

UConn Diagnostic Summary for June 2018

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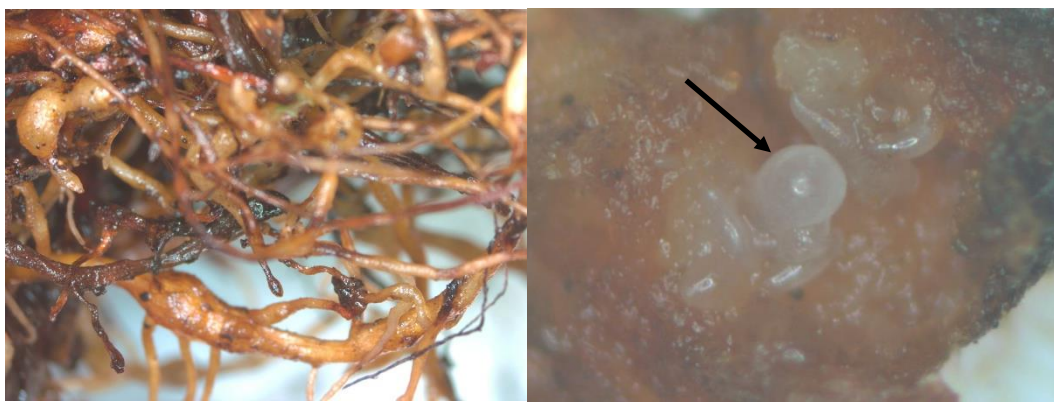
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Frequent reports: Gymnosporangium rusts, sawflies on numerous hosts, spider mites, fungal leaf spots, Phytophthora and other root rots, cottony camellia scale on holly, boxwood psyllid, anthracnose diseases, leafminers.

Alerts and News:

- **Spotted lanternfly** is a new pest of many deciduous trees including fruit trees and grapes. Its preferred host is the invasive tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). It is currently established and under eradication and quarantine in southeastern Pennsylvania. It has been found in a couple of other states so far but not known to be established (likely hitchhikers). It's a striking insect and easy to identify, especially in the adult stage. Become familiar with it and when the different life stages are active at this [great video](#) produced by the Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture and Penn State Extension. If you think you've seen one in CT, contact the UConn Plant Diagnostic Lab, Home & Garden Education Center, or the Entomology Department at The CT Agric. Experiment Station.
- **Late blight of tomato and potato** caused by *Phytophthora infestans* was reported in late June in upstate NY. No additional reports have occurred since then. Watch for these [symptoms and signs](#) of the disease, especially following wet weather. Risk is not considered high at this time in Connecticut.

Disease of the Month: Root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne* sp.) was confirmed on Astilbe from a home garden maintained by a landscape company this month in the diagnostic lab. This nematode, probably the northern root-knot nematode (*M. hapla*), has a broad host range. Above ground symptoms include wilt, poor growth, stunting, dieback, and reduced flowering or fruit production. The females select a permanent feeding site within the root and this activity results in swellings or 'knots' on the root at the site. Each knot can contain multiple females. Astilbe is quite susceptible. A [study](#) was done in a greenhouse setting to evaluate susceptibility of many herbaceous perennials. There are no effective chemical controls for this in the home landscape. Options include replanting with tolerant/non-host plants, replacing the soil (if in a limited, manageable area), and promoting vigorous plants that can tolerate a bit more feeding by this pathogen. A cover crop of certain types of marigold can help reduce populations in the soil. Intercropping does not work. More information: <https://hort.uwex.edu/articles/root-knot-nematode/>



Photos from left: Swellings on Astilbe roots, female root-knot nematode in gall at arrow (J. Allen photos).

Arthropod of the Month: Beet and spinach leafminers are the larvae of small grayish brown flies. There are two species. They prefer the host of their common name but will attack both of these and the related Swiss chard. Damage is most important on crops like spinach and chard where the leaves are the crop. Eggs are laid on leaf undersides and the newly hatched larvae (maggots) burrow into the leaves where they feed between the upper and lower epidermal layers. Damage appears as tan to whitish mines expanding to blotches over time. Mature larvae drop to the ground to pupate. There are multiple generations per season. More info:

<https://ag.umass.edu/vegetable/fact-sheets/leafminer-beet-spinach>



Early tunneling and more advanced, severe damage on spinach. J. Allen photos.

