



Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter

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August 2021 Plant Clinic Sample Summary

Summary of ornamental, fruit, and vegetable samples diagnosed August 2021.

The Plant Clinic remains open. We are currently operating with reduced staff and are only in the lab as needed for diagnostics and other lab work. We may not be able to answer or return phone calls in a timely manner though we are making every attempt to do so. You can also email us at plantclinic@illinois.edu.

Samples shipped via USPS, UPS, and FedEx are all arriving in a timely manner. We recommend shipping early in the week (Monday-Wednesday) and keeping the tracking number so we can trace the package if needed.

We are receiving more maple and oak samples. A bur oak sample from Lake Co. tested positive for Oak Wilt (<http://hyg.ipm.illinois.edu/article.php?id=1163>), a lethal oak disease. As a reminder, do not prune oak trees during the growing season!

We are seeing an increased number of oak samples with various insect pests, including kermes scale and jumping oak gall. While jumping oak gall is usually not considered a threat to overall healthy trees, heavy infestations especially on white oaks can cause browning and defoliation: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/jumping_oak_gall_causing_damage_to_white_oak

We've had a number of ornamental samples submitted displaying pot-bound roots. These plants were planted into landscape beds but the rootball does not appear to have been separated or opened up before planting. These plants did not establish well into the landscape and once the hot, dry weather started their poor root system was unable to take up sufficient water and the plants began to suffer. This is a good reminder to disrupt root balls when planting, everything from woody perennials to herbaceous annuals!

We're also starting to see environmental scorch symptoms and symptoms characteristic of bacterial leaf scorch. We will be testing for bacterial leaf scorch later in the season (September and October). Samples can be submitted now and will be stored until we begin tests. For more information about bacterial leaf scorch, please see: <http://hyg.ipm.illinois.edu/article.php?id=1029>

Diane Plewa – dplewa@illinois.edu

August 2021 Plant Clinic Sample Summary

Host	Pathogens and/or Pests Confirmed (C) or Suspected (S)
Arborvitae	Phyllosticta needle blight (C), Phytophthora root rot (C)
Blackberry	Cane and leaf rust (C), spider mites (C)
Boxwood	Volutella blight (C), Boxwood leafminer (C), Boxwood spidermite (S), Boxwood psyllid (C), Environmental stress (S)
Catalpa	Anthraxnose (C), Verticillium wilt (C)
Chrysanthemum	Fusarium canker (S), Fusarium wilt (S)
Crabapple	Fungal cankers (C), Environmental stress (S)
Cucurbits (pumpkin, squash)	Anthraxnose (C), Angular leaf spot (C), Environmental stress (S)
Dahlia	Dickeya stem rot (S)
Dogwood	Mulberry whitefly (C), Transplant shock (S)
Garlic	Acarid mites (C)
Juniper	Kabatina needle blight (C)
Maple	Anthraxnose (C), Phyllosticta leaf spot (C), Oystershell scale (C), Maple spider mite (C), Maple spindle gall mite (C), Fungal cankers (C), Lecanium scale (C), Bark/Ambrosia beetles (S), Environmental stress (S)
Oak	Oak wilt (C), Anthracnose (C), Leaf blister (C), Cristulariella leaf spot (C), Kermes scale (C), Jumping oak gall (C), Oak twig canker (C), Oak lace bug (C), Fungal cankers (C), Anthracnose (C), Environmental stress (S)
Pear	Entomosporium leaf spot (C)
Pine	Diplodia tip blight (C), Pestalotiopsis needle blight (C), Pine needle scale (C), Dothistroma needle blight (C), Environmental stress (S)
Privet	Rhizoctonia root rot (C)
Raspberry	Spur and Cane blight (C), Environmental stress (S)
Rudbeckia	Verticillium wilt (C)
Serviceberry	Environmental stress (S)
Spirea	Cylindrosporium leaf spot (C)
Spruce	Sudden Needle Drop (SNEED) (C), Pine needle scale (C), Rhizosphaera needle cast (C), Stigmata needle cast (C), Spruce spider mite (C), Sirococcus needle blight (C), Environmental stress (S)
Sunflower	Alternaria leaf spot (C)
Tomato	Cercospora leaf spot (C), Rhizoctonia crown and root rot (C)
Turf	Rhizoctonia crown and root rot (C), Anthracnose (C), Dense thatch layer (C)
Turf	Anthraxnose (C), Magnaporthe summer patch (C), Rhizoctonia root rot (C)

