



THE STUMP

INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

JUNE 2015

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS

Great Spring ... For Insects and Diseases

If your planting new trees or other plants this has been a great spring. We've had good moisture in May and it has been cooler than most recent springs. It has also been great for insects and diseases. I'm getting a wider than normal list of pests from reports, items brought in, and some I've visited.



There have been reports of sawflies on pine, and river birch (this one was new to me and MDC's entomologist). These pests eat foliage and can defoliate some trees. Treatment will depend on tree owner tolerance and specie of tree. An unknown larva feeding on white fringe tree was eating leaves on my trees. Vein pocket gall on pin oak is becoming noticeable with curling deformed leaves. This is not a big deal to most plants but is visually displeasing to tree owners. Jumping oak gall on bur oak was seen. The leaves can become deformed, but not a serious issue for the tree. The gall with the larva in it drop from the tree and "jump" to get buried in the leaf litter. Oak-apple gall on black oak is fairly common. These 3 inch or larger "balls" are dramatic on the leaves, but not a big deal to the plant. Fireblight, the perennial favorite of ornamental pear owners, is out in full force. Replace these with a native tree. Gouty oak gall on pin oak. A common gall on the branches. There is not a lot we can do for this. Hickory petiole gall, a phylloxera, has been reported. Pruning out infected branches is the recommended control. Apple-Cedar rust has been dramatic on some eastern red cedar. You should be spraying protective fungicides on susceptible apple and crabapple trees. Marginal leaf gall on some shumard oaks has been noticed. Not a issue for the tree. Unknown leaf eaters have partially defoliated several shumard oak saplings. Dothistroma symptoms of browning needles on pine is occurring, the time to spray protective fungicides is now. Dutch elm disease is hitting native American elms. Uninfected trees can be protected with a fungicide injection. Better yet, plant one of the resistant cultivars. Eriophyid mites have been seen on various woody plants. Anthracnose has been observed on ash and sycamore so far. All we can do now is let the trees regrow leaves. Peach leaf curl was reported. Preventative spray was needed much earlier. I also had calls of people unintentionally hurting their trees with improper use of 2,4-D. While a good chemical to control broadleaf weeds in a lawn, improper use can damage a desired tree.

It is a diverse and long list for just May. Hopefully, June will be less. Keep an eye out for pests and let me know what you see.

National Envirothon

The National Envirothon is an education program / competition for high school students. The students learn and compete based on their knowledge of natural resources and a current year topic. The 2015 current topic is Urban Forestry! The National Competition will be held in Springfield, MO on July 27 - August 1. Several hundred teens from around the country will attend, the highlight of the competition is the oral presentation about the current topic. The students will be given a specific question with background resources and will develop their presentation in one day to be judged. The top four groups will then present to all attendees and anyone else interested. You can see these impressive young people from 2:20 - 4:50 PM, August 1 in the Plaster Student Union Theater (Room 200), MSU. All are welcome.

Improve Moral: Make Fun of Yourself

Often, any job can become tedious with time. Our ability to complete our job well depends on a good attitude, and often an awareness to detail. Your life may depend on it! We can get bored, or overwhelmed, or just aren't having a good day. These distractions prevent us from being at our best.

A little humor can go a long way to improving moral. Take time to be aware of fellow staff feelings and performance. A quick, clean joke can refresh everyone's mind and allow them to relax and focus on their job again with more clarity.

I'm often the target of these, like me and Rescue Randy here. I earn many of these with odd behavior or clumsiness. That is fine with me. It lightens the mood and allows us to get the job done.

Our jobs can enrich our lives so much if we give ourselves the opportunity to enjoy our work with trees. Don't let a bad day stop you from doing that.



saucer magnolia

Magnolia x soulangiana

Saucer magnolia is small tree / large shrub. It is the product of seed borne by *M. denudate* fertilized by pollen of *M. liliifora* in the garden of Soulange-Bodin in France. The resulting plant first flowered in 1826. Commonly used and often over used. The 2 to 4 inch flowers make this a dramatic tree. Flowers are white to pink to purple and variable when grown from seed. Purchase a cultivar with known flower color if a specific one is desired. Tree is susceptible to late freeze and frosts. Severe damage can occur. Tree requires low pH (5.0 to 6.5) to do best, plant in full sun with plenty of air movement around it. Develops wide low crown in either shrub or single stem tree form at maturity. Useful as a park or yard tree whee a dramatic spring appearance is desired. It ranges from 20 to 30 feet tall and variable width. Several pest can affect this tree, but leaf fungus appears to be the most common here. Dozens of cultivars exist to highlight various colors and forms.

Plant illustration by Jenny M. Lyverse, from *Landscape Plants for Eastern North America, 2nd Edition, Harrison L. Flint Author*

Book Review - How To Recognize Common Diseases of Oaks in the Midwest: A Quick Guide

This diagnostic guide was developed to help people identify and manage the most common diseases of oak trees in Midwestern States. It compares and contrasts key features of each disease to help you distinguish one disease from another.

Descriptions and images of the diseases and the damage they cause is provided including diagnostic features for each disease. Download this free guide at: www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/howtos/HowToRecognizeCommonDiseasesOaks.pdf.

Pest Highlight - dusky birch sawfly

Dusky birch sawfly larvae feed in groups, or "colonies," that may number 10 - 20 individuals. All instars have shiny black head capsules and distinct black spots on their bodies. When disturbed, the larvae form their bodies into an "S" shape (S for sawfly?). Early instar larvae are dark gray, middle-instars are greenish-gray, and late instars are yellowish-green in color. Early instars consume all of the leaf except for the mid-vein and main lateral veins; late instars consume entire leaves. This sawfly only has two generations per season. The adult is small wasp-like insect. Control can be done by knocking larva into soapy water or ground and stepping on them. Harsher chemicals can be used. I encourage patience and let birds and predator insects have them.



June 9

ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, Springfield, MO, Registration deadline May 21, 2015, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/

June 11

State MCFC meeting, 10 AM - 3 PM, Jefferson City, MO

June 11 - 12

KAA & KNLA Summer Field Day, Haysville/Belle Plain, KS, Information at www.hfrr.ksu.edu/doc4298.ashx

June 12 - 13

SRT Climber 2-Day Workshop, Kansas City, MO, Information and registration at <http://tcia.org/training/srt-climber-specialist/20150612-srt-climber-2-day-workshop>

June 25

Joplin MCFC meeting, 7 AM - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO

July 11 - 14

Cultivate'15 by AmericanHort, Columbus, OH, Information at <http://cultivate15.org/>

July 15

Greener Solutions to Municipal Landscape Design, St. Louis, MO, Information at <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/visit/family-of-attractions/shaw-nature-reserve/gardens-gardening-at-shaw-nature-reserve/native-landscaping-for-professionals/the-shaw-professional-landscaping-series-at-alberi.aspx>

July 21

SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, "How to Measure a Champion Tree", MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO

July 23

Joplin MCFC meeting, 7 AM - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO

August 8 - 12

2015 International Society of Arboriculture Conference, Orlando, FL, Information at <http://www.isa-arbor.com/events/reg/event.aspx?EventID=167>

August 27

Joplin MCFC meeting, 7 AM - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

How To

Recognize Common Diseases of Oaks in the Midwest: A Quick Guide



Forest Service Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry

NA-FR-01-15
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No town can fail of beauty, though its walks were gutters and its houses hovels, if venerable trees make magnificent colonnades along its streets.

~Henry Ward Beecher, Proverbs, 1887

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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