THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE Extension

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT PATHOLOGY—EPP#60

May 10 Webinar : Fire Ant Control Made Easy

Submitted by Karen Vail

Frustrated trying to control fire ants? If so, join us for an online seminar, **Fire Ant Control Made Easy,** on Thursday, May 10 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. EDT (10 to 11 a.m. CDT or 8 to 9 a.m. PDT) and brought to you by the Imported Fire Ant eXtension Community of Practice.

Killing fire ants is actually easier than you think—if you understand how they live. This webinar will help you learn how to apply integrated pest management tactics that are as economical and environmentally friendly as possible. You'll also learn about fire ant biological control agents such as the *Pseudacteon* phorid flies.

To participate, log in as "guest" at http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/fireant

If you have specific questions that you want us to address during the webinar, post them to the Imported Fire Ant eXtension Facebook page (Fire Ant Info).

Find more information on fire ants at www.extension.org/fire+ants or on Facebook (Fire Ant Info), Twitter (@FireAntInfo), or YouTube (eXfireants).

Scan this QR code for direct links to these resources:

eXtension more mind reach

Inside this issue:

EPA Launches Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse

Submitted by Karen Vail

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is launching an online Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse. It contains peer-reviewed bed bug outreach materials from a variety of different sources such as governments, universities and extension services. Stemming from a top recommendation from EPA's Second Annual National Bed Bug Summit, the Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse is a collaborative effort between EPA and partners in the Federal Bed Bug Workgroup.

The goal of the Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse is to provide a "one-stop" location for communities throughout the country to exchange information and outreach materials on the control, detection and prevention of bed bugs. This will help communities conserve resources and provide improved effectiveness and accuracy of community outreach materials. The Clearinghouse is searchable based on:

- Audience – such as Hotels, Health Centers, Housing Authorities, Schools, Shelters, Residential Consumers, etc.
- Topic – Detection, Prevention, Non-chemical Control, Management, Pesticides
- Type of product – Outreach Materials such as Factsheets, Brochures, Websites, etc.

The Clearinghouse will include information in English and other languages as available. Some of the current information focuses on identifying and treating bed bug infestations in various types of situations. In addition, there is information on several different types of treatments such as the use of heat to kill bed bugs.

While there is no quick fix for bed bug infestations, having accurate information about bed bug control will help keep the public from over-applying or misusing pesticides. There are a variety of non-chemical approaches for controlling, detecting and preventing bed bugs that have been shown to be effective, including:

- Checking for bed bugs on luggage and clothing when returning from a trip
- Looking for bed bugs or signs of an infestation on second-hand items, such as a sofa or bed, before bringing the item into your home
- Reducing clutter where bed bugs can hide
- Using a protective cover that encases mattresses and box springs

A more informed public is a better partner in the control, detection and prevention of bed bugs. With the help of community advocates distributing outreach materials from the Clearinghouse to the public, EPA hopes that this will lead to increased prevention as well as a reduction in infestations.

Visit the Bed Bug Information Clearinghouse. For more information on bed bugs, visit http://www.epa.gov/bedbugs/.

The Urban IPM Lab in UT's Entomology and Plant Pathology Department also hosts a list of bed bug web sites with additional information pertaining to Tennessee at http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu/personnel/Vail/documents/household_structural_IPM/bed_bugs_websites.pdf

Upcoming IPM Webinar

By Karen Vail

Frustrated trying to control ants? If so, join us for an online seminar, **Ant Management**, on **Thursday, May 17** from **11 a.m. to 12 p.m**. EDT (10 to 11 a.m. CDT or 8 to 9 a.m. PDT). Brought to you by the Urban Integrated Pest Management eXtension Community of Practice. http://www.extension.org/urban_integrated_pest_management

Managing ants is actually easier than you think—if you understand how they live. This webinar will help you learn how to apply integrated pest management tactics that are as economical and environmentally friendly as possible.

