

Commercial Horticulture

October 25, 2019

In This Issue...

- Report update
- Conferences
- Weather update
- Cherry laurel problems
- Turf biocontrol conference
- Redheaded pine sawflies
- Woolly alder aphids
- Multi-colored Asian lady bird beetles

Beneficial of the Week: Pictured wing flies

Weed of the Week: Fall panicum

Plant of the Week: *Acer griseum* (paperbark maple)

Degree Days
Announcements

[Pest Predictive Calendar](#)



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 sklick@umd.edu

Coordinator Weekly IPM Report:

Stanton Gill, Extension Specialist, IPM and Entomology for Nursery, Greenhouse and Managed Landscapes, sgill@umd.edu. 410-868-9400 (cell)

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) 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 (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)

Design, Layout and Editing: Suzanne Klick (Technician, CMREC)

The End is Almost Upon Us

By: Stanton Gill

Halloween is next week and we thought it was fitting to paddle into the end of the reporting season. Next Friday, November 1 will be the last of the weekly IPM Alerts. We will put out special announcements during the winter and will start up again in March of 2020. It has been a blast and a very eventful season. Thanks to all of you who sent in pictures and input for the weekly IPM Alerts. You guys make this possible.



Suzanne will be sending out an electronic survey. It will really help us out if you take a moment or two to fill it out and send it in so we can get a handle on what is working or needs improvement.

Advanced IPM Conference and Re-Certification

By: Stanton Gill

We will hold the IPM and Pesticide Recertification conference on December 6 at the Carroll Community College in Westminster, MD. We have limited seating for this conference so if you are interested register soon. Go to the [Eventbrite site](#) to register online. For a brochure with details on the program and to register by check, to the [conference page](#) of the IPMnet website.

Biological Control Conference

By: Stanton Gill

We have developed a biological control conference with MNLGA with the date of December 17, 2019. This will be conducted at the Maritime Institute in near BWI Airport. The topics on biological control will apply to nurseries, greenhouses and landscape. The conference will also count for re-certification credits. Go to the [MNLGA](#) website to register for this conference.

Rain - Finally

By: Stanton Gill

More rain is good, but still it is not enough. We need more. I was driving on Rt. 32 and looking at the large number of dead or dying trees that were transplanted this summer and fall. Each one I examined was showing dieback from root systems drying out. Tell your customers to keep watering in early November. We want the plant root systems fully hydrated going into winter.

Cherry Laurel Problems

By: Stanton Gill

This picture of a cherry laurel was sent in on Tuesday. Cherry laurels are very susceptible to peachtree borer infestations. Cherry laurel is in the same family as peach and is highly susceptible to this clearwing moth borer. The adults were active back in July, and females laid eggs at the base of cherry laurel trunks. The gummy material is sap from the plant. The plant is trying to drown the insects out of its cambium layer.

Control: Mainspring insecticide (systemic) has on its label that it can be used as a soil drench and works against clearwing moth borer larvae.



Oozing on this cherry laurel is in response to peachtree borer activity
Photo: Spencer Ecker, Potomac Flower & Garden Design

February 27, 2020

By: Stanton Gill

Mark your calendar for February 27. We will be working with the professional associations in setting up a session at the University of Maryland Shady Grove Campus to hold a session on how to develop a turfgrass insect, disease, and weed control program that will work in Montgomery County, MD. Most of you are aware at this point, hopefully, that Montgomery County will be restricting what pesticides can be used on lawns. Prince Georges' County and Howard County are also looking at similar restrictions for turfgrass pesticide applications. We will be bringing in speakers on the new law and will invite in companies from Canada that have adapted to similar laws in Canada. We will put out a special winter IPM Alert giving you details on this program with topics and registration. For right now, we have a location and date set.

Redheaded Pine Sawfly

Stacy Gardner, Heritage Landscape Services, found pine sawflies feeding on a mugo pine in Ashburn, VA. Stacy noted that she sprayed it with horticulture oil. Redheaded pine sawfly larvae are finishing up feeding and will overwinter in the prepupal stage. They will pupate in the spring.



**A mugo pine is being damaged by the feeding of redheaded pine sawflies
Photos: Stacy Gardner, Heritage Landscape Services**

Woolly Alder Aphids

Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts, found these woolly alder aphids on alders growing in a low area along a trail in central PA last weekend. Predators of this aphid include lacewings, lady bird beetles, hover flies and parasitic wasps. This aphid requires silver maple to complete its life cycle. Other control measures are usually not necessary.



