






COMMON YAD DISEASES AND PESTS TO LOOK FOR IN MAY

Plant Disease	Symptom*	Common Questions	For More Information
Euonymus Scale		<p><u>Question:</u> The leaves on my euonymus shrubs have developed yellow spots and there are also very small white and dark brown objects on the leaves and stems. Some of the leaves are starting to fall off. What is causing this problem and is there a control measure?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> The problem is with an insect called euonymus scale, which is the most reported insect pest of euonymus. The scale insects suck sap from the leaves and stems. As the populations increase in number, stems and leaves become encrusted with the scales. Leaves may drop as result of serious feeding damage. The application of a dormant oil spray during late winter or early spring before bud break can aid in control. Remove heavily infested branches.</p>	<p>https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/S290-W.pdf</p>
Bagworm		<p><u>Question:</u> I have noticed that areas of my arborvitae are turning brown and there are also brown, bag-like structures attached to many of the branches. What are these bags and are they causing the damage?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> The bags are actually constructed of silk by a caterpillar living inside the bag, which is covered by plant debris. Hence, the name bagworm. Bagworms are especially fond of junipers, cedars, arborvitae and white pine, but may be found on more than 128 species of plants. Damage is done by the larvae eating plant foliage.</p>	<p>https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/S341-U.pdf</p>

<p>Brown Patch</p>		<p><u>Question:</u> My fescue lawn has always looked good in the past, but this year small, brown circles are showing up in several places. Is this some type of disease, and will it kill my lawn, and how do I control the problem?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> This time of year, with warm daytime temperatures between 75 and 85 degrees F and night temperatures above 68 degrees F, your lawn is displaying symptoms of brown patch disease. The actual disease can often be seen in the early morning as a grayish "smoke ring" circling the brown patches of grass. Brown patch disease is favored by hot, humid weather conditions that occur this time of year. This disease does not kill the crown of the turf. Most tall fescues lawns will recover with proper fall fertilization and the return of rainfall. To be effective, fungicides must be applied before symptoms appear.</p>	<p>https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/S341-U.pdf</p>
<p>Spring Dead Spot</p>		<p><u>Question:</u> My bermudagrass lawn has developed circles of dead grass that look similar to brown patch disease. Is this the same disease that attacks fescue?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> There are two fungal diseases that can attack bermudagrass in the spring and look very similar. Brown patch is one of the diseases and the other is called spring dead spot. Although spring dead spot symptoms may occur on bermudagrass lawns of all ages, they typically appear three to four years after the turf has been established. Symptoms of this disease will show up as dark brown to black-colored rot of the roots and stolons. Diseased areas will remain brown with the grass collapsing leaving a sunken area that is prone to weed invasion. Brown patch disease of bermudagrass usually does not discolor the roots and stolons.</p>	<p>https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/pb842.pdf</p>

<p>Anthracnose</p>		<p><u>Question:</u> Every year in the spring the red maple tree in my yard develops some type of leaf disease. Some of the leaves have irregular dark spots and have a distorted look. Is there something I can treat the tree with to prevent this problem?</p> <p><u>Answer:</u> It is most likely that the maple tree has a fungal disease called maple anthracnose. Anthracnose is a general term used to describe diseases that result in a wide range of symptoms including leaf spots, blotches or distortion, defoliation, shoot blight, twig cankers and dieback on many different deciduous trees and shrubs. Anthracnose diseases tend to attack plants in the spring when the weather is cool and wet, primarily on leaves and twigs. Cool, rainy weather creates perfect conditions for the development of this fungal disease. Each species of anthracnose fungus attacks only specific tree species. Applying fungicides after symptoms appear usually does little to help the tree as, most of the damage has already occurred. Fungicides may be applied as bud break when young leaves begin to unfold and must be applied biweekly as long as conditions favor disease development. For more information refer to SP 546, Diseases of Shade and Ornamental Trees.</p>	<p>https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/SP546.pdf</p>
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* Photograph credits Dr. Alan Windham. Content credit David Cook.