UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

TPM/IPM Weekly Report
for Arborists, Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers

Commercial Horticulture **March 28, 2025**

In This Issue...

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:
Paula Shrewsbury, Professor and Extension Specialist in Ornamental and Turf IPM, Department of Entomology, pshrewsbury@umd.edu

Regular Contributors:
Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialist) and Nancy Harding, Faculty Research Assistant
Disease Information: David Clement (Extension Specialist) and Ana Fulladolsa (Plant Pathologist and Director, UMD Diagnostic Lab)
Weed of the Week: Kelly Nichols, Nathan Glenn, (UME Extension Educators), and Chuck Schuster (Retired Extension Educator)
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)

What Were the Temperatures Like This Winter: Any impacts on plants and insects?

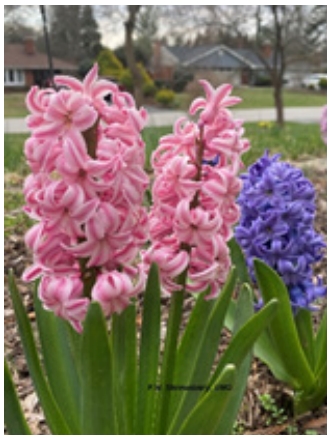
By: Paula Shrewsbury

Spring is here and nature is getting busier. It seems appropriate that we take a look at weather patterns this year compared to past years as an indicator of potential impacts on insect activity and plants. One way to monitor temperature is to compare differences in growing degree day (DD) accumulations between years. DD are a measure of the “heat units” (related to temperature and the amount of time per day that an insect spends actively growing) that accumulate over time. Since insect and plant development are temperature dependent, keeping track of the number of DD that accumulate over time allows prediction of activity of insect and plant phenology. In looking at the DD accumulations over the last three years (see the DD table), we see that far fewer DDs have accumulated this year, only about half as many, compared to the same time in 2024 and 2023 (not much difference in DD between 2024 and 2023). What this indicates is that this year insect development and activity, and plants are quite a bit behind where they were in the past few years – insects will be active later, plants will bloom later.

Degree day (DD) accumulation in late March over time.

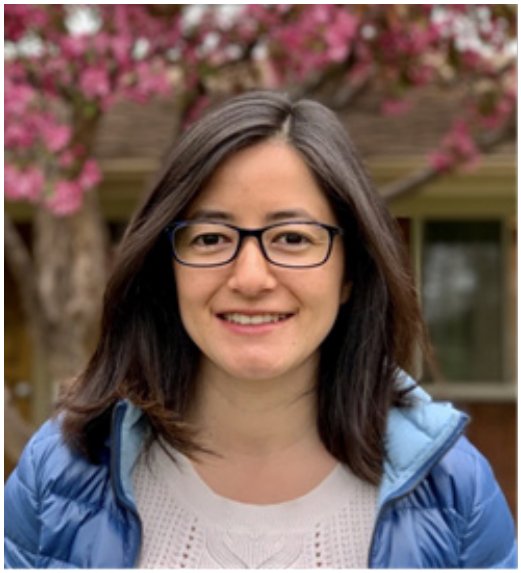
Location	2025	2024	2023
College Park, MD	48	91	103
Baltimore, MD	49	101	112
Salisbury/Ocean City, MD	49	121	125

The daily low temperatures in January (2025, using Baltimore, MD) ranged from 6.1°F to 30.9°F. However, there were 6 nights where the low was below 14°F. From Jan. 21st to 25th low temperatures were 10.9, 10.0, 6.1, 14.0, and 12.9°F. Brrr! As we move into spring, we will see the winter injury caused on plants by these below average temperatures. See reports of winter injury that have come in already below. Email me some pictures with winter injury so we can share them with other IPM Newsletter participants.



Hycaninths in bloom.
Photo: Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

Reminder: The UMD Plant Diagnostic Lab is Open!



