Arkansas
COMMON LANDSCAPE PROBLEMS
Arkansans love their lawns and gardens and take great pride in ensuring the landscape surrounding their homes and businesses remains healthy and beautiful. As authors, editors and neighbors, our goal for this book was to provide a concise, easy-to-navigate guide to diagnosing and treating the most common diseases, insects and weeds that can affect our green spaces in Arkansas.

We are here to help. With offices in every one of Arkansas’ 75 counties, the people of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture’s Cooperative Extension Service are here to help you. We use the results of scientific research, much of it conducted at University of Arkansas System facilities, to help you and your community thrive. That’s our mission. That’s our passion.

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The information in this publication was current as of March 2017 and applies only to Arkansas. It may not be appropriate for other states or locations. The listing of any product in this publication does not imply endorsement of that product or discrimination against any other product by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy, but the user of any crop protection product must read and follow the most current label for any product. For further assistance and information, contact the local Cooperative Extension Service office.
# Common Landscape Problems in Arkansas

## Plant Diseases

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PLAN DISEASES
Entomosporium leaf spot

**Cause:** *Entomosporium* sp. (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Red tip photinia, Indian hawthorn

**Damage:** Leaf spots, severe leaf drop

**Cultural Control:** Rake and destroy all leaves during the fall or winter to reduce disease on new leaves in the spring. Difficult to control. Consider alternative plants in landscape.

**Chemical Control:** Spray fungicides on plants with a history of problems, starting in the spring as leaves emerge.

Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

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Black spot

**Cause:** *Diplocarpon rosae* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Rose

**Damage:** Leaf spots, severe leaf drop

**Cultural Control:** Rake and destroy all leaves during the fall or winter to reduce disease on the new leaves in the spring. Minimize leaf wetness. Grow resistant varieties.

**Chemical Control:** Spray fungicides on plants with a history of problems, starting in the spring as leaves emerge.

Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.
Rose rosette virus (RRV)

**Cause:** *Emaravirus* (virus)

**Plants Attacked:** Rose

**Damage:** Elongated shoots, red or yellow leaf mottle, leaf distortion, excess prickles, succulent thickened stems, witches’ broom (rosette), flower distortion, discoloration or blight, branch dieback, reduced winter hardiness

**Cultural Control:** Viruses are not curable. Remove and destroy affected plants. For prevention, destroy any nearby multiflora roses. Prune ornamental roses by one-third in February to remove the vector; the woolly rose mite. Follow dormant pruning with a dormant oil to kill overwintering mites.

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Powdery mildew

**Cause:** Various fungi

**Plants Attacked:** Various woody and perennial ornamentals

**Damage:** Leaf distortion, premature defoliation

**Cultural Control:** Rake and destroy fallen leaves in the fall. Grow resistant varieties.

**Chemical Control:** Spray fungicides on plants with a history of problems, starting in the spring as leaves emerge. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); myclobutanil and permethrin (Spectracide Immunox Plus®); tebuconazole (Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench® or Bayer Advanced Garden Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.
Plant Diseases

Cercospora leaf spot

**Cause:** *Cercospora* sp. (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Hydrangea, crapemyrtle, various ornamentals

**Damage:** Leaf spots, premature defoliation

**Cultural Control:** Rake and destroy fallen leaves in the fall or winter. Avoid overhead irrigation.

**Chemical Control:** Spray fungicides on plants with a history of problems, starting in the spring as leaves emerge. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX® Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); myclobutanil and permethrin (Spectracide Immunox Plus®); tebuconazole (Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench® or Bayer Advanced Garden Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or trifloxystrobin and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

Phytophthora stem canker

**Cause:** *Phytophthora parasitica* (oomycete)

**Plants Attacked:** Annual vinca, petunia, snapdragon, salvia, verbena, pansy

**Damage:** Water-soaked lesions, stem dieback, wilting, death

**Cultural Control:** Pull out affected plants and remove from the planting. Space for good air circulation. Avoid overhead irrigation. Plant resistant varieties. French marigolds, zinnias, mums, dianthus, geraniums, coreopsis, portulaca and rudbeckia are resistant. No good fungicide options for homeowners.
Cypress canker

**Cause:** *Seiridium* sp., *Botryosphaeria* sp. (fungi)

**Plants Attacked:** Leyland cypress, Italian cypress, Arizona cypress, Monterey cypress

**Damage:** Lens-shaped cankers, branch dieback, death

**Cultural Control:** Prune out affected portions. Avoid drought stress. Fertilize per soil test. Consider alternative tree species. Holly, arborvitae, magnolia, tea olive and cryptomeria are some alternatives.

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Fire blight

**Cause:** *Erwinia amylovora* (bacterium)

**Plants Attacked:** Pear (ornamental and fruiting), apple, crabapple, pyracantha, cotoneaster, photinia, rose, blackberry, raspberry, spirea, among others

**Damage:** Leaf, bloom, twig and branch dieback

**Cultural Control:** Prune out affected portions. Sanitize pruners between cuts. Choose resistant cultivars.

**Chemical Control:** Apply bactericides at bloom. Ferti-lome Fire Blight Spray® (streptomycin sulfate) is labeled. See www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.
Plant Diseases

Leaf gall/flower gall

**Cause:** *Exobasidium vaccinii* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Azalea, camellia

**Damage:** Leaf distortion, fleshy galls

**Cultural Control:** Remove galls while still green, if possible, to avoid spore production.

**Chemical Control:** In cases of widespread galling, fungicides may be appropriate. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); myclobutanil and permethrin (Spectracide Immunox Plus®); tebuconazole (Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench® or Bayer Advanced Garden Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

Anthracnose

**Cause:** *Colletotrichum* sp., *Apiognomonia* sp., *Gloeosporium* sp., *Discula* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Various trees, woody ornamentals

**Damage:** Leaf spots, leaf distortion, twig blight, twig and branch cankers, premature defoliation

**Cultural Control:** Rake and destroy leaves in the fall.

**Chemical Control:** At bud swell in the spring, copper fungicides or chlorothalonil may be applied if the tree is small enough to spray. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); copper, expressed as metallic copper (Hi-Yield Bordeaux Mix Fungicide®); copper octanoate (Ortho Ecosense Garden Disease Control® or Concern Copper Soap Fungicide RTU®*); copper salts-fatty acids (Concern Copper Soap Fungicide RTU®); or copper sulfate pentahydrate (Phytcon 27®). When using copper fungicides, carefully read the label and follow all instructions for timing, rates and environmental restraints to prevent damage to plants.


*RTU is a ready-to-use formulation.
Ivy bacterial blight

**Cause:** *Xanthomonas campestris pv. hederae* (bacterium)

**Plants Attacked:** English ivy

**Damage:** Leaf spots, petiole and stem cankers, death

**Cultural Control:** Good sanitation is critical. Remove diseased leaves and stems. Avoid overhead irrigation, and water in the morning so foliage can dry.

**Chemical Control:** Copper fungicides may help prevent the spread of the disease when coupled with good cultural practices. Homeowners may use Hi-Yield Bordeaux Mix Fungicide® (copper, expressed as metallic copper); Ortho Ecosense Garden Disease Control® (copper octanoate); Concern Copper Soap Fungicide RTU® (copper octanoate); Concern Copper Soap Fungicide RTU® (copper salts-fatty acids); or Phytogen 27® (copper sulfate pentahydrate). **When using copper fungicides, carefully read the label and follow all instructions for timing, rates and environmental restraints to prevent damage to plants.** See www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

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Cedar apple rust

**Cause:** *Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Apple, crabapple, juniper

**Damage:** On apples and crabapples, leaf spots (inset), fruit spots and lesions on stems. On junipers, large galls form that become gelatinous and bright orange during wet weather.

**Cultural Control:** Prune out the galls on junipers. Remove nearby wild juniper species to protect ornamental *malus* species.

**Chemical Control:** Fungicide applications applied during the orange gall stage, until the galls become dry and brown, help protect apples and crabapples from infection. Homeowners may use Captan on fruit trees. On ornamentals, you may use Spectracide Immunox Plus® (myclobutanil and permethrin). See www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

*RTU is a ready-to-use formulation.*
Azalea/rhododendron cercospora leaf spot

**Cause:** *Cercospora handelii* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Azalea, rhododendron

**Damage:** Angular leaf spots that may coalesce to blight large portions of the leaf, chlorosis and premature defoliation in severe outbreaks

**Cultural Control:** Practice good sanitation. Rake/destroy all fallen leaves. Apply fungicides on plants with a history of the disease, beginning in the spring as leaves emerge.

**Chemical Control:** Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); myclobutanil and permethrin (Spectracide Immunox Plus®); tebuconazole (Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench® or Bayer Advanced Garden Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at [www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx](http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx).

Juniper needle/twig blight

**Cause:** *Kabatinia juniperi, Phomopsis juniperovora* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Juniper

**Damage:** Needle blight, twig blight, branch dieback

**Cultural Control:** Practice good sanitation. Prune out affected twigs and destroy.

**Chemical Control:** For *Kabatinia*, apply mancozeb or thiophanate-methyl in the fall. For *Phomopsis*, apply Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals® (thiophanate-methyl) or Ferti-lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide II® (propiconazole) in the spring. See [www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx](http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx).
Leaf blister/leaf curl

Cause: *Taphrinia* sp. (fungus)
Plants Attacked: Oak, peach, plum
Damage: Blisters, leaf galls, leaf curl
Cultural Control: Rake or destroy leaves during the fall or winter. Mostly cosmetic on oak, but damaging on plum and peach.
Chemical Control: Apply fungicides after leaf fall in the fall but before bud swell in the spring. Copper fungicides and fungicides containing chlorothalonil are effective. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); copper, expressed as metallic copper (Hi-Yield Bordeaux Mix Fungicide®); copper octanoate (Ortho Ecosense Garden Disease Control® or Concern Copper Soap Fungicide RTU®); copper salts-fatty acids (Concern Copper Soap Fungicide RTU®); or copper sulfate pentahydrate (Phyton27®). When using copper fungicides, carefully read the label and follow all instructions for timing, rates and environmental restraints to prevent damage to plants. Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

Hypoxylon canker

Cause: *Hypoxylon* sp. (fungus)
Plants Attacked: Oak, maple, other hardwood trees
Damage: Bark shed, wilt, branch dieback, tree death
Cultural Control: Hypoxylon is not curable. This is a disease of stressed trees. To help prevent hypoxylon canker, water during drought and fertilize per soil test to promote tree health.

