

ORNAMENTALS

• H O T L I N E •

INSECTS

May 17 2017

Brian Kunkel
Ornamental IPM Specialist

Evidence of BORERS in ASH TREES have been found recently in New Castle County this week. Luckily, these borers so far have been **LILAC/ASH BORERS**, which fly from 159 to 4642 GDD₅₀, feed on nectar, and lay eggs during their activity period. Evidence of larvae feeding is often the frass (i.e. sawdust-like) around the base of the tree or in branch crotches. Another indicator of sessid borers is their pupal skins protruding from tree trunks or branches. Host plants include most ash species, particularly green and white ash, privet and lilac. Flight of adult lilac ash borers usually begins sometime around mid-April for central Maryland or when *Chaenomeles speciosa* is in full bloom for SE PA and Delaware. Adults are wasp mimics of paper wasps, in size, flight and coloration. The adults may be reddish to yellowish or brownish-black with indistinct orange or red bands.

Eggs are laid singly or in clusters under cracks in the bark. Lower portions of the tree trunks (ground up to ~12') or larger branches are often the site of attack. The egg hatches, then the insect feeds - frequently pushing the frass out of the galleries it is making. Larvae create rough gouging wounds about 2" deep under the bark and up to 12" long. They are creamy white with dark brown heads and reduced prolegs. Repeated attacks often cause gnarled swellings, possibly sucker growth and branch dieback. Their emergence holes are often round, and about the size of a pencil's eraser or slightly smaller.

Pheromone traps should be used to monitor for adult flight activity and upon capturing the first male moth an application of a permethrin or bifenthrin bark spray is warranted. Products available include abamectin, acelepryn, bifenthrin and permethrin. Pheromone traps may also be used for monitoring other sessid borers that are active at this time of year.

(Continued)

DISEASES

Nancy Gregory
Plant Diagnostician

POWDERY MILDEW ON FLOWERING DOGWOOD is showing up in the landscape. Look for faint white powdery patches on the upper surface of leaves. Later, leaves may curl, become distorted and turn a dark reddish color as disease develops. Labeled fungicide sprays (ex. thiophanate-methyl and mycobutanil) applied now will help control powdery mildew on specimen trees. There are resistant cultivars such as Cherokee Brave, Jean's Appalachian Snow, Kay's Appalachian Mist, and Karen's Appalachian Blush. Spot anthracnose (*Elsinoe*) has also been seen on bracts, it is caused by a different fungus than *Discula* anthracnose and powdery mildew. Usually no control needed.

(Continued)

Issue 9

What's Hot!

Ash rust has been reported in several locations in New Castle County. Severity each year depends on weather and timing of fungal spore release with tree bud break. Affected leaves will curl and fall, but fungicide control is seldom needed. Trees will put out new leaves.



Ash Rust on leaves and petioles. Photo credit: N. Gregory



Lilac Ash borer adults. Photo credit: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University

For more information

on pests & practices covered in this newsletter, call your County Extension Office

Helpful numbers to know:



Garden Line (for home gardeners only)	831-8862
New Castle County Extension	831-2506
Kent County Extension	730-4000
Sussex County Extension	856-7303

View more pictures at <http://extension.udel.edu/ornamentals/archive/>

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Diseases (Continued)

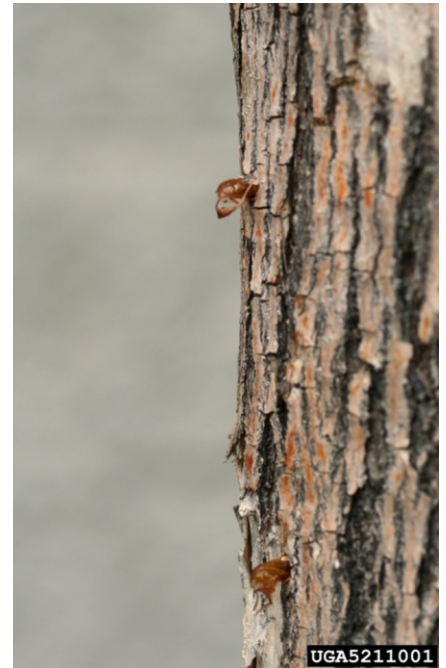
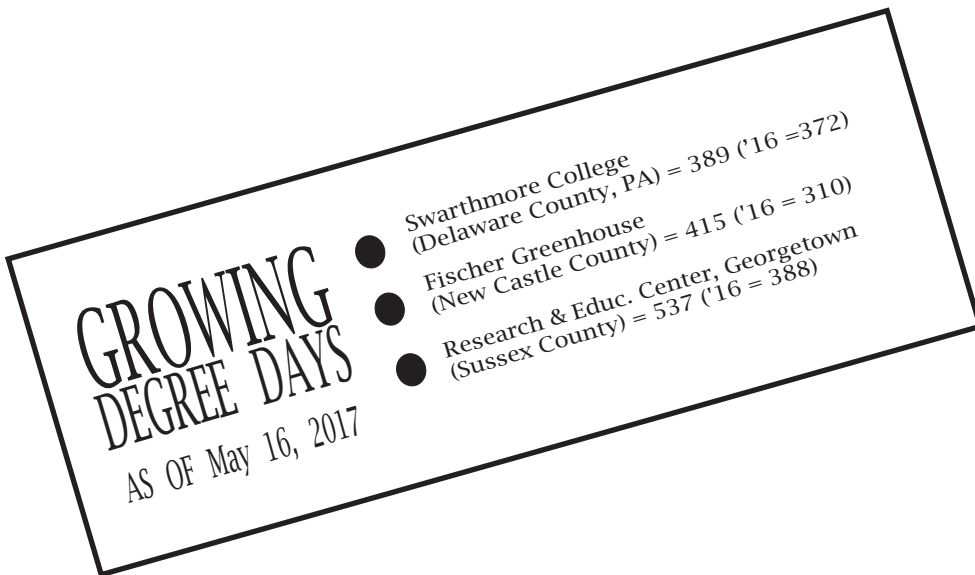
NEEDLECAST UPDATE Growers of Douglas fir should have started fungicide applications for the prevention of needlecast diseases. Recommendations suggest following up an initial chlorothalonil application made at bud break to 1/8th inch needles with a 2nd application one week later, a 3rd application 2 weeks after the 2nd and a 4th application made 3 weeks after the 3rd. Those who have consistent problems with Swiss needle cast may follow a new suggested fungicide program which shortens the intervals between the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th applications to every 10 days, depending on weather and fungicide coverage.

Editor: Susan Barton
Extension Horticulturist

Insects (Continued)

An Emerald Ash Borer was found in New Castle County last year; therefore we should be watching for ash trees with declining upper canopies or epicormic shoots. Adults emerge from mid- to late May through late June, and will start laying eggs a couple weeks later. Larvae need one to two years before they pupate. Woodpeckers or their damage may be seen on infested ash trees, or there may be split bark on infested ash trees. Emerald ash borers feed on cambium tissues and have serpentine galleries just under the bark. Their emergence holes are D-shaped.

Emerald Ash borer
adult. Photo credit:
Debbie Miller, USDA
Forest Service



Lilac Ash borer pupal skin. Photo credit: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University