**Woolly alder aphids need silver maple as an alternative host to complete their life cycle
Photo: Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts**

Multi-colored Asian Lady Bird Beetles

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, is reporting that multi-colored Asian lady bird beetles are now congregating on buildings in Beallsville. For more information on this predator that can also be a nuisance pest in homes, go to the Home and Garden Information Center's [web page](#) on these beetles.



Marie noted that “there were more, but every time I tried to lean in to take a picture, they’d scatter!!”
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Beneficial of the Week

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Pyrgotids: Beneficial flies

Pyrgotids are a family of flies (Diptera: Pyrgotidae) that belong to a group of “pictured winged” flies, named this since most have bands or spot patterns on their wings. A few species of Pyrgotids, *Pyrgota* and *Sphecomyiella* spp. are parasitoids of scarab beetles. Pyrgotid females pursue scarab beetle adults when they are in flight and lay eggs on the back of the beetle under the elytra (wings). The beetle cannot reach the Pyrgotid eggs in this location and therefore cannot groom them off their body. The egg hatches and the fly larva bores its way into the beetle where feeds on the insides of the beetle, eventually killing it. The fly then pupates after which it emerges and begins the cycle again. It takes about 12-14 days *Pyrgota* and *Sphecomyiella* species typically attack scarabs in the genus *Phyllophaga* (ex. June beetles). When beetles are abundant, Pyrgotids are more abundant. June beetles are nocturnal and so are the flies that attack them. You may see Pyrgotids attracted to your porch lights in the evening. Pyrgotids likely have a small impact on pest populations of scarabs, but they add to the overall community of biological control agents.



© Marcel Hess
***Pyrgota undata*, an adult fly that is known to attack scarab beetles.**
Photo: M. Hess, BugGuide.org

Weed of the Week

By: Chuck Schuster

Fall Panicum

With the recent moisture helping plants return to active growth, this plant seems to be active again, though it is getting very late for it in the season. Often mistaken for Johnsongrass which was detailed recently, this is not classified as an invasive. Fall panicum, *Panicum dichotomiflorum*, is a sprawling summer annual found throughout the United States. It can grow up to five feet in height, and grows with a very characteristic zigzag pattern because it bends at each node. It has large round, smooth sheaths, rolled in the shoot, 4 to 20 inches in length. Leaf blades have a noticeable midvein, occasionally having hair (pubescent) near the tip or the leaf base. The lower leaf surface is hairless and glossy. Nodes along the stem are swollen and bent in different directions

which create an unusual growth habit. A shallow rooter, it is easily disturbed in the landscape, thus preventing it from thriving and producing seed. Stems have the ability to root at the nodes. Fall panicum has a fibrous root system. This weed is often mistaken for either Johnsongrass or barnyardgrass prior to seed formation. Notice that no white midrib is found on fall panicum. After seed head formation, it can easily be distinguished by the seed head differences.

Fall panicum is an easy-to-control weed with manual removal. It reproduces by seed, so prevention of seed heads will help control next year's plants. Control of this late summer annual can be obtained with most pre emergent grass herbicides including pendimethalin, oryzlin, and trifluralin. Post emergent control of this weed in landscapes will include glyphosate products. Cultural control includes keeping fertility in an appropriate range to keep the turf stand thick. In landscapes, manual removal works very well.



Fall panicum is a shallow rooter and can be easily disturbed in the landscape
Photos: Chuck Schuster

Plant of the Week

By: Ginny Rosenkranz

Acer griseum, paperbark maple, is a small deciduous maple that is best known for its colorful exfoliating bark. Plants can grow up to 20-30 feet tall and 15-25 feet wide and are cold tolerant from USDA zones 4-8. Paperbark maple grows best in average, moist, but well drained soils that are slightly acidic, and prefer to grow in full sun to part shade locations. The crown of the tree is round to oval and the branching is open and upright. The dark green leaves are made up of 3 leaflets that are all coarsely toothed and are gray green on the underside. The fall coloring can range from bright oranges and reds to a faded red-green to a bronze green. Early spring brings the tiny yellow flowers that mature to winged seeds or samaras that can grow as large as 1 ¼ inch long. The beautiful exfoliating bark shows off copper orange to cinnamon brown that brightens up to orange red in the autumn. The best use of this



lovely small tree is planting it close to a patio where the beautiful exfoliating bark can be observed and enjoyed. Although the plants are tolerant of clay soils, they are only moderately tolerant to drought soils and moderately tolerant to salt air and soils.



