15th IPM report, we noted to look at white prunicola scale infestations for egg hatch. In Gaithersburg, Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, is finding eggs under female covers, but not egg hatch yet. Marie is finding this scale on various *Prunus* species. She also found many *Chilocorus* species of lady beetle larvae on the trunks of infested trees. When you see crawlers, treat with pyriproxyfen (Distance) or buprofezin (Talus).

A *Chilocorus* species lady beetle larva is feeding on a *Prunus* tree infested with white prunicola scale.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Magnolia Scale and Tuliptree Scale

Sam Fisher, Bartlett Tree Experts, sent photos of magnolia scale females on southern magnolia. This scale only infests magnolia. There was honeydew all over the foliage so the females are feeding more heavily, increasing in size, and producing eggs. Tuliptree scale has a similar life cycle and can be found on both magnolia and tulip tree. Monitor infested plants closely in September for crawler hatch. When you see crawlers, treat with pyriproxyfen (Distance) or buprofezin (Talus).



Magnolia scale females are producing honeydew on which sooty mold grows.
Photo: Sam Fisher, Bartlett Tree Experts

Fall Webworms

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found second-generation fall webworms feeding gregariously on trees in Gaithersburg this week. Pruning infested branches can be done if it's feasible. As we move into September, fall webworms will be on the move looking for places to pupate. There are many predators and parasitoids that feed on fall webworms. For information on some of their natural enemies, see the August 11, 2023 IPM Report.

Second generation fall webworm larvae are still active this week.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Lots of Lace Bugs on Lindens, Sycamores, Oaks, Pieris, and Mountain Laurel

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found linden lace bugs (*Gargaphia tillae*) in large numbers on nursery trees in Montgomery County. Marie noted that "they were on multiple cultivars and species of *Tilia*, feeding on leaves and leaf petioles". Look for the stippling feeding damage on the upper side of leaves for lace bug feeding damage. and on the lower leaves, you may find nymphs, adults, and/or dark colored fecal spots. Last week in Sharpsburg, MD, Paula found high numbers of Sycamore lace bugs, *Corythucha ciliata*, on Sycamore. Steve Nagy, Mead Tree Experts, found a heavy infestation of lace bugs on oak this week. Luke Gustafson, The Davey Tree Expert Company, is finding lace bug damage on *Pieris* and mountain laurel.

Linden lace bugs covering leaf and petiole.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Management: Damage from lace bugs on linden, oak, and, sycamore, especially large trees, does not usually warrant control measures. If lace bug densities and damage are high and controls are warranted use properly labeled systemic chemicals such as flupyradifurone (Altus, an EPA reduced risk product), chlorantraniliprole (Acelypryn), acetamiprid (Tristar), or acephate. Contact products such as horticultural oil or neem oil should be directed so that the underside of foliage where lace bugs feed is thoroughly covered.

Adult sycamore lace bugs and fecal spots on the underside of a sycamore leaf.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

Heavy stippling damage from lace bug feeding on foliage.
Photo: Luke Gustafson, The Davey Tree Expert Company

Box Tree Moth Update

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Box tree moth (BTM), *Cydalima perspectalis* (Lepidoptera: Crambidae) detections continue in MD, VA, and WV. In MD, several more sites have been reported this week, mainly in residential and commercial landscape settings. All reports have been in Washington County in the areas of Big Pool, Clear Spring, Fort Frederick State Park, Hancock, and Williamsport. In VA, BTM has been confirmed in Clarke and Louden Counties, and in WV in Berkeley County. BTM has also been confirmed in Kent County DE. Nine states have confirmed BTM populations at this time.

A 40-year-old boxwood hedge damaged by the invasive box tree moth in a residential landscape in Clear Spring, Washington County MD.
Photo: Jeff Semler, UME – Washington County

If you manage or grow boxwoods, you should be closely monitoring boxwoods for BTM and its damage, especially if you are in Washington County, MD or its neighboring counties.

