



What's In Bloom

Butterfly bush: bloom
Clematis: bloom
Climbing roses: end bloom
Hypericum sp.: end bloom
Golden Raintree: begin bloom
Linden: end bloom

Oakleaf hydrangea: begin bloom
Mock orange: end bloom
Shrub roses: bloom
Smokebush: bloom
Smooth hydrangea: bloom
Trumpet Vine: bloom

Insect Activity

DECIDUOUS TREES

Two-Spotted Spider Mite

Mites may become very active this week, as they thrive in hot, dry weather. Keep an eye on your plants for this pest by shaking a branch over a white cloth or paper. Smear the small bugs for confirmation.

Treatment: acephate (Ortho Systemic Insect Killer Concentrate, Bonide Systemic Insecticide Liquid), sulfur (Bonide Sulfur Dust, Ferti-Lome Dusting Sulphur), horticultural oil (Ferti-Lome Scalecide), copper sulfate (Bonide Garden Dust, Green Light Rose and Flower Dust), malathion, or Sevin.

Lecanium Scale



Scale crawlers moving onto underside of leaf

Crawlers are at their peak activity along the Wasatch Front. The crawlers are very susceptible to treatment so now is the time to spray.

Treatment: neem oil, horticultural oil, imidacloprid (Merit), carbaryl, or malathion.

Aphids Galore:

Elm Cockscomb Aphid



Damage caused by elm cockscomb aphid

An interesting aphid was observed on an English elm in Salt Lake County. The feeding of this aphid causes the leaves to curl and form a hard, red-tinted, irregular gall. Aphids feed within the gall, and move in and out through a small opening at the base. The aphid feeds on the leaves in early summer, then leaves the trees and feeds on grass roots during the summer. They return to the tree and lay eggs between the bud scales to overwinter. Since the galls do not cause significant harm to the tree, no control is required.

Contact:

Marion Murray
435-797-0776
marionm@ext.usu.edu
www.utahpests.usu.edu/ipm

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Snowball Aphid



Damage caused by snowball aphid

The snowball aphid feeds primarily on cranberry bush viburnum, causing severe leaf distortion. The new foliage is twisted, cupped, and curled. Severe infestations can also cause twigs to curl inward.

Damage was observed in Utah County, but the aphids had already left the shrub for the summer.

These aphids overwinter as eggs on twigs and buds, and feed and reproduce intensively starting at bud break until approximately early to mid-June. They then migrate to an "alternate host" for the remainder of the summer. Adults return to the viburnum in late summer to lay eggs for the following spring feast.

Treatment: Treating this aphid species must be done with care, as the insects are protected within the curled leaves soon after leaf expansion. Apply a horticultural oil spray as soon as the leaves begin expanding in spring, and again 7-10 days later.

Honeysuckle Aphid



Witches' brooms and live aphids were observed in Salt Lake and Utah Counties.

As the honeysuckle aphid feeds, it causes a proliferation of stunted terminal growth, appearing as a witches' broom. This species of aphid is fairly new, as it was first seen in the midwest in the early 1980s. It feeds on tatarian and climbing honeysuckles.

The honeysuckle aphid overwinters as eggs on the dead foliage within the witches' brooms. In spring, they hatch and aphids begin feeding on the new growth immediately. They stay on the plant all summer, and the population spikes in June and September.

Treatment: The aphid population may be controlled by natural enemies, or you can prune off all the terminal witches' brooms to reduce the colony size. You can also apply a dormant oil spray before bud break to smother the eggs, and/or insecticidal soap during the growing season.

Giant Willow Aphid



These aphids are among the largest in the aphid family. They were observed on a weeping willow in Cache County.

They overwinter on willow bark and twig crevices and begin feeding on the stems in early spring. They are most often seen lower in the tree canopy. In mid-summer, they migrate to an alternate host until late summer, when they return to the willow to lay overwintering eggs.

Their feeding does not cause noticeable damage, but a large colony over several years can cause reduced tree vigor. These aphids can be controlled with a dormant oil spray before bud break or with insecticidal soap during the season.

Mossy Rose Gall

Both old and new mossy rose galls were seen in Utah County.

Mossy rose gall is caused by a cynipid wasp. It is common on rugosa and wild rose species. Feeding of newly hatched larvae in spring causes the plant to form a gall, protecting the wasp and providing plenty of food. One gall can house 20-40 wasp larvae. They feed within the gall all summer and emerge as



Mossy rose gall and the insect that causes it

adults the following spring.

These galls will not kill the host plant, but can disfigure and weaken it. Prune out and destroy all the galls in the fall after leaf drop.

Precautionary Statement: All pesticides have benefits and risks, however following the label will maximize the benefits and reduce risks. Pay attention to the directions for use and follow precautionary statements. Pesticide labels are considered legal documents containing instructions and limitations. Inconsistent use of the product or disregarding the label is a violation of both federal and state laws. The pesticide applicator is legally responsible for proper use.

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