



TPM/IPM Weekly Report

for Arborists, Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers

September 9, 2011

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AGNR Open House
October 1, 2011
<http://agnropenhouse.umd.edu>

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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Disease Information: Karen Rane (Plant Pathologist) and David Clement (Extension Specialist)
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)
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Weather

What a wild summer. We had 3 incidences of record setting temperatures over 100°F, starting on Memorial Day weekend. We have had extended droughts, a 5.8 earthquake and one or two aftershocks, followed by a category 2/1 hurricane/tropical storm. This week we were drenched in rain. Rainfall totals ranged between 4 - 12 inches over the metropolitan areas of D.C. and Baltimore. We have seen many stressed plant samples come in this summer from the high temperatures and extended dry periods. In the last week we have been receiving pictures of blown over full size spruce, Leyland cypress and many other tall evergreens that were knocked over by the winds of Irene. The good news is the ground moisture level is coming up and it should be ideal for replacement plantings this fall. Let's think positively on this one.



Sedum starting to bloom

Update on Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

Brown marmorated stink bug activity was down for most of the week due to heavy and frequent rains. As it goes back to being sunny during the day and cool at night they will be found on sides of buildings. This is the time of year when stink bugs are attracted to light and are often found in the evening and the morning gathered around light sources. Find a good portable, powerful vacuum that can suck up the insects and start using it.

Premature Leaf Drop

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, is reporting that she has been seeing premature leaf drop over the past several months. In particular, she has noticed that the Yoshino cherries started premature drop back in July after those very high temperature days. Most recently, Marie has seen that *Tilia americana* 'Redmond' had also dropped most of their leaves. *Tilia* 'Sterling' trees were fine, as were the *Tilia* c. 'Greenspire'. Is anyone else seeing similar leaf drop on trees? Let us know at sgill@umd.edu.

Woolly Aphids

Steve Black is finding woolly aphids on *Crataegus* 'Crusader'. These aphids produce a lot of white wax to cover their bodies. The populations are very noticeable at this time of year.

Control: Woolly aphids are pretty easy to control with most contact chemicals including insecticidal soap, horticultural oils, and neem oil. Look to see if predators such as syrphid fly larvae are present and feeding on the aphids. If enough of these predators are present on a plant and appear to be controlling the problem, it would be best to avoid any spraying at all and let the larvae clean up the problem.

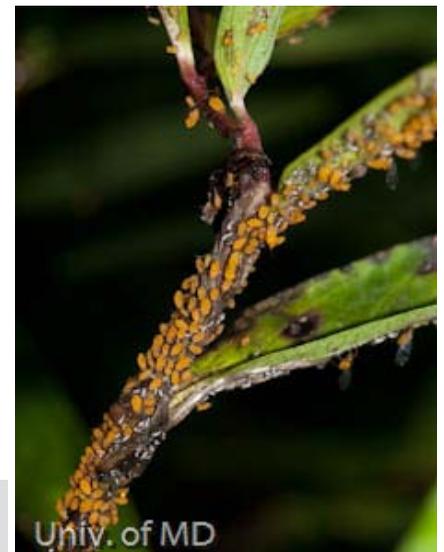


Woolly aphids on hawthorn
Photo: Steve Black

Oleander Aphids

Another common aphid found at this time of year is the oleander aphid on various species of *Asclepias*. Aphids are covering stems on several *Asclepias incarnata* plants here at the research center. The rain this week washed some of the aphids away, but plenty are still left on the plants. There were a few syrphid fly larvae present feeding on the aphids.

Control: Look for the different predators and parasites such as lady bird beetles, syrphid flies, assassin bugs and parasitic wasps that feed on aphids. This late in the season, control is not necessary.



Oleander aphids on
Asclepias incarnata
Univ. of MD

Tuliptree Scale

Examine tuliptrees and magnolias for tuliptree scale. The females are humped up into a army helmet shape. If not present already, the dark red crawlers should be active soon. Look on plants for honeydew that is produced in large quantities by this soft scale.

Control: Distance mixed with 1% horticultural oil when crawlers are out.

Bees and Goldenrain Tree

We received an interesting exchange of emails about bees and goldenrain tree on an entomology listserv list this week.