Dr. Ana Cristina Fulladolsa
Director of the UMD Plant Diagnostic Lab

The UMD Plant Diagnostic Lab has a new director and new contact information. Dr. Ana Cristina Fulladolsa is a plant pathologist and works closely with UMD entomologists and IPM specialists to help answer plant problem questions and diagnose samples. You can find contact information and guidance for sample collection and submission on the lab's website: https://go.umd/edu/plantlab. This information is also available in Spanish in the UMD blog Extensión en Español .

Lab email: plantlab@umd.edu

Lab phone: 301-405-0730

Physical location: 3171 Plant Sciences Building, 4291 Fieldhouse Drive, College Park, MD 20742

Mailing address:
UMD Plant Diagnostic Laboratory
4291 Fieldhouse Drive
4112 Plant Sciences Building
College Park, MD 20742-4454

Sad News

Matt Anacker, A&A Tree Experts, passed away on March 14. He had been a part of the arboriculture and landscape management industry in Maryland for over 50 years.

You can view his obituary at https://www.goinghomecares.com/obituaries/Matthew-Carlisle-Anacker?obId=40053108. There will be a service on April 26. Please see the obituary for details.

Matt Anacker
Photo courtesy of Rich Anacker

Lobed Oak Stem Galls (aka Pine Cone Oak Gall)

We usually have reports of the lobed oak gall (aka pine cone gall) in late summer and fall. Heather Zindash, The Soulful Gardener, found overwintering galls on March 14 on swamp bicolor oak (*Quercus bicolor*). Cynipid wasps (*Andricus quercusstrobilanus*) cause these galls which do not impact the overall health of the tree. No control is necessary. Galls can be pruned off if they are aesthetically unappealing.

These lobed oak galls are caused by a cynipid wasp.
Photo: Heather Zindash, The Soulful Gardener

Ambrosia Beetle Monitoring

As of March 25, we have not had ambrosia beetles in the alchohol-baited traps being monitored in Salisbury (Ginny Rosenkranz), Montgomery County (Marie Rojas), and Ellicott City (CMREC). The adults are active after we have 2 - 3 days with temperatures above 70 °F (which is predicted for this area starting this Saturday). Alcohol infused wood bolts can be used to indicate when beetles are boring into trees. Monitor for adult activity as indicated by small round holes in the trunks of host trees, sometimes with sawdust around them, and/or "toothpick-like" structures made of sawdust project out of tree trunks

Control: When ambrosia beetles are active, Astro, Permethrin Pro (permethrins), and Onyx (bifenthrin) are registered for use on tree trunks in the landscape. For field-grown trees in nurseries, Perm-up (permethrin) is an option. OnyxPro (bifentrhin) is labeled for use to tree trunks in landscape and nursery sites.

The marked areas on the alcohol infused bolt show where frass is being pushed out by the beetles.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

Monitoring for Scale Insects

Before trees and shrubs leaf out is a good time to scout for overwintering scale insects. In March or April when temperatures reach 50 - 55 °F for several days in a row and temperatures do not drop below freezing at night, you can use a dormant rate (2-3%) of horticultural oil to reduce scale populations. Otherwise, for many scale insects, wait for crawlers to be active later in the season and use either of these insect growth regulators, pyriproxyfen (Distance) or buprofezin (Talus).

Heather Zindash, The Soulful Gardner, found overwintering European elm scale, *Gossyparia spuria*, on *Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' in Gaithersburg on March 4. Look for this scale on twigs near buds and in branch joints, mainly on European and American elms. It is found less often on Chinese elm. This eriococcin scale can produce an abundance of honeydew later in the season as the females mature. Applications of horticultural oil are not practical for large trees. A soil injection, basal flare, or soil drench application of dinotefuran (Safari, Transtect) should give good control.

Overwintering European elm scale second instar females. If males are present, they are in white cocoons.
Photo: Heather Zindash, The Soulful Gardener

Heather also found overwintering Japanese maple scale on *Zelkova serrata* 'Green Vase' and overwintering oak lecanium scale on *Quercus bicolor* in Rockville on March 13. Japanese maple scale has a wide plant host range. Oak lecanium scale is often found on oak species, but it can be found on many other trees and shrubs. Monitor for egg hatch later in the spring (~789 DD). At that time, use pyriproxyfen (Distance) or buprofezin (Talus) to treat the crawlers.

