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Southern Plant Diagnostic Network
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Arkansas Plant Health Clinic Newsletter

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Maple

Homeowners are often concerned when they notice red pimples on the leaves of their maple tree. A common pest of maple in North America is the Maple Bladdergall Mite, *Vasates quadripedes.* Silver maple, *Acer saccharinum,* and Red maple, *A. rubrum* are both hosts. These mites are Eriophyid mites, tiny, carrot-shaped mites. They overwinter as adults under bark scales and other protected sites on the host tree where they can withstand winter weather conditions. Early in the spring they migrate to newly expanding leaves and begin to feed. Their feeding activity results in the formation of green or red globular growths that are about 2.5-3 mm in diameter on the upper leaf surface. These galls become noticeable during May; about the time the leaves are fully expanded. At first, these growths are green, becoming red with age. Heavily infested leaves may become distorted. Although unsightly, these mites do little real damage to the tree. An application of carbaryl or pyrethroids to the lower leaf surface when the leaves are about 1/4 expanded and again 10 days later may reduce infestations.

Arce (Maple) by Keiddy Urrea

Las personas se alarman cuando observan pequeñas agallas en las hojas de los arboles de arce. Este síntoma es causado por una plaga común de estos árboles, estos son diminutos ácaros y son conocidos como los ácaros de las agallas de arce (*Vasates quadripedes*). Otros arces como: el arce gris (*Acer saccharinum*) y el arce rojo (*A. rubrum*) son afectados por esta plaga. Estos ácaros son Eriophyid, los cuales se caracterizan por ser muy pequeños y tener forma de zanahoria. Los ácaros adultos sobreviven el invierno en escamas de corteza de los arboles, lugares que los protegen de las duras condiciones de invierno. En la época temprana de la primavera los ácaros migran hacia las nuevas hojas que están emergiendo, donde comienzan a alimentarse, mientras se alimentan hacen que la planta forme sobre la superficie de la hoja pequeñas agallas rojas o verdes con diámetro de aproximadamente 2.5-3 mm. Estas agallas se observan en mayo cuando las hojas nuevas están totalmente extendidas. Las hojas se deforman con la alta presencia de estas agallas, causando daño a la planta. Para el control de estos ácaros se recomienda la aplicación de carbaryl or pyrethroids a la parte abaxial de las hojas cuando han alcanzado la cuarta parte de su expansión, esta aplicación se debe repetir a los 10 días para reducir una infestación.

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Maple Bladdergall-*Vasates quadripedes*

Photo by Allison Howell, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Maple Bladdergall Mites-*Vasates quadripedes*

Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Camellia

Camellia Leaf gall, caused by the fungus *Exobasidium camelliae*, attacks newly emerging shoots and leaves in the spring. Although leaf galls occur more commonly on sasanqua varieties of Camellia, the disease can also appear on *Camellia japonica*. Leaves become enlarged, abnormally thickened, and fleshy. The tissue turns from green to white to pink. Eventually the galls rupture on the undersides of the leaves revealing a grayish white spore mass. Eventually the galls become brown and hard. This is not a difficult disease to control. Remove and destroy young galls before the lower leaf surfaces turn white. Rake up and remove fallen leaves. Avoid overhead watering. Humid, moist, shady conditions in the spring favor gall formation. Chemical controls must be applied before infection occurs. Start sprays at budbreak and continue through the first of June at 7- to 14-day intervals.
Homeowners may use Fertilome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide, (chlorothalonil), or Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit, and Ornamental Fungicide,(chlorothalonil) or Ortho Garden Disease Control, (chlorothalonil), (chlorothalonil), or Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide,(chlorothalonil), or Bonide Fung-onil Multipurpose Fungicide, (chlorothalonil), or Spectracide Immunox Plus, (myclobutanil & permethrin), or Bio Advanced Garden-Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs, (tebuconazole), or Bio Advanced Garden-All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer, (tebuconazole & imidacloprid), or Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals,

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(thiophanate-methyl), or Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control, (triticonazole & acetamiprid), or BioAdvanced Science Based Solutions All-In-One Rose & Flower Spray Concentrate (tebuconazole +tau-fluvalinate). Once new growth hardens, it is no longer susceptible.

