



Arkansas Plant Health Clinic Newsletter

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Loropetalum

Galls on Loropetalum have been identified as Bacterial Gall, caused by the bacterium *Pseudomonas savastanoi*. This bacterium also causes galls on Olive and Oleander. The main symptom is irregular, dark-colored gall tissue on the main stems and branches. Shoot dieback and plant death may occur on badly infected plants when the galls girdle a stem or branch. The bacterium enters through wounds, caused by weather events or by pruning. During periods of wet, cloudy weather, bacteria ooze from the galls and are dispersed to adjoining tissue by water splash. Control consists of excellent sanitation practices. Avoid planting Loropetalum already exhibiting galls. On established plants, galls may be pruned out at least several inches below the gall. Tools should be dipped in a 10% bleach solution or isopropyl alcohol between cuts. Prune only during dry weather. Several applications of a copper fungicide following pruning may slow disease spread.

Loropetalum Bacterial Gall- *Pseudomonas savastanoi*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension



Loropetalum Bacterial Gall- *Pseudomonas savastanoi*



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Camellia

The most common insect pest on Camellia is Tea Scale, *Fiorinia theae*. These are sap-feeding insects that can weaken the plant. Symptoms include yellowing of the foliage, leaf drop, twig dieback, and reduced quality of bloom. Tea Scales are found on the undersides of the leaves. They have an oblong shape with a ridge down the center, parallel to the sides. These are very small insects with the female being approximately 1/20 of an inch. Males are a third smaller. Females are brown or grayish black. Males are white. Depending on the climate, there can be multiple generations per year. Females lay 10 to 16 eggs, which remain protected under her body until they hatch. In one to three weeks, bright yellow, immature crawlers hatch from the eggs. Fine horticultural oils may be applied in the spring. Good coverage is essential. Systemic Insecticides such as Bio Advanced Insect Control for Trees and Shrubs, or Safari, or insecticidal soaps may also be used.



Camellia Tea Scale-*Fiorinia theae*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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Camellia Tea Scale-*Fiorinia theae*



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Magnolia

Magnolias in some locations suffered freeze injury this winter. This is most noticeable on the newest growth.



Magnolia Foliage Freeze Injury- Abiotic



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.

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Magnolia Foliage Freeze Injury- Abiotic



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