Topics:
- **How Can You Tell if You Have Odorous House Ants?** Dr. Karen Vail, University of Tennessee
- **Understanding the Biology and Behavior of Carpenter Ants,** Dr. Dan Suiter, University of Georgia
- **Managing Problems with Pharaoh Ants,** Dr. Michael Merchant, Texas A&M University

Find more information on Urban Integrated Pest Management at www.extension.org/urban_integrated_pest_management or on Facebook (www.facebook.com/urbanipm.page), Twitter (@URBANIPMtweets).

To participate, log in as "guest" at https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/urbancop .

If you have specific questions that you want us to address during the webinar, post them to the Urban Integrated Pest Management eXtension Facebook page (Urban Integrated Pest Management: www.facebook.com/urbanipm.page)

Watch this seminar so you may be able to determine which ant in the above images is the odorous house ant, the Pharaoh ant and the black carpenter ant!

Images from:
http://mississippientomologicalmuseum.org.msstate.edu//Researchtaxapages/Formicidaepages/genericpages/Monomorium.pharaonis.htm

http://mississippientomologicalmuseum.org.msstate.edu//Researchtaxapages/Formicidaepages/genericpages/Tapinoma.sessile.htm

http://mississippientomologicalmuseum.org.msstate.edu//Researchtaxapages/Formicidaepages/genericpages/Camp.pennsylvanicus.html

Coming Soon: A New APP for Your Device

By Darrell Hensley

The Southern Nursery IPM working group will soon be releasing a new application for iPhones, iPads, and/or android devices. The new app was created as a cell phone application that simplifies keeping up with plant needs, pests and pesticide record keeping. It helps keep users of the app informed about pests, so they can focus on their clientele. Major pest and cultural practices reference materials are also contained within the app. The application will be called IPMpro. More information concerning this app may be found at http://www.ipmproapp.com/.

Tainted Potatoes

Submitted by Darrell Hensley

A fiery crash on I-24 on April 18, sent 40,000 pounds of potatoes rolling from the back of a tractor trailer. The contents of the trailer (potatoes) were exposed to smoke, flames, fire retardant and possibly other chemicals as fire crews contained the blaze. The contents of the trailer were reportedly dumped on a private lot until transport to a landfill, but have since disappeared. State agriculture and health officials received reports that north Nashville residents may have received some of the tainted potatoes. The potatoes were labeled as Dole brand Russet potatoes and packaged in 10-pound poly bags. Hopefully, these will not make it to your table.
Source: http://www.newschannel5.com/story/17630236/state-officials-warn-of-taintedpotatoes

Plant and Pest Diagnostic Highlights

By Bruce Kauffman

We received 254 samples from February 21 to April 18, 2012, including 85 samples via the UT Diagnostic Web Site.

FIELD CROPS: Low pH and possible herbicide damage to tobacco seedlings; wheat leaf yellowing due to low nitrogen levels; possible herbicide injury of corn.

FRUIT & VEGETABLES: Possible herbicide damage to tomatoes; powdery mildew of lettuce; suspected picloram injury and low nutrient levels of potassium, calcium, magnesium, nitrogen and soluble salts of cabbage; plant source of strawberries with reduced vigor; peach leaf curl disease distorting leaves of peach; lettuce leaf drop due to *Sclerotinia* sp. leaf and stem infection; one of the stinkhorn mushrooms; recently-planted blueberries low in potassium on a declining plant; water leaching nitrogen from tomatoes causing plant yellowing.

INSECTS, CRUSTACEANS & MITES: Mites on English laurel leaves and tomato leaves; one of the soft scales that producing honeydew on leaves of Chinese holly; willow leaf beetle feeding on the leaves of weeping willow and willow leaf beetle or cottonwood leaf beetle larvae feeding on 'Corkscrew' willow; flatheaded borers infesting the trunk of maple; the peachtree borer infesting 'Yoshino' cherry and 'Schip' laurel; periodical cicada damage to peach twigs; spider eggs and European red mites on cherry laurel; aphids and sooty mold growth on honeydew on sugar maple; Japanese maple scale on red maple branches; San Jose scale on black cherry limbs; Ips beetles, weevils and pine sawyers in dead loblolly pines; hemlock woolly adelgid on eastern hemlock; gouty oak gall, midge leaf galls and obscure scale on pin oak branches; slug damage to hosta leaves; walnut scales on holly and 'Otto Luyken' laurel twigs;