Oak lecanium scale overwinters as immatures on woody stems.
Photo: Heather Zindash, The Soulful Gardener

Japanese maple scale overwinters in the immature stage.
Photo: Heather Zindash, The Soulful Gardener

Euonymus Leaf Notcher Caterpillar

One of the earliest insects that causes damage to plants is the euonymus leaf notcher caterpillar (*Pryeria sinica*). In the U.S., it has been found damaging *Euonymus japonicus* and *E. kiautschovicus* 'Manhattan'. This insect overwinters in the egg stage. Eggs start hatching in this area in mid-March to early April. Activity is done by late May. There is only one generation of this pest each year, and plants are usually able to produce enough growth to cover up the damage. If necessary, control options include *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk), spinosad, or other products labelled for caterpillars. These caterpillars tend to aggregate on branches so you can prune out parts of the plant with aggregations of caterpillars.

Mid to late instar of the euonymus leaf notcher caterpillar (4/26/06)
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

Eastern Tent Caterpillar Egg Hatch

On March 19, James LaNore, MRW Lawns, found the start of webbing produced by early instar eastern tent caterpillars (ETC) on a cherry tree in LaPlata (Charles County). Chris Erb, UMD, found eastern tent caterpillars just hatching out on a cherry on campus on March 27. ETC egg hatch begins when forsythia are in full bloom and around 86 DDs. Mechanical control works well. At this time tents are likely small and easy to destroy. As tents become larger, reach into the tent, tear it open, pull out the caterpillars, and toss them in a bag and dispose of them. If necessary, you can also spray foliage with *Bacillus thuringienis kurstaki* or spinosad (Conserve) which give good control with minimal impact on beneficials.

Early activity of eastern tent caterpillars.
Photo: James LaNore, MRW Lawns

Early activity of eastern tent caterpillars.
Photo: Chris Erb, UMD - College Park

Volutella Blight and Stem Canker On Boxwood

By: Ana Cristina Fulladolsa

Since late January, the UMD Plant Diagnostic Lab has received several inquiries regarding leaf blight and twig dieback on boxwoods. Volutella blight was confirmed on submitted samples. The disease is caused by two species of fungi: *Pseudonectria buxi* and *Pseudonectria foliicola*. Symptoms of Volutella blight include leaf discoloration to light tan or brown, cankers are often found further down on the branches with discolored leaves, and stem bases with loose bark and girdling. With moist weather, the fungi form fruiting structures seen as white or salmon-colored "cushions" and release spores.

Light tan ("straw color") leaves on boxwoods with Volutella blight.
Photo: Yonghao Li, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Bugwood.org

Eliminating diseased tissue is important for management. This includes pruning diseased branches when the foliage is dry and removing old fallen and diseased leaves. Wounded leaves are susceptible to infection, therefore thinning (pruning) rather than shearing is recommended. Thinning will also allow light and air to better circulate throughout the canopy, reducing favorable disease conditions.

The symptoms of Volutella blight can be easily confused with those of boxwood blight caused by *Calonectria pseudonaviculata*, which continues to be a disease of concern in the state. The publication *Boxwood: Identify and Manage Common Problems* is a great resource for scouting. If you need help diagnosing the problem, reach out to the UMD Plant Diagnostic Lab.

The Volutella pathogens produce fungal fruiting structures observed as salmon-colored "cushions" on the underside of boxwood leaves.
Photo: David L. Clement, University of Maryland, Bugwood.org

Penn State Fruit Disease Updates

Dr. Kari Peter at Penn State publishes frequent fruit disease occurrence and management updates for Pennsylvania and surrounding states. The most recent update includes recommendations for disease prevention through sanitation and dormant copper sprays: https://extension.psu.edu/2025-disease-update-not-too-late-for-dormant-copper-sprays.

