

May 2023

Eastern NC Nursery News

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Cercospora Leaf Spot on Hydrangea Macrophylla

Earlier this year I wrote about this leaf spot and since May is the month that infection usually occurs although leaf spot symptoms do not show up until July or after, it is time to review it again. Full information can be found in the article I wrote entitled [Cercospora Leaf Spot on Hydrangea Macrophylla](#).

Sign Up to Receive News and Information from the Eastern NC Nursery & Greenhouse Program via Text

NC State Extension has begun using Slick Text to send out timely messages to your mobile phone via text and I am working to add those interested to my list. You will only receive nursery & greenhouse program related information. It will mainly send texts related to insect, disease, and weather related production challenges. I will begin sending texts when I get 50 people signed up. Currently there are 47 on the list so sign up now if you have not and pass this on to others that might be interested.

If you would like to receive information via short texts then [click this link to sign up](#).

May and June Nursery Insect and Mite Pest Scouting

Here is a review of pests to scout for in April and May based on Growing Degree Days with base 50 degrees (GDD):

Current GDD (May 16, 2023):

Wilmington - 1360
Jacksonville - 1309
New Bern - 1215
Lumberton - 1082

Fayetteville - 1030.5
Goldsboro - 1022
Kinston - 1016
Wilson - 962.5
Greenville - 945.5
Raleigh - 896
Rocky Mount - 890
Roanoke Rapids - 884
Elizabeth City - 824

Pests to scout for:

Links for fact sheets are highlighted in blue lettering below.

[Azalea lace bug](#) (scout continually)

[Tea scale](#) (scout continually)

[Crapemyrtle bark scale](#) (scout continually, more info in next article)

[Red-headed flea beetle adults](#) Scout for adults in plants overwintered in structures starting at 500 GDD or as late as around 1000 GDD for plants overwintered outdoors)

[Two-spotted spider mite](#) (adults beginning at 437-997 GDD)

[Potato leaf hopper](#) (600 + GDD) Usually arrive from the south in damaging numbers by early to mid-May but arrived early this year.

[Bagworm](#) (early larvae 600-900 GDD)

[Oak lecanium scale](#) (789+ GDD)

[Japanese maple scale](#) (crawlers 829+ GDD)

[Dogwood borer](#) (adult emergence 830 GDD)

[Oak spider mites](#) (all stages 802-1265 GDD)

[Cottony maple scale](#) (crawlers 802-1265 GDD)

[Japanese beetle](#) (adult emergence 950-1056 GDD)

[Fall webworm](#) (1st generation egg hatch 1142 GDD)

[Indian wax scale](#) (crawlers 1145 GDD)

[Boxwood leaf miner](#) (larvae treatment 1200-1400 GDD)

[Azalea whitefly](#) (2nd generation nymphs and adults 1250-1500 GDD)

[Two spotted spider mite](#) (nymphs and adults 1300-2000 GDD)

If you have questions about management of any of these pests or others let me know.

GDD referenced from the [University of Maryland Pest Predictive Calendar](#) and the draft version of the Rutgers University Nursery & Landscape Pest Scouting guide (not available online currently).



Red-Headed Flea Beetle Update and Fact Sheet

With all areas of eastern NC above 800 GDD, first generation adults are close to or out in most places. Growers should begin scouting for adults if you have not already seen them and begin rotations of foliar applied insecticides if larvae were not treated.

Review my recommendations for [Red-Headed Flea Beetle Management in Container Nurseries](#).

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