***Acer griseum*, paperbark maple, is a small deciduous maple that is best known for its colorful exfoliating bark.**

Photos: Ginny Rosenkranz

Degree Days (as of October 23)

Abingdon (C1620)	4090
Annapolis Naval Academy (KNAK)	4966
Baltimore, MD (KBWI)	4504
College Park (KCGS)	4125
Dulles Airport (KIAD)	4232
Frederick (KFDK)	4231
Ft. Belvoir, VA (KDA)	4440
Gaithersburg (KGAI)	4043
Greater Cumberland Reg (KCBE)	3691
Martinsburg, WV (KMRB)	3866
Natl Arboretum/Reagan Natl (KDCA)	4946
Salisbury/Ocean City (KSBY)	4415
St. Mary's City (Patuxent NRB KNHK)	4747
Westminster (KDMW)	4530

Important Note: We are using the [Online Phenology and Degree-Day Models](#) site. Use the following information to calculate GDD for your site: Select your location from the map Model Category: All models Select Degree-day calculator Thresholds in: Fahrenheit °F Lower: 50 Upper: 95 Calculation type: simple average/growing dds Start: Jan 1

CONFERENCES

October 30, 2019

FALCAN Truck and Trailer Safety Seminar

Location: Urbana Volunteer Fire Hall

ISA CEUs available

4.5 MD LTE Credits

[To Register](#)

December 4, 2019

Trees Matter Presents: Green Cities Summit

Location: Kellogg Conference Center, 800 Florida Ave
NE

[For more information](#)

December 6, 2019

Pest Management Conference

Location: Carroll Community College, Westminster,

December 17, 2019

Biocontrol Conference

Location: Maritime Insitute, Linthicum Heights, MD

Advanced IPM PHC Short Course

Monday, January 6 - Thursday, January 9, 2020

Location: University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Contact: Amy Yaich, Admin. Assist. II, 301-405-3911,
umdentomology@umd.edu.

Registration Information:

<https://landscapeipmphc.weebly.com/>

Recertification credits will be posted on the website

January 17, 2020

FALCAN Pest Management Conference

Location: Frederick Community College, Frederick,
MD

January 20 and 21, 2020

MAA Safety and Pesticide Recertification Seminar

Location: Turf Valley, Ellicott City, MD

February 5, 2020

Eastern Shore Pest Management Conference

Location: The Fountains, Salisbury, MD

February 13, 2020

2020 Pesticide and Fertilizer Recertification Confer-
ence

Location: Rockville, Maryland

Organized by and registration through LCA

February 19 and 20, 2020

Chesapeake Green: A Horticulture Symposium

Location: Maritime Institute, Linthicum Heights, MD

Organized by and registration through MNLGA

February 27, 2020

Turf Biocontrol Conference

Location: UMD Campus at Shady Grove

February 28, 2020

Manor View Farm & Perennial Farm 21st Annual
Education Seminar

Location: Shepard Pratt Conference Center,
Timonium, MD

CONTRIBUTORS:



Stanton Gill
Extension Specialist
sgill@umd.edu
410-868-9400 (cell)



Paula Shrewsbury
Extension Specialist
pshrewsb@umd.edu



Karen Rane
Plant Pathologist
rane@umd.edu



Chuck Schuster
Extension Educator
cfs@umd.edu



David Clement
Plant Pathologist
clement@umd.edu



Andrew Ristvey
Extension Specialist
aristvey@umd.edu



Ginny Rosenkranz
Extension Educator
rosnkrnz@umd.edu



Nancy Harding
Faculty Research
Assistant

Thank you to the Maryland Arborist Association, the Landscape Contractors Association of MD, D.C. and VA, the Maryland Nursery and Landscape Association, Professional Grounds Management Society, and FALCAN for your financial support in making these weekly reports possible.

Photos are by Suzanne Klick or Stanton Gill unless stated otherwise.

The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by University of Maryland Extension is implied.

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.