Plant of the Month: Mulberry (*Morus sp.*), specifically white mulberry in one case, was identified in the New Haven office. These are relatively small trees with variably lobed, serrated leaves. *Morus rubra*, red mulberry, is native to the eastern U.S. White mulberry has striking white fruits. Notable facts: Fruits are high in vitamin C, the leaves are the food source for the silkworm, and the dark colored fruits are used in making dyes. More information:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morus_\(plant\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morus_(plant)) and <http://hort.uconn.edu/detail.php?pid=291>



Leaves (www.hort.uconn.edu) and fruit (<https://foodtolive.com>) of white mulberry.

Reports by Location

UConn Plant Diagnostic Laboratory/Home & Garden Education Center

Arthropods on plants

Plum curculio on peach, plum (3), nectarine
Fletcher scale
Chard leafminer

Rose slug sawfly (2)
Birch erineum galls
Viburnum leaf beetle
Viburnum borer

Oak apple gall
Birch sawfly
Clavate tortoise beetle on tomato
Flea beetle injury on tomato (2)
Three-lined potato beetle on ground cherry
Citrus psyllid on lime (suspected)
Whitefly on boxwood
Thrips on tomato (2), verbena
Grape gall midge
Boxwood spider mite
Pinion caterpillar on Stewartia
Four lined plant bug injury on herbs (suspected)
Hydrangea sawfly
Canna leaf roller
Boxwood psyllid
Eriophyid mites on Asian pear
Peach borer
Squash vine borer adult
Spruce spider mite on white spruce
Black swallowtail caterpillar (parsleyworm)

Arthropods - other

March fly
Wood cockroach
Fly (Order Diptera)
Firefly
White marked tussock moth

Plant Diseases

Cherry leaf spot/shothole
Orange rust on black raspberry
Fire blight on Bradford pear, sand cherry, weeping cherry
Cladosporium leaf spot on peony
Anthracnose on weeping cherry, crabapple, red oak, raspberry, pear
Phomopsis dieback on rhododendron (3), privet, Japanese maple
Needlecast of E. white pine (*Lecanosticta acicula*)
Black root rot of strawberry (Rhizoctonia)
Bacterial leaf spot on hosta, zinnia, magnolia, hibiscus, lavender
Pestalotiopsis leaf blight of rhododendron (3)
Phomopsis dieback on raspberry
Red thread of turfgrass
Hendersonia leaf spot of hawthorn
Spot anthracnose on linden
Scab on crabapple
Cedar-quince rust on Juneberry, Cleveland Select pear
Phytophthora root/crown rot on juniper, Russian cypress
Procera root rot on E. white pine
Cercospora leaf spot on rose (suspected)
Leaf spot on maple
Fusarium root/crown rot on tomato
Frogeye leaf spot on apple
Lophodermium needlecast on mugho pine
Virus suspected on dahlia
Tomato spotted wilt virus on Gaillardia
Black rot of grape
Rhizoctonia crown rot on tomato
Black knot of plum
Phyllosticta leaf spot of maple

Powdery mildew on peony, pear
Root-knot nematode on astilbe
Phytophthora root rot on heuchera
Root rot (unidentified cause) on Juniper
Rhizoctonia root rot of magnolia (seedlings)
Botryosphaeria canker/dieback on rose
Entomosporium leaf spot on Bosc pear
Alternaria leaf spot/blight on privet
Brown rot (Monilinia sp.) on peach
Azalea gall
Garlic bloat nematode on garlic
Black root rot (*Thielaviopsis basicola*) on Clematis
Alternaria leaf spot on miscanthus
Tar spot of Calamagrostis
Bacterial soft rot of Disa orchid
Fusarium root rot on Colorado blue & white spruce transplants
Rose rosette virus (Confirmed) on rose (3)

Plant ID

Linden
Birch
Clematis
Maple leaf viburnum (2)
Bittersweet nightshade (2)
Coltsfoot
Horsetail
Japanese knotweed
Smilax herbacea
Poison hemlock
Oriental bittersweet
May apple
Green ash
Spicebush
Horseradish
Poison sumac
Deutzia magnifica
Cow parsnip
Multiflora rose
Wild angelica
Wild lettuce
Coreopsis
Doveweed
Wild blueberry
Poison ivy
Yellow foxglove
Penstemon
Dianthus