Juang-Horng 'JC' Chong, Ph.D., Clemson University, sent out an interesting inquiry about bees being killed by a golden raintree. Here are his question/observations:

*Did anyone ever observe a large number of dead bumblebees associated with goldenrain tree? A good friend, who is also the executive director of a local botanical garden, informed me that the goldenrain tree/Chinese flame tree (*Koelreuteria bipinnata*) in the garden was in full bloom and killing bees. Last Friday, we counted about 48 dead bumblebees (species not identified) under the tree. At the time, hundreds of honeybees, bumblebees and other native bees were visiting the flowers; only bumblebees were found dead. Ignorant of the effects of goldenrain trees on bees and suspecting that the hive and bees might be poisoned before visiting the flowers, I suggested to my friend to clean up the ground and see what happens next. The ground was cleared on Tuesday. Dead bumblebees were found on the ground on Tuesday afternoon (20) and Wednesday (42). The trees have never been treated with any insecticides, systemic or otherwise. I have not heard of a similar occurrence. I cannot confirm if something similar is happening in the neighborhood because those may be the only two goldenrain trees within a radius of 10 miles.*

David Held, Auburn University, had this response:

*What a cool observation. It is possible that the nectar of certain trees may have a narcotic or toxic effect on bees, although the two references that I have don't include goldenrain tree but *Sophora* spp. In many instances, the toxic effect can be traced to yeasts associated with the nectar. I would guess that an intoxicated bee that wasn't poisoned outright would die secondarily from desiccation on a hot summer day.*

Here are the bee references for your interest.

P.G. Kevan, D. Eisikowitch, S. Fowle, and K. Thomas. 1988. J. Apic. Res. 27(1): 26-29.

P.G. Clinch, T. Palmer-Jones, and I.W. Forster. 1972. N.Z. J Agric Res. 15:194-201. -alkaloids in the nectar inducing a narcotic effect on bees.

Weed of the Week, Chuck Schuster

Redstem filaree, *Erodium cicutarium*, is a winter annual or biennial that can grow to twenty inches in height. It is found in both turf and landscape settings throughout the United States. Redstem filaree develops as a basal rosette with leaves that are found with a petiole and are hairy. Each leaf is divided into up to nine individual leaflets that are oppositely arranged. Each individual leaflet is lanceolate in outline, and up to eight inches in length and are deeply lobed without petioles. Stems may grow on the ground, or upright, will be found with hairs, and can be red in color. The plant has a small taproot with a fibrous root occurring off the taproot. Flowers are produced in a cluster of two to eight, and are pink to purple in color and up to one half inch in diameter.



Redstem filaree

Photo: Virginia Tech Weed ID Guide

Control of this weed in a landscape setting will include use of mulch which can prevent seeds from germinating. It will not compete with taller plant material. Goal 2XL, Surflan (oryzalin) and Snapshot (isoxaben + trifluralin) have worked well in nursery settings. In turf, post emergent products that include 2,4D and dicamba work well to control redstem filaree.

Plant of the Week, Ginny Rosenkranz

Heuchera or coral bells (sometimes referred to as alumroot) is an herbaceous perennial plant that thrives in part to full shade, with rich, moist but well drained soils. Many of the coral bell varieties are evergreen, giving a touch of color throughout the cold winter months. Most varieties have dark foliage, but there are a number of bright green or bright yellow green varieties that can add contrast to the dark foliage and also brighten up a dark, shady corner. One coral bells, *Heuchera villosa* 'Citronelle', has citron yellow foliage with a silver underside and tall spikes of small white flowers that bloom in late summer. *Heuchera villosa* is also called giant alumroot for the large size of the foliage, and it is more heat and humidity tolerant than other coral bells species. These plants are hardy from USDA zone 4-9; growing better in the cooler summers provided in the northern parts of Maryland and is not tolerant of any full sun locations. Like all coral bells, 'Citronelle' is deer resistant and attracts both hummingbirds and butterflies to the shady garden when it is in bloom and has no serious insect or disease pests.



Heuchera 'Citronelle'
Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

Degree Days (As of September 8)

Baltimore, MD (BWI)	3593
Dulles Airport	3511
Frostburg, MD	2366
Martinsburg, WV	3253
National Arboretum	3916
Reagan National	3978
Salisbury	3740

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Open House

October 1, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Central Maryland Research and Education Center, Clarksville Facility, 4240 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

agnropenhouse.umd.edu



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Green Industry Energy Tour

October 20, 2011

Locations: Capitol City Contractors (Woodbine) and Falcon Ridge Farm (Westminster)

Greenhouse Conference

November 18, 2011

Location: Chesapeake College, Wye Mills, MD

Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers National Conference

November 7-10, 2011

Location: Reston, Virginia

www.ascfg.org

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