

ORNAMENTALS

• H O T L I N E •

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Issue 19

INSECTS

Brian Kunkel
Ornamental IPM Specialist

DOGWOOD SAWFLIES: Wasp-like adults emerge sometime in May through July and oviposit eggs onto the underside of leaves. Other species of sawflies have been abundant this year so far. Dogwood sawflies are serious pests of *Cornus* species, but seem to prefer *Cornus racemosa* and *Cornus sericea*. Larvae are should be active 1041 - 3914 GDD or when *Aesculus parviflora* is in bloom. First instars are difficult to spot because they are transparent yellow, but later instars are covered with a white chalky powder. Larvae feed gregariously and skeletonize leaves as early instars, but eventually consume entire leaves except for tough mid-veins. The last molt changes the larvae to a yellowish colored insect with a shiny black head and spots. Mature larvae will overwinter in old decaying wood on the ground or on nearby wooden structures.

Parasitoids will attack dogwood sawflies and cultural control consists of hand-picking larvae from leaves. Treatments may not be necessary depending on the instars found on host plants. Chemical control options include horticultural oil, insecticidal soap, spinosad, acephate, carbaryl, imidacloprid, or one of the pyrethroids such as cyfluthrin or deltamethrin.

DISEASES

Nancy Gregory
Plant Diagnostician

SYRINGAE BLIGHT caused by *Pseudomonas syringae* affects lilac, maple, magnolia, forsythia, flowering cherry, apricot, Callery pear, flowering dogwood, and viburnum. Symptoms vary from flower blight or bud death to leaf spots to tip dieback and cankers, but most commonly shows up as shoot dieback resembling frost or fire blight. External tissues are dark, but inner tissue may still be green. Lab confirmation consists of microscopic observation of bacterial streaming and isolation of the bacterium. *Pseudomonas syringae* requires a wound and free water to enter the plant and often invades plants under stress. It can cause severe canker on some cultivars of Callery pear. The bacterium overwinters in buds or in cankers, as an epiphyte on many plants, including weeds, and is common in the landscape. For management, avoid high-nitrogen applications that produce a lot of succulent growth in the spring or fall. Succulent tissue is easily injured by frost, temperature changes, wind, insects, or pruning, and injured tissue can be invaded by bacterial pathogens. Research in nurseries has shown that pruning trees in the fall and early winter increases their subsequent infection by *Pseudomonas syringae*, so it may be best to prune in February or March, cleaning pruners between cuts. Most cultivars of common lilac are susceptible to infection

What's Hot!

We have seen lush growth of lichens and moss this season, mostly on understory trees and shrubs that are in partial shade. High humidity and adequate rainfall have supported the growth of lichens, which are symbiotic growths of fungi and algae together. Moss will most often grow in sites with low pH. Neither are pathogens, and will not harm trees and shrubs.

It is time to register for the 2016 Summer Turf and Nursery Expo at Ud's Carvel Research and Education Center in Georgetown, DE. The meeting is on Tuesday, August 16 from 8:15 - 3:30. Sessions include plant choices, proper pruning, turf weed ID, disease walk, LED lighting, bees and pollinators and of course the ever popular, Udairy ice cream. To register online go to <http://2016dnlasummerexpo.eventbrite.com>. With questions, call Val Budischak at 888-448-1203.



Dogwood sawfly larvae. Photo credit: B. Kunkel

For more information

on pests & practices covered in this newsletter, call your County Extension Office

Helpful numbers to know:

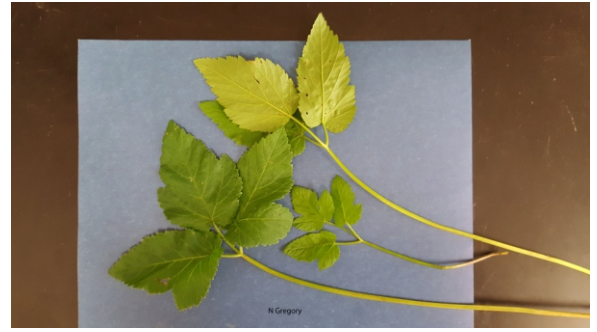


Garden Line (for home gardeners only)	831-8862
New Castle County Extension	831-2506
Kent County Extension	730-4000
Sussex County Extension	856-7303

View more pictures at <http://sites.udel.edu/ornamentals/>

by *Pseudomonas syringae*, but some resistant cultivars of *S. vulgaris* include Pink Elizabeth, Glory, and Edith Cavell. Other lilacs such as *Syringae josikaea*, *S. komarowii*, *S. microphylla*, *S. pekinensis*, and *S. reflexa* show more resistance.

Newly observed WEEDY PLANTS have been showing up in northern Delaware this season, and one has been identified as goutweed, in the Genus *Aegopodium*. Goutweed is in the Family Apiaceae, related to celery, and is native to Eurasia. Goutweed is an herbaceous perennial with tall leafy stems and white flowers in June. It spreads aggressively, invading new lawns and beds. A broad-leaved herbicide will be effective, but it may take several applications, due to spreading rhizomes that these plants produce. Glyphosate is more effective, but will kill all types of plants with contact.



Goutweed. Photo credit: N. Gregory

Editor: Susan Barton
Extension Horticulturist

**GROWING
DEGREE DAYS**
AS OF June 26, 2016

- Swarthmore College (Delaware County, PA) = 1961 ('15 = 2054)
- Fischer Greenhouse (New Castle County) = 1958 ('15 = 2068)
- Research & Educ. Center, Georgetown (Sussex County) = 2054 ('15 = 2160)



Syringae blight on lilac. Photo credit: R. Mulrooney