



Arkansas Plant Health Clinic Newsletter

Follow us on social media



[Facebook](#)

Euonymus

Euonymus Powdery Mildew

Euonymus is ubiquitous in the landscape. It is one of the most widely sold evergreen landscape plants found in both commercial and home landscapes. Despite its popularity, Euonymus is prone to several insect and disease problems. Powdery Mildew, caused by *Erysiphe euonymicola* (formerly *Microsphaera euonymi-japonici*) is a common problem on euonymus. Powdery Mildew is favored by periods of cool night temperatures, high humidity, and poor air circulation. Plants typically become infected in spring and fall. Symptoms are grayish-white patches or spots on both surfaces of leaves and stems. Tender new growth may be distorted. Severely affected leaves become yellow and fall from the plant. Euonymus is often sold as shade tolerant; however, Euonymus suffers less from Powdery Mildew when planted in sun with good air circulation. Ornamental fungicides may be used at 10-14-day intervals to suppress Powdery Mildew. Products containing chlorothalonil, or myclobutanil, or propiconazole, or azoxystrobin, or triadimefon, or pyraclostrobin will suppress Powdery Mildew. Bio Advanced Disease

Control for Roses, Flowers, and Shrubs is a systemic that is effective if applied early.

Euonymus Powdery Mildew- *Erysiphe euonymicola* formerly *Microsphaera euonymi-japonici*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.



Euonymus Powdery Mildew-

Erysiphe euonymicola formerly
Microspheera euonymi-japonici



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension

Euonymus Scale

Euonymus Scale, *Unaspis euonymi*, is the most common and aggravating insect problem we see on Euonymus. Euonymus Scale is such a problem that we no longer recommend *Euonymus japonica* to growers. Scale can also attack pachysandra, bittersweet, camellia, celastrus, ivy, hibiscus, holly, and ligustrum. Scale insects injure plants by using their piercing, sucking mouthparts to feed on sap. Sooty mold fungi often colonize leaves that have become coated with the excess amounts of sugary sap that the insects secrete. Sooty mold fungi do not directly injure the plants but may reduce their ability to photosynthesize. Plants heavily infested with Scale grow slowly and become chlorotic and stunted. Severe infestations may cause branch dieback and plant death. Male Euonymus Scale insects are easily observed with their elongate white bodies. Females are less noticeable, although larger (over 1/16 inch long), brown, and pear shaped. In severe infestations, leaves and

stems may be heavily encrusted. There are several generations a year. Crawlers are active in May, June, and July. Plants in shady locations with poor air circulation are more at risk than those in open, sunny locations. Over-fertilization and poor watering practices, either too much or too little, promote Scale infestations. Heavily infested plants should be pruned back, and new growth should be protected with insecticide treatments. Dormant oils applied during the winter months help reduce overwintering populations. Fine horticultural oils and insecticidal soaps are options for summer control. Bio Advanced Tree and Shrub Insect Control (Imidacloprid) is a systemic insecticide that gives good results, or Bayer Advanced Garden Power Force Multi-Insect Killer (Cyfluthrin). Spreading euonymus, (*Euonymus kiautschovicus*), Dwarf Winged euonymus (*Euonymus alatus* 'Compactus'), and Winter Creeper euonymus (*Euonymus fortunei*), are more resistant to heavy attacks by this pest.

Euonymus Scale-*Unaspis euonymi*

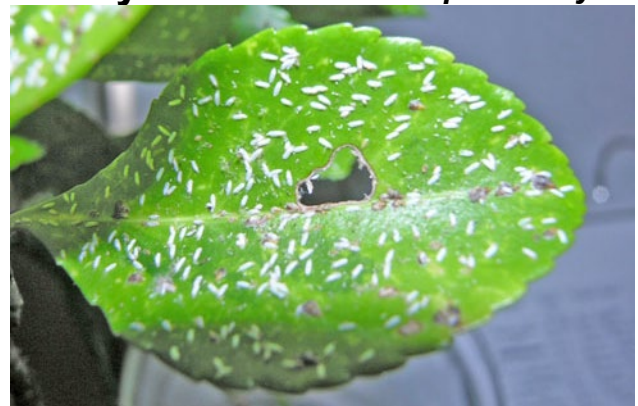


Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension



Euonymus Scale-*Unaspis euonymi*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Camellia

Abiotic Injury

Camellias grow best in a well-drained, humus-rich soil with a pH of 5.5-6.5. They prefer part shade with bright, filtered light. Red blooming cultivars are thought to be more sun tolerant than white or pink cultivars. However, during our hot summers, sunburn can occur on any camellia if they receive too much afternoon sun. During the winter months, leaves can suffer from windburn and freeze injury. A protected planting site can help prevent some of this type of injury.

Camellia Winter Injury-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension



Camellia Sunburn-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Purple or Ribbed Tea Mite

The Purple or Ribbed Tea Mite, *Calacarus carinatus*, is an Eriophyid mite. Unlike larger spider mites, eriophyid mites have an elongated body, and are extremely difficult to see even under magnification. It is easier to see their white, cast-off skins than the mites themselves. The adult female is purple with white longitudinal stripes. Ribbed Tea Mites are also known as rust mites because of the bronzing that occurs on infested leaves due to their

feeding activity. Leaf curl and bud blight also occur. Ribbed Tea Mites can be serious pests of Camellia, causing extensive bronzing of leaves. They are especially active during cooler temperatures in the spring. Ribbed Tea Mite eggs are minute, circular, flattened, and nearly colorless. The females lay their eggs mostly along veins. Life cycle depends on temperature but is approximately 10-12 days. Numbers decline during rainy periods. Multiple applications of miticides, such as Avid, give control. Homeowners will find insecticidal soaps and fine horticultural oils helpful. Unlike spider mites, eriophyid mites can also be killed using Sevin.

Camellia Purple (Ribbed) Tea Mite cast-off skins-*Calacarus carinatus*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension



Camellia Purple (Ribbed) Tea **Mite-*Calacarus carinatus***

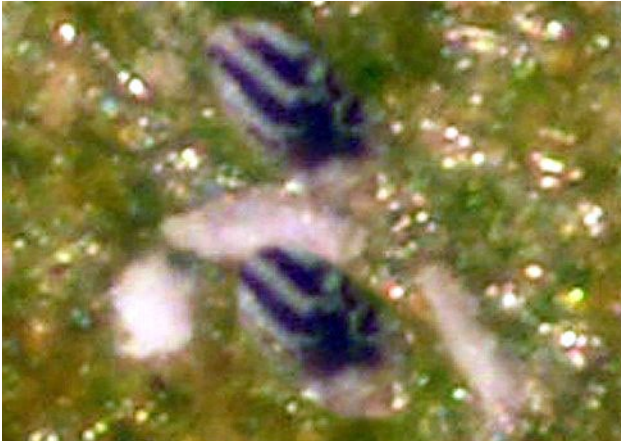


Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension

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.

"This work is supported by the Crop Protection and Pest Management Program [grant no. 2017-70006-27279/project accession no. 1013890] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture."

Camellia Purple (Ribbed) Tea **Mite damage-*Calacarus carinatus***



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.