Whiteflies

In the coming weeks, you may notice a cloud of tiny white specks emerge from plants in your yard. These tiny insects are whiteflies. While they have the word “fly” in their name, they are actually more closely related to aphids, scales and mealybugs. Like aphids and scales, they suck fluids from plants with straw-like mouthparts and produce sugary, liquid droppings called honeydew. In large populations, they can become pests of vegetables, ornamentals and plants in greenhouses.



Bandedwinged whitefly (Trialeurodes abutiloneus), Nancy Gregory, University of Delaware, Bugwood.org

Adult whiteflies are tiny winged insects, about 1/16 of an inch long. They are white with powdery white wings held over their body like the roof of a house. Females leave their mouthpart inserted into the plant and move their abdomen while laying eggs. As a result, eggs are deposited in a circular pattern of 30 - 40 eggs.

Nymphs, called crawlers, hatch from the eggs and walk across the surface of plants before inserting their mouthparts on the underside of a leaf, where they molt to become stationary nymphs. During the last instar, the nymph ceases feeding and undergoes physiological changes, making this life stage functionally similar to the pupal stage in insects that go through complete metamorphosis. During this stage, they are flat discs, often with pale, waxy fringe. When adults emerge, they can live for about a month.

Three common species of whiteflies in Illinois are the greenhouse whitefly (*Trialeurodes vaporarorium*), silverleaf whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*; also called sweet potato whitefly) and bandedwinged whitefly (*Trialeurodes abutiloneus*). Bandedwinged whitefly is

the most common species in Illinois. It can be identified by the two dark bands on each of its forewings. They feed primarily on velvetleaf but move to alternate hosts later in the season. They do not reproduce heavily on alternate host plants and usually do not require control. In some cases, control may be warranted on velvetleaf and flowering maple (*Abutilon*).



Greenhouse whitefly (Trialeurodes vaporarorium), Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Greenhouse whitefly and silverleaf whitefly lack the dark banding and are completely white. They are unable to overwinter in Illinois but can survive in greenhouses and are moved outdoors with plants in the spring. Because they have multiple generations throughout the growing season, their populations can become quite large by late summer and fall and have the potential to damage ornamental plants.

Damage appears as wrinkled, curled or cupped leaves. Large populations can also produce large quantities of honeydew making the surface of plants sticky and prone to sooty mold growth.

If whitefly populations are high late in the growing season, they are unlikely to cause significant damage and do not require treatment. However, if both significant aesthetic damage and nymphs are present on the plants, greenhouse whitefly or silverleaf whitefly may warrant control. Treatment should target nymphs. Insecticidal soap and summer oils are effective treatments for whiteflies. Apply them according to the product label, which may require a weekly application for two to four weeks. Chemical insecticides like pyrethroids are also effective when treatment is warranted.

Sarah Hughson – hughson2@illinois.edu

Poison Ivy

As a parent, a gardener, and a weed scientist, I try my best to teach my kids about certain weeds – when they will listen. One species that I always point out to them when we come across it while hiking is poison ivy. As a good mom should, I then tend to overreact a bit if a young, bare leg accidentally touches it. They know the phrase, “Leaves of three, let it be,” and my kids are good at questioning plants that look like poison ivy. What I apparently hadn’t explained well enough to my son was about the oil and how easily it can spread.

He’s a helper. While on a mission trip this summer, he was tasked with various gardening duties. Guess what he came home with? His very first poison ivy rash! When I asked if he knew what it was, he replied with a strong, “Oh yes! I told the other kids that it was poison ivy and it HAD to go! So we pulled it out by hand. We had gloves on.” The poor boy worked for hours in a T-shirt and cloth gloves with no soap or water. Bless his heart. He now knows not to be so eager of a volunteer when it comes to poison ivy! I didn’t have the heart to tell him that poison ivy is persistent and would likely grow back if the top growth was simply removed.