If you see BTM and/or BTM damage to boxwoods please let us know (pshrewsbury@umd.edu and sklick@umd.edu). Be sure to include the date found, location, and pictures. **MDA should be contacted at ppwm.MDA@MD.gov with the same information and pictures.**

General recommendations to date for response to box tree moth are the following, either one or an integration of tactics depending on your situation. Note that BTM is relatively new to North America and there is still a lot to learn about it. Click here for more detailed information on BTM management and chemical control options.

- Do not make preventative applications
- Monitor boxwoods. There are no other caterpillars that are common on boxwoods. If you see defoliation and extensive webbing, it is likely BTM. There appears to be some boxwoods that are less susceptible to BTM. Information on resistance is in its early stages.

Close up of a boxwood with a heavy infestation of the invasive box tree moth. Note the high number of caterpillars and damage (defoliation, frass, webbing).
Photo: Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

If you see it, report it! ppwm.MDA@MD.gov
Consider placing BTM pheromone traps on client's property that have boxwoods. See link below for more information.

Management

- If the boxwoods are too damaged to save (many that I have seen fall into this category), then boxwoods should be removed and burned or buried.
- If the client's boxwoods are potentially savable consider the "Cut and spray" program – This may support regrowth of heavily damaged boxwood. Remove / prune out BTM damaged foliage and stems by cutting branches down almost to the ground (6-24"). The tops (cut branches) should be burned or buried. If the remaining stems have BTM on them treat with an appropriately labeled insecticide. Closely monitor new growth as it develops for the presence of BTM. Continue to monitor over time. If BTM is present, treat with an appropriately labeled insecticide.
- If boxwoods are lightly infested with BTM, prune out the affected area and burn them or if possible hand pick caterpillars of the boxwood and put them in soapy water. Treat with an appropriate chemical if necessary. Continue to monitor over time.

Chemical controls -Treat with a chemical that is labeled for caterpillar control. For example, bio-rational products with the active ingredients (a.i.) *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), Spinosad, azadirachtin, or pyrethrins; or chemicals in a class referred to as pyrethroids (hard on natural enemies) with a.i. such as bifenthrin, permethrin, cyfluthrin, lambda-cyhalothrin, and there are others. Other products, including systemics, are also recommended. For a more thorough list of products click here. Be sure products are labeled for caterpillar control and use on outdoor plants.

Resources - Links for detailed information and pictures of BTM life stages and damage:

UME - https://extension.umd.edu/resource/box-tree-moth/

BTM OSU Part 1- https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ent-0099 (Focus on range and life cycle)

BTM OSU Part 2- https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ent-0100 (Focus on damage, detection / monitoring)

BTM OSU Part 3- https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/ent-0101 (Focus on management)

https://bugoftheweek.com/ (Box tree moth episode, Aug. 18, 2025)

BTM MDA - https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/Box%20Tree%20Moth%204x9.pdf

BTM monitoring and trapping - https://www.umass.edu/agriculture-food-environment/landscape/fact-sheets/box-tree-moth-monitoring-trapping

Drought Practices

By: David Clement, UME

With our extended late summer drought this year be prepared to add supplemental irrigation to nursery plants as well as your customers landscapes. Although established plants will be better adapted to dry conditions, prolonged drought may cause irreversible damage or mortality to plants, including our native vegetation. Trees and shrubs growing in parking lots or next to large buildings with reflective surfaces are at much greater risk for heat stress than trees surrounded by other landscape plants or even bare soil.

Plants avoid drought by closing their stomata to prevent water loss once a certain threshold level of stress is reached. This protects the plant from further water loss and dehydration damage. The disadvantage of this response is that when stomata are closed their photosynthesis and carbohydrate production will stop. Plant utilize carbohydrate reserves for respiration to maintain their metabolism and growth. If drought conditions persist plants may die of starvation since their energy use will exceed the energy produced by drought reduced photosynthetic activity.

Under high temperatures, water loss from plants and soil is accelerated due to higher rates of evapotranspiration. Leaves and branches can be scorched, die and fall off, and eventually the entire plant will die. Tolerance to extreme high temperatures differs between plants and depends on many factors including species, cultivar, plant health status, and weather conditions before the heat stress event. If roots have shrunk from the surrounding soil, then moisture uptake may be slow until the root zone is fully recharged again with water.