*RTU is a ready-to-use formulation.*
Sooty mold (nonparasitic)

**Cause:** *Capnodium* sp. and others (fungi)

**Plants Attacked:** Many species of trees, shrubs, ornamentals

**Damage:** Cosmetic, but heavy colonies may inhibit photosynthesis.

**Cultural Control:** Sooty mold results when sap-feeding insects excrete excess sugars onto the stems, leaves and branches of a plant they are feeding on. The sooty mold colonizes and feeds on this sugary substance.

**Chemical Control:** Control insect pests. Insecticide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Iris leaf spot

**Cause:** *Mycosphaerella macrospora* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Iris

**Damage:** Leaf lesions, premature death of the leaves

**Cultural Control:** Clean up all dead and damaged leaves. Improve air circulation if possible, and avoid overhead irrigation. Plant iris in full sun, and space at least 8 inches apart.

**Chemical Control:** Apply fungicides in the spring where disease has previously been a problem. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); myclobutanil and permethrin (Spectracide Imunox Plus®); tebuconazole (Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench® or Bayer Advanced Garden Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.
**Bacterial leaf scorch**

**Cause:** *Xylella fastidiosa* (bacterium)

**Plants Attacked:** Many species of trees, shrubs, ornamentals, fruit crops

**Damage:** Leaf scorch, twig and branch death, plant death

**Cultural Control:** Bacterial leaf scorch is not curable. Some trees live with it for a long time, while others die in a few years.

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**Hollyhock rust**

**Cause:** *Puccinia malvacearum* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Hollyhock, *Malva* spp.

**Damage:** Yellow leaf and stem spots; orange, spore-filled blisters; leaf death

**Cultural Control:** Remove old plant material and dispose by burying, burning or composting.

**Chemical Control:** Use protective fungicides before rust spots begin as a preventative. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®); myclobutanil and permethrin (Spectracide Immunox Plus®); tebuconazole (Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench® or Bayer Advanced Garden Disease Control for Roses, Flowers, Shrubs®); tebuconazole and imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Garden All-in-One Fungicide/Insecticide/Fertilizer® or Ferti-lome 2-N-1 Systemic Fungicide®); thiophanate-methyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®); or triticonazole and acetamiprid (Ortho Rose and Flower Insect and Disease Control®). Complete fungicide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.
Plant Diseases

Crown gall

**Cause:** *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (bacterium)

**Plants Attacked:** Rose, willow, poplar, Euonymus, and fruit trees like apple (*Malus* spp.), cherry, plum, or apricot (*Prunus* spp.) and many others

**Damage:** Woody, knobby galls on stems at soil line and on roots may sometimes be found on aerial portions of the plant. Chlorosis, stunting and death may occur on plants with numerous galls.

**Cultural Control:** Plant disease-free nursery stock. Avoid injury to roots and crown at planting, as wounding allows entry of the bacterium. Clean pruning and other tools between cuts with 10% liquid household bleach (1 cup bleach to 9 cups water) or 70% alcohol. Remove and get rid of (burn or place in trash) all severely infected plants. Avoid propagating from infected plants. Do not replant the same type of plant or other susceptible plant species in the infested spot for at least five years.

**Chemical Control:** NOGALL is registered for ornamentals and and nonbearing fruit and nut trees in Arkansas for prevention of crown gall. It is used as a preplant root dip. The active ingredient is Agrobacterium radiobacter (strain K1026). It is not registered for brambles.

Black knot

**Cause:** *Apiosporina morbosa* (sym. *Dibotryon morbosum*) (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Ornamental and fruiting cherry and plum trees, rarely peach trees

**Damage:** Small, light brown swellings usually located at the base of the leaf petiole or on the fruit spur become hard, brittle and black in color with age. The knots often protrude more on one side of the affected branch. Branch dieback will eventually occur.

**Cultural Control:** Prune out any knots.

**Chemical Control:** Apply fungicides beginning at green tip in the spring and continuing at two-week intervals until terminal growth stops. Homeowners may use products containing chlorothalonil (Ferti-lome Broad Spectrum Lawn and Garden Fungicide®, Hi-Yield Vegetable, Flower, Fruit and Ornamental Fungicide®, Ortho MAX Garden Disease Control®, Ortho Disease B Gon Garden Fungicide®, Garden Tech Daconil Fungicide® or Bonide Fung-onil Multi-Purpose Fungicide®) or thiophanatemethyl (Bonide Infuse Systemic for Turf and Ornamentals®). See www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.
Spring dead spot

**Cause:** *Ophiosphaerella, Leptosphaeria* spp. (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Bermuda (primarily)

**Damage:** Round, sunken gray patches of dead grass. Patches may run together to blight large areas of turf.

**Cultural Control:** Bermuda needs balanced soil fertility to minimize disease and winter injury. Soil test regularly to monitor P (phosphorus) and K (potassium). Apply fertilizer as needed according to soil test. Higher soil pH (7.0 and above) may greatly enhance damage by spring dead spot.

**Chemical Control:** Apply fungicides about 30 days prior to dormancy in the fall. Homeowners may use Ferti-lome F-Stop Liquid® (mcylobutanil), Bonide Infuse Systemic Disease Control Lawn and Landscape® (thiophanate-methyl) or Scotts Lawn Disease Control Ready-Spray RTU® (triticonazole). See individual labels for full directions. See www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

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Large patch/zoysia patch

**Cause:** *Rhizoctonia solani* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Bermuda, zoysia, centipede, St. Augustine

**Damage:** The turf in affected areas becomes thin and grass leaves may appear bleached or yellow. Large circular, semicircular or arc-shaped areas of damaged turf develop. When the disease is active, the interface between healthy and diseased turf may appear orange or bronze in color, especially on zoysia.

**Cultural Control:** Avoid high-nitrogen fertilizers early in the season. Avoid night watering and too frequent watering. Dethatch during the growing season if thatch is greater than 1/2 inch.

**Chemical Control:** Apply fungicides in the spring and again in the fall. Homeowners may use Scotts Lawn Fungus Control® (thiophanate-methyl), Spectracide Immunox Fungus Plus Insect Control for Lawns® (propiconazole + lambda-cyhalothrin) or Bonide Infuse Systemic Disease Control Lawn and Landscape® (thiophanate-methyl). See www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx.

*RTU is a ready-to-use formulation.*
Take-all patch

**Cause:** *Gaeumannomyces graminis* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Bermuda, zoysia, centipede, bent, blue, St. Augustine, fescue

**Damage:** Small, sunken, water-soaked patches appear in turf. The affected grass may initially appear red-brown before dying and turning a dull brown color. The roots and crown of infected plants become dark brown to black.

**Cultural Control:** Avoid high-nitrogen fertilizers early in the season. Use a balanced fertilizer. Avoid night watering and too frequent watering. Dethatch during the growing season if thatch is greater than 1/2 inch. Keep pH below 5.5 to help minimize disease.

**Chemical Control:** Apply fungicides twice in the spring 30 days apart and twice again in the fall 30 days apart. Homeowners may use Spectracide Immuno Fungus Plus Insect Control for Lawns® (propiconazole + lambda-cyhalothrin), Bayer Advanced Fungus Control of Lawns® (propiconazole), Ferti-lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide II® (propiconazole), Ferti-lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide II RTU®* (propiconazole), Scotts Lawn Fungus Control® (thiophanate-methyl), Bonide Infuse Systemic Disease Control Lawn and Landscape® (thiophanate-methyl) or Scotts Lawn Disease Control Ready-Spray RTU® (triticonazole).


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Dollar spot

**Cause:** *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* (fungus)

**Plants Attacked:** Zoysia, bermuda, centipede

**Damage:** Small (3 to 5 inches), circular dead spots of grass

**Cultural Control:** Proper fertilization, irrigation and cutting height are preventative. Avoid excessive thatch.

**Chemical Control:** Ferti-lome F-Stop Liquid® (myclobutanil), H&I Agritech GreenCure® (potassium bicarbonate), Ferti-lome Liquid Systemic Fungicide II® (propiconazole), Spectracide Immuno Fungus Plus Insect Control for Lawns® (propiconazole + lambda-cyhalothrin), Bayer Advanced Fungus Control of Lawns® (propiconazole), Scotts Lawn Fungus Control® (thiophanate-methyl), Bonide Infuse Systemic Disease Control Lawns and Landscape® (thiophanate-methyl) or Scotts Lawn Disease Control Ready-Spray RTU® (triticonazole) may be used. For chemical controls, see [www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx](http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-154.aspx).

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*RTU is a ready-to-use formulation.*
INSECT PESTS
Aphids

There are many aphid species.

**Description:** Small, soft-bodied, sucking insects

**Plants Attacked:** Houseplants, fruits, vegetables, annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees

**Damage:** Aphids feed on plant juices and produce honeydew, which supports growth of sooty mold. Feeding causes deformed leaf and stem growth (pictured bottom: aphids on blackberry terminal).

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), acetamiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), azadirachtin (Certi Neemix 4.5®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, etc.), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), dinotefuran (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), horticultural oil, imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), insecticidal soap, malathion (Malathion®), pyrethrins (Ferti-lome Triple Action Plus®, Bayer Advanced Natria®, McLaughlin PyGanic EC or Dust®, etc.) and resmethrin (Prentiss Resmethrin®, Ferti-lome Whitefly and Mealybug Killer®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Armyworms

**Description:** The armyworm (*Pseudaletia unipuncta*) varies in length from 1/16 inch to 2 inches as mature larva. It has stripes running the length of its body – one stripe present on each side and one stripe down the middle of the back. The armyworm is hairless and has a base color ranging from yellow-green to dark brown to gray. The fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) larva also has stripes but differs in having a yellow-white inverted Y-marking on the head and four dark circular spots on the upper side of each abdominal segment. It reaches a length of 2 inches when mature.

**Plants Attacked:** Armyworm hosts include grasses such as small grains, pasture grasses, turfgrasses and corn. Fall armyworm hosts include grasses (including lawn grasses), corn, cotton, alfalfa, clover, peanuts, tobacco and many garden plants. They also inhabit the thatch layer in turf.

