

GET TOUGH

on
Dollar Spot
Fusarium Patch
Leaf Spot*
Brown Patch*
Red Thread*

*Approval Pending

NY Botanical Encyclopedia Falls Short on Care

The ten volumes of The New York Botanical Garden Illustrated Encyclopedia of Horticulture are as complete as NYBG's world famous plant collection. Senior Horticultural Specialist Thomas Everett has devoted 12 years to the project published by Garland Publishing Inc.

The \$525 price tag for the series puts this reference into a "Franklin Mint" category. No doubt the appearance alone of the ten green volumes side by side on a library shelf make this attractive to many horticultural professionals and libraries.

The content is well-illustrated with drawings and both color and black and white photography. This work goes beyond the term comprehensive in the variety of plant material included, but it falls short on practical maintenance suggestions. Everett appears to have written the book more for the sophisticated hobbyist rather than the professional. Considering the experience of Everett, much more could have been added for the professional.

No doubt this publication will be compared by many professionals with Wyman's Gardening Encyclopedia which sells for \$29.95. Parts of Wyman are noticeably out of date, but overall its value to the professional is not significantly less than Everett's Encyclopedia. If money is a consideration, Wyman's is still

excellent. If you want a Cadillac, Everett's book may be your favorite.

When a scientist devotes as much of his energy and life to a publication as Everett has, it is very difficult to criticize. But \$500 is a considerable amount of money and practical decisions have to be made. **WTT**

VEGETATION MGMT. from page 88

from the top downward. What causes this, and can you please suggest some control methods for this problem? (New York)

A: From the symptoms you describe, the birch has been attacked by the bronze birch borer. This is a very serious problem and occurs wherever birches are grown. Borer control is difficult because they are normally below the bark and in a protected site in the tree.

There are no reports indicating any association between the water blisters (bumps you mentioned) and bronze birch borer infestation. If you have seen any lumpy bark on the trunk, it would be an external indication of bronze birch borer activity. Generally, the birch trees which have survived borer attack develop these conspicuous swollen areas as a result of their healing process. The holes and tip dieback symptoms also suggest bronze birch borer injury. The exit holes made by the adult beetle are typically "D" shaped.

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