



What's In Bloom

Butterfly bush: bloom
Clematis: end bloom
Elderberry: bloom
Golden Raintree: bloom
Littleleaf Linden: bloom

Oakleaf hydrangea: bloom
PG hydrangea: bloom
Shrub roses: bloom
Smokebush: bloom
Smooth hydrangea: bloom
Staghorn sumac: begin bloom
Trumpet vine: bloom

Insect Activity

DECIDUOUS TREES

Cottony Maple Scale



Cottony maple scale is so named because of the large cottony egg sac that forms in mid-June. This scale occurs on maples, elm, boxelder, linden, and several other species. It is not damaging in low numbers, but if the population gets high, can cause twig dieback and reduced plant vigor. Honeydew can also be a nuisance.

If necessary, treatment should occur now as crawlers are emerging now through mid-July.

Treatment: insecticidal soap, summer oil, Sevin, Malathion.

European Pine Shoot Moth

Adults have emerged from their pupae and are laying eggs now. The moths can fly great distances to lay eggs on needles of all species of pines, but primarily on 2-needled pines. Eggs hatch within 2 weeks and the larvae mine into the needles



and then into the terminal buds where they spend the winter.

One treatment timing is to protect the foliage from the hatching larvae from mid-June to mid-July. (Another time is in early spring, when the larvae are migrating to new buds.) Homeowner products for this pest can be toxic, so also consider using integrated pest management practices such as pruning out infested buds in late winter, or relying on natural predators.

Treatment: Sevin, Malathion, Dimethoate (Ferti-Lome Ornamental and Evergreen Spray)

Euonymus Scale

Crawlers of the second generation are beginning to emerge, and will continue through late July. Use the same treatments as for cottony maple scale.

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Lilac Root Weevil



The diagnostic semi-circular, notched feeding of lilac root weevil is coming to an end.

Leafcutter bees



You may have noticed a similar type of notched feeding as the root weevil, however the foliage cut out is larger, and more circular-shaped. The insect that causes this is not a pest. It is a native, pollinating bee called the leafcutter bee, and it cuts pieces of leaves to use for rearing its young. They prefer rose, ash, and lilac. The cut shown in the picture above was on a holly.

We do not recommend any control practices because pollinating insects are very important. If necessary, you could try to reduce the number of likely nesting sites on your property (any soft or rotting wood or thick-stemmed plants with soft piths). You could also cover your most cherished plants with cheesecloth from mid-May to approximately mid-July (two months' time). Or, you could just enjoy the handiwork of these hard-working, solitary bees.

Honeylocust Spider Mite

Honeylocust spider mite eggs hatched in early June, and with this hot weather, their populations are building. This spider

mite overwinters as adults in bark cracks or bud scales, and eggs are laid in spring. Mites feed on the underside of the leaves, sucking the plant's nutrients. Damage can range from a light silvery stippling to brown, dead foliage.

Treatment: Wait for late winter and apply dormant oil, or treat now with summer oil or insecticidal soap.

Honeysuckle Aphid



Another word on this "new" aphid pest: As mentioned earlier, it was introduced in the 1970s to eastern US, where, within 10 years, it spread north to southeastern Canada and west to Colorado. Its rapid movement is probably due to the overabundance of non-native bush honeysuckles, which are considered invasive plants in many of these areas.

Its first appearance in Utah is unknown, but in other states where it has fully established, some people have all but given up growing ornamental shrub honeysuckles. If you see this pest, take active measures to control it.

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.

Disease Activity

Aspen leaf spot



The leaf spot caused by the fungus *Marssonia* is fairly common on aspen. They show up as dark brown spots with yellow halos. The problem can be worse in wet weather or with overhead irrigation, where the spots enlarge, turn brown, and cause premature leaf drop. This pathogen overwinters on the fallen leaves, so it is important to clean up the leaf litter in the urban areas where this disease is prevalent. Also, prevent irrigation water from landing on the leaves, and improve air circulation around the trees with ample spacing.

Fungicides can prevent infections, but will not “cure” existing spots. Chlorothalonil or neem oil can be used as a preventative, or copper in early spring.

NOTE: All pictures with a number on the lower right are courtesy of ipmimages.org.

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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