



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

# HOME, YARD & GARDEN PEST

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign

NEWSLETTER

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## Last Issue of 2008

This is the twentieth and last issue of the *Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter* for 2008. We plan on resuming publication of this newsletter in April 2009. Thanks for your interest, support, and suggestions during the year. (Phil Nixon)

## Mary Overmier Retires

For those of you that read the fine print at the end of each newsletter issue, Mary Overmier's name will be familiar to you. She has been the editor of the *Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter* for many years. She is the one that has cleaned up the authors' writing so that it is more concise and understandable to you. In recent years, she has also designed each issue and posted them on the Web site. This is the last issue that she will assist with before her retirement.

In addition to editing this newsletter, she has also edited many of the *Home, Yard & Garden Pest Guide* editions, Pesticide Applicator Training manuals, and various other Extension and College of ACES publications from the University of Illinois that have been useful to you.

Mary is not going to be relaxing much in her retirement, she is pursuing a graduate degree at the U of I. We wish the best of luck to her. Thank you for a job well done. (Phil Nixon)

## PEST HANDBOOK ADDENDA

As reported in the last issue of this newsletter, the *Commercial Landscape & Turfgrass Pest Management Handbook* will not be revised until 2010. Following are addenda to the latest, 2007 issue. (Phil Nixon)

### Turf weed-control updates as of November 2008

**Tenacity** (mesitrione) can be applied to Kentucky bluegrass, tall and fine fescues, and perennial ryegrass to control grassy and grasslike weeds (such as creeping bentgrass, crabgrass, and yellow nutsedge) and broadleaf weeds (including clover, dandelion, and chickweed).

**Certainty** (sulfosulfuron) can be applied to creeping bentgrass, Kentucky bluegrass, and mixtures of Kentucky bluegrass and fine fescues and/or perennial

ryegrass to control grassy and grasslike weeds (such as tall fescue and yellow nutsedge) and broadleaf weeds (including dandelion and chickweed). (Tom Voigt)

### Insect-management updates as of November 2008

**Acelepryn** (chlorantroniliprole) can be applied to golf courses, home lawns, sod farms, and other turfgrass areas to control annual white grubs, Japanese beetle grubs, true white grubs, armyworms, cutworms, sod webworms, *Ataenius* grubs, billbug grubs, chinch bugs, and green June beetle grubs.

**Arena** (clothianidin) can be applied to golf courses, home lawns, sod farms, and other turfgrass areas to control annual white grubs, Japanese beetle grubs, true white grubs, armyworms, cutworms, sod webworms, *Ataenius* grubs, billbug grubs, chinch bugs, and green June beetle grubs.

**Arena** (clothianidin) can be applied to trees, shrubs, and other ornamentals to control birch leafminer and lacebugs. It can also be applied to caterpillars such as bagworm, cankerworm, eastern tent caterpillar, European pine shoot moth, fall webworm, gypsy moth, leaf crumpler, mimosa webworm, Nantucket pine tip moth, walnut caterpillar, whitemarked tussock moth, yellow-necked caterpillar, pitch mass borer, and Zimmerman pine moth. It can also be applied to clearwinged moth borers such as ash borer, dogwood borer, lilac borer, peachtree borer, and viburnum borers.

**Aloft** is a mixture of clothianidin and bifenthrin and can be applied to control pests listed for either insecticide according to label directions.

**Meridian** (thiamethoxam) can be applied to golf courses, home lawns, sod farms, and other turfgrass areas to control annual white grubs, Japanese beetle grubs, true white grubs, *Ataenius* grubs, and billbug grubs.

**Meridian** (thiamethoxam) can be applied to trees, shrubs, and other ornamentals to control aphids, black vine weevil adults, honeylocust plant bug, honeylocust leafhopper, and honeylocust pod gall.

**Clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and imidacloprid** are all nicotinyl insecticides with similar modes of action. This should be considered when developing insecticide rotations to avoid insecticide resistance.