**Damage:** Armyworm and fall armyworm larvae cause defoliation damage that results in turfgrass thinning. These caterpillars are known to move en masse to new food sources, causing defoliation damage along the way. Both species prefer to feed at night.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides for control include azadiractin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5®), *B.t.*, bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Garden Tech Over ‘n Out Granules®, etc.), carbaryl (Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Ortho Bug-Geta Plus Snail®, Sevin®), chlorantraniliprole (Scotts GrubEx1®), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®, etc.), gamma-cyhalothrin (Triazide Insect Killer Oneco and Done®), halofenozide (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Grub®), indoxacarb, lambda-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Ant Shield Home Barrier®, Bonide Caterpillar Killer®, etc.), permethrin (Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, etc.), spinosad (Ferti-lome Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, Dow Blackhawk Naturalyte Insect Control®, Bonide Captain Jack’s Deadbug Brew Concentrate®), thiamethoxam (Gulfstream Maxide Professional Grade Dual Action Grub Killer®), trichlorfon (Bayer 24 Hour Grub Killer Plus Granules®) and various entomogenous nematode products. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Bagworm

Description: This caterpillar forms a distinctive bag out of silk and bits of plant material.

Plants Attacked: Favored host plants include arborvitae, cedar, cypress, juniper, pines and other conifers.

Damage: Bagworms feed on plant foliage and are typically only an aesthetic problem.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®, Bonide Systemic Insect Control®), acetamiprid (Ortho Rose Pride Insect Killer®, etc.), azadirachtin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5®), B.t. (Garden Safe BT®, Safer Caterpillar Killer®, Dipel Dust®, etc.), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), dinotefuran (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G), chlorantraniliprole, cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), malathion (Malathion®), permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and spinosad (Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Bonide Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, etc.). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Pine bark beetles

Multiple species: six-spined engraver (Ips calligraphus), southern pine engraver (Ips grandicollis), small southern pine engraver (Ips avulsus), southern pine beetle, SPB (Dendroctonus frontalis), black turpentine beetle, BTB, Dendroctonus terebrans

Description: Bark beetles are small, reddish-brown to black, cylindrical beetles. The head is concealed when viewed from above.

Plants Attacked: Pine species and occasionally other conifers, such as spruce, hemlock and fir, are attacked.

Damage: Foliage on affected trees fades from green to yellow to reddish brown. Small, whitish or reddish-brown, popcorn-like globs of resin and boring dust (pitch tubes) appear on the bark at entrance sites. Exit holes have a shothole appearance. After emergence, characteristic galleries can be seen under the bark (Ips spp./Y-1 or H-shaped galleries; SPB/S-shaped galleries and BTB/D-or fan shaped-galleries).

Cultural Control: Maintain proper fertilization and watering to prevent stress.

Chemical Control: There are no effective preventive chemical control measures. Trunk sprays with bifenthrin (Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, etc.) or permethrin (Hi-Yield 38 Plus Turf, Termite and Ornamental Insect Control®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®, etc.) on nearby healthy trees may prevent infestation spread. Some materials are available to commercial applicators only. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Insect Pests

Fall webworm

**Description:** Larvae are usually pale yellowish-greenish with a broad, dusky stripe down the back and a yellowish stripe down each side. Larvae are covered with long, silky, gray hairs, and head color varies from red to black. Full-grown larvae are about 1 inch long. Webs occur in the ends of branches.

**Plants Attacked:** Fall webworms feed on more than 100 species of forest and shade trees. Pecan, walnut, American elm, hickory, fruit trees and some maples are preferred hosts; persimmon and sweetgum are also attacked.

**Damage:** Fall webworms enclose leaves and small branches in light gray silken webs. In shade trees and ornamentals, fall webworms cause heavy defoliation, the presence of the large, unsightly webs and branch dieback.

**Cultural Control:** Small nests can be pruned out of small to medium trees.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthoene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®, Bonide Systemic Insect Control®), acephate (Ortho Rose Pride Insect Killer®, Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®, etc.), azadirachtin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5®), *Bt.* (Garden Safe BT®, Safer Caterpillar Killer®, Dipel Dust®, etc.), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Bug-B-Gone®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), dinotefuran (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), cyfluthrin ( Bayer Advanced Power Force®), insecticidal soap, permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and spinosad (Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Bonide Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, etc.). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Fire ant, red imported fire ant

**Description:** Red imported fire ant workers are reddish-brown, aggressive ants that range from 1/8 to 1/4 inch long. They build conspicuous nests that often appear as dome-shaped mounds of soil. However, in sandy soils, mounds are flatter and less visible. When nests are disturbed, numerous fire ants will aggressively emerge and attack any intruder.

**Plants Attacked:** Fire ants are opportunistic feeders and will feed on fruit, shoots and seedlings of numerous plants and can also interfere with the root system. Fire ants will also tend scale insects, mealybugs and aphids and use the honeydew produced as a food source. Fire ants can also interfere with the activity of natural pollinators and beneficial predatory insects.

**Damage:** Fire ants inflict a painful, burning sting that results in a pustule and intense itching that may persist for days. If pustules are broken, infection may occur. Allergic reactions to fire ant stings may range from rashes and swelling to paralysis or anaphylactic shock. Severe allergic reactions, though rare, may be fatal.

**Chemical Control:** Control methods include broadcast bait applications, individual mound treatments, a combination of the previous two methods and barrier and spot treatments. Recommended insecticides for control include acephate (Ortho Fire Ant Killer®), carbaryl (Sevin Lawn Insect Granules®, Lilly Miller Grasshopper, Earwig, Cutworm and Sowbug Bait®, etc.), fipronil (Combat Quick Kill Formula®), hydramethylnon bait (Amdro Fire Ant Bait®), indoxacarb bait (Hot Shot MaxAttack Bait®, Over ’n Out Fire Ant Killer Mound Treatment®, Real Kill Ant Bait Station®, Spectracide Ant Shield Bait Station®), bifenthrin (Ortho MAX Fire Ant Granules®, Stinger Fire Ant Killer®, etc.), cyfluthrin, deltamethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Turf Ranger Insect Control Granules®), lambda-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Ant Shield Bait Station®, Ant Shield Home Barrier Granules®), pyriproxyfen bait (Distance Fire Ant Bait®, Esteem Fire Ant Bait®), S-methoprene bait (Extinguish Professional Fire Ant Bait®) and spinosad bait (Dow Conserve Fire Ant Bait®, Dow Justice Fire Ant Bait®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
**Flatheaded appletree borer (FAB)**

**Description:** In larvae, the first body segment behind the head is flattened laterally. Full-grown larvae are about 1 inch long, legless and yellow-white. Adult beetles are elongate-oval, flattened and shiny dark bronze above and brassy beneath. The emergence hole formed by the adult is a large, 3/16-inch, D-shaped hole.  

**Plants Attacked:** FAB is a severe pest of landscape trees, especially maple, hickory, linden, oak, sycamore, tuliptree, dogwood and apple. Almost any hardwood tree that has been stressed by defoliation, sunscald, drought, soil compaction or mechanical injury may be attacked. Young trees are especially vulnerable for two years following transplant.  

**Damage:** Larvae excavate long, shallow, broad, oval galleries on the main trunk or large branches just under the bark or into the sapwood. Wet, greasy-appearing dead areas of bark often occur above these burrows and often have sap exuding from them. Galleries are packed tightly with fine sawdust-like frass. Damage usually occurs on the sunny side of trees but may completely encompass the tree. Injuries usually result in killing large areas of bark and sometimes in girdling and killing the tree or infested branches.  

**Cultural Control:** Prevent plant stress with proper fertilization and watering.  

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include azadirachtin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.) and permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®). Some materials are available to commercial applicators only. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

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**Flea beetles**

There are many flea beetle species. Strawberry rootworm flea beetle is pictured.

**Description:** Flea beetle is a generic name for many species of small jumping beetles commonly seen early in the gardening season. Flea beetles may be somewhat elongate to oval in shape and vary in color, pattern and size. All have thickened hind legs that enable them to jump, hence their common name.  

**Plants Attacked:** Some species are general feeders, while others have a more restricted host range. Flea beetles are common pests of many vegetable crops, and they occasionally damage flowers, shrubs and some trees.  

**Damage:** Flea beetles cause a characteristic injury known as shotholing. Adults chew many small holes or pits in leaves, which makes them look as if they have been damaged by fine shot.  

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include acetamiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), gamma-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazine Once and Done®), imidacloprid, insecticidal soap, lambda-cyhalothrin, malathion (Malathion®), permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and spinosad (Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Bonide Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, etc.). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Insect Pests

Gall-forming insects

Gall-forming insects include aphids, phylloxerans, psyllids, midges (gall gnats) and cynipid wasps (gall wasps).

**Description:** Galls are irregular plant growths resulting from the interaction between plant hormones and powerful growth-regulating chemicals produced by some insects or mites. Galls may occur on leaves, bark, flowers, buds, acorns or roots. Leaf and twig galls are most noticeable.

**Plants Attacked:** Galls are primarily a pest of trees. A few occur on woody ornamental shrubs and flowers.

**Damage:** Galls cannot be cured after they have formed, and they do not significantly affect the vigor of established, healthy plants.

**Chemical Control:** Because galls on any particular plant cannot be predicted, chemical control measures are not usually recommended. However, many gall-makers are present near bud break, and treatment when gall-forming insects are laying eggs or in early gall development may provide some control. Recommended insecticides include abamectin, azadirachtin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), horticultural oil (dormant), imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), insecticidal soap, malathion, permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and spinosad (Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Bonide Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, etc.).

Japanese beetle

**Description:** Adult beetles are shiny metallic-green with coppery-brown wing cases. The beetles also have six small tufts of white hairs along each side and the back of the abdomen.

**Plants Attacked:** Hosts include small fruits, tree fruits, garden crops, ornamental shrubs, vines and trees. Feeding studies show a host range in excess of 300 plants in 79 plant families.

**Damage:** Adults are gregarious general feeders on leaves, flowers and fruits. Adult beetles usually feed in groups, starting at the top of a plant and working downward. While a single beetle does not eat much, group feeding by many beetles causes severe damage. Adults feed on the upper surface of foliage, chewing out tissue between veins. This gives the leaf a characteristic skeletonized appearance.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®, Bonide Systemic Insect Control®), acetamiprid (Ortho Rose Pride Insect Killer®, Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®, etc.), azadirachtin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Garden Tech Over ‘n Out Granules®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), chlorantraniliprole (Scotts GrubEx®), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), dinotefuran (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and thiamethoxam. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

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Lace bugs

There are at least 17 species of lace bugs that are pests of trees and shrubs in the eastern United States.

