



## Arkansas Plant Health Clinic Newsletter

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### Canna

The Lesser canna leafroller, *Geshna cannalis*, and the Larger canna leafroller, *Calpodes ethlius* can be serious pests of Canna. It is not unusual to find both species on the same plant. The Larger canna leafroller rolls up the edge of a fully expanded leaf and uses silk to hold the edges closed. The Lesser canna leafroller more frequently feeds within leaves that have not yet expanded, tying unfurled leaf together with silk to prevent further leaf expansion. The Larger canna leafroller eats all the way through the leaf, whereas the Lesser only eats the upper epidermis and inner surface of the leaf roll. When masses of brown frass (droppings) are discovered within the damaged leaves, it is a sign that the Lesser canna leafroller is present. The Larger canna leafroller flicks away its frass. It can be difficult to tell the young larvae of the two species apart. The Lesser canna leafroller larvae, *Geshna cannalis* are yellowish and the larvae of the Larger canna leafroller, *Calpodes ethlius* are greenish. Adults of both species are small brown moths. Control of canna leafrollers is a combination of good cultural practices and insecticides. Dead canna foliage should be removed at ground level in the winter to reduce populations of overwintering pupae. Systemic

insecticides such as Merit may be used. Alternatively, a product applied to the leaves containing *Bacillus thuringiensis* (BT) gives control without toxicity to organisms other than members of the Lepidoptera.

### Lesser Canna Leafroller Damage-*Geshna cannalis*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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## Lesser Canna Leafroller Larva- *Geshna cannalis*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas  
Cooperative Extension

## Larger Canna Leafroller Adult- *Calpododes ethlius*



Photo by Charles T. and John R. Bryson, Bugwood.org.jpg

## Larger Canna Leafroller Larva- *Calpododes ethlius*



Photo by Herbert A. Joe Pase III, Texas Forest Service,  
Bugwood.org.jpg

## Japanese Kerria

*Kerria Japonica*, common name Japanese rose, is a graceful and useful shrub for shady to partially shady locations. Bright green twigs and leaves, along with delightful yellow pompoms of bloom cheer up even the darkest corners of the shade garden. Kerria requires moist, well drained, loamy soils with decent fertility. Kerria Blight, caused by *Cylindrosporium kerriae*, can affect both leaves and stems. Small, discolored areas on the leaves become irregular, reddish-brown lesions that develop slightly raised white, velvety centers. Lesions may coalesce, causing leaves to yellow, shrivel, and fall prematurely. Lesions on the shoots are circular, reddish brown to black and up to several millimeters in diameter. The lesions are often slightly sunken. When environmental conditions are favorable, the centers become covered with white masses of conidia. Kerria Blight can be controlled by pruning out old and diseased twigs each season and using fungicides. Lime sulfur applied during the dormant season is helpful in limiting overwintering inoculum. During the growing season fungicides such as Daconil, or Spectracide Immunox, or Ortho garden Disease Control, or Monterey Fungi- Fighter are some fungicides that help control Kerria Blight.



## **Kerria Cylindrosporium Blight- *Cylindrosporium kerriae***



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

## **Fiddle-Leaf Fig**

The Fiddle-Leaf Fig, *Ficus lyrata*, is one of the easiest of the Ficus varieties to grow. This member of the fig family can grow up to 12 feet in height and 6 feet wide. Fiddle-Leaf Figs prefer moderate to bright light and moderate amounts of water. Bacterial leaf spots caused by *Xanthomonas campestris* typically cause tan-brown, dry looking lesions with irregularly shaped margins and a darker reddish border. The lesions tend to become tattered as the lesions age. Control measures are based largely on sanitation, avoidance of leaf wetness, avoidance of high rates of nitrogen, and the use of bactericides. Streptomycin sulfate (Agri-strep), Kocide, and Mancozeb have some efficacy against bacterial diseases when combined with good cultural methods. Both anthracnose leaf spot and dead margins caused by lack of water can cause similar looking lesions.

## **Fiddle-Leaf Fig Bacterial Leaf Spot-*Xanthomonas campestris***



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

## **Bean (Lima, Dry, Snap)**

Downy mildew, caused by *Phytophthora nicotianae* var. *parasitica*, can affect all aerial parts of beans. Seedling damping off may occur when plants are infected at emergence. On older plants, blossoms, buds, leaves, and other plant parts may also be killed. Major yield losses may occur as pods become infected and covered with white, cottony patches of mycelium. A reddish-colored border may develop around the infected portion. Pods die, become black and often remain attached. Pods in contact with the ground are most seriously affected. Downy mildew is favored by high moisture and low temperatures. We are seeing dead pods that were infected earlier in



the season. There is no resistance to this disease in dry bean or snap bean cultivars. There are several lima bean cultivars resistant. Fungicides containing chlorothalonil applied during flowering and pod formation helps to reduce pod infection. Rotation with a non-host crop such as cereals and corn help reduce inoculum levels.

### **Bean Downy Mildew-*Phytophthora nicotianae* var. *parasitica***



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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This bulletin from the Cooperative Extension Plant Health Clinic (Plant Disease Clinic) is an electronic update about diseases and other problems observed in our lab each month. Input from everybody interested in plants is welcome and appreciated.