

ORNAMENTALS

• H O T L I N E •

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Issue 7

INSECTS

Brian Kunkel
Ornamental IPM Specialist

LACE BUG egg hatch occurs between 181 - 251 [202 peak] GDD₅₀. The plant phenological indicator for egg hatch is full bloom of *Aesculus hippocastanum*. First generation nymph activity is 240 - 561 [318 peak] GDD₅₀. Other areas in the region may see nymph activity start between 240 - 998 [430 peak] GDD₅₀. Management of the first generation or overwintering adults reduces the impact this pest has on infested plants for the rest of the summer. Hawthorn, azalea, sycamore, and oak lace bugs are all common species found in the mid-Atlantic area. Hawthorn lace bugs feed on hawthorn, cotoneaster, quince, crabapple, mountain ash, and pyracantha. Azalea lace bugs feed on various azaleas; oak lace bugs feed on different species of oak trees. Overwintering hawthorn lace bug adults begin feeding in the spring at 196 - 472 [349 peak] GDD₅₀ or when *Lagerstroemia indica* is at the leaf bud break phenological stage. Oak, sycamore, and azalea lace bugs may have two to three generations a year.

Frequently used indicators of lace bug infestations are the shiny black fecal spots on the underside of the leaves called tar or resin spots, or the stippled (whitish- to bronzed-colored) upper leaf surfaces. Lace bug nymphs are not lacelike but are spiny and usually dark brown to black.

Horticultural oil or insecticidal soap applications must contact the insects; thus, the underside of leaves must be sprayed. Both products have low impact on the natural enemies attacking lace bugs. Heavy infestations may require the use of products such as acephate, carbaryl, cyfluthrin, imidacloprid, dinotefuran, chlorantraniliprole, acetamiprid and pyrethrin. Do not use imidacloprid as a treatment on plants with a history of mite problems.

DISEASES

Nancy Gregory
Plant Diagnostician

ANTHRACNOSE is a term used to describe spreading leaf spots that follow the veins, on trees such as sycamore, poplar, dogwood, maple, and others. Disease development is favored by wet weather as leaves unfurl in the spring. Anthracnose fungi survive in the buds and twigs of trees from year to year. Sycamore anthracnose can cause defoliation in wet weather and will also cause twig dieback. Trees will put out a new flush of leaves, so leaf drop from anthracnose usually doesn't affect the tree long-term health. Specimen trees with a history of anthracnose may benefit from a preventative fungicide spray.

(Continued)

What's Hot!

EAB adults could be flying this week. EAB adults fly when black locust is in bloom. Prepare to make applications if you are using bark sprays for treatment. For systemic treatment, it is better to apply the product after the ash has flowered.

Willow & spiny ash sawfly larvae are feeding. Treatment only with high population levels. Horticultural oil or insecticidal soap will provide some control with direct contact. Physical removal is a good option if populations are small.

Monilinia blight on flowers and twigs of Japanese flowering quince causes a grey to brown mold growth and blight. The causal fungus survives in bud scars in affected tissue. Prune out affected twigs during dry weather.



Monilinia blight on flowering quince. Photo credit: N. Gregory

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://extension.udel.edu/ornamentals/>

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

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Diseases (Continued)

DOGWOOD ANTHRACNOSE can be of two types. Spot anthracnose is characterized by small purple to brown spots on leaves and bracts and is favored by wet weather and water on the foliage. Spot anthracnose does not affect the long-term health of the tree and use of preventative fungicide sprays is not recommended unless a specimen tree is affected each year. Rake up leaves that fall. Discula anthracnose, though, can be severe on dogwood, and is also favored by cool, wet weather. Associated cankers and dieback can lead to a decline in tree health. Fungicides are best applied at bud break, for specimen trees. Cultivars of flowering dogwood are available with resistance to anthracnose and powdery mildew.

Editor: Susan Barton
Extension Horticulturist



Azalea lacebug tarspsots, nymphs and adults. Photo credit: B. Kunkel



Azalea lacebug adult. Photo credit: B. Kunkel



Azalea lacebug nymph. Photo credit: T. Wootten

GROWING DEGREE DAYS
AS OF May 7, 2019

- Swarthmore College (Delaware County, PA) = 362 ('18 = 241)
- Fischer Greenhouse (New Castle County) = 385 ('18 = 239)
- Research & Educ. Center, Georgetown (Sussex County) = 443 ('18 = 288)