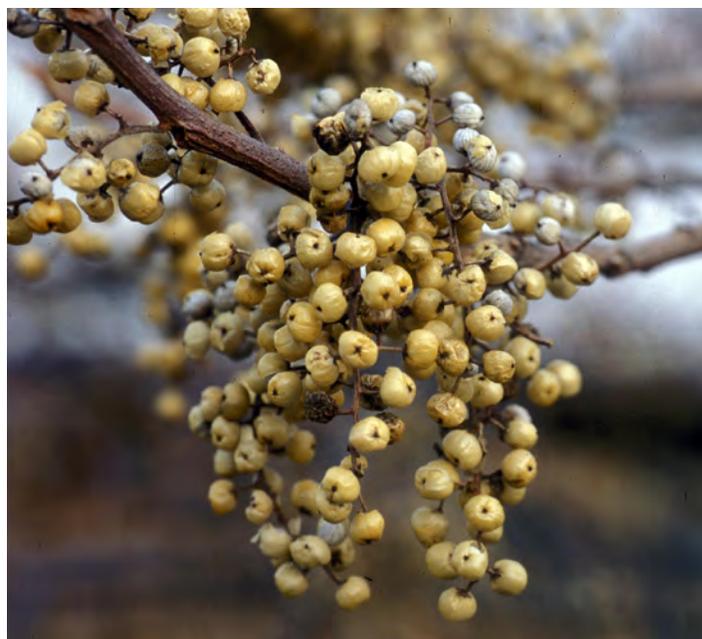
Poison ivy. Ohio State Weed Lab, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org.

How do you remove something you shouldn’t touch? The short answer is *very carefully*; I’ll cover the long answer in a moment. In his case, he should have consulted with a knowledgeable adult so proper precautions could be taken by someone with more experience, but hindsight is 20/20.

This weed can be tricky to control, but also tricky to identify. Poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) is a perennial that can grow as a woody vine or shrub. The leaves are compound and grow alternately up the stem. What is certain is that the leaves are compound--made up of three large, palmately borne leaflets. What is *not always* certain is the appearance of the leaflets. Two plants may look very different. Leaf margins may be smooth or serrate, the leaf surface may be glossy or dull, leaves may be lobed or unlobed, and color may be almost any shade of green. A typical shape is that of a mitten, but leaf shape may vary.

Be aware there are other plants, such as box elder, that also have “leaves of three”. Many also mistake other vines such as Virginia creeper and trumpet creeper for poison ivy. However, when unsure, it’s certainly safest to avoid touching (with bare skin especially) any poison ivy look-alike.

Similar species and variations of leaves can create much confusion. But once all those variable leaves have dropped in the autumn, one of the best ways to quickly identify a woody vine as being poison ivy is to look for the presence of numerous aerial roots on the vine. These are reddish brown and give the vine a fuzzy appearance. You may also see the fruit, which are produced in late summer, but can persist throughout the winter.



Poison ivy fruit. Ohio State Weed Lab, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org.

White flowers appear usually in May and June; and small, round, greenish to grayish white, berrylike drupes soon follow. Birds feast on this fruit and readily disperse the seed. Furthermore, poison ivy also reproduces by creeping root stocks and by stems that root where they contact the soil. Consequently, this plant is found in many parks, landscapes, woodlands, and wetlands. It thrives under a variety of conditions.

In Illinois, leaves turn a gorgeous red in the fall. In fact, this plant has been imported into a few countries for this reason. Personally, I don't think it's *that* pretty, considering the itching part. Year-round, all parts of the plant except the pollen contain a resinous compound, or "oil," that causes itching and blistering on the skin of most people. Animals are less sensitive to this oil, but if you are sensitive to it and pet your dog or cat that has been rolling around in it, watch out! If you are washing clothes contaminated with poison ivy, be aware the oil may still be present and give you a rash. Don't worry about touching someone else's or your own rash because the oil is the only cause of the irritation. You can't get a poison ivy rash from someone who already has the rash. Also, smoke from burning poison ivy plants can cause irritation in some people as the oil vaporizes in the heat and is moved by the smoke.