Cultural Problems

Nutrient deficiency (several)
Herbicide injury suspected (several)
Winter injury suspected on long stalk holly, chamaecyparis,
Suspected sunburn on dogwood
Abiotic leaf scorch on Stewartia

Other

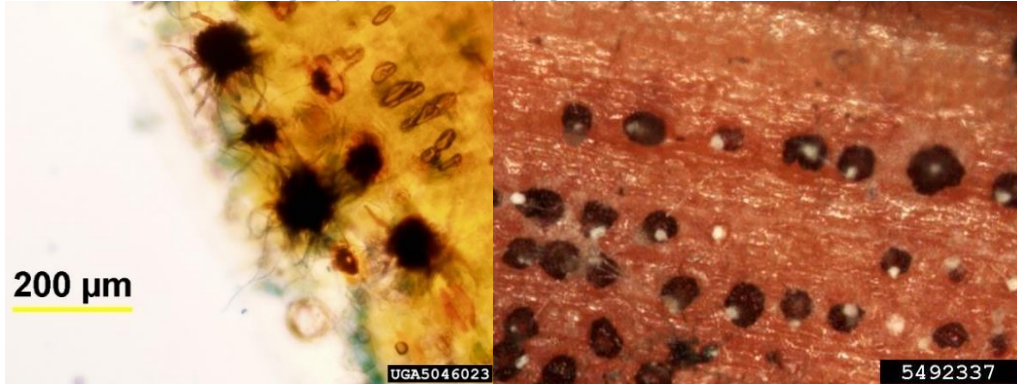
Suspected squirrel damage
Dead man's fingers fungus in mulch

Fairfield County (submitted by Thomas MacGregor)

Arthropods on Plants: Fall webworm (*Hyphantria cunea*); aphids; spider mites on boxwood (2); psyllids on boxwood; Hibiscus sawfly; rose slug sawfly; asparagus beetle larvae; pine bark adelgids; leafhoppers on *Malus* sp.; wireworm on potato; Christmas fern fronds containing *Herpetogramma* sp. larvae; flea beetles on tomato; borers in spruce trees; elongate hemlock scale; cottony camellia scale on holly;.

Arthropods (other): centipede; mealy bug egg sacs; robber fly.

Plant Diseases: Feathery pycnidia of *Stigmina lautii* needlecast (pictured below next to the pycnidia of *Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii*) on spruce; anthracnose on *Cornus florida*; fungal disease on hydrangea; fungal disease on boxwoods (2); Phytophthora root rot of azalea (suspected); cedar apple rust; Septoria leaf spot on *Rudbeckia* sp. (2); anthracnose on *Hosta* sp.; azalea leaf gall; black knot on plum (2); cherry leaf curl (2); fungus on Rhododendron sp.; Volutella blight on boxwood; apple scab on *Malus* sp.; leaf curling on *Malus* sp.; brown rot of ornamental cherry; Botryosphaeria canker on *Ilex verticillata*; Phomopsis tip blight on 'Blue Rug' juniper; fungal disease on Himalayan "Sweet Box".



Stigmina pycnidia (Joseph OBrien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org) on the left and those of *R. kalkhoffii* on the right (Sandra Jensen, Cornell University, Bugwood.org).

Plant ID: Mother-in-law's tongue (*Sansevieria trifasciata*); tall fescue; *Viburnum dentatum*; *Viburnum nudum*; *Valeriana officinalis*; pilewort (*Ficaria verna*); Tupelo tree; Black cohosh (*Actaea racemosa*); winged euonymus; autumn olive; mugwort; horsetail; ragged robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*); creeping Charlie (*Glechoma hederacea*); Virginia creeper; pokeweed; Tree of heaven; catbriar (*Smilax rotundifolia*); white fir (*Abies concolor*); *Monarda* sp.

Cultural: physiological blossom drop and leaf curl; sunburn on Rhododendron sp. (3); leaf scorch on Hydrangea sp.; leaf scorch on daisy; root rot of African violet; lawn chemical injury to weeping cherry tree; winter sun damage on evergreen.