A Boxwood Leafminer Predator

Ben Morris, SavATree, found a chickadee feeding on boxwood leafminer larvae within the leaves this week. Many opened and empty leaves were left behind. Go biological control!

A chickadee feeding on boxwood leafminer larvae.
Photos: Ben Morris, SavATree

The Pine-needle Myth: Truth or Bust?

By: Andrew Ristvey, UME

Have you ever been told that you can't grow anything under a pine tree, or that pine mulch will acidify the soil? Last fall, we had a question come through our office and I thought to look into the issue. Several articles from University Extension educators and specialists have discussed this question. Essentially, pine needles cannot alter pH to a great extent in the soil. The fact that acid soils typically underlay pine needles may be more an artifact of why the conifers are growing in that soil in the first place. Conifers have adapted to growing in acid soils so that is where you typically find them. Where there are conifers, there are pine needles on the ground. The question is "which came first?" In most, if not all cases, the acid soil was there to begin with.

The impact of pine needles on soil pH.
Photo: Andrew Ristvey, UME

Pine needles are acidic when they drop from the trees with a pH of around 3, although the acidity does not last long. The acids are organic and are not strong acids like sulfuric acid or hydrochloric acid, therefore they have little effect on soil pH, especially if those soils are buffered (can resist change in pH). Sandy soils, being less buffered from pH change, may be more effected by pine needles than clayey soils, but the effect is merely surficial. Once the needles start to decompose, those acids are broken down quickly.

That being said, several studies have shown the needles make good mulch. They are light, they interlock, but do not create a barrier for water infiltration. They depress surface evaporation and allow soil to retain water, and they buffer surface-soil temperatures. They are also a good source of plant nutrients. A study in Florida showed that over several years, the removal of pine needles from under slash pine compered to no removal was eventually detrimental to tree growth. The study determined that removal of the needles also removed nutrients over time, depressing soil fertility.

Deer Ticks are Active!

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Lee Armillei, of Athyrium Design, reported deer tick immatures on multiple people in Fort Washington, PA last week. Be sure to inspect yourself for ticks after spending time outdoors. Research indicates that if you remove the tick within 24 hours you can reduce the likelihood of lyme disease.

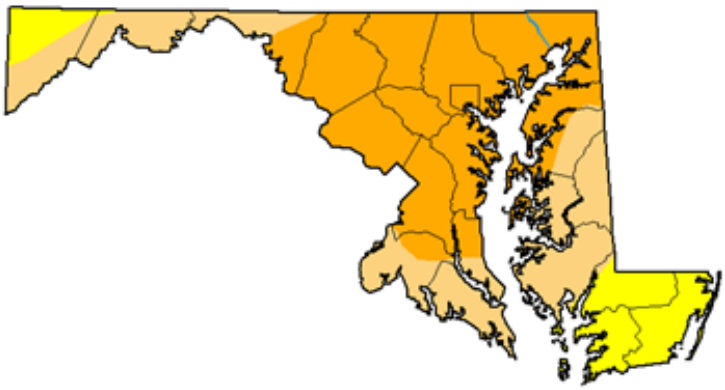
Deer tick adult
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

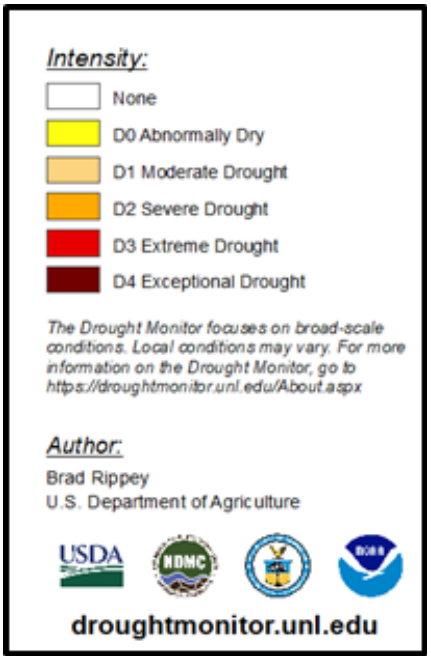
Deer tick nymph
Photo: Scott Bauer, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Dry Spring Weather