Camellia Leaf Gall-*Exobasidium camelliae*

Photo by Keiddy Urrea, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Yew

Yews are lovely evergreen shrubs that thrive if their needs are met. They require well-drained, fertile soil with a neutral pH. Yews do very well in full sun to part shade. They can be sheared into formal shapes or allowed to grow naturally. One thing they absolutely can't tolerate is boggy soils. In soil that is wet all the time, Phytophthora root rot is an issue. Symptoms are yellowing, needle cast, wilting, and death. On heavy soils, it helps to plant in raised beds. Once symptoms are noticeable, yews are difficult to save. Improve drainage and avoid overwatering. Water yews only when dry. Professionals may apply Subdue Maxx.

Yew Phytophthora Root Rot-*Phytophthora* spp.

Photo by Keiddy Urrea, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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Bamboo

The Plant Health Clinic is more likely to be asked how to exterminate a stand of bamboo, than to diagnose a bamboo disease. Many bamboo species are notoriously invasive and difficult to eliminate from a landscape. However, many people do love their bamboo. Sooty Stripe of bamboo, caused by the fungus *Papularia arundinis*, enters bamboo culms primarily through wounds. Once the fungus enters the plant tissue, the disease spreads downwards into the main stem. The affected tissue becomes grayish-brown and dries up. Soon after, linear sori, (structures producing and containing spores), develop on the dead tissue. Sori may coalesce into linear stripes. They are erumpent exposing masses of dark spores which are dispersed by wind and water. The sori resemble rust or smut structures and are often confused. However, the spores themselves do not look like smut or rust spores. Mature Papularia spores are ovate-elliptic to spherical, chocolate-brown, and thick-walled, with a light lenticular stripe. They measure 7.5-11.5µ. Bamboos are aggressive growers and spreaders, making chemical intervention usually not necessary. Damaged canes should be removed at ground level. If infections are severe, homeowners may use Fertilome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide, (chlorothalonil), or Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit, and Ornamental Fungicide,(chlorothalonil) or Ortho Garden Disease Control, (chlorothalonil), , or Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide,(chlorothalonil), or Bonide Fung-onil Multipurpose Fungicide, (chlorothalonil), or Spectracide Immunox Plus, (myclobutanil & permethrin), or Bio Advanced Garden-Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs, (tebuconazole), or Bio Advanced Garden-All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer, (tebuconazole & imidacloprid), or Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals, (thiophanate-methyl), or Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control, (triticonazole & acetamiprid), or BioAdvanced Science Based Solutions All-In-One Rose & Flower Spray Concentrate (tebuconazole +tau-fluvalinate).

Bamboo Sooty Stripe-*Papularia arundinis*

Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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Bamboo Sooty Stripe Sori-
Papularia arundinis

Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Bamboo Sooty Stripe spores-
Papularia arundinis

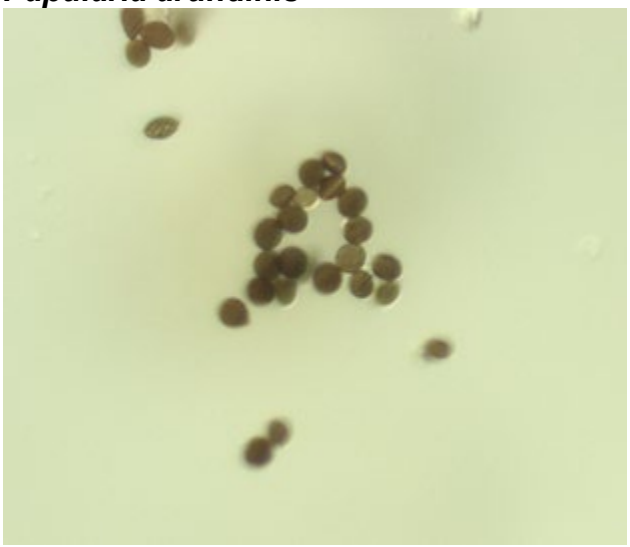

Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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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