**Confirm** (tebufenozide) can be applied to control European pine shoot moth and Nantucket pine tip moth.

**Cranberry girdler** can be controlled with halofenozide (Mach 2), trichlorfon (Dylox), clothianidin (Arena, Aloft), chlorantraniliprole (Acelepryn), or *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora* (Cruiser). Irrigate with 1/2 inch of water after application.

**Pales weevil adults** can be controlled with sprays of cyfluthrin (Tempo) or permethrin (Astro, Pounce) in mid-April and August to cut stumps and seedlings.

**Redheaded pine sawfly and white pine sawfly larvae** can be controlled with sprays of acephate (Orthene), azadirachtin (Azatin, Bioneem, Ornazin), carbaryl (Sevin), or spinosad (Conserve). (*Phil Nixon*)

## Plant disease-management updates as of November 1, 2008

**Turf. AllBan** (a.i. thiophanate-methyl) by Scotts, for control of dollar spot, copper spot, brown patch, Zoysia patch, red thread, anthracnose, gray leaf spot, summer patch, Fusarium blight, and stripe smut. (Also controls ornamental diseases; see below.)

**Concert** (a.i. propiconazole and chlorothalonil) by Syngenta, for control of anthracnose, brown patch, copper spot, dollar spot, Fusarium patch, gray leaf spot, melting-out, leaf spot, powdery mildew, red thread, pink patch, rust, stem rust (bluegrass), and stripe smut.

**Stellar** (a.i. fluopicolide and propamocarb hydrochloride) by Valent, for control of Pythium blight and damping-off.

**Turney** (a.i. metconazole) by Valent, for control of dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, gray leaf spot, red thread, Rhizoctonia large patch, rust diseases, summer patch, Zoysia patch, fairy ring, pink snow mold, gray snow mold, and yellow patch.

**Triton** (a.i. triticonazole) by Chipco, for control of dollar spot, brown patch, anthracnose, gray leaf spot, red thread, large brown patch, rust, summer patch, pink snow mold, gray snow mold, red leafspot, and take-all patch.

**Greenhouse use only. Pipron** [a.i. piperalin: 3-(2-methylpiperidino) propyl 3,4-dichlorobenzoate] by SePRO, for powdery mildew on African violet, begonia, catalpa chrysanthemum, dahlia, gerbera daisy, grape-leaved ivy, hydrangea, kalanchoe, lilac, monarda, phlox, pointsettia. Cut roses and potted roses. Annual verbena and zinnia.

**Ornamental plants. AllBan** (a.i. thiophanate-methyl) by Scotts, for control of anthracnose, black spot of rose, brown rot and blight, Fusicladium and Venturia leaf scabs, many leaf spots and blights, Ovulinia blight, powdery mildews, rust diseases, and tip blights on pine on many ornamental herbaceous and woody plants. (Also controls turf diseases; see above.)

**Fungicides to watch for in 2009. Adorn** (a.i. fluopicolide and propamocarb hydrochloride) by Valent, for control of downy mildew, phytophthora, and Pythium on all ornamentals (bedding plants; conifers, including Christmas trees; flowering plants, foliage plants, ground covers; *nonbearing* fruit, nut trees, and ornamental trees; shrubs and vines (waiting for state approval).

**Renown** (azoxystrobin and chlorothalonil) by Syngenta, for control of brown patch, gray leaf spot, dollar spot, large patch, leaf spot and anthracnose on *golf courses and sod farms only* (waiting for EPA approval). (*James Schuster*)

## PLANT DISEASES

### 2008 Plant Clinic Summary

Many clients ask for a summary of some of the major diseases we see at the University of Illinois Plant Clinic each year. I am happy to provide this information for 2008, but I stress that this information in no way represents a survey of diseases in Illinois. However, it probably represents some of the major concerns in the Illinois green industry, at least those that may need lab work for confirmation.