Karen Rane

According to the latest map available from the US Drought Monitor website (March 25, 2025) most of Maryland is currently experiencing moderate to severe drought conditions. This could change for the better this week (there is rain in the forecast as I write this), but if significant rainfall does not occur, drought conditions may have a negative impact on plants in the landscape. Plants installed within the past year are particularly vulnerable to drought stress. It's a good idea to check the soil moisture in the root zone (a soil probe is a useful tool for this), and consider irrigating if the soil is very dry six inches below ground level. More information on irrigating trees and shrubs can be found at this link from the UMD Home and Garden Information Center.





March 25, 2025 Maryland Drought Map from US Drought Monitor website: https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Damage from Roof Cleaning Chemicals to Turf

Mark Schlossberg, ProLawn Plus, Inc., sent this photo noting, "Last fall, this customer had roofers apply chemicals to the roof (bleach). As of March 25, this is what it looks like. The roofing company said they would repair it."

Damage to turf from roofing chemicals. Photo: Mark Schlossberg, ProLawn Plus, Inc.

Gymnosporangium Rust and Eriophyid Mites on Rose

There are several species of Gymnosporangium rusts just ready to release their spores from juniper to their alternate rosaceous hosts. If you're planning on protective fungicide sprays on susceptible hosts, monitor the rain events next week, and time spray applications when the spores become gelatinous.
Photo: David Clement, UME

Early symptomatic symptoms on multiflora rose are indicative of rose rosette disease and the eriophyid mite vectors are active now. Monitor rose plantings for early symptoms and promptly remove infected plants to reduce disease spread.
Photo: Karen Rane, UMD-Retired

Winter Damage

On March 11th in Myerstown PA, Elaine Menegon of Good's Tree and Lawn Care noted winter damage to laurels. Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, found winter injury on small boxwood in Montgomery County this week. With the cold weather we had this winter, we may have more winter damaged plants showing up.

Winter damage on boxwood.
Photos: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Winter damage on laurels.
Photos: Elaine Menegon, Good's Tree and Lawn Care

Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs Showing up in Homes

By: Paula Shrewsbury

It is that time of year when brown marmorated stink bugs (BMSB), *Halyomorpha halys*, are trying to escape their wintertime hiding spots and head to the great outdoors to continue their life's. The good news is that BMSB numbers, in most places, are way down from what they were back in the mid-2020's. Over the last few weeks, I have seen several random adult BMSB crawling around my house. Since there not many BMSB, I catch them and put them outside. Another option is to place a cup of water with a few drops of dish soap it in on a counter and when you find a BMSB, knock it into the cup. When they stop swimming, toss them outdoors as a snack for birds or other predators.

Brown marmorated stink bugs captured in a house and disposed of in water with a few drops of dish soap.
Photo by P.M. Shrewsbury, UMD

Spotted Lanternfly Egg Masses on Nursery Stock

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Spotted lanternfly (SLF, *Lycorma delicatula*) will continue to be a problem to the green industries and other crop systems this year. Jaime Tsambikos from MDA, contacted us this week and asked that we inform you that there have been several regulatory incidents involving MD nursery stock and SLF egg masses, some resulting in the return of materials at the owner's expense. MDA stated that "Large trees and those trees that are more difficult to inspect, like arborvitae, have been the biggest concern." They recommend "Inspections at multiple times and points should be taking place prior to shipping. Place trees on their sides and use flashlights for harder to see, darker areas of tree bark."

SLF, like many invasive pests, is an unfortunate, challenging, and expensive situation. We will be interacting with MDA and many of you to keep everyone informed on SLF.