Typical signs of drought and heat stress include wilting leaves, leaf scorch, leaf yellowing and leaf drop, branch dieback, reduced new growth, and potential plant death. While some tree and shrub symptoms will be apparent during or soon after extended drought, prolonged drought conditions in trees can cause reduced growth or mortality in subsequent years.

Trees and shrubs are the largest and most expensive plants to replace in a landscape. They provide important functions such as shading, and screening. Watering of trees and shrubs should be prioritized since they take many years to reach mature size. The amount of water from a single rain event can vary dramatically between sites. Testing the moisture available in the root zone of trees is the best way to decide when the next irrigation is necessary. This can be determined by using a soil probe to extract soil or a screwdriver pushed into the soil. Testing the soil moisture under the canopy is especially important for species with dense canopies such as conifers, oaks, tulip poplars, and maples. Dense leaf canopies may deflect rain and exclude it from the root zone.

Slow, deep irrigation to wet the root zone to the proper depth is vital in keeping trees and shrubs healthy during dry, hot conditions. Pay close attention to trees and shrubs planted within the last three years. Do not heavily prune trees and shrubs in hot dry weather. Excessive pruning will cause additional stress by removing foliage needed for recovery. Add mulch over bare soil. Avoid fertilizing since adding fertilizer salts will desiccate roots and promote growth that the plant cannot support. Delay transplanting to a cooler part of the year if irrigation is limited.

Bladder Galls on Nyssa and Willow

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Marie Rojas, IPM Consultant, found Tupelo bladder galls on black gum, *Nyssa sylvatic*, leaves that was likely caused by the eriophyid mite, *Aceria nyssae* in Gaithersburg, MD. Marie also found willow bladder gall on willow, *Salix* sp. likely caused by the eriophyid mite, *Aculops tetanothrix*. The galls provide a protective refuge for the eriophyid mites to develop. Bladder gall mites can cause visible galls on leaves, but there is usually no detrimental impact on the health of the tree.

Willow bladder galls on *Salix* sp.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Consultant

Tupelo bladder gall on foliage of *Nyssa sylvatica*.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Consultant

Fall Armyworm Activity Reported – Monitor your turf

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found a newly hatched egg mass of fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), on *Nyssa sylvatica* in Gaithersburg, MD on Monday of this week. Fall armyworm is a native pest that prefers to feed on grass plants but are also known to feed on other hosts when their preferred host is limited. Fall armyworm moths are also reported to lay eggs on trees and flowers with flat leaves, especially those that overhang turf. **What this suggests is that any of you with clients that have lawns or manage turf in golf courses or sod farms should be monitoring for the presence of fall armyworm.** Please let us know if you see fall armyworm and their damage (pshrewsbury@umd.edu and sklick@umd.edu).

In 2021 in MD, and other states in the region, fall armyworms were outbreaking and caused significant loss in turfgrass. Reports of damage started to come in the end of August in 2021.

The extent that fall armyworm might outbreak depends on weather conditions. Fall armyworm is a native pest that does not overwinter in the cold temperatures in this area. They migrate every year from southern states, often getting picked up in the winds of storms moving up from the south (this was what happened in 2021). Once they get here, the warmer the temperature the faster fall armyworm develop, which can lead to more generations and more damage.

For more details on fall armyworm life cycle, damage, and management go to:
https://bygl.osu.edu/node/1859
https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/armyworms-identification-damage-control-in-turfgrass/

Newly hatched egg mass of fall armyworm on the underside of a *Nyssa sylvatica* leaf.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Later instar fall armyworm caterpillars can quickly consume the turf canopy.
Photo: Curtis Young, OSU Extension

Caterpillar Season

Now is the time of year that we see and receive reports of a variety of caterpillars. This week at the research, there has been a male bagworm moving along the pillars of the building looking for a place to pupate. It is too late in the season to control bagworm. On small trees in the fall, you can check the bags. If they feel hard, then they have eggs and should be removed. If they collapse when squeezed, a male was in that bag and it is now empty.

