

2023 GTBOP Green Commercial and Private Webinar Series

Thursday, January 12, 2023

Invasive species in the southeast and how to report them

Chuck Bargeron, *Director and Senior Public Service Associate*

Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to native ecosystems and the biosecurity of America. This presentation will give an overview of the major problem species in the southeastern United States and what to do if you find one.

Assessing tree health and structure, and potential risk of storm failures

Dr. Kim Coder, *Professor of Tree Health Care / Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources*

Trees may live long but they don't live forever. Deciding if or when a tree needs to be removed requires careful consideration of its health, structure, and position in the landscape, beginning at its base and going up the trunk and out along the roots. Evaluation includes past damage from storms (wind, ice, lightning), and the likelihood of failure into the future. Dr. Coder will discuss ways to preserve tree health, conserve tree structure, and sustain tree safety and longevity.

Thursday, March 16, 2023

Pesticide safety in turfgrass and ornamental landscapes

Allison Johnson, *Public Service Assistant, Dept. of Entomology, University of Georgia*

This presentation will introduce best production practices and chemical tools to manage pests in turfgrass. Topics involve critical safety considerations when planning a pesticide application including proper pesticide handling. It will also help applicators recognize how pesticides move in the landscape, common scenarios where pesticide runoff occurs in turfgrass and ornamental landscapes, and how to mitigate runoff when applying pesticides. Handlers will understand how using best practices when applying pre- and post-emergent herbicides helps minimize environmental impact and maximize pesticide efficacy, all while reducing costs in a management program.

Fungicide resistance and modes of action

Dr. Bochra Bahri, *Assistant Professor, Dept. of Plant Pathology, University of Georgia*

The speaker will discuss the modes of action of various fungicides used in the turfgrass. The speaker will also describe how the modes of action of various active ingredients can be used for resistance management when combating diseases in turfgrass.

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Prickly, pernicious pears: problems and solutions

Dr. Jess Hartshorn, *Assistant Professor of Forest Health Forestry and Environmental Conservation Department, Clemson University*

Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) has become a widespread invasive in North America and many US states have now banned the future sale of the tree citing significant economic and ecological damage. Recent studies have found that Callery pear is unsuitable for herbivores, inhibits growth of native trees, and causes economic and physical injury. Traditional management approaches are not always plausible as Callery pear resprouts quickly and even damages equipment used in control. Current research is investigating driving mechanisms of spread, ecological impacts, and management options of this pernicious pest.

Connecting the Dots: Pollinators, Plant Diversity, and Pest Management

Dr. Joe Boggs, *Assistant Professor, OSU Extension, Associated Faculty, Entomology, The Ohio State University*

Protecting plant pollinators is commonly viewed as only an insecticide use issue. We must think more broadly because the science is clear: pest management and plant pollinators are two sides of the same coin in urban landscape ecosystems. This presentation reveals the multi-layered connections between pollen, nectar, and a parade of unsung insect heroes that keep pests in check without the need for insecticides.

Thursday, July 13, 2023

Landscape Management Practices for Best Plant Health

Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, *Professor, Washington State University*

This presentation will provide an overview of landscaping practices to encourage best plant growth. Proper plant selection, irrigation, fertilization, mulching, and pruning, are all critical to ensure that shrubs and trees survive and thrive in the tough urban conditions.

Weed management in ornamentals

Dr. Chris Marble, *Associate Professor, University of Florida Mid-Florida Research and Education Center*

This presentation will provide an overview of how to manage difficult-to-control weeds in and around ornamental plants, both in landscape planting beds and in production nurseries. Development of Pre- and Postemergence rotations, non-chemical, and integrated management strategies will be covered for the most common weeds in the southeastern U.S. In each case, research will be shared that shows how attendees can get best results in the most effective, economical, and environmentally friendly manner possible.

Thursday, September 14, 2023

Playing tough: turf care in natural turfgrass sports fields

Gerald M Henry, *Athletic Association Professor, Crop and Soil Science, University of Georgia*
Turf care in athletic fields requires careful consideration of soil properties, plant health, and management practices. From irrigation and fertilization to mowing frequency – all factors play a role in management decisions to care for natural turfgrass sports fields.

Emerging insect pest issues in ornamentals

Dr. Alejandro Del-Pozo, *Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*

The speaker will talk about risk of emerging insect pests affecting ornamental industry. This will include, but not limited to, redheaded beetle, box tree moth, European pepper moth, etc. The speaker will discuss the phenology, biology, monitoring and management of the major pest issues.

Thursday, November 16, 2023

Industry update: Turfgrass

Drs. Shimat V. Joseph, Patrick McCullough, Alfredo Martinez, *Dept. of Entomology, Plant Pathology, Crop and Soil Science, University of Georgia*

Insects, plant pathogen, weeds continue to be major challenges for the turfgrass managers including golf courses, sod farms, and residential and public landscapes. The speakers will update the audience regarding the recent research findings on effective insecticides, fungicides and herbicides against various pest species. The speakers will discuss any new information affecting the turfgrass industry, such as new cultivars, new or changes in existing regulations, etc.

Industry update: Ornamentals

Drs. Will Hudson, Jean Willian-Woodward, Mark Czarnota, *Dept. of Entomology, Plant Pathology, Crop and Soil Science, Horticulture, University of Georgia*

Insects, plant pathogen, weeds continue to be major challenges for the ornamental nursery managers and landscape managers. The speakers will update the audience regarding the recent research findings on effective insecticides, fungicides and herbicides against various pest species. The speakers will discuss any new information affecting the ornamental industry, such as new cultivars, new or changes in existing regulations, etc.