

Commercial Horticulture

November 30, 2023

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IPMnet
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 sgill@umd.edu

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Regular Contributors:

Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Stanton Gill and Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialists) and Nancy Harding, Faculty Research Assistant

Disease Information: Karen Rane (Plant Pathologist), David Clement (Extension Specialist) and Fereshteh Shahoveisi (Turf Pathologist)

Weed of the Week: Chuck Schuster (Retired Extension Educator), Kelly Nichols, Nathan Glenn, and Mark Townsend (UME Extension Educators)

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

Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)

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Multicolored Lady Beetles Active in Late November

By: Stanton Gill

We are receiving in many emails from landscapers reporting customers are seeing hyper activity of ladybird beetles entering customers' homes in November. The adult beetle overwinters in protected locations and unfortunately houses are a great place for them to overwinter. Some customers are reporting a nip from the beetles if they land on their skin. They can give a small nip but nothing really serious. Use a portable shop vac to gather up these house invaders and move them back outdoors.

Multicolored Asian lady beetles were introduced to control soft-bodied pests on fruit and nut trees in Georgia back in the 1980s. Since arriving in Maryland in the 1990s, the multicolored Asian lady beetle has become the most common lady beetle species in many habitats. It has outcompeted and displaced certain native lady beetles that were more common prior to its arrival in the state.



Note the "M" on the pronotum shield to help ID this lady beetle as a multicolored Asian lady beetle.

Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

On the good side

An adult beetle can eat more than 100 aphids per day. Each larva can consume about 600 to 1,200 aphids during its development through 4 instars. Because adults can live more than 1 year, an individual can consume over 5,000 aphids or similar-sized pests during its larval and adult lifespan.

This voracious predator has improved biological control of soft-bodied pests in various crop, garden, and landscape situations. However, the multicolored Asian lady beetle is also an unwelcome pest when it enters buildings during fall seeking shelter overwinter. When disturbed, adults can emit drops of their odorous, orange blood.

With the sunny days they move toward windows trying to exit the house structures. When it cools down at night they try to re-enter a house through any crack or crevice they can find. Not need for major alarm but still customers do not generally like having bugs visit their houses.

Interesting Disease on a Succulent

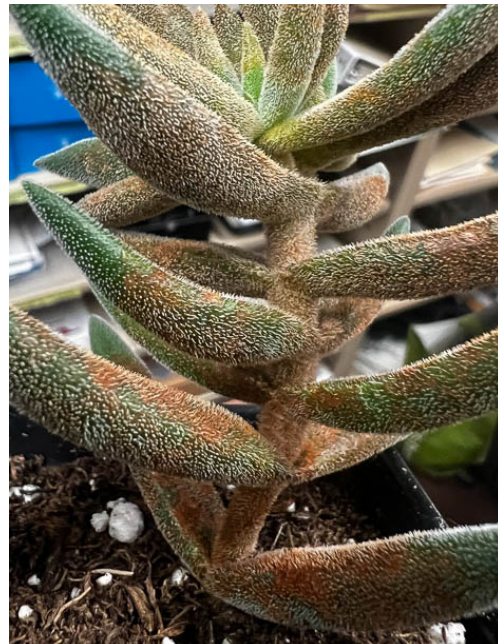
By: Stanton Gill and Karen Rane

We had interesting problem show up in a greenhouse in Maryland on a crassula succulent. The grower thought he had a rust disease showing up on the foliage. It turns out that it was powdery mildew. The weather in October has been sunny during the day with cool nights, making for perfect powdery mildew weather. High relative humidity and temperatures between 70-85 are optimum conditions for powdery mildew development. Venting and heating greenhouses before sunset can help reduce humidity. Because powdery mildews infect the outer layer of plant cells, eradication of mild infections is possible through fungicide applications. However, the scarring damage that occurs on some succulents will remain even after the powdery mildew fungus is killed. There are many products labeled for managing powdery mildew in greenhouses, including biological products like *Bacillus amyloliquifaciens* (Triathlon, Companion) and *Bacillus subtilis* (Cease), copper products, potassium bicarbonate products (Kaligreen, Milstop), fungicides such as azoxystrobin, myclobutanil, thiophanate methyl, and combination products like Orkestra Intrinsic, Palladium, Spectro 90WF, and Pageant Intrinsic. Check product labels for specific plant host, spray interval information and other instructions. It's always a good idea when trying a "new-to-you" fungicide or spraying a plant species for the first time to test the product on a few plants first to check for possible phytotoxicity.



Rosemary is an herb to check regularly for a powdery mildew infection.

Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME



Although it doesn't look like it, this discolored crassula is infected with powdery mildew.

Photo: Sheena O'Donnell, UME

Cypress Twig Gall Midge

Sam Bahr, UMD, found cypress twig galls that are caused by tiny midges (*Taxodiomyia cupressiananassa*). Second generation fly larvae overwinter within the fallen galls. Pupation and adult emergence occurs in the spring. No control is necessary.



Cypress twig galls start out with a white bloom covering a green gall. As they mature, they become brown.
Photos: Sam Bahr, UMD

Interesting, Disease Resistant Fruit for Your Customers

By: Stanton Gill

With holiday gift giving coming up in December and January, some of your customers may be interested in trying some interesting fruit trees that are fairly tough and grow well in Maryland. For the last 20 years, we have been growing over 13 cultivars of Asian pears from China, Japan, and Korea in our orchard. Here are some of the best that could work for your customers to grow.

