



**Greenhouse TPM/IPM Bi-Weekly Report**  
**University of Maryland Cooperative Extension**  
**Central Maryland Research and Education Center**

**From:** Stanton Gill, Extension Specialist – IPM for Greenhouse and Nurseries, CMREC, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension  
Karen Rane, Extension Specialist, Director of the Plant Diagnostic Lab, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension  
Suzanne Klick, Technician, CMREC, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension

**October 16, 2009**

**Save the Date!**

**December 10, 2009 Chesapeake Green Energy Conference  
at Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, Maryland**

**Details Coming Soon**

### **Poinsettias**

We have been visiting several greenhouse growers to get a handle on how the poinsettia crops are looking so far this fall. We have seen scorched leaves on ‘Freedom’ poinsettias so be sure to that plants are kept watered to avoid damage to the foliage. Some growers did not get around to spacing their poinsettias until last week and the plants looked stretched and open on the bottom. Most growers have had their poinsettia plants spaced for about 2 – 3 weeks now. The poinsettias that have been spaced for awhile look pretty good at this point. A couple of growers had applied the plant growth regulator Fascination to ‘Prestige’ to try to increase the height on this cultivar. Overall, whitefly control looks very good this year. Most growers have applied either Marathon or Safari.

### **Pansy Problems**

In the last week we have had samples of greenhouse grown pansy affected with *Cercospora* leaf spot. Leaf spots tend to be on the older leaves or leaves that are close to the substrate surface. Initially leaf spots are 1-3 mm in size with a sunken center. The leaf spots become dark gray or purplish in color, and have a feathery appearance. If left untreated the leaf spots will continue to expand, coalesce, and may cover the whole leaf. These leaves may turn yellow and drop off the affected plant.

Sanitation is important in controlling *Cercospora* leaf spot – plants with severe symptoms should be discarded. Keep the leaves free of moisture as much



The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Maryland Cooperative Extension is implied. Read labels carefully before applying any pesticides. Photographs are by Suzanne Klick, Stanton Gill and Shannon Wadkins unless stated otherwise.

as possible. Irrigating plants early in the morning will allow the leaves to dry off quickly and remain dry going into the coolness of the evening. There are a variety of fungicides that are labeled for this disease on pansy including mancozeb (Dithane T/O, Protect DF and others), thiophanate methyl (Cleary's 3336), fludioxonil (Medallion), and chlorothalonil + thiophanate methyl (Spectro 90 WDG).

### **Brown Marmorated Stink Bug**

We held an Open House at the Central Maryland Research and Education Center on Saturday for the general public. We had a display on invasive species of insects including samples of the brown marmorated stink bug. The number of people attending who recognized this bug was incredible. The reaction was typically "What is that bug – we have it all over our house this year." We reported on this bug in earlier weekly IPM alerts but it is worth mentioning again since this is the insect of the moment. This bug is being



reported throughout central Maryland, western Maryland and southern Maryland this year. The adults are attempting to overwinter in people's houses and will do them no harm. The best thing to do is vacuum them up, and then empty the contents into the toilet and flush them. We will probably see this insect in 2010 as a frequent pest in gardens in Maryland.

### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

#### **December 10, 2009**

Chesapeake Green Energy Conference  
Location: Brookside Gardens, Wheaton, MD  
Contact: Suzanne Klick, 301-596-9413

#### **December 18, 2009**

Pest Management Recertification Conference  
Location: Montgomery College, Germantown, MD  
Contact: Suzanne Klick, 301-596-9413

#### **February 3 and 4, 2010**

2010 Chesapeake Green Horticulture Symposium  
Location: Maritime Institute, Linthicum, MD  
Contact: MNLA, 410-823-8684

#### **February 16 – 19, 2010**

Cut Flower Short Course  
Location: BARC Facility, Beltsville, MD  
Contact: Suzanne Klick, 301-596-9413

#### **March 4, 2010**

Greenhouse Conference  
Location: Chesapeake Community College, Easton, MD  
Contact: Shannon Dill, 410-822-1244

The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Maryland Cooperative Extension is implied. Read labels carefully before applying any pesticides. Photographs are by Suzanne Klick, Stanton Gill and Shannon Wadkins unless stated otherwise.