We received reports of pipevine swallowtail caterpillars feeding on pipevine. Dave Freeman, Oaktree Property Care, found them last week in Virginia. Miri Talabac, UME, is finding them this week in Howard County. As more people grow pipevine, you might see these caterpillars on your plants.

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found angle-lined prominent moth caterpillars (*Clostera inclusa*) within a silken tent at the very tips of native willows. Common food plants are aspen, poplar, and willow. This species is also called the poplar tentmaker. The caterpillars produce silk to tie two leaves or roll one leaf together in which they are protected during the day. They come out to feed at night on nearby leaves. If this caterpillar is a recurring pest, monitor plants next year in May and June to catch the first generation earlier in the season to treat larvae when they are small.

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found an interesting caterpillar crawling on the trunk of a Yoshino cherry - the crowned slug moth. She noted that 'it has no legs and undulates to move around. Just cool!" It is one of the caterpillars with stinging hairs, so avoid handling it. It feeds on a variety of woody plants.

Angle-lined prominent (aka poplar tentmaker) caterpillars clustered within a willow leaf.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

A male bagworm on the move and looking for a place to pupate. Females stay in the bags, lay eggs, and then die.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

Watch out for this crowned slug moth caterpillar - it has stinging hairs.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Beneficial of the Week

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Long-legged iridescent flies darting around

By: Paula Shrewsbury

This long-legged dolichopodid fly was sitting on a leave enjoying the unidentifiable morsel of prey in its mouthparts. Note the characteristic long legs, metallic coloration, and single pair of wings of adult long-legged fly.
Photo: Mike J. Raupp, UMD

This larva of a long-legged fly (Dolichopodidae) was found under a rock on a beach.
Photo: Peter Cristofono, BugGuide

At this time of year, it seems like everywhere I look there are small, beautiful iridescent flies zipping around many ornamental plants. These are **long-legged flies** also known as dolichopodids (Diptera: Dolichopodidae). We often see these small (an 1/8 - ¼") shimmery long-legged flies zipping around and landing on woody and flowering ornamental plants. Long-legged flies are very diverse with over 6,600 named species worldwide with about 1,300 in North America. It does not seem like they are really doing much else but flying around, landing on plants, and flying around some more. However, these beautiful little flies are actually predators and scavengers. The adults of these "true flies" are often metallic green, blue or copper-colored. As true flies, dolichopodids have only 1 pair of wings and a pair of structures referred to as halteres where the second pair of wings would be on other insects. Halteres help flies with balance when they are flying. The transparent wings of many species have a dark, smoky color. Long-legged flies are in the Brachycera group (more evolutionarily advanced than other groups of flies such as mosquitoes) and have the characteristic very thin "aristate" antennae. Long-legged flies are abundant in many managed and natural habitats, especially near swamps, streams, and in woodlands and meadows. Male adults of many species perform some sort of pre-mating dance-like behavior to engage females to mate with them such as waving their long legs, wing-waving, or dynamic (and hopefully impressive) flight maneuvers. Adult females typically lay their eggs in moist soils, or sometimes under the bark of trees.

The legless larvae, which are maggots, are whitish and cylindrical. Larvae are found in varied habitats such as water, mud, decaying wood and grass stems. Little is known about the feeding habits of the larvae, but some are believed to be predaceous, others are leaf miners in grass stems. I have only been fortunate enough to actually see an adult long-legged fly feeding on prey a few times, once feeding on an azalea lace bug adult, the other time the prey was beyond recognition. Adults are known to feed on an assortment of small insects and often catch their prey in flight. There are reports of long-legged fly adults feeding on other flies, hoppers, Collembola, mites, thrips, dragon fly eggs, termites, bark lice, beetle larvae, whiteflies, and small caterpillars. Click here for a video of a long-legged fly feeding on prey. They inject digestive enzymes into their prey to liquefy it for easier eating. Some long-legged flies feed on honeydew, and a few species feed on nectar from flowers. In addition to being beautiful (for a fly anyway) they also contribute to biological control in our managed and natural ecosystems.