Continued from page 4

rose sawfly feeding on rose leaves; camphor shot borer damage to ornamental pear; crown borer injury to strawberry; eastern tent caterpillar feeding on leaves of cherry; common oak moth caterpillars, casebearing moth caterpillars and possible fall cankerworms defoliating white oak leaves; maple petiole borer cutting off sugar maple leaf stems; loblolly pine sawflies defoliating the needles of loblolly pines; aphids on lettuce; heavy infestation of spruce spider mites and eriophyid mites on Alberta spruce; lantana scale infestation of 'Green Giant' arborvitae; Maskell scale of cryptomeria causing branch dieback; boxwood mites and heavy boxwood leafminer infestation; introduced pine sawflies defoliated eastern white pine; mulberry whiteflies feeding on American holly leaves; *Cinara* sp. aphid honeydew causing sooty mold of Virginia pine; rhododendron lace bug damage; red-winged sallow caterpillar, leafrollers and Henry's elfin caterpillar feeding on 'Traveler' redbud; spider mites feeding on strawberry leaves; euonymus scales on euonymus.

Insects and other pests around the home: Tachinid fly; hacklemesh weaver spiders; May beetles; longbodied cellar spider; possible carpenter ant; lyctid powderpost beetles; casemaking clothes moth; small moths (not pests); leaf beetles; dermestids; drugstore beetles; varied carpet beetles; springtails; cedar tree borer; Chinese mantid egg mass; digger bees; brown recluse spiders; cluster flies; centipede; boxelder bug; subterranean termites swarming; black widow spider; vinegar flies; moth flies; fungus gnats; possible braconid wasps; rice weevils; predatory mites; booklice; cockroaches; fleas; firebrats; springtails; sowbugs; orbweavers; odorous house ants; furniture carpet beetle; southern house spider; small-eyed sphinx moth; pleasing fungus beetles; red flour beetles; leafcutter bees.

ORNAMENTALS & TREES: Botryosphaeria canker infecting English laurel, maple and ornamental juniper branches; decline of eastern white pine; seiridium canker of 'Green Giant' arborvitae and ornamental juniper; spot anthracnose and plant competition of dogwood; branch dieback of cryptomeria and English laurel due to overly wet or overly dry soils; possible phenoxy herbicide damage to hydrangea, bluebells and buckeye; overly wet soil caused dieback of 'Green Tower' boxwood; phyllosticta leaf spot, overly wet site, pH and nutrient problems and normal leaf drop of 'Burford' holly; coleosporium needle rust of loblolly pine and deer feeding on shoots; one of the needlecast diseases of Alberta spruce; bicarbonate deposits from watering the leaves of yews and laurels; winter burn of foliage of arborvitae transplant; dry weather last fall killing blue spruce; canker disease of maple following trunk injury; shot hole disease of 'Schip' laurel foliage; yellow-bellied sapsucker damage to viburnum; poor drainage and/or root decline of yew; reddish-purple coloration of Eastern redcedar due to reduced nutrients to foliage during the winter; black knot of black cherry; scattered branch dieback due to dry weather stress of Amur maple; vole damage to liriope, rose and elaeagnus stems and roots; possible fungal (*Taphrina deformans*) witches broom of hornbeam limbs; possible herbicide injury to southern magnolia; powdery mildew on euonymus leaves; late leaf-out of individual branches of willow oak and pin oak due to buds not hardened off after fall drought relief; Hosta Virus X of hosta; hawthorn rust of hawthorn fruit; canker rot fungus (*Cerrena unicolor*) invaded wounded section of weeping beech; plant stress of boxwood due to volutella leaf and stem blight, low pH, afternoon sun exposure, phoma twig dieback, overly wet site,