Description: Adult lace bugs are small (approximately 1/10 to 1/4 inch in length), delicate insects with scutepulated, lace-like wings. Nymphs (immature lace bugs) do not have lace wings but are usually spiny.

Plants Attacked: Most lace bug species have a limited host range and may attack only a handful of plant species. Plants that are commonly attacked include azalea, hawthorn, lantana, oak, pyracantha and sycamore.

Damage: Lace bugs injure leaves by sucking out plant juices from the underside. Leaves will develop a tiny, yellow-speckled or mottled appearance on the top side of the leaf. As a result of lace bug feeding, infested leaves will become discolored by black tar-like specks on the leaf underside.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®, Bonide Systemic Insect Control®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), chlorantraniliprole (Scotts GrubEx1®), dinofeturan (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), insecticidal soap, malathion, permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and thiamethoxam (Gulfstream Maxide Professional Grade Dual Action Grub Killer®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Leafminers

Many different insects are leafminers, including certain flies, wasps, moths and beetles. The immature (larval) stage of these insects produces the distinctive mines.

Description: Leafminers are insects that develop and live within the leaves of plants. Typically, the leaves are injured by the insect feeding on the soft interior tissues so that only the paper-thin surface of the exterior leaf surfaces remain.

Plants Attacked: Many ornamental plants are attacked, but azalea, bougainvillaea, hollies, chrysanthemum, lantana, oak and boxwood are some of the preferred hosts.

Damage: Leafminer damage is conspicuous, but healthy plants should be able to tolerate considerable injury before losing vigor or yield. During heavy infestations, plants may appear bleached or faded and their aesthetic value can be reduced. Occasionally, leaves turn yellow and drop, due in part to the entry of pathogenic fungi and bacteria into old mines.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), acetamiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), azadirachtin (Certis Neemix 4.5®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, etc.), chlorantraniliprole (Scotts Grub Ex1®), dinofeturan (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), lambda-cyhalothrin, permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®), spinosad (Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Bonide Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, etc.) and thiamethoxam. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Insect Pests

Mealybugs

Mealybugs are a type of scale insect with about 275 species known to occur in the continental United States.

Description: Mealybugs are small, soft, usually oval insects (3/64 to 5/32 inch long), and the body is usually covered with a white, cottony or mealy wax secretion. Many mealybugs produce marginal filaments of wax that may be wedge-shaped or spine-like, but others lack marginal filaments entirely.

Plants Attacked: Mealybugs feed on a wide variety of plants and are common pests of both indoor and outdoor ornamental plants. In greenhouses, they are well-known pests of coleus, fern, begonia and geraniums.

Damage: Mealybugs suck plant sap by inserting long piercing-sucking mouthparts deep into plant tissue. They do not cause plants serious injury in low numbers. However, in large numbers, mealybugs cause leaf yellowing, leaf curling and/or leaf drop. Mealybugs also produce honeydew, which supports the growth of sooty mold.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), aceatomiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), Beauveria bassiana, bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), dinotefuran (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), horticultural oil, imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), insecticidal soap, neem oil, permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®) and thiamethoxam. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Sawflies

There are many sawfly species. Redheaded pine sawfly larvae are pictured.

Description: Sawflies are related to wasps and bees, and females have a saw-like ovipositor used to lay eggs, thus the name. Adult sawflies are wasp-like insects that do not sting. Larval sawflies are plant feeders and look like hairless caterpillars (the immature stage of butterflies and moths). Caterpillars have two-five prolegs on the abdomen, while sawflies have six or more.

Plants Attacked: There are many different species of sawflies, and each prefers specific plants or groups of related plants. Hosts include both evergreen plants and deciduous plants.

Damage: Sawflies are foliage feeders, and when feeding in groups, they can quickly defoliate portions of their host plant.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), aceatomiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), carbaryl (Ferti-lome Liquid Carbaryl Garden Spray®, Garden Tech Sevin Concentrate®, Ortho Bug-Geta Plus®, Bayer Advanced Complete Insect Killer for Gardens®), chlorantraniliprole, cyfluthrin, imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), insecticidal soap and spinosad. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Scales

There are about 350 species of armored scales and 85 species of soft scales occurring in the United States.

**Description:** Armored scales secrete a waxy covering over their bodies, but this covering is not an integral part of the body. Scales live and feed under this armored covering. Size varies from 1/16 to 1/8 inch in diameter and color is species dependent. Armored scales may be circular, oval, oblong, thread-like, or pear-shaped. Soft scales have a waxy covering that is an integral part of their body. Soft scales vary in color, size and shape; they range from 1/8 to 1/2 inch in diameter and may be nearly flat to almost spherical in shape.

**Plants Attacked:** Almost all woody plants are subject to attack by one or more species of scale.

**Damage:** Scales cause damage by sucking plant juices from leaves, stems and trunks. Heavily infested plants appear unhealthy and produce little new growth. Scales feeding on the underside of leaves may cause yellow spots on the top side. These spots enlarge with continued feeding. If uncontrolled, scales may cause premature leaf drop and twig or branch death. Soft scales excrete honeydew, which supports the growth of sooty mold. Armored scales do not excrete honeydew.

**Chemical Control:** Some control materials are effective against crawlers only or provide suppression only, so read the label carefully before using. Recommended insecticides may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

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**Spotted wing drosophila (SWD)**

**Description:** Adult spotted wing drosophila are small (5/64 to 1/8 inch) with clearly visible red eyes, small featherlike antennae and pale brown bodies with darker stripes on the abdomen. Adult SWD males (pictured) have one black spot toward the tip of both wings and two bands of sex combs on each foreleg that distinguish them from most other Drosophila species. Females have no wing spot.

**Plants Attacked:** This fly, related to vinegar flies, attacks ripening and ripe, soft fruit: small fruit – blackberry, blueberry, boysenberry, grapes, raspberry, strawberry; tree fruits – apricot, cherry, mulberry, nectarine, peach, persimmons, plum; and to a lesser extent, vegetable fruits – melons and tomatoes.

**Damage:** Adults and larvae cause the most damage to fruit. Females can saw into fruits during egg laying and cause a depression that can lead to secondary fungal and pest infestations. Larvae tunnel in the fruit rendering fruit unmarketable.

**Cultural Control:** Exclusion – Fine mesh floating row covers can help protect crops with lower growing heights. Sanitation – Avoid spotted wing drosophila damage by frequent, complete harvest of fruit. Any unmarketable fruit should be removed from the field and either frozen for four days and disposed of in the trash or solarized for several days to kill any eggs and larvae.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended sprays (need to rotate weekly) include malathion (Malathion®), spinosad (Dow Blackhawk Naturalyte Insect Control®), Bonide Captain Jack’s Deadbug Brew Concentrate®, Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, etc.), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, etc.), zeta-cypermethrin or pyrethrins (McLaughlin PyGanic EC or Dust®, Ferti-lome Triple Action Plus®, Safer Concern Multi-Purpose Insect Killer Concentrate®, Ferti-lome Fruit Tree Spray®, etc.). Additional information and complete insecticide options can be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/MP467.pdf.
Spider mite

Spider mites are not insects. They are closely related to spiders and ticks.

**Description:** Spider mites have eight legs and a one-part body. They lack wings, antennae and compound eyes. Individual spider mites are almost microscopic but can cause serious damage when occurring in large numbers.

**Plants Attacked:** Dozens of species attack shade trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants.

**Damage:** Spider mite damage to foliage is similar on all host plants. Spider mite mouthparts (stylets) are used to rupture leaf cells and draw up cell sap. Small patches of cells are killed, resulting in a stippling or fine flecking on the upper surface of leaves, giving the leaves a sand-blasted appearance. The foliage of heavily infested plants becomes bronzed, bleached, yellow or gray. If untreated, plants lose vigor; become progressively thinner and may eventually die.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), bifenthrin (Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Bonide Eight Insect Control®), carbaryl (Ferti-lome Liquid Carbaryl Garden Spray®, Garden Tech Sevin Concentrate®, Ortho Bug-Geta Plus®, Bayer Advanced Complete Insect Killer for Gardens®), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force/ Vegetable and Garden Insect Spray®), horticultural oil, insecticidal soaps, lambda-cyhalothrin and permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Spittlebug

Two-lined spittlebug and nymphs surrounded by white, frothy spittle mass are pictured.

**Description:** Adults appear as black, robust leafhoppers with two red stripes across the back with wings held roof-like over the back. Adults are about 1/3 inch long with bright red eyes and a bright red abdomen. Nymphs resemble wingless adults but smaller. They are yellow, white or orange with red eyes and brown heads. Nymphs surround themselves with a white, frothy spittle mass that provides protection from desiccation and predators.

**Plants Attacked:** Spittlebug nymphs damage centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass, zoysiagrass, bermudagrass and a variety of ornamental plants. Adult spittlebugs commonly infest hollies, wild grasses, aster, blackberry, pea and morning glory.

**Damage:** Spittlebug nymphs suck plant juices from turfgrass, which weakens and stresses plants causing them to turn yellow and then brown. Severe infestations can kill turfgrass. Spittlebug masses may also become an aesthetic nuisance. Adult two-lined spittlebugs fly to shrubs in late summer and early fall. Their feeding can result in splotchy and yellow leaves and premature leaf drop.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), bifenthrin (Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Bonide Eight Insect Control®), carbaryl (Ferti-lome Liquid Carbaryl Garden Spray®, Garden Tech Sevin Concentrate®, Ortho Bug-Geta Plus®, Bayer Advanced Complete Insect Killer for Gardens®), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force/ Vegetable and Garden Insect Spray®), horticultural oil, insecticidal soaps, lambda-cyhalothrin and permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Tent caterpillar, Eastern tent caterpillar

Description: The eastern tent caterpillar is black with a white stripe along the middle of the back and a row of pale blue oval spots on each side. It is sparsely covered with fine, light brown hairs. Full-grown larvae are about 2 inches in length. They spin their silken tents in branch forks.

Plants Attacked: Larvae feed most often on apple and wild or ornamental cherry and occasionally on pecan, hawthorn, beech and willow.

Damage: Damage can range from light to heavy defoliation, depending on the size of the tree attacked and the number of webs per tree. The presence of large, unsightly webs can make trees aesthetically unpleasing.

