

## Monthly Insect Report

WTT's compilation of insect problems occurring in turfgrasses, trees, and ornamentals throughout the country.

### Turf Insects

#### FALL ARMYWORM

(*Spodoptera frugiperda*)

**Texas:** Buildup continues in eastern portion of state; moderate to heavy in Kaufman, Henderson, and Gillespie Counties on lawns. Buildup expected to continue until frost.

#### GREEN JUNE BEETLE

(*Cotinis nitida*)

**Oklahoma:** Larvae heavy and damaging turf in small areas in Tulsa County.

#### BILLBUGS

**Kansas:** (*Sphenophorus venatus vestitus*) Larvae and adults noted in old Zoysia lawns in Johnson and Sedgwick Counties. **Utah:** (*Sphenophorus parvulus*) Spreading and damaging lawns in Salt Lake County.

#### FALSE CHINCH BUG

(*Nysius ericae*)

**Idaho:** Nymphs nuisance on lawns at Lewiston, Nez Perce County.

#### STRATIOMYID FLY

(*Altermetoponia rubriceps*)

**California:** Heavy in Westwood Terrace district of San Francisco County; lawns showing damage, large swarms of adults occurring.

#### WHITE GRUBS

(*Phyllophaga* spp.)

**Alabama:** Larvae damaged root systems of grass sod at Madison County Golf Course; controls necessary.

#### SNAIL

(*Vallonia pulchella*)

**California:** Heavy in lawn and turf at Carmel, Monterey County.

### Insects of Ornamentals

#### BAGWORM

(*Thyridopteryx ephemeraefornis*)

**Alabama:** Pupating in central section on cedar, willow, hackberry, and other trees. **Virginia:** Infesting shrubs in Vinton, Roanoke County.

#### FALSE POWDER-POST BEETLE

(*Melalgus confertus*)

**California:** Larvae occurring in Conadria fig nursery stock in Grass Valley, Nevada County.

#### ROUNDHEADED WOOD BORERS

(*Obera tripunctata*)

**Alabama:** Larvae injuring twigs and smaller limbs of isolated dogwoods on lawns in Lee County. **Virginia:** Larvae infesting twigs of dogwoods and lilacs in Chesapeake.

#### BOXELDER BUG

(*Leptocoris trivittatus*)

**Texas:** Moderate to heavy on many shade trees and ornamental plants in southern portion of Hood County.

#### SALT-MARSH CATERPILLAR

(*Estigmene acrea*)

**Florida:** Moderate on 150 palms (*Phoenix roebelenii*) inspected in nursery in Davie, Broward County. Larvae cutting new growth out at tops of palms.

#### VARIABLE OAK LEAF CATERPILLAR

(*Heterocampa manteo*)

**Oklahoma:** Heavy on many ornamental oaks in Payne County.

#### SPIDER MITES

(*Tetranychus* sp.)

**Wyoming:** Large numbers present on ornamental junipers at Torrington, Goshen County.

#### IO MOTH

(*Automeris io*)

**Florida:** Infesting 50% of *Ixora coccinea* and completely defoliating some at nursery in Davie, Broward County.

#### LEAF ROLLER MOTH

(*Platynota stultana*)

**California:** Damaging holly nursery stock at Perkins, Sacramento County. Larvae and pupae populations high.

#### ARMORED SCALES

(*Unaspis euonymi*)

**Alabama:** Heavy on old euonymus plantings in Lee County. **Virginia:** Heavy on euonymus at home in Haynesville, Richmond County.

#### WHITE PEACH SCALE

(*Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*)

**Alabama:** Heavy on ornamental mulberry and cottonwood trees in Clay County.

### Tree Insects

#### APHID

(*Myzocallis walshii*)

**Virginia:** Heavy on red oaks at Big Meadows Lodge on Skyline Drive, Shenandoah National Park. Leaves heavy with honeydew.

#### ELM LEAF BEETLE

(*Pyrrhalta luteola*)

**Nevada:** Light on elm in Eureka, Eureka County for second known infested area in county. Infestation and damage in Tonopah, Nye County, and Panaca, Lincoln County, heavier than in 1965. **New Mexico:** Serious on elm trees in Albuquerque area, Bernalillo County. Damage more common on Chinese Elm Trees than other elms. Some homeowners removing this species because of the

Compiled from information furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, university staffs, and WTT readers. Turf and tree specialists are urged to send reports of insect problems noted in their areas to: Insect Reports, WEEDS TREES AND TURF, 1900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

pest. **Texas:** Light on most Chinese Elms in Upton County. **Utah:** Defoliated about 25% elm trees at Kanab, Kane County.

#### LEAFHOPPER

(*Opsiurus stactogalus*)

**California:** Adults heavy on tamarisk trees in Dos Palos, Merced County.

#### SAWFLY

(*Caliroa lineata*)

**Texas:** Larvae heavy on oak trees near Houston, Harris County.

#### FALL WEBWORM

(*Hyphantria cunea*)

**New Mexico:** Moderate to heavy, causing partial to complete defoliation of poplar, pecan, and elm trees throughout Dona Ana County. **Virginia:** Medium on sweetgum in Churchland area, Chesapeake. Larvae infesting sycamore trees and seeking overwintering sites around trees and buildings.

