



Arkansas Plant Health Clinic Newsletter

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Oak

Oak is both an important forest tree and a valuable landscape ornamental. They are ubiquitous in most areas of the country and are so taken for granted that people are surprised at how many pests they have. A common fungal leaf disease of oak in Arkansas and one we see frequently is Oak Leaf Blister, caused by *Taphrina caerulescens*. All oak species are vulnerable with red oaks being particularly susceptible. Prolonged periods of cool, wet weather in the spring are conducive for disease development. Symptoms become apparent in early summer as yellow, blister-like, circular, raised areas, 1/16 to 1/2 inch in diameter. The blisters are scattered over the upper leaf surface with corresponding gray depressions on the lower surface. As the spots age, they turn from yellow to brown with pale yellow margins, becoming dull brown in color. Several blisters may coalesce and cause the leaves to curl. Although unsightly, the disease usually does not greatly impact tree health. Control consists of raking up all fallen leaves and twigs, and the application of preventative fungicides where practical. Practicality usually depends on tree size as most homeowners are unable to reach the canopy of large oaks. One application of

Chlorothalonil, copper, or mancozeb during dormancy is effective. Fungicides do not have any effect after bud swell in the spring.

Oak Leaf Blister-*Taphrina caerulescens*



Photo by Rick Cartwright, formerly University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Oak Leaf Blister-*Taphrina caerulescens*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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Oak Leaf Blister-*Taphrina caerulescens*



Photo by Sherrie Smith, formerly University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Tomato Roundup Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Tomato

Every year the Plant Health Clinic receives numerous samples of vegetables, trees, and ornamentals samples suffering from herbicide damage. Roundup is not your friend in the garden. It will drift up to 1500 ft across the yard when there is a breeze. Symptoms of roundup damage to tomato are bleached white to yellow areas at the base of leaflets. Strap-like leaves, witches' brooms, and leaf curling are some of the symptoms on other species. Roundup is systemic, so perennial plants not killed outright will have damage symptoms again the following season. Large doses of the herbicide will of course kill the plant. Phenoxy based herbicides such as 2-4-d and Grazon causes extreme twisting, distortion, and leaf curl.

Blackberry Roundup Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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Rose Roundup Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Peony Roundup Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Rose Roundup Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

Squash Phenoxy Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Olivia Foster, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension

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Tomato Phenoxy Herbicide Damage-Abiotic



Photo by Sherrie Smith, University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension

Coleus Phenoxy Damage-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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