

UGA Extension Meriwether County ANR E-Newsletter

September 17, 2016

FALL ARMYWORMS

For those of you who read this the first time, my apologies. I had a request to reprint it so here is some of the same information that was in the August 19th issue.

Images below: to the left are five of the six stages of development (instars) that fall armyworms go through before they pupate. To the right is a 6th instar larva (which can reach 1 ½ inches) on alfalfa found in a local field in August.



The last two instars, #5 and mostly #6, do 80% of the feeding damage. It takes 10-20 days usually for the larvae to develop into the 6th instar. If you are scouting your fields and pastures regularly (1-2 times a week) you should be finding the smaller larvae and making insecticide applications before any real damage occurs. Fall armyworms are still active in our area and could potentially remain active through October, so please continue scouting.

SCOUTING:

During sunny days the armyworms, on grass, will drop to the ground where it is shadier. They will also drop when the grass is disturbed. So you should be looking on the ground if scouting during the day. You may have to scrape away any grass mulch that is on the surface—they will hide under it. Most of their feeding will occur in the morning or late in the day so if you are scouting at that time you may actually find them on the grass. When I was in an infested alfalfa field around noon many of the armyworms were still in the canopy of the plants where there was plenty of shade. When I brushed the plants with my hands, though, the larvae dropped to the ground. You should be walking a zigzag pattern through your field (a w pattern works well) to cover the largest area. The rule for an insecticide application is “when the count exceeds 3 larvae ½ inch or larger per square foot”. Populations have been so high in number this year that if you find any at all you should treat.

PEST OF THE WEEK

Powdery Mildew of Trees

Despite the drought in our county, powdery mildew has shown up on a number of trees species. This past week I was contacted about dogwoods and yellow or tulip poplars that were having problems. In the case of the tulip poplar, brown leaves covered in a white substance, were falling to the ground. The dogwoods still held their leaves on which a little bit of the powdery residue, which is actually fungal mycelium, was visible. Most of the leaves were showing a typical symptom of the disease which is a distortion and/or twisting of the leaves.

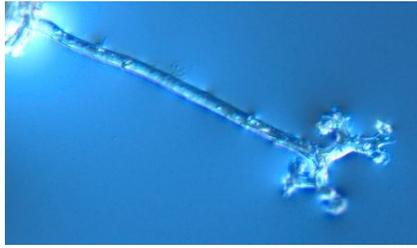
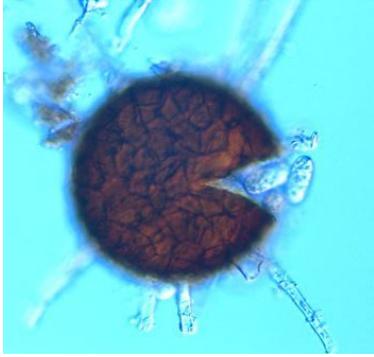
Powdery mildews are like most fungal diseases in that they have both sexual and asexual stages. Since all powdery mildew species (and there are many) can germinate and cause infection in the absence of water, it's not really surprising to find it infecting trees and other plants during a drought. Infection can occur with a relative humidity between 40-70% but can also happen below 25% when there is no air movement. One of the main recommendations for managing powdery mildews is to increase air circulation around plants. Spring and fall temperatures are ideal for the spread of spores and their infection.

Powdery mildews rarely kill their host plants but they can cause a reduction in photosynthesis. Since photosynthesis is how plants produce their food, a reduction can cause slower growth, greater water demands, early leaf drop, and a susceptibility to other pests and diseases. Some dogwood species and cultivars have some resistance to powdery mildew. If you are thinking of planting dogwoods be sure to look for varieties with resistance. In order to protect plants with a fungicide, applications must be made before the plants become infected. If you have dogwood trees that become infected yearly, you should look at thinning to create better air circulation and begin fungicide sprays as trees leaf out in the spring. Once daytime temperatures reach the mid-eighties to low-nineties, infection is less likely to occur so fungicides should no longer be needed. If infection occurs or is noticed in late summer there is no need to spray since the fungicides will not "cure" the problem. Raking up and destroying or bagging the fallen, infected leaves will help lower the level of inoculum for infection the next year.

Visit http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/pests/plant_pests/trees/hgic2003.html for a list of dogwoods that have powdery mildew resistance.