## Ind. Treemen, Nurserymen Plan Jan. Joint Meeting

From 350 to 400 arborists and nurserymen are expected to attend the midwinter meetings of the Indiana Arborist Assn. and the Indiana Assn. of Nurserymen, being held concurrently at the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Jan. 4-6.

Don Surber, National Cash Register Co., Toledo, Ohio, is scheduled to talk to both groups on "Profit Planning." Other speakers are Professor Glen Lehker, Purdue University, Lafayette, who will discuss "Pesticide Safety"; Dr. C. J. Carter, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Ill., slated to delineate some "Uncommon or Unusual Tree Diseases"; and Professor H. W. Gilbert, Purdue, who will consider "Trees for Streets."

Speakers and their topics set for arborist sessions include Paul Ramsey, N. G. Gilbert Corp., Muncie, Ind., "How Do We Measure Up As Managers"; Noel Wysong, Golconda, Ill., "Your Public Relations"; Gerald J. Mitchell, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Wage-Hour and Public Contract Div., Chicago, "The Wage-Hour Law and Its Application To The Tree Care Industry"; and Dr. Paul E. Tilford, Wooster, Ohio, "A Street Tree Program for Smaller Communities." Other topics are "Some New Ideas on Chemical Brush Control," by Richard E. Abbott, Ohio Power Co., Canton, and "Pest Problems

and Bug Blasters," by Dr. Donald L. Schuder, of Purdue.

Panel discussions on "Safe Operations of Aerial Lifts" and "Growth Retardants" are also among arborist activities at the upcoming meet.

Ralph Carmichael, president, Midwest Chapter, International Shade Tree Conference, is a featured speaker on the program for nursery interests. He'll discuss "Landscape Design and Application." Nurserymen will also hear talks on "Selling Up in Landscaping"; "Labor—Its Price, Availability, and Relation to Profit"; and "Keeping Old and New Customers Sold on Plant Material."

For further information, write Dr. Donald L. Schuder, Secretary, Indiana Assn. of Nurserymen, Agriculture Hall, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.; or Kenneth B. Flaig, Executive Secretary, Indiana Arborist Assn., 6509 Birchdale Drive, Fort Wayne, Ind.

### January Tree Planting to Mark N.Y. Arborists' Meet

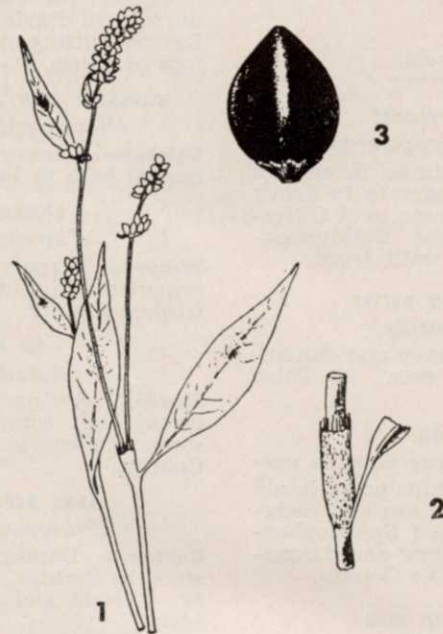
A tree planting ceremony, unusual for January, will take place when the New York State Arborists Assn. meets at the Concord Hotel, Kiamesha Lake, N.Y., Jan. 15-17. Not just a ceremony, it will show participants the proper techniques for winter plantings.

Moderated panel discussions on "Community Appreciation of Shade Trees" and "Legislation Affecting Arborists" will lead off on Sunday, Jan. 15, educational program. Monday will feature a look at "The Arborist Through Consumer Eyes," and a roundtable discussion, to be chaired by Professor Carl F. Gortzig, of Cornell University, Ithaca, on "Trees and Their Care in 1967." Also planned are sessions on work procedures and safety, which are to be developed both by commentary and audience participation.

For more information, contact William H. Schwab, Secretary, Hudson Valley Chapter, New York State Arborist Association, P.O. Box 321, Millbrook, N.Y.

## Know Your Species

### LADYSTHUMB (*Polygonum persicaria*)



Ladysthumb smartweed is also known as persicary, heartweed, and spotted knotweed. A seed-producing annual, ladysthumb is a common weed in the northern United States and southern Canada.

The plant is most frequently found in waste places, along roadsides and ditches, and in cultivated ground, particularly in low, wet areas.

Stems of ladysthumb are smooth and fleshy and are sometimes slightly hairy. Widely branched stems grow 6 inches to 3 feet tall.

Leaves, shown in (1), are alternate and pointed at both ends. A triangular dark spot is usually found in the middle of the leaves. Smooth-edged and 1 to 6 inches long, leaves are attached at the base to a sheath that extends around the stem (2). Sheaths are smooth and fringed with short bristles.

Flowers are pink to purple and are borne on dense, round spikes,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches long, at the ends of the stems. The plant flowers in the period, June to October.

Seeds (3) are heart shaped and may be flattened or 3-sided. Shiny, black seeds are about  $\frac{3}{32}$  inch long and are produced from July to November. Seeds are frequently found in clover and small grain seeds.

Ladysthumb can usually be partially controlled by mowing when the flowers first appear. Good control may be obtained by using low-volatile esters of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T at the rate of 1 pound per acre. For maximum results, chemicals should be applied when plants are small. Under favorable conditions, first application will kill young weeds. Otherwise, further application is necessary for control.

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