



Missouri Nursery Pest News

Office of the State Entomologist
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Bagworms are out early! Time to treat for various borers...

(From Collin Wamsley, Plant Protection Specialist, Lee's Summit.)

Bagworms are now hatching in Kansas City. Recent observations indicate they hatched in the last day or two. Most are still in the old bag, but some have ventured out on their own. Treatments should begin in the next week or two for best control. Our warm spring has put us a couple of weeks ahead of schedule as bagworms usually hatch in mid-Missouri in late May to early June. Several chemicals are labeled for use including Talstar, Sevin, Dursban, Bacillus thuringiensis (kurstaki), Pounce and many others. Not all larvae will hatch at the same time so a repeat treatment may be necessary.

Borer/Scale Treatment Time

As of May 10, in Kansas City, we've accumulated approximately 500 degree days (base 50F) which means it is time to make first applications of insecticide for control of Roundheaded Apple Tree Borer, Flatheaded Apple Tree Borer, Peach Tree Borer and Euonymus Scale. The indicator plant for these treatment actions, Vanhouttei spirea, is now in the late bloom stage signifying that it is time to treat for these pests.

Roundheaded and Flatheaded Apple Tree Borer infestations can be prevented by applying Dursban, Perm-Up 3.2 EC, Discus, Waylay, Chlorpyrifos G-Pro or Permethrin G-Pro to the trunk before egg hatch begins and repeated at 2-3 week intervals, depending on label instructions.

Peach Tree Borer infestations can be controlled by applying Dursban, Ecozin, Endosulfan, Pounce, Azatin XL, Pyrenone, Waylay, Chlorpyrifos G-Pro or Permethrin G-Pro to the trunk before egg hatch begins and repeated every 2-3 weeks, depending on label instructions.

These borers are best controlled when sprays thoroughly cover the trunk from soil level up to the first branches. Tall weeds and root suckers will significantly hinder insecticide coverage and should be removed before applications begin.

Euonymus Scale crawlers are susceptible at this time to Fyfanon, Dursban, Guthion, Malathion, Orthene, Insecticidal Soap, Dimethoate, Acephate, Distance, Precision, M-Pede or Chlorpyrifos G-Pro. Repeat 4 times at 10-12 day intervals. These scales are most often on the underside of leaves and on stems. Be sure to get good coverage of these areas with your insecticide. Multiple applications may be necessary. Check your label for instructions.

For information on some quarantine insect pests and weeds, visit the National Plant Board website at <http://nationalplantboard.org/>. If you are looking for growers in Missouri that might have the plants you need, you can find that list by visiting the Missouri Dept. of Agriculture website at <http://www.mda.mo.gov/Pest/ngrowers.html>. Back issues of Nursery Pest News are available at <http://www.mda.mo.gov/Pest/nursery/news.htm>

Remember: Before using any chemical, always read the label carefully for directions on application procedures, appropriate rates, first aid, storage, and disposal. Make sure chemical is properly registered for use on the intended pest. Any products named are not intended as endorsements, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned. These recommendations are based on observations and conditions in Missouri.