Below are images that I took of a cleistotheca (minute fruiting body that can survive overwinter) releasing asci that contain the sexual ascospores of a powdery mildew infecting oak leaves. Anyone else remember Pac-Man? The really cool microscopic appendages that form on the cleistotheca are used to classify the fungi.



HOME GARDENING

Home Gardening, Food Production and Nutrition Seminar

Hosted by Harris County Extension and Chipley Coop

Monday, September 19th 9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Chipley Coop at 204 N. King Street Pine Mountain GA 31822

Topics covered include basics of planting a vegetable garden; variety selection; organic production; and food nutrition, preservation and safety.

Pre-registration is required by September 14th by calling the Harris County Extension office at 706-628-4824.

For more information please visit:

<http://ugaextension.org/county-offices/harris/agriculture-and-natural-resources.html>

Fall Care for the Home Lawn

Meriwether County Extension Is Offering a Free Class on Lawn Care

Thursday evening, September 22nd 6:30-7:30 PM

Manchester Public Library at 218 Perry Street Manchester, GA 31816

Topics will include:

- soil testing and liming
- pre-emergent herbicides for annual weed prevention
- perennial weed management
- correct cultural practices
- cool season turf versus warm season turf

To register please contact the Meriwether County Extension office at 706-672-4235 or uge2199@uga.edu

For more information please contact Susan James at 706-977-0882

POULTRY

Backyard Poultry Flock Management Program

Tuesday, October 4th from 7:00-8:30 PM

Dr. Casey Ritz, UGA Poultry Science Department
Basic Management, Breed Selection, and Disease Prevention

Tuesday, October 11th from 7:00-8:30 PM

Dr. Brian Kiepper, UGA Poultry Science Department
Meat Chicken Processing and Food Safety

Tuesday, October 18th from 7:00-8:30 PM

Dr. Claudia Dunkley, UGA Poultry Science Department
Bird Behavior, Housing and Management, Layer Production

Bogle Farms

1785 Harman Road
Greenville, GA, 30222



Cost:

\$20 for attending all 3 classes (includes all course materials and a certificate, if all classes are attended)

\$10 per single session class (includes course material but no certificate)

Coffee, drinks and snacks will be available.

To register please contact the Meriwether County Extension office at 706-672-4235 or uge2199@uga.edu

Egg Candling Class

Friday, October 7th from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Georgia Department of Agriculture: **Ben Pitts**, Instructor
Manchester Public Library Meeting Room
218 Perry Street ~ Manchester, GA

If you plan to sell your eggs to individuals, or at a farmers market, an egg candling certificate from the Georgia Department of Agriculture is required.

The class will last about four hours, including one hour of classroom instruction, followed by a written examination and a hands-on candling examination.

There will be a one-hour lunch break on your own. The class is free and open to any interested Georgia resident.

To pre-register for the class and **to get a copy of the required affidavit of lawful presence**, please call the Meriwether County Extension office at 706-672-4235.

If you have any questions please contact Susan James at scj24262@uga.edu or Ben Pitts at Benjamin.Pitts@agr.georgia.gov

LIVESTOCK and FORAGES

Calving Techniques Class

Presented by **Dr. Lee Jones**, UGA College of Veterinary Medicine
October 3rd starting at 6:30 PM

Lemmon Cattle Enterprises at 16810 Woodbury Hwy, Woodbury, GA 30293

Lee will be teaching simple calving-difficulty assistance techniques. **He will also talk about lambing and kidding difficulties for those who are interested, so small ruminant folks should attend also!** Coffee, drinks and snacks will be available. This class is free.

To pre-register please call our office at 706-672-4235 or for more information please contact Susan James at scj24262@uga.edu

BEEKEEPING WORKSHOP

Tuesday evening, September 20th 6:30-8:30 PM

Presented by **Dr. Keith Delaplane**

The workshop will focus on the major problems private and commercial beekeepers are facing today with large hive losses and what the best options are for improving our beekeeping success. Subjects covered include: varroa mites – progression and management; large numbers of winter and summer hive losses; best treatment options for pests and diseases; and keeping the honeybee industry alive and well for the future.