Weed of the Week

By: Chuck Schuster

In recent travels, it has been noted that in some areas dodder can be found. Dodder, *Cuscuta* spp., also called amarbel, is a genus of over 200 species of red, orange or yellow, plants that live as a parasite on other plants. While it is an unusual weed to find in the landscape, it can be found in areas that are not highly managed. Unlike most other plants, it is a parasitic vine that derives its nutrients from other plants by penetrating softer tissue and extracting nutrients. Only the seedling is able to survive a few days away from a host plant. As the plant matures, the host provides all the nutrients needed for dodder to thrive. It does not have the ability to penetrate tree bark, but will attach itself to leaves of trees and shrubs. Dodder vines continually attach to the host plant as it grows and will move to new host plants that are in proximity. This will allow the plant to form a dense mat of yellow to reddish-brown vining stems, that twine in a counterclockwise direction. The plant has small, almost unnoticeable, leaves and produces a white to pink cluster of flowers. The seeds are extremely hard and require some form of scarification before germinating in the soil once soil temperatures reach 60 °F. Seed is often spread by human contact, plant movement machines, and sometimes water.

Dodder and its vining habit. Photo courtesy of VT Weed ID Guide

Control of dodder starts with proper identification. The dodder plant may have roots for a few days after germination until it can find a host plant. The use of mechanical removal will require several attempts, as seed can germinate over a long period of time. Post emergent herbicides are not suggested as they generally will also damage the host plant. Pre-emergent herbicides can be effective if applied in early spring when known infestations have been noted. These herbicides include pronamide, pendimethalin and Trifluralin (Treflan) does provide good control. Watch the site for several years as seeds will remain viable for long periods of time.

Plant of the Week

By: Ginny Rosenkranz

Helenium 'Helena Gold' or sneezeweed is a native clump forming herbaceous perennial that blooms from July to October. These sturdy compact plants grow 2 – 2 ½ feet tall and 1 ½ to 2 feet wide, thriving in full sun and moist but well drained soils. Plants are cold tolerant in USDA zones 4-8. Their long season of blooming provides nectar for native bees, butterflies, and moths. The daisy-like flowers have a raised dome-like center filled with tiny fertile flowers which are surrounded by notched butter-yellow ray petals that enlarge the size of the flowers. The flowers sit above the foliage. The dark green lance-shaped leaves are attached to straight

sturdy stems in an alternate fashion. Because the plants prefer moist soil, they are recommended for rain gardens, meadows, or alongside of a pond. Plants are tolerant of deer, clay, and wet soils. There is no serious insect or disease problems, but foliage can be susceptible to leaf spot, powdery mildew, and rust.

The flowers of *Helenium* 'Helena Gold' provide nectar from July to October.
Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

Pest Predictive Calendar "Predictions"

By: Nancy Harding and Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

In the Maryland area, the accumulated growing degree days (**DD**) this week range from about **2885 DD** (Greater Cumberland) to **3670 DD** (St. Mary's City). The Pest Predictive Calendar tells us when susceptible stages of pest insects are active based on their DD. Therefore, this week you should be monitoring for the following pests. The estimated start degree days of the targeted life stage are in parentheses.

Spotted lanternfly – egg laying **(September)**
Fern scale – egg hatch / crawler (2nd gen) **(2813 DD)**
White prunicola scale – egg hatch / crawler (3rd gen) **(3238 DD)**
Banded ash clearwing borer – adult emergence **(3357 DD)**
Tuliptree scale – egg hatch / crawler **(3472 DD)**

See the Pest Predictive Calendar for more information on DD and plant phenological indicators (PPI) to help you better monitor and manage these pests.

Degree Days (as of August 27, 2025)

Annapolis Naval Academy (KNAK)	3176
Baltimore, MD (KBWI)	3269
Belcamp (FS836)	3035
College Park (KCGS)	3262
Dulles Airport (KIAD)	3169
Ellicott City	3064
Ft. Belvoir, VA (KDA)	3354
Frederick (KFDK)	3089
Gaithersburg (KGAI)	3123
Greater Cumberland Reg (KCBE)	2885
Martinsburg, WV (KMRB)	2960
Millersville (MD026)	3142
Natl Arboretum/Reagan Natl (KDCA)	3611
Perry Hall (C0608)	2972
Salisbury/Ocean City (KSBY)	3128
St. Mary's City (Patuxent NRB KNHK)	3670
Westminster (KDMW)	3441