Cultural Control: Mechanically remove small nests from small to medium trees.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), acetamiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), azadirachtin, B.t., bifenthrin, carbaryl (Ferti-lome Liquid Carbaryl Garden Spray®, Garden Tech Sevin Concentrate®, Ortho Bug-Geta Plus®, Bayer Advanced Complete Insect Killer for Gardens®), chlorantraniliprole, indoxacarb, insecticidal soap, novaluron, permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®), pyrethrins, spinosad (Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Monterey Garden Insect Spray OMRI®, Bonide Captain Jack’s Deadbug Brew Concentrate®) and tebufenozide. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Thrips

There are 6,000 thrips species in the United States. Most important are the onion, citrus, greenhouse and gladiolus.

Description: Females are small, slender, winged insects that are amber or yellowish-brown to dark brown in color. Females are about 1/16 inch long. Males are similar to females but smaller and always light yellow.

Plants Attacked: Plants most attractive to thrips include chrysanthemum, gloxinia, impatiens, tomato, vegetables and grasses.

Damage: Thrips feeding causes physical damage to tissues of developing and mature flowers and leaves. Thrips also feed on pollen. Some species of thrips can also vector tomato spotted wilt virus.

Chemical Control: Before using any control material, read the label and note whether the material is labeled for the intended site (landscape, nursery or greenhouse). Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®), acetamiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), bifenthrin, carbaryl, cyfluthrin, dinofeturan, horticultural oil, imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), insecticidal soap, lambda-cyhalothrin, malathion (Malathion®) and spinosad (Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Monterey Garden Insect Spray OMRI®, Bonide Captain Jack’s Deadbug Brew Concentrate®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Insect Pests

Twig girdler

**Description:** The adult twig girdler is a beetle about 3/4 inch long, stout and grayish-brown with a lighter-colored band across its elytra (wing covers). The adult has antennae as long as its body.

**Plants Attacked:** Common hosts of the twig girdler include pecan, persimmon, elm, hickory, oak, honeylocust, hackberry, poplar, linden, redbud, basswood, dogwood and various fruit trees.

**Damage:** Adult females chew a V-shaped groove around a small twig, girdling it. An egg is deposited beneath the bark in the twig section beyond the cut. The cut/girdled twig dies quickly and usually falls to the ground. After hatching, the young larva bores into the dead twig to feed. The larva will overwinter in the fallen twig. Twig girdlers produce one generation a year. Heavily damaged trees appear ragged and unattractive, and young trees can become deformed by repeated attacks.

**Cultural Control:** Homeowners should collect and destroy infested twigs and branches found on the ground beginning in September or no later than May. If practical, prune infested twigs still in the tree.

**Chemical Control:** Chemical control is not practical.

White grubs

The larvae of Scarab beetles are referred to as white grubs, and there are many species capable of damaging turfgrass. Pictured (left to right) are adults and larvae of green June beetle, May beetle (*Phyllophaga*), masked chafer, Japanese beetle and black turfgrass (*Ataenius*).

**Description:** White grubs as a group are C-shaped, white to dirty white in color with brownish head and legs and usually have a darker gray area at the tip of the abdomen. Adults are medium-sized beetles that feed in a variety of trees and shrubs.

**Plants Attacked:** White grubs primarily feed on grass roots, but some species also feed on the roots of ornamental plants.

**Damage:** White grubs damage turfgrasses by feeding on grass roots, resulting in plants being cut off from water and nutrients. Damage appears as yellowing or browning of the leaves and as drought stress even when moisture conditions are good. Infested turfgrass may be loose enough to pull easily from the soil, and the ground may become spongy to the step. Turf damage may also occur as a result of animals rooting up the turf hunting for grubs.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended control materials include *Beauveria bassiana*, carbaryl (Sevin Lawn Insect Granules®, Ferti-lome Liquid Carbaryl Garden Spray®, Ortho Bug-Geta Plus Snail, Slug and Insect Killer®, Bayer Advanced Grasshopper, Earwig, Cutworm and Sowbug Bait®, etc.), chlorantraniliprole (Scotts GrubEx1®), dinofuran (Green Light Tree and Shrub Insect Control with Safari 2G®), halofenozide (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Grub®), imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), thiamethoxam (Gulfstream Maxide Professional Grade Dual Action Grub Killer®) and trichlorfon (Bayer Advanced 24 Hour Grub Killer Plus Granules®). Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
**Emerald ash borer (EAB)**

**Description:** Emerald ash borer adults are small, metallic green beetles (3/8 to 1/2 inch long and 1/16 inch wide). EAB larvae are white and slightly flattened with a pair of brown pincher-like appendages on the last segment. Size varies as larvae feed and grow under the ash tree’s bark. Full-grown larvae average 1 1/2 inches in length. They wind back and forth as they feed and create S-shaped galleries under the bark. Larvae feed under the bark for one to two years and can survive in green wood, like firewood, as long as bark is attached.

**Plants Attacked:** All eastern North American ash species are susceptible, including green, white, black, blue and pumpkin ash (*Fraxinus* spp.). EAB can also attack white fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*), a species native to the southeast United States that is planted ornamentally.

**Damage:** Adults feed on ash foliage causing little damage. Larvae feed on the inner bark, disrupting the tree’s ability to transport water and nutrients, and ultimately cause the tree’s death. After the first year of infestation, small, D-shaped exit holes can be found on the trunk and branches. Bark may split vertically above larval feeding galleries. Stress likely contributes to the vulnerability and rapid decline of infested ash trees. Emerald ash borers, however, have killed apparently vigorous trees under regular irrigation and fertilization.

**Cultural Control:** To stop the spread of EAB, cut down infested trees and chip or incinerate all tree remains.

**Chemical Control:** Systemic insecticides, like imidacloprid (Bayer Advanced Fruit, Citrus and Vegetable Insect Control®, Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX®, Ferti-lome Azalea/Evergreen Food Plus with Systemic®, etc.), applied as a protectant prior to infestation have helped save some high-value trees. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

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**Brown stink bug on pecan**

**Description:** Brown stink bugs are green and brown, shield-shaped bugs 1/2 to 1 1/2 inches in length. They have piercing-sucking mouthparts and a triangular shape between the base of the wings. Adults (pictured) feed on immature nuts causing the interior to darken and the nuts to prematurely drop from the tree. Feeding after shell hardening causes brown to black, pithy, bitter spots on the kernels, reducing nut quality.

**Plants Attacked:** Pecans, most fruiting plants

**Damage:** Brown stink bugs may be present in orchards all year but normally cause the most serious injury from late August through September. Prior to shell hardening, feeding injury causes nut drop.

**Chemical Control:** Recommended products include lambda-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Bug Stop Indoor Plus Outdoor Insect Killer®, Bonide Beetle Killer®, etc.).
Granulate ambrosia beetle

**Description:** Adult females are stout-bodied. The mature color is dark reddish brown. Males are much smaller and differently shaped than females, with a “hunch-backed” appearance. Males are flightless.

**Plants Attacked:** This beetle has many reported hosts, but some of the most common include red maple, redbud, styrax, ornamental cherry, pecan, peach, plum, cherry, persimmon, Japanese maple, golden rain tree, dogwood, sweet gum, Shumard oak, Chinese elm, magnolia, fig and azalea.

**Damage:** Female beetles bore into the sapwood of stems and young trees. Though attracted to damaged, stressed or transplanted trees, the granulate ambrosia beetle also attacks seemingly healthy, thin-barked hardwoods or branches from 1 inch to 2 1/2 inches in diameter. Visible symptoms include wilted foliage and strands of boring dust protruding from small holes. These insects make galleries directly into the heartwood of the tree, which they inoculate with an ambrosia fungus that is used as their food source. In addition, they can introduce or create entry points for pathogenic fungi such as *Fusarium* spp. Death is more likely related to these pathogenic fungi that block xylem vessels. Young, infested trees often die, while more established landscape trees may sometimes survive. Serious attacks that result in tree death usually occur during the leafing-out stage.

**Cultural Control:** Adult beetle activity begins in March and peaks in mid to late April. Heavily infested plants or plant parts should be removed and destroyed. It may be best for large growers to wait three to four weeks after trees are attacked before removal so as to concentrate and destroy the greatest number of beetles, possibly sparing some healthy trees.

**Chemical Control:** Once trees are infested, the beetle cannot be killed within the plant and fungicides are ineffective against the fungus. Protective trunk sprays with pyrethroid insecticides have been helpful in preventing attack. Additional information may be found at [www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx](http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx).

Crapemyrtle bark scale (CMBS)

**Description:** Adult females appear as white or gray felt-like encrustations on small twigs to large trunks, often appearing near pruning wounds or in branch crotches on older wood. CMBS is white to gray in color and approximately 5/64 inch in length. Careful examination may reveal dozens of pink eggs or crawlers under some of the larger white scale covers. This felt scale is different from either an armored or soft scale.

**Plants Attacked:** Currently, crapemyrtles are the only host plant that comes under significant attack. American beauty berry has been identified as an alternate host.

**Damage:** Crapemyrtle bark scale insert piercing-sucking mouthparts into the plant and feed on plant fluids. As these insects feed, they excrete a sticky fluid (honeydew) that coats the plant. This honeydew supports the growth of sooty mold. This mold is not pathogenic but does inhibit photosynthetic capacity of coated leaves. Under a severe CMBS infestation, the plant can suffer from twig and branch dieback. Even under light to moderate infestations, the honeydew and resultant sooty mold adversely impact the aesthetic beauty of the plant in the landscape.

**Chemical Control:** Effective control measures are still being evaluated. However, a late fall/winter application of dormant oil may be helpful. The treatment with the greatest promise is a soil drench to the root zone with a labeled neonicotinoid systemic insecticide applied in the spring. This insect is easily spread via pruning debris, so care must be taken to prevent infesting nearby crapemyrtles. Additional information may be found at [www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx](http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx).
Grasshopper

Description: Most grasshoppers are winged and are good fliers. The redlegged grasshopper (pictured) has a reddish-brown back, a yellow belly and bright red hind legs. Newly hatched nymphs are white. After several hours of exposure to sunlight, they assume the distinctive colors and markings of adults.

Plants Attacked: Most grasshoppers are general feeders, but they do prefer young green plants. They will feed on many garden vegetables and flowers; however, squash and tomatoes are among the least favored garden hosts.

