

Insect Activity

DECIDUOUS TREES

Leafhoppers



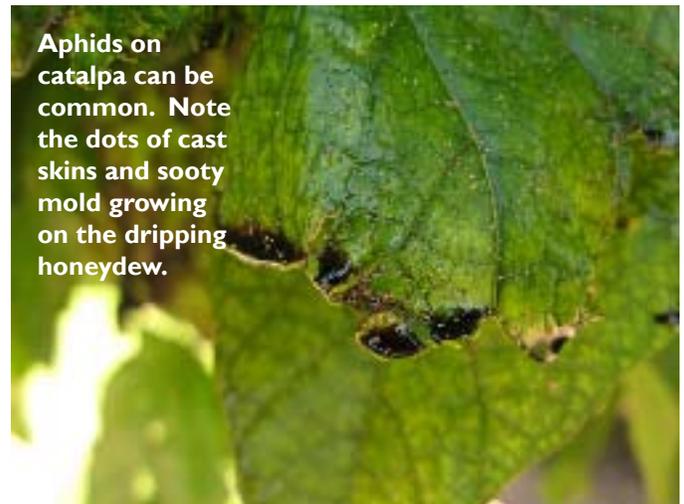
Leafhoppers were first active in the spring, and the second generation is active now. Leafhoppers are sap-feeding insects, leaving behind stippled leaves. Damage only becomes apparent when the population is high.

Treatment: Control is most effective when nymph stages are targeted. Adults are more difficult to treat. Use products containing permethrin, carbaryl, neem oil, and insecticidal soap.

Aphids

Aphid colonies continue to grow where they have not been controlled or have not migrated to alternate hosts. The warm weather allows aphids to develop from newborn nymph to reproducing adult in 7 to 8 days. Each adult aphid can then produce up to 80 offspring within a week.

Treatment: Prune out infested plant parts; preserve natural enemies such as lacewings and lady beetles; spray with horticultural oil or insecticidal soap.



Aphids on catalpa can be common. Note the dots of cast skins and sooty mold growing on the dripping honeydew.



Preserve natural enemies such as lacewings and their eggs.

Poplar Borer

The poplar borer is a serious pest of aspen and some poplars. It is the larvae of a long-horned beetle that causes the damage by boring into the sapwood horizontally and vertically.

The time to treat this pest is from June-August, when the adults are emerging from pupation. At this time of year, however, the boring activity is quite evident. Dark sap oozes from the

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**Poplar
borer
damage
on aspen**

entry holes, often mixed with sawdust-like frass. The stems swell, and woodpeckers may enlarge the holes looking for the larvae. As the adults emerge from pupating within the tree, their molted skins are left behind at the exit holes.

Trees are usually not killed unless the infestation is severe. Branches and stems are more prone to breakage.

Treatment: Keep trees healthy with optimal watering, and plant aspen in appropriate sites. Treat stems with carbaryl or permethrin from late June through mid-August.

Prionus Root Borers



The prionus root borer is a very large beetle. The larva is the damaging stage, living in and boring into roots of a variety of coniferous and deciduous trees including stone fruit trees, for their 3-4 year developmental period. Adults emerge from their pupae in July-August, so you may have noticed these large insects flying at night.

They lay eggs at the base of host trees and the hatched larvae seek out tree roots. They feed in large, spiraling furrows, causing severe damage and eventual tree death.

Treatment: There are no registered insecticides for control of larvae inside the tree. Prevention is the best option, by keeping trees healthy. Insecticides such as permethrin or carbaryl will kill adults and may suppress egg laying. Areas of previous infestation should not be replanted for several years.

Disease Activity

DECIDUOUS TREES

Powdery Mildew

Powdery mildew is another “pest” that has been present and building all summer, but is most noticeable later in the season. Youngest shoots are most susceptible, but in damp conditions, all leaves are fair game. Severe infections result in yellowed or brown leaves, prevention of flowering, disfigured stems, and loss of plant vigor. In some cases, however, plants show no adverse effects to yearly infections.

Treatment: Prune out localized infections; allow air circulation between and within plants; treat foliage with a preventive in spring such as baking soda or dried milk mixed with oil; apply fungicide sprays at first sign of infection.