The Plant Clinic handles plant problems (diseases, insects, weeds, and other) not only on ornamental hosts but also on field crops and other plants as well. When I look at traditional Plant Clinic samples (excluding soybean rust samples and excluding agronomic phytosanitary-inspection samples) a few interesting facts emerge.

This season started slowly in the landscape and at the Plant Clinic. The cool, wet weather slowed the growth of plants, pathogens, and insects. The greatest number of samples arrived in July this year. Of the ornamental samples, more than 50% were submitted by the green industry. Samples definitely originated from more urban areas, with Champaign, Cook, DuPage, Lake, Madison, Peoria, Sangamon, and Vermilion counties leading in numbers submitted. Many of you are interested in tree problems, with 37% of clinic samples concerning deciduous woody ornamentals and 18% concerning evergreen woody ornamentals.

**Anthracnose** was much more prevalent this year than past years. The reason is the weather. The anthracnose fungi prefer mild (less than 80°F) temperatures and leaf wetness. The wettest January to July on record in Illinois occurred in 2008. Mild temperatures lasted through July. Both allowed for repeated secondary spread of the anthracnose fungi in 2008. Dry weather usually halts the spread. Plant Clinic anthracnose samples ranged from hosta and watermelon to maple, oak, ash, birch, and hornbeam.

***Dothistroma*** on pine (especially Austrian and Ponderosa) was common in 2008. Again, this is related to the cool, wet conditions. *Dothistroma* continues to spread in cool, wet conditions from May through October.

**Rhizosphaera needle cast** of spruce started appearing at the clinic in July and peaked in August and September. Because infection is prevalent in wet conditions and symptoms show 12 to 18 months later, expect more of this in 2009.

**Cedar-quince rust** has been a chronic problem for at least the last 5 years, with 2008 being no exception. I saw it more in the landscape than in the Plant Clinic, so maybe growers are getting better at identifying this disease.

**Galls** can be caused by many problems. We saw bacterial galls from crown gall on euonymus. We also found fungal galls of *Phomopsis* on forsythia, pine gall rust on pine, cedar-apple and related rusts on cedar and hawthorn, and black knot on plum. We also found gouty oak gall caused by insects and ash flower galls caused by eriophyid mites. Honeylocust "knots" were again found in Illinois, but the cause is still undetermined.

**Oak wilt** was discussed in issue no. 16 of this newsletter. We found 12 positive cases of oak wilt in Illinois, with a total of 45 samples assayed. Please remember that vascular streaking of the wood is essential to a positive isolation. In addition, samples must be sent on disposable ice packs to keep from heating up in the mail.

**Dutch elm disease** is still present in Illinois. Of 33 samples assayed, 13 were positive this year.

**Verticillium wilt** was especially common in 2008. The fungus lives in the soil and is favored by moist conditions. Additionally, stressed trees show increased susceptibility. Refer to issue no. 17 for details on 2008 isolations.

**Bacterial leaf scorch** was confirmed in 7 oaks this year. Read the details in issue no. 19 of this newsletter. Keep in mind that we have confirmed this bacterial disease from JoDaviess County in far northern Illinois to Jefferson County in the south. So far, the Plant Clinic has confirmed it only on oaks. Watch for scorch symptoms that spread within a tree and in intensity from year to year on elm, hackberry, maple, mulberry, sweetgum, and sycamore.

Recently, I presented a talk entitled "Woody Plant Disease Update for 2008" at the 2008 Illinois Arborists Association Meetings. A pdf of that PowerPoint presentation will be available on the Plant Clinic Web page soon. Although there is no text on the pdf, images of many of the diseases discussed here can be found on that pdf. Feel free to access it at <http://plantclinic.crops.uiuc.edu/>. (Nancy Pataky)

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*Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter* is prepared by Extension specialists from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Illinois Natural History Survey. Information for this newsletter is gathered with the help of staff members, Extension field staff, and others. Karel Jacobs and Donna Danielson of The Morton Arboretum also provide information and articles.

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