Featured arthropod report: Scale pests

Armored scale insect: Oystershell scale, Order Hemiptera, Family Diaspididae, Species Lepidosaphes ulmi (left picture)

Soft scale insect: Fletcher scale, Order Hemiptera, Family Coccidae, Species Parthenolecanium fletcheri (right picture)

Local News: NENA’s Young Nursery Professional Award

The Connecticut Nursery & Landscape association (CNLA) will be selecting award recipients at their November Board Meeting for the New England Nursery Association, NENA’s Young Nursery Professional Award. For criteria and nominations contact the CNLA Executive Office: info@cnla.biz

More @ NENA CT Recipients

Regional News: NGCE Spanish educational sessions

Session details have been announced for the 2016 Northeast Greenhouse Conference & Expo (NGCE) which will be held November 9-10 at the Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA. New this year include Spanish educational session tracks featuring topics on greenhouse crops and management.

More @ www.negreenhouse.org

Save the date


Exhibitor information & Registration coming soon.

More @ CNLA events

Armored & Soft Scales: Quick Comparison

Scales are sucking insects that can easily go unnoticed because of their small size and modified appearance that have little resemblance to most other insects. Scale insects can be classified in two broad categories:

### Armored Scales
- Flattened, plate-like hard cover often with a differently colored slight protuberance
- Protective cover is not attached to insect body wall
- Size: ~ 1/8 inch (2-3mm)
- Do not produce honeydew
- Feed on parenchyma cells
- Most species have several generations a year
- Immobile after crawler stage

### Soft Scales
- Smooth, cottony or waxy cover often rounded and convex (humped appearance)
- Surface cover is the actual insect body wall and cannot be removed
- Size: ~1/4-1/2 inch (5-10 mm)
- Produce abundant honeydew
- Feed on phloem sap
- Most species have one generation each year
- Some mobile after crawler stage

Armed (left) & Soft (right) scale insects. Photo credits: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

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Pest Report:  
Contributions by A. Chiriboga; J. Allen.

Counties: Fairfield, New Haven, New London

Pest & Ornamental host detected (genus)

Arthropods:

- Aphids: Betula, Rubus, Spiraea
- Bagworms: Chamaecyparis, Picea
- Japanese Beetles: Potentilla
- Leaf hoppers: Weigela
- Redheaded flea beetles: Campsis, Deutzia, Hydrangea, Kerria, Physocarpus, Weigela,
- Two-spotted spider mites: Wisteria
- White Flies: Alcea, Hibiscus, Echinacea, Rudbeckia

Diseases:

- Alternaria leaf spot: Spiraea
- Powdery mildew: Amelanchier, Phlox, Magnolia, Spiraea, Syringa

Weed Management Tips: A Landscape Perspective  
by Victoria Wallace

Management tips to reduce weeds in the landscape

Correct weed identification (ID):
Is the weed annual, biennial or perennial? When are they in flower? How do they reproduce? Correct weed ID is key for an effective weed management program.

Complete landscape assessment:
Often, underlying problems (e.g. sunlight, irrigation, soil type and composition) influence or enhance conditions that allow weeds to become a severe problem.

Prepare the site:
Eliminate exiting weed populations before plant material is added to the site. Sanitation is key to reduce unnecessary weed populations and future problems.

Encourage establishment of desired plants:
Plants need to adjust to new surroundings as quickly as possible. Implementation of cultural practices such as cultivation, irrigation, and fertilization, need to be evaluated.

Weeds create challenges for maintaining a healthy landscape. Small weeds can be easily removed with minimal effort and disturbance to the soil surface. Left undisturbed, those weeds grow and compete for space, nutrients, sunlight and impact the health of the surrounding plants.

An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to managing weeds can reduce weed populations to levels that are acceptable, rather than large unsightly patches scattered across the lawn and garden plantings. Weed control should be an ongoing maintenance practice so that nuisance and invasive weeds do not wreak havoc within the landscape and along the landscape periphery.

More @ UConn CT IPM - Turf & Landscape

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