

nursery e-news

VOLUTELLA BLIGHT OF BOXWOOD



Leaves eventually become straw-colored and often remain attached to branches. Credit: Univ. of KY Fact sheet: PPFS-OR-W-26

Factsheets for more info on Volutella
Blight of Boxwood:



bit.ly/3HCXDl6



bit.ly/4jBRjaN

Although Volutella blight of boxwood is a common disease of boxwood, there are ways to mitigate its spread. This disease is caused by the fungus *Pseudonectria buxi* (formerly *Volutella buxi*). The stress-related pathogen overwinters in plant tissue and debris that was infected the previous season. Infection and spread occur in spring during favorable conditions (68-77F & 85+% relative humidity) and enters unhealthy and/or plant tissue damaged from winter injury or pruning.

What to Look For:

Early spring growth of infected branches is delayed or plants have poor vigor. Leaves of affected branches turn light green-yellow, change to red/bronze and finally become straw or yellow-tan in color. Dead leaves cup upward and remain attached to branches even after branch death, although leaves may eventually drop. Additional symptoms include stem cankers (sunken lesions), which girdle stems and result in dieback, and loose/peeling and discolored bark around cankers. Under high humidity, pink to salmon-colored fruiting bodies (sporodochia) develop on undersides of discolored leaves and cankered stems and can be seen without a hand lens.

Management:

- Prune when foliage is dry to avoid spreading sticky spores
 - Sanitize pruners between plants or blocks of boxwoods, especially if plants are known to be infected, with a solution of either 70% isopropyl alcohol, 10% bleach or a commercial sterilant product.
 - Remove and destroy or bag clippings and fallen debris from around boxwood plants.
 - Prevent infection in early spring when conditions are favorable (see above) by applying a fungicide via spray (options: chlorothalonil, copper hydroxide, copper sulfate, thiophanate methyl, mancozeb).
 - Maintain healthy plants and sufficient air circulation
 - Protect plants during winter from drying winds and extreme temp.'s
- For questions, please contact Dr. Kaitlin Barrios: kbarrios@tnstate.edu

PERIODICAL CICADA ALERT

The periodical cicada brood XIV emerged earlier this month in areas of middle TN. This is a 17-year population that went underground in 2008.

We are interested in knowing where they have been in abundance. If you would like to let us know, please email Dr. Kaitlin Barrios: kbarrios@tnstate.edu

TSU NRC Fact Sheet on
Periodical Cicadas:



bit.ly/4hIjBzH



Photo credit: Dr. Alfred Johnson

nursery e-news

FIELD DAY-OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE JUNE 20TH 2025

Otis L. Floyd
Nursery Research
Center

8AM

REGISTRATION AND WELCOME

Dr. Karla Adesso

8:30 AM

INVASIVE INSECTS IN TN NURSERIES AND LANDSCAPES

Dr. Karla Adesso

9:30 AM

WEED CONTROL IN NURSERY CONTAINERS

Dr. Anthony Witcher

10:30 AM

BREAK & LABS OPEN FOR VISITING

11 AM

VASCULAR STREAK DIEBACK UPDATES

Dr. Fulya Baysal-Gurel

12 PM

INDUSTRY REP.'S PRODUCT UPDATES

12:30 PM

LUNCH & LABS OPEN FOR VISITING

1:30-2:30 PM

HANDS-ON SESSIONS

A. Scouting & Diagnostics for Disease & Insects -Dr.'s Fulya Baysal-Gurel & Karla Adesso
B. Pesticide Sprayer and Spreader Calibration Demo- Dr.'s Jason Oliver & Anthony Witcher
C. Monitoring Root Zone Heat Stress in Containers / Plant Pollination Techniques - Dr.'s Jake Shreckhise & Lisa Alexander

TO REGISTER



OR USE:

bit.ly/4cl5Plm

2:30-3:30 PM

HANDS-ON SESSIONS

A. Scouting & Diagnostics for Disease & Insects -Dr.'s Fulya Baysal-Gurel & Karla Adesso
B. Pesticide Sprayer and Spreader Calibration Demo- Dr.'s Jason Oliver & Anthony Witcher
C. Monitoring Root Zone Heat Stress in Containers / Plant Pollination Techniques - Dr.'s Jake Shreckhise & Lisa Alexander



TSU-20-00189(B)-12b-61065 — Tennessee State University is an AA/EEO employer.

Pesticide applicator credits available: Private (2 pts) and Commercial (5 pts each): C02, C03, C10, C12.

Moneywise Irrigation and Fertilization Strategies for Container Nurseries

USDA Agricultural Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UTEXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE



World-class experts in nursery irrigation, nutrition, and container substrates from across the U.S. are coming to McMinnville to provide classroom and hands-on training to hone your irrigation and fertilization practices. Limited spots available. Don't miss this rare opportunity!

Learn how to:

- Measure irrigation uniformity and leaching fraction
- Optimize substrate fertility
- Evaluate substrate physical properties
- Manage root heat stress

JULY 10, 2025

9:00AM CDT-4:00PM CDT

TSU Nursery Research Center
472 Cadillac Lane
McMinnville, TN 37110

Registration Fee

\$35.00

/Person

Contact Dr. Jake Shreckhise, USDA-ARS, Jacob.Shreckhise@usda.gov or Dr. Amy Fulcher afulcher@utk.edu with questions.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

- If you would like to share about your nursery for a TSU Extension podcast, we would love to hear from you!
- We want to promote and share the history, mission and/or stories of middle TN's nurseries for anyone to hear and enjoy
- The recorded episodes will likely be posted on the NRC's website and available for listening through a podcast app
- Please contact Dr. Kaitlin Barrios, if you are interested: kbarrios@tnstate.edu or 931-259-4824 (office)

TSU's Otis L. Floyd Nursery

Research Center



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STATE UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension

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<https://www.tnstate.edu/agriculture/nrc/>