UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

TPM/IPM Weekly Report

for Arborists, Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers

Commercial Horticulture | Special Alert | June 29, 2022

In This Issue...

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

Coordinator Weekly IPM Report:
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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) and David Clement (Extension Specialist)
Weed of the Week: Chuck Schuster (Retired Extension Educator) and Kelly Nichols (Extension Educator, Montgomery County)
Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)
Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)
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Gloomy Scale Crawlers and Settled Crawlers Are Active Now!

By: Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

On Monday June 27th, I found gloomy scale, *Melanaspis tenebricosa*, activity in Columbia, MD on red maples. I missed the beginning of crawler activity, since today I am seeing some active crawlers, some settled crawlers, and a lot of capped (1st instar cover) first instars. On June 27th, Columbia MD was at 1,400 DDs.

Gloomy scale is an armored scale that is native to the Eastern U.S. In urban areas, which are warmer than nearby natural areas, gloomy scale is a key pest on trees, particularly red maple but may also attack other native maples. Heavy infestations, which often occur under these warmer conditions, can result in branch dieback and death of trees if left unchecked. There is one generation a year and scales are on the bark and branches of the tree. For optimal control target monitoring and control measures to the susceptible crawler stage. Gloomy scale is difficult to manage because crawlers emerge over a period of 6–8 weeks and may require multiple insecticide applications, depending on the product you use. Therefore, continue to monitor even after the first application of insecticide.

Control: Although there are parasitoids, predators, and pathogens that attack gloomy scale, under warmer urban conditions the natural enemies often cannot keep the scale at low enough levels to prevent damage. However, natural enemies are impacting the populations and their conservation should be considered if treating with insecticides (ex. avoid applications of

pyrethroids). If you have not treated infested plants yet, now is the time to treat. **Target the crawler or newly settled crawler stage with the insect growth regulators (IGR) Talus (a.i. buprofezin) or Distance (a.i. pyriproxsyfen).** Be sure to continue to monitor to determine if a second application may be needed due to the long crawler emergence period of gloomy scale.

If you have problems with gloomy scale, I strongly recommend you read the article "*Gloomy Scale (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) Ecology and Management on Landscape Trees*" by Just, Dale, and Frank (Journal of IPM, 2020). They provide a comprehensive description of this pest and its management using an IPM approach.

For more detailed information on gloomy scale biology and management, click here.

High population of gloomy scale on the branch of a red maple. Note the bumpy appearance of the bark.
Photo: Adam Dale, NCSU

Close up view of gloomy scale on the bark of red maple. Note the soft bodied scale insect with its protective waxy cover removed. Also note the characteristic small black "caps" (1st instar covers) that are found on each scale cover.
Photo: Matt Bertone, NCSU

Magnified view of a gloomy scale crawler as seen this past week on June 27, 2022.
Photo: M.J. Raupp, UMD

Magnified view of newly “capped” gloomy scale 1st instar nymphs as seen on the bark of red maple this week on June 27, 2022.
Photo: M.J. Raupp, UMD

Drone Training
July 28, August 4, and August 11, 2022

Registration information and links are available on the IPMnet conference page

Conferences

July 14, 2022 (1 - 3 p.m.)
IPM Scouts' Diagnostic Session
Location: CMREC, 11975 Homewood Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042
Registration information.

July 21, 2022
MAA and UMD Extension Pest Walk
Location: Woodmont Country Club
To register for the pest walk

July 28, August 4, and August 11, 2022
Drone Training Program
Registration information and links are available on the IPMnet conference page

UMD ADVANCED LANDSCAPE IPM LAB-FIELD COURSE (in-person)
Dates: July 28 and 29, 2022 (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
Location: Plant Science Bld, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
Description: This 2-day course will consist of both field walks around campus and activities in the lab. Sessions will focus on diagnostics of plant disease and insect problems, and pest and natural enemy identification using live and other specimens, and interactive activities. Labs will be run by instructors (*Drs. Paula Shrewsbury, Mike Raupp, Karen Rane*).

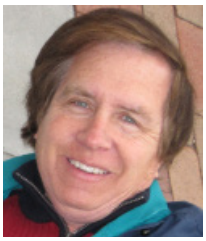
For registration and course details: Email Amy Yaich at umdentomology@umd.edu

Fall Horticulture Classes at CCBC

You can find out about fall horticulture classes at CCBC by going to their website.

Commercial Ornamental IPM Information
extension.umd.edu/ipm

CONTRIBUTORS:



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