SLF egg masses (2, one with waxy covering, one without covering). You can see why SLF egg masses are so difficult to find.
Photo: P.M. Shrewsbury, UMD

Spotted Lanternfly Sighting Reports to MDA

From: Jessica Boyles, MDA

The Maryland Department of Agricultures spotted lanternfly program is asking for any and all sightings to be reported to our online reporting tool. These tips help us track populations and determine where our resources are best used. As spring approaches we expect to see the first hatch within the next few weeks. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us via our email: dontbug.md@maryland.gov. Our reporting tool does have a section for comments, though due to the number of reports we may miss any questions left there"

Beneficial of the Week

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Spring is here and it is time to think about plant pest problems and beneficial insects. When the topic of beneficial insects and their relatives comes up, we often think of natural enemies (predators, parasitoids, and pathogens) that provide biological control services, and pollinators (bees and wasps, flies, beetles, and butterflies and moths) that provide pollination services. But don't forget the decomposers and detritivores (beetles, termites, flies, millipedes) that break down organic matter and dead things and recycle nutrients back into the food web. Throughout the season *Beneficial of the Week* will discuss these various beneficial insects. **If there is any beneficial in particular you would like to learn about, please let me know (pshrewsbury@umd.edu).**

Mason bee female bringing pollen back to her nesting tube.
Photo by M.J. Raupp, UMD

Under this piece of lichen is a predacious lacewing larva. Note the mandibles sticking out the left side of the "lichen".
Photo by M.J. Raupp, UMD

Over the last few weeks, we have had fluctuations of a few warm days and then the temperatures chill down again… like spring weather should be. With the onset of some warmer temperatures, I have been outside looking for insects. I came across a few different early season beneficial insects, but not as many as I expected. For example, I have not seen any solitary bees yet, and in most years, they emerge from the bee tubes I have in my yard around St. Patrick's Day, give or take a week. I hope to see them soon. Mid-March is usually the time of year certain species of solitary bees emerge from their overwintering galleries to begin their adult stage of life. Some solitary bee species dig galleries in which they nest in the ground and others nest in "tubes" such as hollow stems of plants or old borer galleries left by beetles or other insects in wood. They collect pollen from early blooming plants such as maple and spring wildflowers. They bring the pollen back to their nesting site, create pollen cakes that they insert into their tube or gallery, lay an egg on the pollen cake (the pollen provides food for the larva when it hatches), and then they go out and start again until their gallery is fully provisioned. It is important to provide early season flowering trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants in your landscapes for these early pollinators and other beneficial insects. A great resource (one of many) that contains lists of plants that are good resources for pollinators and omnivorous natural enemies, and their bloom time, is Protecting and Enhancing Pollinators in Urban Landscapes. Some ground beetle (or carabid) adults are active this early in the season. Ground beetles may feed on other insects and some feed on weed seeds, definitely beneficial services. In past years I have frequently come

Adult big-headed ground beetle, Scarites subterraneus (Carabidae), is a voracious predator as an adult and larvae and known to feed on cutworms, armyworms, fly larvae, ants, aphids, snails and slugs.
Photo: Frank Roylance

across lacewing larvae at this time of year. Debris carrying lacewing larvae are not uncommon on trees infested with armored scales such as Japanese maple scale. A good snack after a cold winter. While you are out and about keep your eyes open for beneficials, and plant some good plants that will provide the food they might need.

Weed of the Week

By: Kelly Nichols

As our weather continues to get warmer, we will continue to progress through the end of the winter annual life cycle. These weeds have germinated in late summer or early fall, over wintered as seedlings, and began their flowering stage as the weather warmed up this spring. Hairy bittercress, *Cardamine hirsuta*, is a broadleaf winter annual weed found throughout northeast landscapes and turf. It can be identified in its vegetative stage by its basal rosette of pinnately lobed or compound leaves, each with more than 3 leaflets (Figure 1). The leaflets are rounded, emerging from a petiole that is hairy. Leaf size decreases as they emerge higher on the stem. The flower of this weed will be in clusters at the end of flowering stems, are two to three mm in diameter, and will be made up of four petals (Figure 2). It also has distinct fruiting stems that end with slender seedpods (siliques). These siliques (Figure 3) are narrow capsules that are designed to release the seeds that are held within in an explosive manner, spreading the seed up to ten feet from the plant. In one research study, the average plant produced 68 of these silique or seed pods with an average of 29 seeds per pod.