Damage: Grasshoppers have chewing mouthparts that remove large sections of leaves and flowers, sometimes devouring entire plants. When grasshoppers are extremely abundant and food is scarce, they feed on almost all plants. Grasshoppers generally don’t feed on most trees and shrubs, but they may be used as convenient resting sites. Grasshoppers may nibble on foliage and tender bark, causing considerable injury over the course of a season. Established plants tolerate this leaf loss and usually recover. Grasshoppers breed and develop in undisturbed sites such as pastures, empty lots and roadsides. When plants in these areas dry out or are eaten, grasshoppers may move to more lush growth found in yards and gardens.

Chemical Control: Options for grasshopper control include insecticides formulated as either sprays or baits. These include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®, Bonide Systemic Insect Control®), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), malathion, bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), gamma- and lambda-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazide Insect Killer®, Bonide Beetle Killer®, Spectracide Bug Stop Indoor Plus Outdoor Insect Killer®) and permethrin (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Bug II®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone®, Bonide Eight Insect Control Flower and Vegetable Granules®). Biological control of grasshoppers with a disease organism, the protozoan Nosema locustae, is also an option when rapid control in an outbreak situation is not needed. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Chinch bug

Several species; adult and nymphs are pictured.

Description: Adult chinch bugs are almost 3/16 inch long and have black bodies and fully developed wings that appear frosty-white, except for distinctive triangular black patch-like markings at the middles of the outer margins. Adults appear as either long-winged or short-winged forms. Newly hatched nymphs appear orange-red with a pale whitish band across their abdomens. As they molt through five growth stages (instars), nymphs gradually change color from red to orange to black and form wing pads as they develop.

Plants Attacked: Chinch bugs preferentially attack St. Augustinegrass. Alternate hosts in the absence of St. Augustinegrass include bermudagrass, bahiagrass, centipedegrass and zoysiagrass. Other turfgrasses attacked include Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, fescue and bentgrass.

Damage: Nymphs and adults feed by sucking juices from leaves and stems of turfgrass. A salivary toxin is injected that disrupts the translocation of water and nutrients, causing wilt and discoloration of plant tissues. Damage appears as patchy areas in the turf that turn yellow over time. As feeding progresses, the turf dries out and turns brown. High chinch bug populations can cause severe thinning or even stand death. Damage is usually heaviest in sunny locations during hot, dry periods.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate (Orthene Turf, Tree and Ornamental WSP®, Bonide Systemic Insect Control®), bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), carbaryl (Ortho Bug-Geta®, Ferti-lome Liquid Sevin®, Garden Tech Sevin®, etc.), chlorantraniliprole (Scotts GrubEx1), cyfluthrin, deltamethrin, dinotefuran, and permethrin. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
Cutworms

Multiple species

Description: Cutworms are dull gray, brown or black and may be striped or spotted. They are stout, soft-bodied, smooth and up to 1 1/4 inches long. They curl up tightly when disturbed.

Plants Attacked: Cutworms feed on seedlings or stems of herbaceous plants, shrubs, vines and trees.

Damage: Cutworms cut off plants above, at or below the soil surface. Some cutworms feed on leaves, buds or fruits; others feed on the underground portions of plants. They are particularly destructive to early season plantings.

Cultural Control: Hand pick off cutworms or use a protective collar around seedlings.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides include acephate, azadirachtin (Bonide Grub Beater Insect Control®, Certis Neemix 4.5 Insect Growth Regulator®), B.t., bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), carbayl, chlorantraniliprole, esfenvalerate (Monterey Bug Buster II®), deltamethrin, dinofuran, halofenozide (Hi-Yield Kill-A-Grub Plus Fertilizer®), indoxacarb, lambda-cyhalothrin, malathion, permethrin, spinosad (Dow Naturalyte Insect Control®, Green Light Lawn and Garden Spray with Spinosad®, Bonide Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray®, etc.) and trichlorfon. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.

Whiteflies

Several species occur in landscapes, gardens and greenhouses including the bandedwing, greenhouse, sweet potato and silverleaf whitefly. Silverleaf whitefly nymphs and adults and whitefly adults (insert) are pictured.

Description: Whitefly adults are tiny (about 1/16 inch long) insects that may disperse in clouds when disturbed. Immatures are usually found in colonies on or beneath leaf surfaces. Adult silverleaf whiteflies have white wings with a yellow body, and they are slightly waxy with no dark markings or bands. The yellow body is visible between the wings.

Plants Attacked: As many as 500 hosts have been identified for the silverleaf whitefly. Some preferred ornamental hosts are Gerbera daisies, canna lilies, citrus, bearded iris, crepe myrtle, fucus, lantana, petunia, rose, poinsettia and bottle brush. Some common garden plant hosts include beans, broccoli, lettuce, melons, grape, sweet potato and tomato.

Damage: Whiteflies feed by sucking sap from the plant, resulting in stunting, poor growth, defoliation, reduced yields and sometimes plant death. On certain plants, the silverleaf whitefly causes silverying of leaves. Whiteflies also produce honeydew, which supports the growth of sooty mold.

Cultural Control: Cultural, mechanical and biological controls may hold low populations in check.

Chemical Control: Recommended insecticides for controlling higher populations include abamectin, acephate, acetamiprid (Ortho Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Insect Killer®), azadirachtin, bifenthrin (Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin 2.4®, Ortho Bug-B-Gone MAX Insect Killer®, Ortho Home Defense MAX®, etc.), buprofezin, cyfluthrin (Bayer Advanced Power Force®), diflubenzuron, dinofuran, esfenvalerate, fenazaquin, fenoxycarb, fenpropathrin, fenvalerate, flonicamid, fluvinate, gamma-cyhalothrin (Spectracide Triazine Once and Done®), horticultural oil, imidacloprid, insecticidal soap, lambda-cyhalothrin, malathion (Malathion®), neem oil, novaluron, pymetroxine, permethrin, pyrethrins or pyrethrum, pyridaben, pyrifluquinazon, pyriproxyfen, resmethrin, spiromesifen, spirotetramat, thiamethoxam and tolfenpyrad. Additional information may be found at www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx.
LANDSCAPE WEEDS
Landscape Weeds

Woody sprouts

Description: Sprouts of oak, hickory, crepe myrtle, sugarberry, mimosa and other woody species are one of the most common problems in landscape beds and lawns. They are often well-rooted and, therefore, difficult to pull, or the stems break during pulling leaving the roots intact.

Chemical Control: Cutting the stems with pruning shears and treating the cut end with undiluted glyphosate containing at least 41% active ingredient will stop resprouting. Another method is inserting a florist’s water tube filled with undiluted glyphosate over the cut end of the stem and leaving it for several days. The cut should be fresh. This technique avoids the risk of getting glyphosate on nearby plants. Preemergence herbicides are usually ineffective on these large-seeded species.

Silver thread moss

Species: Bryum argenteum

Description: Silver thread moss is the most common moss in Arkansas. It may be found in turfgrass and on many surfaces in shaded areas. It is associated with excess surface moisture as a result of frequent irrigation, heavy shade or poor drainage. Mosses spread rapidly via asexual reproduction. Anything that spreads fragments of moss plants can lead to new infestations. Because of their asexual method of reproduction, small moss colonies can rapidly spread.

Cultural Control: Reducing shade and improving drainage improves moss control.

Chemical Control: QuickSilver T&O® (carfentrazone) at 6.7 ounces per acre in 100 gallons of water per acre when temperatures are less than 85°F provides excellent moss control. Grasses are generally tolerant of QuickSilver. QuickSilver does not control algae. Clorox® can be used to control moss on a roof. Protect desirable plants from Clorox runoff.
Yellow nutsedge

**Species:** *Cyperus esculentus*

**Description:** Yellow nutsedge is a warm-season perennial that may be 1 to 2 feet tall. The leaf tips are sharp and pointed compared to the blunt leaf tips of purple nutsedge. The leaves are arranged in threes. Stems are pithy and triangular (inset). Yellow nutsedge produces seeds, rhizomes and tubers. The tubers have a sweet taste compared to the bitter flavor of purple nutsedge tubers. The seedheads are yellow when mature. Yellow nutsedge is not usually a problem in lawns. It is more common in ornamental beds and vegetable gardens. Nutsedge will grow through plastic mulch, aboveground pool bottoms and asphalt.

**Chemical Control:** SedgeHammer+® (halosulfuron), Image®, Certainty® (sulfosulfuron), Monument® (trifloxysulfuron), Dismiss® (sulfentrazone) and Dismiss South® (sulfentrazone + imazethapyr) are all effective for yellow nutsedge. Certainty is safe on all warm-season grasses. SedgeHammer+ is less effective but may be used on all lawn grasses. Follow-up applications are needed when regrowth appears. SedgeHammer+, Certainty and Image may be sprayed around some ornamentals in landscape beds. See the label for species tolerance and use details. Herbicides kill only the tubers attached to plants. Spray when yellow nutsedge is in the 3- to 8-leaf stage of growth.

Green kyllinga

**Species:** *Kyllinga brevifolia*

**Description:** Green kyllinga is a warm-season perennial with triangular stems and leaves arranged in threes. It reaches 6 inches in height. The seedhead is a rounded, congested clump with the leaves just below. Kyllinga forms dense mats and survives low mowing. It prefers wet, poorly drained soils. There are several species of kyllinga in Arkansas. It is common in turfgrass but not landscape beds.

**Chemical Control:** Monument® (trifloxysulfuron), Certainty® (sulfosulfuron) and Dismiss South® (sulfentrazone + imazethapyr) provide excellent kyllinga control. SedgeHammer+® (halosulfuron), while slightly less effective on kyllinga, is safe to use on all turfgrasses. Certainty also provides control and is safe on all warm-season grasses. SedgeHammer+, Certainty and Image® may be sprayed around some ornamentals in landscape beds. See the label for species tolerance and use details.
Purple nutsedge

Species: *Cyperus rotundus*

Description: Purple nutsedge is a warm-season perennial with leaves arranged in threes and with triangular stems. The leaf tips are blunter than those of yellow nutsedge. The plants are smaller than yellow nutsedge and have darker green leaves. Flowers are a dull reddish-purple. Dark-colored, bitter-tasting tubers are produced in chains connected by rhizomes. This is the most difficult sedge to control and is considered to be one of the world’s worst weeds. Purple nutsedge spreads by seed, tubers and rhizomes. Prevention and sanitation are very important in controlling this pest.

