Sycamore Blight Infection Triggered By Wet Weather

Last spring’s excess of cool wet weather accelerated the spread of a number of fungus diseases which attack ornamental trees and shrubs.

One of these diseases that made a sweep through the mid-western states last year was sycamore blight or anthracnose (Gnomonia plantii). Most tree care specialists say this disease does more damage to sycamore trees than any other disease in the mid-continent.

Sycamore anthracnose has no known cure, but can be prevented by spraying protective fungicides such as maneb compounds (M-45, Manzate 200) and some of the new systemic fungicides about the time the leaf buds begin to swell.

Once the disease has infected the tree, good sanitation practices can prevent it from spreading.

Signs of blight may appear on the twigs, buds, shoots or leaves of the tree. Shoot blight, the sudden dying of expanding shoots and young leaves, is the most noticeable symptom. Leaf blight is also apparent, appearing as irregular brown areas adjacent to the midrib and veins of sycamore leaves. Partial or even complete defoliation of an infected tree may occur, but a new crop of leaves is usually put out by late spring or early summer.

Although anthracnose does not usually cause the death of the tree, it can reduce the tree’s resistance to attacks by other insects and diseases.

Pest Management Director Gives Nod To Integration

The major objective of the USDA pest management pilot projects, is to develop multiple and alternate choice systems for controlling insects, weeds, diseases and nematodes, and systems which are effective, economical and environmentally sound, noted J. M. Good, director of pest management programs for the USDA Extension Service.

The ultimate goal, Good said, is to promote effective use of combinations of cultural, biological and chemical methods for integrated pest management.

The first pilot programs were established in 1971 to provide more effective use of pesticides on cotton. Subsequently, the program has been expanded to include 39 current projects in 29 states on 19 major crops.

The development of integrated pest management projects, Good said, is progressing from simple to complex systems, depending on environmental factors, crops involved and nature of pest complexes. As technology and experiences permit, integrated pest management — or crop protection — will be accomplished by systems analysis, and management of weeds should become an integral part of pest management schemes.

Golf Course Architect
William F. Gordon Dies

William F. Gordon, one of the founding members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, died Nov. 30 at Abington, Pa. He was 80.

Gordon, who had been active in the field of golf course architecture for more than 53 years, was buried in his home town of Doylestown, Pa., Dec. 3. He is survived by his widow, Ernestine, and son, David, also a golf course architect.

Greenfield Brand Trademarks Sold To Lebanon Chemical

Elanco Products Company has announced that it recently completed arrangements for Lebanon Chemical Corporation, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, to purchase trademarks of former Elanco Greenfield® lawn and garden products, effective July 1, 1974. Elanco will discontinue marketing of these products on that date.

Individual names of major products will remain unchanged, as will product quality, according to Lebanon officials. “We will continue the supporting programs with dealers that have helped make these products what they are,” said Vernon Bishop, president of the Lebanon, Pa. firm. “Lebanon is 100 percent committed to continued sales growth for these lawn and garden products. We look forward to working with each dealer.” He added that the overall appearance of the familiar packaging will be the same.

A. M. McVie, Elanco president, said, “This change is being made to maximize the resources of both organizations. Elanco will continue to supply those active ingredients that it manufactures and devote considerable effort to the development and testing of new products. Our long association with Lebanon convinces us they will put vigorous effort behind these products and give effective merchandising support to all dealers.”

Outstanding Dealer Award Presented To Watson Dist.

Watson Distributing Company, Inc., of Houston, has been named the 1973 Outstanding Dealer for Ryan turf care equipment.

John T. Watson, president of the firm, accepted the award from Vern Worrel, Ryan general manager, at Busch Gardens in Los Angeles during the 45th annual GCSSA Turf-Grass Conference. Ryan hosted more than 50 dealers throughout the nation at the Busch Gardens.

Watson Distributing was founded in 1958 and has branch offices in Dallas and San Antonio, Tex. Other principals include H. Craig Watson, executive vice president; Gene Bockholt, sales manager; and John Pytel, operations manager.

California Distributorship Established By Vermeer

Vermeer Manufacturing Co., Pella, Iowa has established its first, exclusive Vermeer distributorship in Southern California, effective January 1, 1974.

Bob Qualls, a Vermeer factory representative for the past two years, will manage the new outlet located at 1401 E. Pomona Street in Santa Ana.

Distinguished Faculty Award Given To Forest Geneticist

Dr. Jonathan W. Wright, forest geneticist at Michigan State University, recently received that institution’s Distinguished Faculty Award.

An internationally known researcher and teacher, Wright conducts the largest and most varied genetics program in the U.S. He has contributed to the black walnut planting program in Michigan and is now testing elms to find resistance to the Dutch elm disease.