Important Note: We are using the Online Phenology and Degree-Day Models site. Use the following information to calculate GDD for your site: Select your location from the map Model Category: All models Select Degree-day calculatorThresholds in: Fahrenheit °F Lower: 50 Upper: 95 Calculation type: simple average/growing dds Start: Jan 1

Conferences

September 11, 2025
MNLGA Field Day
Location: Raemelton Farm, Adamstown, MD
For more information

September 17, 2025
Urban Tree Summit
https://urbantreesummit.org/
Montgomery Parks and Casey Trees, present the fourteenth annual Urban Tree Summit. Presentations will focus on efforts to preserve the health and welfare of trees in our urban and suburban landscapes

September 24, 2025
Cut Flower Tour on the Eastern Shore
Location: Wicomico County Extension Office and two cut flower operations
For more information

October 2, 2025
Operator Certification (FTC) for Writing Nutrient Management Plans for Nurseries, Greenhouses, and Controlled Environments
Location: Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, MD
See announcement below

October 29, 2025
FALCAN Truck and Trailer Safety Seminar
Location: Urbana Fire Hall, Urbana, MD
For more information

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION | AgFS Agriculture & Food Systems

Operator Certification (FTC) for Writing Nutrient Management Plans for Nurseries, Greenhouses and Controlled Environments

Thursday, October 2nd, 2025
9:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Location:
Wye Research and Education Center
124 Wye Narrows Drive, Queenstown, MD 21658

Nursery Operator Certification (FTC) for writing nursery nutrient management plans will be offered to growers who are interested in attaining Farmer Training Certification for writing nutrient management plans. This training program will assist you in writing a nutrient management plan for your nursery or greenhouse operation, or controlled environment. You must write a nursery nutrient management plan if you are an agricultural business and gross $2,500 or more per year in sales. With this certification, you will be able to sign-off and submit your own plan and annual implementation reports.

This program consists of a Training Day and an Exam/Signoff Day. This training day, **Thursday, October 2nd, 2025,** will consist of learning the plan-writing process. After the training day, you will have about 5 weeks, during which time you will study the Nursery Nutrient Management Training Manual and develop your plan. The Exam/Signoff Day will be at a location and on a date "**to be announced"**. This date will also be for reviewing your newly developed plan (or renewing your old plan). You must write a plan for Maryland Dept of Agriculture (MDA) to become certified.

The process is relatively simple for small (or low-risk) operations, so if your operation size is less than 5 acres, we would strongly encourage you to think about becoming a certified operator. If your operation is larger than 5 acres or you run a controlled environment, we would still encourage you to become a certified operator, even though the nutrient management process may be a little more complicated. For nutrient management consultants who wish to learn more about the process for developing nutrient management plans for greenhouses and container crop production, this workshop will offer 6 hours of continuing education credits.

The cost for this program is **$40.00** and includes program costs (including lunch) and the MDA exam fee ($20). For consultants not taking the exam, the cost is **$20**. Payment will be required at the beginning of the program. A check can be made out to ***University of Maryland***. A receipt will be available.

If you wish to register, please do so before **September 26th, 2025** by clicking on this **link**. If you have questions, please send an email to me (aristvey@umd.edu) or call me at 410-827-8056 x113. If you need any accommodations for this program, please contact me by **September 26th**.

Wye Research and Education Center is located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, about 20 minutes from the Bay Bridge. A map to WyeREC can be found **here**. Note the circled area on the map; we will be at the WyeREC Office and Lab location.

Commercial Ornamental IPM Information
http://extension.umd.edu/ipm

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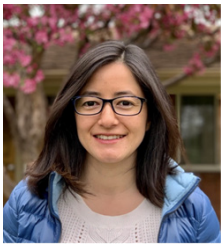

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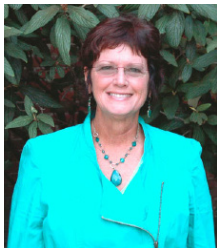

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