

Commercial Horticulture

August 12, 2011

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**Integrated Pest
Management for
Commercial Horticulture**

www.ipmnet.umd.edu

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

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Rains

We are finally getting some rain, not enough to correct all the drought problems, but we will take anything we can get at this point. You should still continue to irrigate customers' trees and shrubs as we go through August.



Banded Ash Clearwing Borer

The emerald ash borer has been getting all of the press lately, but the banded ash clearwing moth is very prevalent and causing a lot of damage to ash trees in Maryland. The larvae are creating a pupal chamber in August just under the

Frass at the base of an ash tree is a sign of banded ash clearwing borer



bark in the cambial region of the tree. They will be pupating as we go into the end of August and the adults should be out in September (based on records we have been keeping for the last 10 years). We should be seeing pupal cases projecting from the tree trunks sometime in September and if anyone sees them please send an email to sgill@umd.edu, so we can alert everyone else.

Control: A protectant spray of permethrin or bifenthrin can be applied after adults are out.



Empty pupal case on trunk



Damage on trunk

Dog Day Cicadas Are Out

You can hear the dog day or annual cicada males singing their songs this week. We've been getting regular reports of sightings this year. Fortunately this annual cicada rarely does enough damage to worry about. Enjoy the sounds of summer. Cicada killers are also being spotted. Sonny Saintcross had a lot of activity at his operation this week where the cicada killers were hauling cicadas from a hill the cicadas colonized. The cicada killers took the paralyzed cicadas back to their burrows to feed their young.



Cicada killer and several burrows
Photo: Sonny Saintcross, Sunshine Acres



Cicada killer found in Potomac
Photo: Timothy Paesch, Lasting Impressions Landscape Contractors Inc



Empty cicada pupal case (left) and just emerged adult cicada
Photos: Bill Miller, The Azalea Works

Catalpa Sphinx Moth Caterpillar

John Shorb, John Shorb Landscaping, found second generation egg hatch of catalpa sphinx moth caterpillars on August 7th in Gibson Island. John noted that the first generation completely defoliated 4" caliper catalpa by July 20th and that just as new leaves have sprouted (not more than 50%), the second generation is starting to devour new leaves. Bt. was applied on Sunday Aug 7.



Spruce Spider Mites

A grower sent in *Thuja occidentalis* 'DeGroot's Spire' foliage with severe stippling on the foliage from spruce spider mites. Right after the rains in April we had a cool, sunny dry May and early June which made perfect conditions for spruce spider mites to flourish. They slowed down during the summer when it got hot. The sample we examined at our lab at CMREC was loaded with eggs which will hatch when it cools down in later August and September (if it does cool down). Examine foliage of spruce, juniper, hemlock and arborvitae in late August and look for nymphs.



Control: A good material to use early in a population build-up is Hexagon which is a mite growth regulator that prevents nymphs from shedding their skin and going to the next life stage.

Cedar Quince Rust

Steve Castrogiovanni, Mead Tree Experts, is still seeing late season infection of cedar quince rust on hawthorn.

Management: Grow resistant varieties and use good cultural practices to reduce the spread and development of this disease. Protectant fungicides need to be applied early in the season for control.

Elm Leaf Beetle

Ben Hall, Mainscapes, Inc., brought in an elm sample with heavy injury from elm leaf beetle. Look for this beetle on most elm species and zelkova. This native beetle has two generations per year in Maryland. Adults produce shot hole damage on leaves. The larvae etch leaf surfaces between the fine veins.



Damage from elm leaf beetle

Alternative Energy Day

Make sure to mark October 20, 2011 as a day to attend the alternative energy day at sites in Howard and Carroll counties. We will be viewing nurseries that have installed solar, geothermal, wind power and high efficiency wood stoves. Ruppert Companies (Montgomery County) just announced they are installing a giant 300 kilowatt solar array at their facility in Laytonsville. Congratulations to them.

Degree Days (As of August 11)

Baltimore, MD (BWI)	2947
Dulles Airport	2862
Frostburg, MD	1913
Martinsburg, WV	2633
National Arboretum	3188
Reagan National	3234
Salisbury	3031

Upcoming Programs:

August 23, 2011

Twilight Tour: Aronia Research

Location: Wye Research and Education Center, Queenstown, MD

Contact: Debby Dant, 410-827-8056, ext 115 or ddant@umd.edu

Note: The event is free, but registration is requested

October 20, 2011

Green Industry Energy Program

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