Pyrus pyrifolia 'Reddy Robin'

The first is one I just started growing recently which is a hybrid between Chinese and Japanese Asian pear cultivars. Its Latin name is *Pyrus x bretschneideri*. Developed in New Zealand, this cross of Japanese and Chinese pears is called a "papple" in England because its red/orange skin and yellow blush make it look like an apple. It also tastes a little like an apple. This one has an attractive, very distinguishing red blush. They are firm and juicy with a sweet, low-acidic flavor. The crisp fruit ripens in late August to early September.

For larger operations the Reddy Robin® selection is commercially available to Rivermaid Trading Company growers and Diamond Fruit Growers only. Rivermaid orchard is over 4,000 acres and one of the largest in California. It can be made available to Farmer's Market, or "Farmgate" operations, but a Farmgate grower agreement must be signed. I found Raintree nursery will sell individual trees.

Reddy Robin is scab resistant and easy to grow in zones 5 through 7. The red and yellow flesh is very attractive.

Pyrus pyrifolia 'Kosui' and 'Hosui'

These two, slightly russeted selections are two of the best tasting of all Asian pears. Both are a reliable bearer of medium-to-large, delicious fruit. It is fairly resistant to fire blight.

Ripening in October is Korean Giant. This is an excellent cultivar with great tasting fruit, regular bearing, and one of the most resistant to fire blight I have grown for the last 20 years.

Chojuro

True to its name, which translates to “plentiful” in Japanese, ‘Chojuro’ produces ample fruit, often in its very first year after planting. It has a round apple shape and juicy-sweet butterscotch flavor. I have not seen any major disease problems with this cultivar.

Online Class for Fruit Production in Late December of 2024

December 19, 2023 – January 18, 2024 - Advanced Fruit Production with Emphasis on IPM

Location: Online zoom with 4 Saturday hands on field labs offered through Montgomery College, Germantown campus.

You can sign up by going to the Montgomery College, Germantown campus web-site and look under the winter min-semester courses. The class is listed under HORT listing of classes. The class is listed on their website simply as “Fruit Production”. [How To Apply and Register | Montgomery College, Maryland](#). After you do, you should get an email from college giving you a student ID number, so you can sign up. If you have any problems contact me at Sgill@umd.edu.

Conferences: Go to the [IPMnet Conference Page](#) for links and details on these programs.

December 8, 2023

[Advanced IPM Conference](#) (Link to register)

Location: Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD

December 12, 2023

[Maryland Turfgrass Council Conference and Tradeshow](#)

Location: Turf Valley Country Club, Ellicott City, MD

December 20, 2023 (morning only)

[Turf Nutrient Management Session](#) (Link to register)

Location: CMREC, Ellicott City, MD

2024 Advanced Landscape IPM PHC Short Course

This is a recertification short course for arborists, landscapers, IPM consultants, horticulturalists, professional gardeners, and others responsible for urban plant management. The course lectures will be held over four days at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. In addition, there will be a hands-on lab following lecture (available to a limited number of course attendees). Coordinators: Drs. Paula Shrewsbury and Mike Raupp, Dept. of Entomology, University of Maryland

Lecture dates: Monday, January 8 - Thursday, January 11, 2024 from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Lab dates: Monday, January 8 - Thursday, January 11, 2024 (space limited) from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Course and registration information: <https://landscapeipmphc.weebly.com/>

Questions contact: Amy Yaich, 301-405-3911, umdentomology@umd.edu

January 10-12, 2024

MANTS

Location: Baltimore Convention Center

January 16 and 17, 2024

Maryland Arborists' Association Conference

Location: Howard Community College, Columbia, MD

January 26, 2024

FALCAN Conference

Location: Frederick Community College, Frederick, MD

February 8, 2024

[25th Anniversary - Manor View Farm & The Perennial Farm Education Seminar](#)

Location: Valley Mansion, Cockeyville MD

Speakers: John Stanley (Green Industry International Business Consultant), Vinnie Simone (Planting Fields Arboretum, NY), Janet Draper (Smithsonian Gardens) & Stanton Gill (UMD Extension)

Registration information available soon.

February 14, 2024

Eastern Shore Pest Management Conference

Location: Wicomico Civic Center, Salisbury, MD

Information and Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-eastern-shore-pest-management-conference-tickets-726283502507?aff=oddtcreator>

February 15 and 16, 2024

Chesapeake Green Horticulture Conference

Location: Maritime Institute, Linthicum Heights, MD

February 20-21, 2024

Drone Program

Location: Central Maryland Research and Education Center, Ellicott City, MD

February 29 and March 1, 2024

Biological Control Conference for Greenhouses, Nurseries, and Landscapes

Location: Central Maryland Research and Education Center, Ellicott City, MD

March 6 and 7, 2024

Cut Flower Program

Location: Central Maryland Research and Education Center, Ellicott City, MD

March 26 - 29, 2024

IPM Scouts' Training

Location: Central Maryland Research and Education Center, Ellicott City, MD



**We hope to be in our new building
at CMREC in early January!**

Commercial Ornamental IPM Information

<http://extension.umd.edu/ipm>

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