

## TSU NURSERY NEWS TO USE

ISSUE 6 SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

HOPPERBURN CONTINUES. Several local nursery growers are reporting potato leafhopper damage again in blocks of maple. Leafhoppers use their piercing-sucking mouthparts to feed on vascular tissues, removing chlorophyll and reating angular stippled spots on foliage. While feeding, the insect injects a salivary toxin that disrupts sap flow and causes decreased internode length, resulting in stacked leaf sets. The salivary toxin also causes leaf cupping and burnt, curling leaf edges, known as "hopperburn." If buds are also damaged, they produce multiple leaders, a symptom called 'witches broom'. Should a witches broom occur, the central leader must be retrained via careful pruning. Host plant resistance can play an important role in reducing leafhopper feeding damage. Cultivars 'Brandywine', 'Somerset', and 'Sun Valley' exhibit some resistance to this damage but are not immune. Most damage occurs from early season feeding, therefore, red maple cultivars that break bud earliest in spring (before leafhoppers arrive) sustain the least injury, however, damage can be seen throughout the growing season. Poor aesthetic appearance of damaged trees may reduce the market value of affected trees.

Pyrethroids (like bifenthrin or permethrin) applied every two weeks while trees are leafing out will reduce damage. If your maple trees are repeatedly damaged by this pest you might consider a systemic neonicotinoid drench next spring, which provides extended protection and may prevent harming natural enemies, as repeated pyrethroid sprays can.



DON'T FORGET THE PRE-EMERGENTS. In order for herbicides to work, they must be used properly. Surflan, Pennant, Pendulum and Barricade are examples of common nursery pre-emergence herbicides labeled for grass weeds, while Princep, Gallery and SureGuard are labeled for broadleaf weeds. Beginning September through December is a good time to suppress germination of winter annuals. It's always best to spray clean soil with no existing weeds, regardless of the time of year as pre-emergents won't kill existing species, only those looking to germinate.



## **CONGRATULATIONS**

to Phillip and Teresa Herd with HERD FARMS NURSERY in Belvedere, TN. Herd Farms Nursery and Wedding Venue was selected for the 2019 TSU Small Farmer of the Year for ALTERNATIVE ENTERPRISES on the farm.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS**



September 12th - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 WILSON COUNTY EXPO CENTER 945 East Baddour Parkway Lebanon, TN

EDUCATION and POINTS

TRADE SHOW HOURS Thursday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm



Botryosphaeria is a fungal pathogen that causes diseases of woody plants. It's commonly known as "bot canker." Although as a canker disease, it can resemble a blight when small twigs are involved. Bot canker is typically stress related but becomes especially damaging during periods of extreme water stress or drought. Due to the flooding in

February, reports of bot canker are increasing in nurseries.

Symptoms are easily detected in spring and summer. First is a sudden wilting and yellowing of foliage, which gradually browns and dies, or a total lack of leaf out. Cankers will form at the base of dead shoot tips, marking the site of infection. You will be able to differentiate the difference heathy and infected tissue. Once a stem is girdled by a canker, all tissue above the lesion site will dieback. Stem cankers can be hard to see until the leaves drop in the fall. To view the canker, scrape away the outer bark to reveal discolored or dead wood below. Cankers may also form on the



(LEFT) rising sun redbud exhibiting a lack of leaf out in the Spring due to cankering on the trunk; (RIGHT) gummosis oozing from canker at graft line on cherry

trunk. Infections can result in dieback of portions of the tree canopy, reducing the value and overall health of the plant. If severe, the entire plant may die.





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