Other: raccoon scat in swimming pool; sapsucker damage.

Hartford County (no report)

Litchfield County (no report)

Thanks to Dave Lewis for his contributions and best wishes as he moves on to new endeavors!

Middlesex County (submitted by Gail Reynolds)

Arthropods on Plants

Wool sower gall

Oak leafroller caterpillar (pictured below by Paul Stacey)



Wireworms on radish

Peach tree gall

Grape gall midge

Rose sawfly larvae (3)

Lily leaf beetle (2)

Elderberry sawfly larvae on elderberry

Pine sawfly larvae on mugo pine

Spider mites on *Cryptomeria*

Scale on *Cryptomeria*

Maple bladder galls (2)

Arthropods (other)

Bald faced hornet

Mining bee

Woolly bear (cocoon)

Carpet beetle

Fur beetle
Sawtooth beetle
Sugar ant
Cockroach
Millipede

Plant Diseases

Witch hazel blight on *Hamamelis vernalis*
Leaf spot on rhododendron
Oak anthracnose
Red cedar decline
Dutch elm of American elm (Liberty elm variety) (2)
Cedar hawthorn rust on *Amelanchier*
Sooty mold on *Ilex*
Septoria leaf spot on tomato
Cherry shothole
Fungal disease on strawberry
Bud blast on peony
Suspected *Fusarium* wilt of tomato

New Haven County (submitted by Jude Hsiang)

Arthropods on Plants:

Rose sawfly (3) on *Rosa*
Elm cockscomb gall on *Ulmus*
Cottony scale on *Rosa*
Cottony camellia scale on *Ilex* (Female and completed white egg sac pictured below)



J.A. Davidson, Univ. Md, College Pk, Bugwood.org

Brown soft scale on x *Citrofortunella mitis*/calamondin
Sooty mold on x *Citrofortunella mitis*/calamondin
Leafminer on arborvitae
Spider mites on *Rosa*
Bagworm on *Prunus*

Arthropods other:

New London County (submitted by Paul Armond)

Arthropods on Plants:

Hickory leaf gall
Beet leafminer

Arthropods, other:

White-marked tussock moth caterpillar

Plant Disease:

Blossom wilt of cherry

Plant ID

Black swallowwort
Heracleum maximum
Perennial ryegrass
Creeping bentgrass
Podophyllum peltatum
Prunus sp. (ornamental)

Cultural

Woodpecker damage on house
Natural fuzz on rhododendron leaves
Rhododendron winter damage
Harry Lauder walking stick root sucker not showing contortion

Deer tick nymph
Carpet beetle

Plant Disease:

Botrytis on *Rosa*
Botrytis on *Paeonia*
Rose stem canker on *Rosa*
Rose rosette virus on *Rosa* (suspected)
Black knot on *Prunus*

Plant and Weed ID:

Sonchus arvensis/perennial sowthistle
Fraxinus nigra/black ash
Fraxinus americana/white ash
Fraxinus pennsylvanica/green ash
Thymus sp./thyme
Polygonum persicaria/lady's thumb
Fagus sylvatica/European beech, weeping cultivar
Morus alba/white mulberry
Carya ovata/shagbark hickory
Aralia spinosa/ devil's walking stick
Trifolium repens/white clover (2)
Verbena sp.
Morus sp.
Robinia pseudoacacia/ black locust (2)
Smilax sp./greenbriar
Lonicera sp.
Forsythia sp.
Fallopia japonica/Japanese knotweed, variegated variety
Celastrus orbiculatus/Oriental bittersweet

Cultural/abiotic problems:

Insufficient watering of zucchini
Insufficient watering of turf grass
Dahlia tuber without eye planted

Other:

Possible borer damage on maple: referred to arborist
Snails in garden

Botrytis rot on gladiolus
Heterosporium leaf spot on iris
Bacterial leaf spot on Bradford pear, Hamamelis (suspected)
Phytophthora on Salix (suspected)
Early blight on tomato
Mummy berry on blueberry (2 phases shown below)



Mummy berry shoot blight (left) and berry symptoms (right) from <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2091/2017/05/5Mummyberry3.jpg>

Tolland County (no report)

Windham County (no report)

Bartlett Arboretum, Stamford (no report)