Poison ivy is difficult to kill, and you may need to be persistent with your control efforts. Plants may be physically removed, including the roots. However, resprouting is likely to occur if any underground parts are missed. Also, this may be too close for comfort for those who are allergic to poison ivy. Be sure to cover bare skin. Use disposable gloves when possible. Alternatively, you can hire a professional to control it.

Another method that involves a little less contact with the plant is to cut off the plant at its base and treat the stump with a herbicide such as triclopyr (Ortho Brush-B-Gon, Garlon, etc.). It's helpful to flag the area so you can easily check periodically for regrowth. If regrowth occurs, make a second herbicide application. Be sure to follow product label directions exactly. Before purchasing, verify that poison ivy is listed specifically and that the product can be legally used in the site it is growing in.

Waiting until the foliage dies down before removing it could decrease your risk of getting a rash. But keep in mind, the oil is still found on the plant a long time after it dies. If you can't find the base of the plant or can't get to it easily, foliar applications can be made with products labeled for this use that contain the active ingredients mentioned or dicamba (Banvel, etc.). However, if poison ivy is covering other plants, those plants are likely to be injured or killed by the herbicide. It may be tempting to spray a vine that is covering a tree's trunk. A more precise application directly to the stump or perhaps "painting" the leaves would help prevent off-target damage.



Poison ivy growing as a small tree; note the difference in leaf shape. Michelle Wiesbrook. University of Illinois.

Imazapyr can be effective on poison ivy but movement to nontarget plants can be a concern due to possible root grafting. Another consideration with certain herbicides is soil mobility, especially if roots of desirable plants are nearby. In this situation, glyphosate (Roundup, etc.) would be a better choice. Control

can still be achieved, but soil mobility is not an issue because glyphosate is tightly bound to soil. With any product, complete control may not be achieved for a few years, and multiple applications may be necessary. Remember to always read and follow the product label.

Michelle Wiesbrook – buesinge@illinois.edu

Septoria Leaf Spot on Dogwood



Suspected septoria leaf spot on midwinter fire bloodtwig dogwood

I recently came across a planting of midwinter fire blood-twigged dogwoods heavily damaged by septoria leaf spot, a common fungal disease of dogwoods in our area. Several *Septoria* species infect dogwoods. The bloodtwig dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) is a host to *Septoria cornicola* and *Septaria cornina*, with the latter more common in North America.

The disease typically appears as circular, angular or irregular shaped spots with olive-gray to brown centers surrounded by dark purple or reddish borders. *Septoria* spots are similar to but larger than those of spot anthracnose on flowering dogwood, reaching about 1/4 inch in diameter. Heavily infected leaves often turn yellow and prematurely drop from the plant. Fortunately, septoria leaf spot does not seriously harm dogwoods. The damage is mainly aesthetic, as the resulting spotted foliage and partially defoliated shrubs are not very attractive



Suspected septoria leaf spot on midwinter fire bloodtwig dogwood

Septoria overwinters in leaf litter left around the plant. Wind and rain spread the pathogen's spores to susceptible plant tissues. Symptoms become evident near the end of summer and are more common in wet conditions or high humidity.

Rake and dispose of leaf debris to help reduce the potential for future infections. Most people can tolerate septoria leaf spot on dogwoods without any fungicide sprays. When justified, septoria may be treated preventatively with a Chlorothalonil, Chlorothalonil + propiconazole, Myclobutanil, or Thiophanate-methyl. Begin sprays at bud break. Two to three more applications may be needed at 14-day intervals if conditions are favorable for disease development.

