



**TPM/IPM Weekly Report for Arborists,
Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers
University of Maryland Cooperative Extension
Central Maryland Research and Education Center**

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Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)

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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 finding insect, disease, weed or cultural plant problems. Send submissions to Sklick@umd.edu or call Stanton Gill at 301-596-9413.

San Jose Scale

San Jose scale is found on crabapples, apple, pyracantha and other plants in the Rosaceae family. The female covers are round with a raised center. The crawlers were observed this week in the Westminster area this week.

Monitoring: Examine branches and twigs for the presence of overwintering female covers. Use a hand lens to examine foliage for presence of crawlers.

Control: Distance applied now.



Southern Red Mite

The hot weather last week brought on a lot of activity from southern red mite on peach and *Ilex crenata*. We found activity in Olney and Brookeville this week.

Monitoring: Use a white paper placed under foliage and rap the foliage sharply to dislodge the mites. You will see tiny specks moving on the paper if you have an active infestation. Southern red mite is common on many broad leaved evergreens so monitor them closely.

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Control: Options include horticultural oil, neem oil, Akari, Floramite, Avid. If populations are low and not causing damage then wait to apply controls. Natural enemies may move in and control measures may never be necessary.

Weird Leaf Galls Forming on Maple

We received a picture of leaves with swellings and bumps on them this week from Jeff Schwartz, Greenskeeper Environmental, LLC. Red maple with small red colored, round swellings and red maple with red, fuzzy looking areas on the undersides of the foliage. This is injury from eriophyid mites. Adult mites overwinter under the leaf bud scales and have been active on the foliage for the last couple of weeks. When the mites feed the plant responds by forming galls. Different species of eriophyid mites cause different types of galls.



Monitoring: Look for any color changes or abnormal growths on leaves.

Control: Most galls are only aesthetic injury and do not kill or reduce the health of the hosts. Some managers have tried applying oil in spring just before buds break to reduce injury but is it really worth the effort? Your choice, but I would live with the small amount of injury.

Euonymus scale

Settled first instars are present this week in central Maryland.

Control: You can still apply Distance this week to target these early instar nymphs. If you have heavy infestations don't wait – the window of opportunity is almost closed for optimal control.

Plants to monitor: Euonymus, boxwood, pachysandra

Locust Leafminers

Adults are still active this week with white splotched mines starting to show up on foliage of black locust. We should see the foliage on black locust turn brown in 2 -3 weeks.



Control: Not necessary.

Eastern tent caterpillar

We are receiving pictures of eastern tent caterpillar cocoons this week. The larvae formed the silken cocoons and pupated inside over the last couple of weeks. The cocoons are attached to buildings, rocks or any other structure they can find while they complete the next life stages. We should see adults out in mid to late June with females laying egg masses on branches in late June to early July. We are also seeing numerous parasitic wasps emerging from the cocoons. This means NO adults will be emerging from those cocoons – biological control in action!

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Cottony Camellia Scale (also known as Cottony Taxus Scale)

Brian Clark, University of Maryland, reported that a large group of cottony camellia taxus scales are producing egg sacs at this time on Chinese holly in College Park. He noted that about 80% have finished producing eggs.

Monitor: Look for these scales on camellia, taxus, holly, and euonymus.

Control: Wait for eggs to hatch and then treat with horticultural oil or apply a systemic insecticide now.

Spiny Witchhazel Gall Aphid

Last week, we included a picture of damage from this aphid on birch. John Stuart sent pictures of the galls that form on the witchhazel for this week’s report. These aphids have a complicated life cycle which includes alternating between witch hazel and birch.

Monitor: These aphids are common on River birch. Visually search the underside of the foliage for aphids which produce an abundance of white wax-like material. Aphid feeding results in “bumpy” ridges in the leaves.

Control: Natural enemies (lady beetles, syrphid flies, parasitic wasps) usually move in and control these aphids so there is no need to treat. Lady bird beetles are feeding on the aphids on the birch here at the research center already. If your populations become high and your plant is in a focal location be sure to use a chemical that will have low impact on the beneficials such as horticultural oil.

Photos by John Stuart



Damage from galls on top side of leaf



Underside of witchhazel leaf

Peony Scale

John Stuart reported peony scale, *Pseudaonidia paeoniae*, on a camellia in Washington D.C.