Continued from page 5

winter burn chemical or fertilizer injury and dog urine; pestalotia needle blight, plant competition effects, reflected heat and sun damage and phytophthora root rot of cryptomeria; phytophthora root rot and anthracnose leaf infection of liriope; chemical or fertilizer damage to ornamental junipers; hail and/or cankers damaged mulberry twigs; dry weather and leucostoma canker and trees planted too deeply in soil with poor drainage causing Norway spruce branch decline; botryosphaeria canker and passalora needle blight of Leyland cypress; branch death and/or fungal cankers of Japanese holly and Nellie R. Stevens holly due to dry weather; phoma stem blight of periwinkle; edema on wintercreeper and geranium leaves; anthracnose and bacterial (*Xanthomonas* sp) leaf spots of English ivy and soil that is overly wet or overly dry causing root decline; phomopsis galls of forsythia; salvias, snapdragons and petunias low in all major nutrients and soluble salts; bacterial (*Pseudomonas syringae*) infection causing stem galls of 'Arp' rosemary; trunk decay, cankers, and poor branch attachment of mulberry; pythium root rot of pansy and 'Edward Garden' abelia; cedar-quince rust of hawthorn twigs; dothistroma needle blight of Mugo pine and black pine; leptographium root disease of eastern white pine; botryosphaeria canker and leaf yellowing of rhododendron due to high pH and dry weather; cedar/apple rust of 'Idyllwild' redcedar; root decline of southern magnolia due to dry weather and reduced feeder roots in top 1 foot of soil; cold temperature injury of Kousa dogwood saplings due to heavy nitrogen feeding; phytophthora root rot of 'Pacific Blue' juniper; eastern gall rust of Virginia pine; overly wet pots of 'Knockout' roses caused top dieback; too wet or too dry soils causing leaf scorch of Japanese maple; fire blight of dwarf pear; phyllosticta and sporonema leaf spots of camellia with transplant shock; pestalotiopsis and phomopsis tip blights, herbicide injury or wind and heat damage of arborvitae; dry soils, older, unthinnned plants, coniothyrium canker and phoma cankers of Carolina jasmine; chemical injury of English ivy; leucostoma canker of 'Otto Luyken' laurel; anthracnose leaf disease of maple.

TURF & FORAGES: Powdery mildew on cheatgrass; superficial fusarium patch on 'Mini Verde' bermudagrass; snow mold (*Microdochium nivale*) of 'Champion Ultradwarf' bermudagrass; herbicide injury of 'A1' bentgrass; large patch (*Rhizoctonia* sp) disease of bermudagrass.

Visit the UT Extension Web site at
http://utextension.tennessee.edu

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OTHER UT NEWSLETTERS WITH PEST MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Fruit Pest News
http://web.utk.edu/~extepp/fpn/fpn.htm

Tennessee Crop and Pest Management Newsletter
http://www.utextension.utk.edu/fieldCrops/cotton/cotton_insects/ipmnewsletters.htm

Ornamental Pest and Disease Update
http://soilplantandpest.utk.edu/publications/ornamentalnwsltr.html

School IPM Newsletter
http://schoolipm.utk.edu

Tennessee Soybean Rust Hotline - 877-875-2326

USDA Soybean Rust Web Site
http://www.sbrusa.net

This and other "What's Happening" issues can be found at
http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu/Whats/whatshap.htm

Entomology and Plant Pathology Web Site
http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu

Precautionary Statement

To protect people and the environment, pesticides should be used safely. This is everyone's responsibility, especially the user. Read and follow label directions carefully before you buy, mix, apply, store or dispose of a pesticide. According to laws regulating pesticides, they must be used only as directed by the label.

Disclaimer

This publication contains pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. The recommendations in this publication are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. The label always takes precedence over the recommendations found in this publication.

Use of trade or brand names in this publication is for clarity and information; it does not imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others that may be of similar, suitable composition, nor does it guarantee or warrant the standard of the product. The author(s), the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and University of Tennessee Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.