Travis Cleveland – tclevela@illinois.edu

Household Hazardous Material Collection Events Scheduled for Fall 2021

Now is the time to get rid of any old or unwanted pesticides in your chemical storage area. The Illinois EPA one-day household hazardous waste collection schedule has been released to the public. Please note, all one-day collections require pre-registration. More information can be found below. Here are a few options you have for disposing of your old or unwanted pesticides:

1. Use them up. You can usually apply them to a labeled-use site regardless of whether or not pests are present. Be sure to read and follow all label directions. Sometimes pesticides are taken off the market, or certain uses are removed from the label. In those cases, existing stocks can typically still be used. Rarely does US-EPA order a stop-use on the product. However, it is illegal to apply old stocks of chlordane or 2,4,5-T. To learn about the registration status of your product in question, you can contact the manufacturer or the Illinois Department of Agriculture, (217)785-2427.
 2. Give them away. Fellow neighboring gardeners may be interested in your castoffs. It's not recommended that you sell unwanted pesticides. To sell a pesticide legally, it must still be in the original packaging with the complete label. If the pesticide is restricted use, you must be licensed in order to sell it. If the product registration has been cancelled, selling is illegal.
 3. Take them to a hazardous waste collection event. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has scheduled a few one-day household hazardous waste (HHW) collection events to be held across Illinois this fall. See below for the schedule.
- Structural pesticides (those used by professional applicators to control pests in and around structures) are collected at "Structural Pesticide Clean Sweep" sites. Contact the Illinois Department of Public Health, (217)782-4674, for more information.

One-day Collection Schedule

Please note that some dates and events have already passed and are therefore, not listed here.

October 9

Bloomington/Normal (McLean County)
Interstate Center (Rear Entrance)
2500 West College Avenue
Normal, IL 61761

Pre-Register: <http://HHWmclean.org>
Phone Appointments - 309-468-6449; Questions -
HHW@ecologyactioncenter.org

October 9

Quincy (Adams County)
Adams County Highway Department
101 North 54th Street
Quincy, IL 62305

Pre-Register: www.AdamsCountyHHW.as.me
Questions - www.co.adams.il.us/health

October 16

Effingham (Effingham County)
Village Square Mall
1910 South Banker Street
Effingham, IL 62401

Pre-Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/effingham-county-household-hazardous-waste-collection-tickets-167755789081>

Questions - Cindy Deters - 217-342-1146

October 23

Springfield (Sangamon County)
Illinois State Fairgrounds, Lot 21
801 East Sangamon Avenue
Springfield, IL 62702

Pre-Register: www.springfield.il.us/HHW
Questions - 217-789-2255 ext. 5244; Adena.Rivas@
Springfield.il.us

For a list of household hazardous waste materials that are acceptable or unacceptable at these collections, please visit the Illinois EPA's Web site at <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/waste-management/waste-disposal/household-hazardous-waste/Pages/acceptable-wastes.aspx>.

If in doubt, it may be best to first contact the Waste Reduction Unit of the IEPA at (217)524-3300.

There are special hazardous material collection events for other non-household types of pesticides:

- Agricultural pesticides are collected at various scheduled "Agricultural Pesticide Clean Sweep" events. Contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture, (217)785-2427, for more information.

All events require registration in advance. Please visit the links above or contact the event co-sponsor to pre-register or for additional questions:

One-day collections are open from 8 am to 3 pm on the above scheduled Saturdays. Please note these are open to all Illinois residents. In addition, the following long-term facilities are available for disposal of HHW. Please phone ahead to determine availability and open hours.

Long-Term Collection Locations

City of Chicago

Household Chemicals and Computer Recycling Facility

1150 N. North Branch on Goose Island

Tues: 7 am - noon

Thursday: 2 pm - 7 pm

First Saturday of each month: 8 am - 3 pm

For information: (312) 744-3060

Rockford

Rock River Reclamation District

3333 Kishwaukee

Sat: 8 am - 4 pm

Sun: Noon - 4 pm

For information: (815) 987-5570

<http://knib.org/recycling/green-guide/household-hazardous-waste-site/>

Naperville

Household Hazardous Waste Facility

156 Fort Hill Dr.

Sat: 9 am - 2 pm

Sun: 9 am - 2 pm

For information: (630) 420-6095

<https://www.naperville.il.us/services/garbage-and-recycling/household-hazardous-waste-facility/>

Lake County

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) currently operates a long-term household chemical waste collection program. Information and a collection schedule can be found on the SWALCO Web site <http://www.swalco.org> or by calling (847) 336-9340.

For questions concerning the IEPA's one-day or long-term collections, please call the Waste Reduction Unit at (217) 524-3300.

Michelle Wiesbrook – buesinge@illinois.edu



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