Taxus Mealybug

John Stuart found a very active taxus mealybug population on May 31 in Washington.

Monitor: Look for white waxy mealybugs and honeydew.

Control: If populations are heavy you can treat with horticultural oil – be sure to get good coverage.

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Exobasidium Gall on Azalea

Steve Sullivan, The Brickman Group, brought in a sample of azalea with exobasidium gall on May 30. The symptoms start as swollen tissue on newly expanding leaves, shoots, buds or flowers. A white surface growth that contains the reproductive spores develops on these galls. The galls range in color from green to pink to red depending on the part of the plant infected. Eventually these galls turn brown and harden. They are not a serious problem on azaleas. Fungicides are not effective. It is best to hand pick galls before the white growth develops to reduce the incidence of this disease next season.



Plant of the Week

The sweet fragrance of summer has arrived – Evergreen magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) is now in full bloom and is perfuming the air. Magnolias are for the most part pest free and are great for any IPM program in a landscape. Newer varieties are cleaner than the old standards and they have smaller leaves and don't drop the leaves as often. The most cold-tolerant varieties according to Dr. Dirr include 'Bracken's Brown Beauty' and 'Little Gem'. Both trees have shiny dark green foliage with brown fuzzy undersides and beautiful creamy white fragrant flowers in June and throughout the summer. 'Little Gem' is more of a tall shrub rather than a stately tree, but it does flower earlier than any other evergreen magnolia. 'Brackens Brown Beauty' has smaller foliage and is denser than many other varieties and can reach a height of 30 – 50 feet. Once the flowers of the magnolia are done, the seeds in the pods turn a bright red and decorate the tree until the birds eat all the seeds. Most magnolias are grown limbed up to make transplanting easier, but if the plant is allowed to grow with the limbs down to the ground, the dropping leaves, blossoms and seed pods can be covered up. At this time the worst pest is the deer that seem to love to eat the foliage and rub their antlers on the branches.

Dodder in Montgomery County

John Speaker reported large areas of dodder in areas of Montgomery County last week. Dodder can be a problem in landscape areas if left unchecked and allowed to flower. Dodder is an annual vine with thread-like stems that are yellow, orange or red. It is a parasitic plant with roots that are modified to penetrate the host plant. Flowers are small, white or sometimes pink and numerous in compact clusters. Plants die at the first frost, but seeds will germinate the next year in spring and early summer. The seed is long-lived in the soil. Control dodder with a pre-emergent herbicide in early spring to prevent flowering and seed production.



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Weed of the Week:

Bittersweet nightshade, *Solanum dulcamara*, is a climbing perennial that may have stems reaching lengths of up to 10 feet. This weed is found throughout the United States, and most commonly in the eastern or north central states. Leaves of bittersweet nightshade are up to four inches long, deep green to purple, smooth and alternate. Most leaves have 2 leaflets at the base. Most leaves will appear with lobes, but this is not an identification characteristic. Flowers are purple and star shaped with five petals. Stems become woody with age, and will root at the nodes. Fruit will be bright red berries, found in clusters. This helps distinguish between bittersweet nightshade and Eastern nightshade, whose berries are black. The plant has an unpleasant odor and is poisonous.



Control of bittersweet nightshade can be obtained using post emergent products containing glyphosate. In nursery settings, atrazine can be used as a pre emergent method of control.

What's in bloom?

Plant	Plant Stage (Bud with color, first bloom, full bloom, first leaf)	Location
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	Full Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Clintonia umbellulata</i>	Full Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Rhododendron 'Marydel'</i>	First Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	Full Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Cladrastis kentuckea</i>	First Bloom	Westminster
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Full Bloom	Ellicott City
<i>Conradina verticillata</i>	Full Bloom	Reisterstown
<i>Astilbe 'Fanal' and Granat'</i>	First Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Rhododendron maximum 'Roseum'</i>	Full Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Indigofera kirilowii</i>	Full Bloom	Silver Run
<i>Kalmia latifolia 'Carousel' and 'Olympic Fire'</i>	Full Bloom	Silver Run

Degree Day Information (as of May 31):

Baltimore, MD (BWI)	758	Dulles Airport	822
Hagerstown, MD	724	Mechanicsville, MD	807
National Arboretum	857	Reagan National	896
Salisbury	645		



Stanton Gill



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