



Arkansas Plant Health Clinic Newsletter

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Grape/muscadines

The Grape Berry moth (GBM), *Paralobesia viteana*, is a native moth that can cause considerable damage to grapes and muscadines. GBM overwinters as pupae in grayish silken cocoons in fallen leaves. The adults are a small, mottled brown moth. GBM adults emerge in late spring, about the time grapes bloom. The females fly at dusk, laying an average of 20 flat oval eggs singly on grape stems, blossom clusters, or berries. Eggs hatch in 4-8 days depending on temperature. Newly hatched larvae are creamy white with a dark brown head and thoracic shield. Older larvae become greenish brown and eventually purple. The head of the mature larva is light brown with a dark colored thoracic shield. Newly hatched larvae feed on tender new stems, blossom buds, and young berries. At this stage they feed within protective webbings. Later, when berries reach about 3mm in diameter, the larvae begin to burrow into them. The second generation of larvae feed only on berries. GBM pheromone traps should be placed into the vineyard interior by May 15. Spray the perimeter vines in May to early June if greater than 1% clusters are damaged by GBM. Intrepid is a growth regulator

that is effective if applied just before hatch, and again 10 days later. See MP144 for additional control information.
<http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx>

Grape Berry Moth Larva- *Paralobesia viteana*



**Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension**



Grape Berry Moth Injury- *Paralobesia viteana*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Dogwood

Septoria Leaf Spot, caused by *Septoria cornicola*, is a late season disease that under most conditions requires no chemical controls. However, on trees with a severe history of the disease, the use of fungicides may be necessary. Symptoms are grayish, angular spots with a dark red or purple border. Tiny, dark fruiting bodies of the fungus can be observed in the center of the lesions, using a hand lens. The spots first appear on lower leaves and move upward through the canopy. All dead leaves should be raked up and removed from the planting. Good air circulation, proper fertilization, and the avoidance of overhead irrigation help limit the incidence of Septoria leaf

spot. Fungicides containing chlorothalonil, or mancozeb, or thiophanate-methyl can be used, beginning in the spring just before flower bracts are fully expanded and repeated 2-3 times 10-14 days apart. This also gives good protection against Dogwood Spot anthracnose.

Dogwood Septoria Leaf Spot- *Septoria cornicola*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Peony

Peonies are one of our finest perennials. They are exceptionally long-lived, reaching ages of 50 years or more. They are also very healthy when planted with a minimum of 6 hours of sun in good garden soil with excellent drainage. Perhaps the most common disease we find on peonies is Red Spot (Blotch), caused by



Sherrie Smith
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Graphiopsis chlorocephala, formerly *Cladosporium paeoniae*. This looks ugly but does not significantly damage the plant. Symptoms begin as small, circular, red to purple spots on the upper surface of young leaves. These spots become a burnished dark purple. The undersides of the leaves become a chestnut brown color. Later in the season, the lesions coalesce, becoming large, irregular purple blotches. Susceptibility to Red spot is quite variable, with many older cultivars being the most susceptible. It's important to clean up peony debris. In the fall, prune all spent top growth to ground level, and remove it from the garden. Begin spraying on a weekly schedule when new growth is just breaking the soil in the spring, continuing until the flowers begin to open. Fungicides containing mancozeb, thiophanate-methyl, or copper are effective.

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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Peony Red Spot (Blotch)- *Graphiopsis chlorocephala*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
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