Chemical Control: Monument® (trifloxysulfuron), Certainty® (sulfosulfuron) and Dismiss South® (sulfentrazone + imazethapyr) provide temporary suppression of purple nutsedge. Certainty is safe on all warm-season grasses. SedgeHammer+® (halosulfuron), while slightly less effective, is safe to use on all turfgrasses. Image 70 DG® (imazaquin) is an effective herbicide for suppressing sedges in warm-season turfgrasses. Image may cause stunting of turfgrasses. Repeat applications will be needed with any of these herbicides. SedgeHammer+, Certainty and Image may be sprayed around some ornamentals in landscape beds. See the label for a list of tolerant species and usage details.

Sedge control for homeowners

SedgeHammer+® (halosulfuron + surfactant) is a good sedge control choice for homeowners because it is effective on the common sedges, comes in a small package with surfactant added and is safe on all turfgrasses. SedgeHammer+ may be sprayed around some ornamentals in landscape beds. See the label for a list of tolerant species and usage details. **Do not spray SedgeHammer+ over the top of landscape plants.** Hi-Yield Nutsedge Control® also contains halosulfuron. Ortho Nutsedge Killer for Lawns® (0.05% sulfentrazone) is a quick-acting herbicide that is fairly effective on most sedges and safe on most lawn grasses. Sulfentrazone is fast-acting and will cause leaf burn on sedges within two to three days of application. It is less effective on purple nutsedge than halosulfuron.
Landscape Weeds

Bamboo

**Species:** Phyllostachos spp., others (*Arundinaria gigantea* is the only Arkansas native cane.) Most of the problem plants are introduced species.

**Description:** Bamboo is a woody member of the grass family. The joints of the main stem are hard and solid; the area between the joints is hollow.

**Chemical Control:** In home landscapes, glyphosate is the most practical treatment for bamboo. Like greenbrier (page 43), new, tender growth must be present to permit absorption of the herbicide. Cut the bamboo to the ground and spray when new shoots reach a height of 18 to 24 inches. Use a 5% solution of a glyphosate product containing at least 41% active ingredient. Repeat each time bamboo shoots appear.

In areas where root uptake by nearby plants is not a concern, Arsenal® (imazapyr) is more effective than glyphosate for bamboo control. Drilling a small hole just below a joint and filling the hollow section below with undiluted glyphosate is somewhat effective for small stands.

Bermudagrass

**Species:** *Cynodon dactylon*

**Description:** Bermudagrass is a warm-season perennial with long, prostrate stems that root at the nodes. It may be from 4 to 16 inches tall. The seedheads are fingerlike (inset) with four to seven fingers. It is the most common lawn grass in the state. Bermudagrass spreads by above and below ground lateral stems.

**Chemical Control:** Use sethoxydim (Segment®, fluazifop (Ortho Grass B Gon®)) or clethodim (Envoy®) for control in landscape beds. These herbicides affect only grasses and, therefore, should not be applied to ornamental grasses. Use only on nongrass ornamental species. They are safe over the top of nongrass ornamentals such as mondo grass, liriope and iris. Sethoxydim may be used in centipedegrass lawns. Use fluazifop plus triclopyr ester for bermudagrass control in tall fescue or zoysiagrass turf.

**Preplant Control:** Make three or four applications of a glyphosate product containing at least 41% active ingredient at 2 to 3 quarts per acre over the growing season (May, July and September). Wait for regrowth before making the next application. Using this method does not guarantee complete control. Tank mixing with 24 fluid ounces per acre of Fusilade II® (fluazifop) may improve control. Do not seed for 30 days after applying Fusilade II.
Large crabgrass

**Species:** *Digitaria sanguinalis*

**Description:** Summer annual, pale green, often hairy, with stems rooting at the nodes. The seedhead has two to nine finger-like spikelets. Flowers midsummer until frost and may grow 6 to 30 inches tall. Crabgrass may be the most common lawn, turf and garden weed.

**Chemical Control:** Preemergence products for crabgrass control include Barricade® (prodiamine), Pendulum® (pendimethalin), Specticle® (indaziflam) and Dimension® (dithiopyr). Preemergence is the best approach to crabgrass control because postemergence herbicides are not very effective. Preemergence herbicides should be applied around March 1 or before crabgrass begins to germinate. Water in with 1/4 to 1/2 inch of irrigation for best results. Scotts Halts® (pendimethalin) is a good preemergence choice for homeowners. For postemergence control, apply quinclorac (Quinclorac 75 DF®, Drive®, Drive XL.R8®) to tolerant turfgrasses when crabgrass is less than two tillers or mature. Repeat application in seven days. Use methylated seed oil as a surfactant. Other postemergence possibilities include Tenacity® (mesotrione) or Segment® (sethoxydim) in centipedegrass. Some homeowner products that contain quinclorac include Ortho Weed-B-Gon Weed Killer for Lawns Plus Crabgrass Control Concentrate®, Bayer Advanced All-in-One Lawn Weed and Crabgrass Killer® and Ferti-lome Weed-Out with Q®.

Dallisgrass

**Species:** *Paspalum dilatatum*

**Description:** Wide-bladed, warm-season, perennial, clump-forming grass with short rhizomes. Reaches a height of 1 to 3 feet. Seedhead has three to seven thick spikelets on alternate branches (inset). Leaf blades are smooth on both surfaces. The midvein of the leaf is very prominent.

**Cultural Control:** Dig the clumps with a shovel.

**Chemical Control:** Another approach is spot treatment with glyphosate. Use a 2% solution of a glyphosate product containing at least 41% active ingredient. Obviously, this is going to kill some of the desirable grass and leave brown spots in the turf. Two applications of glyphosate are needed. Apply the first after active growth begins in May, and spray again when regrowth appears. This will take most of the summer. Keep the glyphosate spray off nontarget plants. A selective approach involves repeat applications of Tribute Total® (foramsulfuron + halosulfuron + thiencarbazone) in late summer and early fall. This will selectively suppress dallisgrass in residential lawns. Typical timings would be September 15, October 15 and July 15 of the following season. Use Tribute Total only in bermudagrass.
Annual bluegrass

Species: Poa annua

Description: Winter annual with leaves about 1 to 4 inches long with a boat-shaped tip (inset). There are two distinct clear lines, one on each side of the midrib of leaves. It is the most common bluegrass species in Arkansas and blooms March through June. The seedhead is whitish.

Chemical Control: It is difficult to achieve complete control of annual bluegrass with a single herbicide application. Preemergence and postemergence treatments may be needed. To achieve preemergence control with herbicides such as Specticle® (indaziflam), Barricade® (prodimine), Pendulum® (pendimethalin) and Dimension® (dithiopyr), apply on August 15 and water immediately with 1/4 to 1/2 inch of irrigation. Specticle may be applied later because it will control small annual bluegrass postemergence.

In tolerant grasses, simazine and atrazine are effective preemergence and postemergence on small annual bluegrass. Apply between Thanksgiving and Christmas. In bermudagrass, one of the cheapest and easiest ways to control Poa annua is to use 41% active ingredient glyphosate at 16 fluid ounces per acre while bermudagrass is completely dormant. Completely dormant means no sign of green foliage. Revolver® (foramsulfuron), TranXit® (rimsulfuron) and Monument® (trifloxysulfuron) will provide postemergence Poa annua control without damaging partially green bermudagrass or zoysiagrass.

Poison ivy

Species: Toxicodendron radicans

Description: Poison ivy is a perennial, woody vine that attaches by aerial rootlets to trees, posts and structures. The leaves are alternate bearing three-stalked leaflets. The leaflets are glossy, entire or variously bluntly toothed. New leaves often have a reddish-green hue. The flowers are inconspicuous and greenish-white. The fruits are small, waxy, cream-colored berries. Poison ivy has brilliant red or yellow fall color.

Chemical Control: Three-ways (2,4-D + dicamba + MCPP), glyphosate and triclopyr provide fair to good control. Tank mixing glyphosate + triclopyr often improves control. Repeat applications will be needed. Cutting the stems at the base and painting the cut ends with undiluted glyphosate or triclopyr is another option. Another method is inserting a florist’s water tube filled with undiluted glyphosate containing at least 41% active ingredient over the cut end of the stem. The cut should be fresh.
Dodder

**Species:** *Cuscuta pentagona*

**Description:** Dodder is a warm-season annual. The dodder plant starts independently but soon establishes a parasitic relationship with a host plant. All or nearly all of the chlorophyll (green material) is lost, and the dodder plant appears as golden yellow strings sprawling and twining indiscriminately over the host plant, with small suckers penetrating the host plant at intervals. The leaves are without chlorophyll and are small and scale-like. The flowers are small, yellowish-white in small clusters originating in the leaf forks. Dodder can sense volatile chemicals released by host plants and will grow toward them.

**Chemical Control:** Either pendimethalin or prodiamine applied in March will control dodder preemergence. Repeat application in 90 days for full-season control.

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Japanese honeysuckle

**Species:** *Lonicera japonica*

**Description:** Japanese honeysuckle is an evergreen, perennial, climbing vine. The leaves are opposite, oval and entire. The flowers are tubular, 1 to 2 inches long, lobed at the apex and are borne on the new growth of the season. The plants climb by twining on fences or brush a few feet to several yards high.

**Chemical Control:** A 5% solution of a glyphosate product containing at least 41% active ingredient applied in the fall controls honeysuckle. Follow-up treatments will be needed. Another option is MSM OD25® (metsulfuron). Add 0.4 ounce of MSM OD25 to 10 gallons of water and spray to wet. Include a surfactant in the mix.
Peppervine

**Species:** *Ampelopsis arborea*

**Description:** Perennial vine. Leaves usually doubly compound. Leaflets have coarse teeth. Fruit is shiny and black when ripe (inset). Common throughout the state. It is found along roadsides, fencerows and in landscapes.

**Chemical Control:** A 5% solution of a glyphosate product containing at least 41% active ingredient applied in the fall controls peppervine. Follow-up treatments will be needed. Another method is inserting a florist’s water tube filled with undiluted glyphosate over the cut end of the stem. The cut should be fresh.

Greenbrier

**Species:** *Smilax bona-nox*

**Description:** Greenbrier or sawbrier is a perennial vine. The young leaves may be bronze to purple. Mature leaves have a waxy coating. There are prickles along the stem. A large underground tuber is present.