Figure 1. Pinnately lobed leaves. Photo: Kelly Nichols, UME

Here in Central Maryland, the seed pods are about ready to explode, so take control measures to prevent having a healthy crop later this fall. Hairy bittercress is best controlled by maintaining a healthy, dense turf that can compete and prevent weed establishment. It grows best in a cool, moist environment, and often when a turf manager is mowing their lawn too short. Hand pulling is an option if it covers a small area. If the seeds are not yet mature, mowing or weed whacking can be used to prevent seed production. Spring applications of a herbicide (e.g. 2,4-D, MCPP, dicamba, triclopyr) may suppress hairy bittercress if it has not fully matured. (Once it produces seeds, it's done with its lifecycle, and a herbicide application at this point won't help). A pre-emergent herbicide can be applied in late summer/early fall.

Figure 2. Hairy bittercress flower. Photo: Kelly Nichols, UME

Figure 3. Hairy bittercress seed pods (siliques). Photo: Kelly Nichols, UME

Plant of the Week
By: Ginny Rosenkranz

Holly 'Nellie R. Stevens' was born and bred in Oxford, Maryland from 2 hollies, *I. aquifolium* often called English holly because it was found growing in England and Europe, and *I. cornuta* which is called Chinese holly because it was found growing in China. *I. aquifolium* can grow 30-50 feet tall and 15-20 feet wide as a densely branched evergreen tree that produces glossy, wavy-margined dark evergreen leaves with large spines. Its name, *aquifolium*, actually translates as spiny leaf. *I. cornuta* is a large dense shrub that can grow 8-15 feet tall and wide with glossy dark evergreen rectangular leaves 4 inches long with 3 large spines at the top or apex of the leaf. Together they created the dioecious (separate female and male plants), Holly 'Nellie R.Stevens' and Holly 'Edward R. Stevens' which can grow 15-30 feet tall and 8-12 feet wide with very dense growth and dark green shiny leaves with up to 7 spines. One way to positively identify these hollies are that there is consistently a different number of spines on the leaves. Because of its height and pyramidal form, these hollies can be pruned from the bottom up to create an evergreen tree. These plants are cold tolerant in USDA zones 6-9, and is one of the best evergreen hollies for heat tolerance. They prefer full sun, but can thrive in partial shade, and prefer organically rich, well drained, slightly acidic soils, but are tolerant of a large range of soil types. In April, 'Nelly R. Stevens' plants will open her creamy white fragrant 4 petaled flowers, which will be pollinated by 'Edward R. Stevens' hollies or *I. cornuta* flowers that are attractive to bees and other spring pollinators, including the specialized bee, *Colletes banksi.* Nellie can also produce some fruits without a male pollinizer. Large quantities of bright, glossy red berries develop in autumn, growing into 1/3-inch round fruit that are held in clusters in the leaf axils. The glossy fruit will stay on the trees until spring when the birds find them palatable. Plants are moderately salt tolerant, drought, heat, pollution, and damage by browsing deer.

Figure 3. Holly 'Nellie R Stevens' will be blooming soon - then look for bright red berries in the fall.
Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

Maryland's Best native Plant Plants Program

The Maryland's Best Native Plants program aims to bring education, awareness, and recognition to consumers and producers about the importance of native plants. The Maryland Department of Agriculture is launching a new, free, and voluntary program to highlight nurseries selling Maryland native plants so that consumers, contractors, and more may find them more easily.

Maryland's Best Native Plant Program encourages all nurseries to sign up (for free!) and participate in a voluntary marketing program across the state. Our partner nurseries in the Mid-Atlantic, but outside the state, can also participate. Depending on the percentage of your native plant species in the total inventory, different levels of certification are available. To participate, compare your inventory list to the "**Commercial Maryland Native Plant List**" to determine your percentages. A full list of how to count your inventory and the link to apply can be found **here**.

****Sign-up by 3/31 and receive a free 11x17 poster in the mail!****

If you have any questions or concerns about the program, please contact Kristin Hanna at kristin.hanna@maryland.gov.

