

Plant Health Advisor News

August 2006

Notes from the Field

Brian Hudelson, UW Extension Plant Pathology Diagnostic Clinic, reports a variety of problems with spruce including Black Hills and Blue, such as Phomopsis Tip Blight, Rhizosphaera Needle Cast and Spruce Needle Drop. He has seen instances of Anthracnose, Chlorosis, Coniothyrium Leaf Spot and Sphaeropsis Canker in oak samples from Waukesha and other counties.

There is a lot of verticillium on a variety of plants. If you spot flagging on trees or a lot of dieback on herbaceous plants from the top down, verticillium could be the problem.

John Stier, UW Extension Turfgrass Specialist, warns against pulling poison ivy by hand. Sap is easily spread from clothing/gloves to skin and can remain viable for some time on inanimate objects unless they are washed with soap and water.

Broadleaf herbicides containing 2-4,D and/or triclopyr can be used but care is needed not to let them touch other plants or trees when spraying. He recommends using glyphosate because it's systemic.

Teryl Roper, UW Extension Fruit Specialist, stresses the need to irrigate during hot days. He has had reports of sun scald on raspberries—so in the future, insure enough protective foliage and water. Instances of crumbly berries may be due to plant bug feeding on the flowers of the young fruit—or a virus.

It's time for renovation of strawberry plants now that the harvest is complete. The first step is to mow off or cut off the foliage, then add nitrogen fertilizer, then weed, and then narrow the rows. The yield of strawberries is more related to the linear feet of row edge than to the surface area of ground covered. If you want higher yields, have several narrow rows

You are needed! Remember to call your county offices to volunteer.

Milwaukee County, call 414-290-2410 or 290-2427. (Horticulture Helpline daily from 9-noon; walk-in service 4-6pm on Wednesdays.)

Waukesha County, call 262-548-7768.

Plant Health Updates

Currently active, newly-trained and potential PHAs are invited to Sharon Morrisey's bi-weekly training updates at the Milwaukee County UWEX office. She will cover current problems, trends being reported, and questions you may be asked.

Wednesdays, 6:00– 7:00 pm

August 9 September 13 & 27

Wrap up—October 11

Plant Health Field Day

August 3, 2006

Boerner Botanical Gardens

8:00 am—3:30pm

Join us for an educational, stimulating and fun day at Boerner. Topics to choose from include:

- **Azaleas and Rhododendrons**,
Dr. Laura Jull, UW-Extension Woody Ornamental Specialist
- **Landscaping In and Around Ponds**
Jerry Buscher, Liquid Escapes
- **Turf Insects Identification and Control**,
Dr. Chris Williamson, UW Extension Turf and Woody Ornamentals Entomologist
- **Summer Flowering Bulbs**, Art Van Zanten,
Holland Beauty Flower and Bulb Company
- **Foundation Plantings**, Jim Walczak, Leaf Land Landscape, Inc.
- **Residential Hardscapes**, Rosheen Styczinski,
New Eden Landscape Architecture
- **Incorporating Natives in the Landscape**,
Rachel Williams, Northwind Perennial Farm
- **New and Rarely Used Perennials**, Richard Hawke, Plant Evaluation Manager, Chicago Botanic Garden
- **Insect Pests of Woody Ornamentals**, Dr. Chris Williamson
- **Varied Garden Walks**—Dahlias, Roses, Perennials, Shrubs, Trial Garden, Turf Research Plots, All-America Selections

\$50, including lunch, by July 27; \$60 at the door. For registration information, call Mary Chilson, Waukesha County UWEX, 262-548-7775.

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Plant Diagnostic Outreach Opportunities

Plant Health Advisors, both current and newly-trained are needed to advise—or shadow—at our outreach sites this summer. If you are interested and/or available for any of the following, call me at 414-290-2414 or e-mail at peg.fleury@ces.uwex.edu.

Boerner Botanical Gardens Education & Visitor Center Thursdays 3– 6 pm.

PHAs from the Quad Counties staff each week. **Milwaukee County is responsible for the 2nd & 5th Thursday.** Our schedule is:

August 10 & 31 September 14

**Havenwoods
Environmental Center
6141 N. Hopkins
2nd Saturday of the month
9 am—noon**

August 12 September 9

**Fox Point Farmers Market
Stormonth School
7301 N. Lombardy Road
Last Saturday of the month
8 am—noon**

August 28

**Milwaukee Public Market
Water & St. Paul Streets
3rd Saturday of the month**

August 19

Need Help?

Don't forget you can access four specialized clinics – The Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic, The Insect Diagnostic Lab, The Soil and Plant Analysis Lab and The Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab. **Clients may go to clinic websites but the following information is for use by Plant Health Advisors and not the general public.**

Brian Hudelson
The Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic
Department of Plant Pathology, UW-Madison
1630 Linden Drive
Madison WI 53706-1598
(608) 262-2863
bdh@plantpath.wisc.edu
plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc

Phil Pellitteri
The Insect Diagnostic Lab
Department of Entomology, UW-Madison
1630 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706
(608) 262-6510
pellitte@entomology.wisc.edu
www.entomology.wisc.edu/entodiag.html

The Soil and Plant Analysis Lab
8452 Mineral Point Road
Verona, WI 53593
(608) 262-4364
uwlab.soils.wisc.edu

Steve Abler
The Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab
O. J. Noer Turfgrass Facility
3101 Highway M
Verona, WI 53593
(608) 845-2535
swa@plantpath.wisc.edu
www.plantpath.wisc.edu/tddl/tddl/tddl.htm

Other helpful sites:

Japanese Beetle <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/gardenfacts/X1062.pdf>

Powdery Mildew <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/PM.doc>

Anthracnose <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/ANTHASHLC.DOC>

Plum Pockets <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/PlumPoxLC.pdf>

Apple Scab <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/ScabAppIBLC.DOC>

Emerald Ash Borer www.entomology.wisc.edu/emeraldashborer

Oak wilt disease <http://s142412519.onlinehome.us/uw/pdfs/G3590.pdf>

<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/factsheets/OAKWILT.DOC>