**Chemical Control:** Greenbrier control is difficult regardless of the methods or herbicides used. Treat in late April or early May with a 5% solution of a glyphosate product containing at least 41% active ingredient when the leaves are immature and pale green. The immature leaves lack a waxy coating and absorb herbicides more readily. Another method is inserting a florist’s water tube filled with undiluted glyphosate over the cut end of the stem. The cut should be fresh.
Landscape Weeds

Spurweed

Species: Soliva pterosperma

Description: A small, low-growing, mat-forming winter annual with lacy leaves. Spurweed produces a spiny fruit (inset) from April to June. It is more common in the southern half of the state.

Chemical Control: Readily controlled by preemergence or early postemergence applications of atrazine or simazine in tolerant grasses. Timing is key to satisfactory control. Apply herbicides in December to prevent development of seeds. If that timing is missed, make the application before March 1. Metsulfuron (Manor®, Mansion®, Blade® or MSM OD25®) or three-ways (MCPP + dicamba + 2,4-D) provide postemergence control of spurweed. Metsulfuron or a three-way may be tank mixed with either simazine or atrazine to improve control.

John Boyd, University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture

Henbit

Species: Lamium amplexicaule

Description: Henbit is a cool-season annual that reaches 3 to 10 inches in height. The leaves are opposite and stems are square. The leaf margins are bluntly toothed. The upper leaves are attached directly to the stem. The lower leaves have petioles. The flowers are small, two-lipped and purple (rarely white). Along with common chickweed, it is one of the most common winter weeds.

Chemical Control: Simazine or atrazine applied in late November or early December provide good to excellent control. Metsulfuron (Manor®, Mansion®, MSM OD25® or Blade®) is very effective postemergence. Three-ways (2,4-D + MCPP + dicamba) alone provide only partial control of henbit. Tank mixing a three-way with simazine, atrazine or metsulfuron improves control. Apply early (between December and March 1) before the weeds get big.

John Boyd, University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
Chickweed

Species: Stellaria media

Description: Common chickweed is a many-branched winter annual with white flowers bearing five petals. Each petal is deeply lobed so that each flower appears to have ten petals. The leaves are opposite, entire and oval (inset). It often appears in shady areas. Along with henbit, it may be the most common winter annual broadleaf weed in the state.

Chemical Control: Simazine or atrazine applied in late November or early December provide good to excellent control. Metsulfuron (Manor®, Mansion®, MSM OD25® or Blade®) is very effective postemergence. Three-ways (2,4-D + MCPP + dicamba) alone provide only partial control of chickweed. Tank mixing a three-way with simazine, atrazine or metsulfuron solves the problem of poor control. Apply early (between December and March 1) before the weeds get big.

Virginia copperleaf

Species: Acalypha virginica

Description: Virginia copperleaf is a warm-season annual that may reach a height of 1 to 2 feet. The stems are hairy, and the leaves are egg-shaped on long petioles. The small flowers are borne in clusters in the leaf axils in the upper portion of stems and branches. The seed pod contains three seeds. Another common name is three-seeded mercury. It is a common weed in landscape beds.

Chemical Control: Either pendimethalin or prodiamine applied in March will control Virginia copperleaf preemergence. Repeat application in 90 days for full-season control.
Common lespedeza

**Species:** *Lespedeza striata*

**Description:** Common lespedeza is a clover-like, warm-season annual. It branches at the base and forms mats up to about 15 to 18 inches in diameter. The leaves have three oblong, smooth leaflets. The veins on the leaflets are prominent (inset). The flowers are purple and inconspicuous. It is an aggressive weed from a tough taproot. It is very common in areas of thin turf. Lespedeza is often an indicator of insufficient nitrogen fertilization.

**Chemical Control:** Ortho Chickweed and Oxalis Killer® (8% triclopyr) is a good choice for homeowners. Do not use this product on centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass or bermudagrass. Celsius® (thiencarbazone + iodosulfuron + dicamba) should be effective on lespedeza. Products containing metsulfuron are very effective on most legumes. When using three-ways (2,4-D + MCPP + dicamba), repeat applications are usually needed. 2,4-D alone will not control lespedeza or white clover.

Prostrate spurge

**Species:** *Euphorbia humistrata*

**Description:** Summer annual with reddish to purple stems that ooze milky juice when broken (inset). The individual leaves are oval, less than 1/4 inch in length, about half as wide and may have an oval purple spot along the midrib. It is a very heat- and drought-tolerant weed found in lawns, landscape beds and container nurseries and along sidewalks and driveways. It hugs the ground while forming large, almost perfectly round mats.

**Chemical Control:** Pendimethalin and prodiamine provide partial preemergence control in turf and landscape beds. Applied postemergence, metsulfuron (Manor®, Blade®, MSM OD25® and Mansion®) is the best spurge control treatment in turfgrass. Use only in bermudagrass, centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass and zoysiagrass.
**Virginia buttonweed**

*Species:* *Diodia virginiana*

*Description:* Perennial with a taproot that is low-growing and mat-forming. Leaves opposite, stems hairy. Stems may root at the nodes. Leaves may take on a mottled, yellow, mosaic look. Flowers are white with four lobes. Upper surface of petals covered with hairs. Prefers low, moist areas. Tolerates close mowing.

*Cultural Control:* For limited populations, dig the plants being sure to remove the taproot.

*Chemical Control:* Herbicides provide only temporary suppression of Virginia buttonweed. Products containing fluoroxypr or triclopyr, such as Escalade 2® or Momentum FX2®, seem to be more consistent than the standard three-ways. However, multiple applications of three-way (2,4-D + MCPP + dicamba) herbicides at intervals of three to six weeks do a fair job of suppressing Virginia buttonweed. Consult the herbicide label to determine the maximum number of applications allowed per year.

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**Mulberry weed**

*Species:* *Fatuoa villosa*

*Description:* A summer annual that resembles a mulberry tree seedling. Lower portions of the stem may become dark maroon. Leaves are alternate, roughly triangular in outline with prominently toothed margins. The leaf surface is glossy green and prominently veined. Petioles are about half as long as the leaf blade. Flowers are in feathery clusters, up to 3/4 inch in diameter, in the leaf axils. Flower clusters are purple when young, fading to dark brown with age. It is a prolific seed producer that spreads rapidly in landscape beds. Mulberry weed can expel seeds up to 4 feet. It is often spread by way of container nursery plants. A relative newcomer, it is one of the worst landscape weeds in Arkansas. Do not let it become established.

*Cultural Control:* Prevent introduction as much as possible. Inspect container nursery stock for mulberry weed and remove before planting. Control strategies should include exclusion, sanitation, mulching and herbicides. When pulling mulberry weed, do not discard the plants on the site. Place in a container and dispose in the trash.

*Chemical Control:* Either pendimethalin or prodiamine applied in March will control mulberry weed preemergence. Gallery® (isoxaben) is also effective. Repeat application in 90 days for full-season control.
Common yellow woodsorrel

**Species:** *Oxalis stricta*

**Description:** Small perennial, 3 to 9 inches tall, often forming small rhizomes. The rhizomes give rise to nearby plants. Leaves divided into three leaflets. Leaflets are heart-shaped, partly folded and have a definite sour taste. Flowers are bright yellow with five petals (inset). Forms okra-like fruit. Stalks turn down and the okra-like fruit remains erect, forming an elbow just beneath the fruit.

**Cultural Control:** Prevention and sanitation are keys in preventing the establishment and spread of this weed. Do not let it go to seed.

**Chemical Control:** In landscape beds, either pendimethalin or prodiamine applied in March will control woodsorrel preemergence from seed. Gallery® (isoxaben) is also effective.

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Chamberbitter

**Species:** *Phyllanthus urinaria*

**Description:** A prolific seed producer. It spreads readily via container nursery plants. Found most often in landscape beds, occasionally in lawns. Chamberbitter is an upright-growing summer annual with a strong taproot. The stems are red to green. Leaves are thin, smooth-margined, oblong and arranged in two rows on the branchlets. The flowers are inconspicuous. Reproduces by seed; seeds have a strong light requirement for germination. The fruit is a round, warty capsule without a stalk, singly attached to the underside of the branches (inset). Each fruit capsule contains six seeds. The plant grows up to 3 feet tall.

**Cultural Control:** Inspect container nursery plants for chamberbitter and remove before planting. Do not let this weed go to seed. When hand pulling, do not shake dirt off the roots. Place in a container and dispose in the trash.

**Chemical Control:** In landscape beds, either pendimethalin or prodiamine applied in March will control chamberbitter preemergence from seed. Gallery® (isoxaben) is also effective. In tolerant turfgrasses, atrazine or three-ways (2,4-D + dicamba + MCPP) provide fair to good postemergence control. Repeat applications will be needed.
Violet

**Species:** *Viola* spp.

**Description:** Perennial, 2 to 5 inches tall. Leaves are all basal, not lobed, but scalloped on the margin, mostly hairless. Flowers blue violet to lilac or white. Usually found in shady areas with thin turf. Many species of violet are found in Arkansas landscapes.

**Cultural Control:** Adopt violet as a groundcover.

**Chemical Control:** Very difficult to control. In turfgrass, Manor®, Mansion®, MSM OD25® or Blade® (metsulfuron) is an effective violet control herbicide in bermudagrass, centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass and zoysiagrass.

Products containing triclopyr and clopyralid (Confront®, Turflon®), 2,4-D + fluroxypyr + dicamba (Escalade 2®) or triclopyr + phenoxy herbicides (Cool Power®, HorsePower® or Chaser®) are fairly effective for violet control. These products may be used on cool-season grasses such as tall fescue. Three-ways (2,4-D + dicamba + MCPP) provide fair to poor postemergence control. Repeat applications are usually required. Mid to late fall applications are best followed by mid spring to early summer applications. Ortho Chickweed and Oxalis Killer® (8% triclopyr) is a good choice for homeowners. Do not use this product on centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass or bermudagrass.

American burnweed

**Species:** *Erechtites hieracifolia*

**Description:** American burnweed is a warm-season annual with alternate leaves that are sharp, pointed and have toothed margins. The flowers resemble dandelion puffs when mature. The seed is readily dispersed by wind. Without mowing, it will reach a height of 5 to 6 feet.

**Chemical Control:** American burnweed is readily controlled with the postemergence broadleaf products commonly used in lawns, such as 2,4-D + MCPP + dicamba, metsulfuron, Celsius®, Blindside®, and others. Preemergence products such as simazine, FreeHand® and Specticle® have been effective.
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