Pest Predictive Calendar "Predictions"

By: Nancy Harding and Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

In the Maryland area, the accumulated growing degree days (**DD**) this week range from about **22 DD** (Perry Hall) to **116 DD** (Nat'l Arboretum/Reagan Nat'l). The Pest Predictive Calendar tells us when susceptible stages of pest insects are active based on their DD. Therefore, this week you should be monitoring for the following pests. The estimated start degree days of the targeted life stage are in parentheses.

Euonymus leaf-notcher caterpillar – egg hatch **(37 DD)**
White pine weevil – adult first activity **(84 DD)**
Eastern tent caterpillar – egg hatch **(86 DD)**
Boxwood spider mite – egg hatch **(141 DD)**
European pine sawfly – larva, early instar **(154 DD)**
Woolly elm aphid – egg hatch **(163 DD)**
Inkberry holly leafminer – adult emergence **(165 DD)**
Spiny witchhazel gall aphid – adult/nymph **(171 DD)**
Spruce spider mite – egg hatch **(179 DD)**
Boxwood psyllid – egg hatch **(184 DD)**

See the Pest Predictive Calendar for more information on DD and plant phenological indicators (PPI) to help you better monitor and manage these pests.

Degree Days (as of March 26, 2025)

Annapolis Naval Academy (KNAK)	23
Baltimore, MD (KBWI)	49
Belcamp (FS836)	26
College Park (KCGS)	48
Dulles Airport (KIAD)	61
Ft. Belvoir, VA (KDA)	67
Frederick (KFDK)	49
Gaithersburg (KGAI)	50
Greater Cumberland Reg (KCBE)	38
Martinsburg, WV (KMRB)	50
Millersville (MD026)	43
Natl Arboretum/Reagan Natl (KDCA)	116
Perry Hall (C0608)	22
Salisbury/Ocean City (KSBY)	49
St. Mary's City (Patuxent NRB KNHK)	92
Westminster (KDMW)	71

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 calculatorThresholds in: Fahrenheit °F Lower: 50 Upper: 95 Calculation type: simple average/growing dds Start: Jan 1

Phenology

PLANT	PLANT STAGE (Bud with color, First bloom, Full bloom, First leaf)	LOCATION
Cercis canadensis (redbud)	Buds showing color	Clarksville (March 23)
Cornus mas (Cornelian cherry)	Full bloom	Gaithersburg (March 10)
Lamium purpureum (purple deadnettle)	First bloom	Ellicott City (March 22)
Lindera benzoin (spicebush)	First bloom	Ellicott City (March 24)
Veronica persica (bird's eye speed-well)	First bloom	Ellicott City (March 22)
Viburnum carlesii (Koreanspice viburnum)	Buds showing color	Clinton (March 28)

Conferences

Upcoming IPM Scouts' Diagnostic Sessions (afternoon)
June 17, 2025, July 30, 2025, and August 26, 2025
Location: CMREC, Ellicott City, MD

June 18, 2025
Eastern Shore Pesticide Recertification Conference
Location: Zoom

June 24, 2025
Stanton Gill Symposium and Lab Dedication
Location: CMREC, Ellicott City

Co-sponsors: University of Maryland Extension and Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association

June 27, 2025
Pesticide Recertification Conference
Location: Montgomery County Extension Office, Derwood, MD

September 11, 2025
MNLGA Field Day
Location: Raemelton Farm, Adamstown, MD

Stanton Gill
1952 - 2024

The lab in the new building at CMREC-Ellicott City is named in honor of Stanton.

Commercial Ornamental IPM Information
http://extension.umd.edu/ipm

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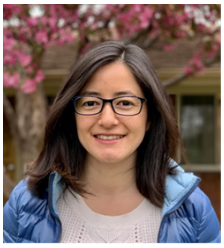

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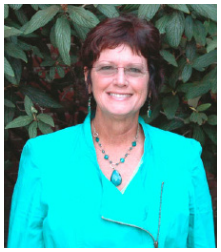

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