Cost is **\$15** which includes refreshments and reference material. Proceeds go toward establishing a local beekeepers association. To attend the workshop, please let us know by emailing Richard Littleton at rlittle@uga.edu or calling Carroll County Extension at 770-836-8546.

Carroll County Ag Center/Extension Office
900 Newnan Road
Carrollton, GA 30117

GEORGIA CLEAN DAY-PESTICIDE WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

Georgia Department of Agriculture

Friday, September 30th 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Cordele State Farmers Market at 1901 State Rt. 41 North Cordele, GA 31015

In order to participate in the program pre-registration is mandatory and must be completed by September 26th.



- ALL PESTICIDES BROUGHT TO THE COLLECTION SITE MUST BE LISTED ON THE PRE-REGISTRATION FORM.

- ITEMS NOT REGISTERED WILL BE REFUSED AT THE COLLECTION SITE.
- EMPTY CONTAINERS OR RINSATES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- NO COMPRESSED GASES CAN BE ACCEPTED. (METHYL BROMIDE, CHLORPICRIN, VIKANE, ETC.).

PROGRAM COLLECTION

Participants will deliver their waste pesticides to the collection site where the disposal contractor will unload them. There are no forms to sign-you do not have to exit your vehicle. The contractor will accept sole responsibility for the waste and will provide handling, packaging, and disposal of the waste pesticides at the collection site.

Please contact me for pre-registration forms and pesticide transport tips at 706-977-0882 or scj24262@uga.edu

OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

2016 Meriwether County Teen Maze

Volunteers Needed

Friday, September 23 8:00 AM-2:00 PM
At the old Greenville Middle School auditorium

TEEN MAZE is an organization that promotes awareness about various issues and problems facing adolescents within the community. Ninth graders will navigate through a life-size maze that offers real life choices in order to discover the consequences of their behaviors. Along the path, professionals in their field of expertise present information to students. The TEEN MAZE is designed to allow young people the opportunity to explore lifelike situations and their consequences without real-life permanency.

Teens will be given a scenario and then experience the consequences of the fate dealt to them, whether it is pregnancy, STD from unprotected sex, texting while driving, sexting or death from driving under the influence of alcohol. Our goal is for youth to understand their choices regarding sex, alcohol, tobacco, and drugs.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact:
Lisa Parker at 706-672-1118 or lparker@pathwayscsb.org for the necessary forms or you can contact me (scj24262@uga.edu) and I will email them to you.

Racing for Roosevelt 5K “FUND RUN”

Roosevelt Warm Springs Georgia Hall

Saturday, September 24th Registration starts at 8:00 AM Race begins at 9:00 AM
All proceeds benefit the Roosevelt Warm Springs vocational rehabilitation programs.
Entry fees: Early registration is \$20 with shirt and \$10 without. Late registration is \$25 with shirt and \$15 without.

For registration and more information please contact Erin Young at 706-655-5666

International Professional Rodeo Association
Southeast Region Finals Rodeo at Quercus Farms

October 14th and 15th 8:00 PM

Flat Shoals Road, Gay Georgia 30218

The rodeo benefits veterans through RACE FOR THE WOUNDED:

<http://raceforthewounded.com/>

Tickets go on sale Oct 1st

Tickets are \$12; 6 and under free

Get advanced tickets at Shady Days in Gay Arts and Craft Festival on Oct 1st & 2nd for only \$10

Come ride a horse before the show. Bring the kids to have their face painted. Lots of food and fun so don't miss out. Gates open at 6 and the action (bareback and saddle bronc riding, barrel racing, bull riding, roping and steer wrestling) starts at 8. Free parking

For more information contact:

Susan Pritchett, SRFR Representative, at 678-603-0038 or susan@srfrodeo.com or visit: <http://www.srfrodeo.com/>

Great American Clean-Up in Meriwether County

Volunteers Needed

Saturday, October 22nd 8:00 AM-4:00 PM

It's time to start signing up again! Help Keep Meriwether Beautiful by cleaning up trash around your home or business on this day.

We have sign-up forms on our table outside our office or you can contact me at scj24262@uga.edu and I will email them to you.

Gail Coffee asked me to post a request for information concerning Valentine "V", a horse stolen in Alabama.

Please visit the link below or <https://netposse.com/default.asp> for Stolen Horse International for details.

NetPosse ALERT™ NR005045

Have a great weekend!
Susan