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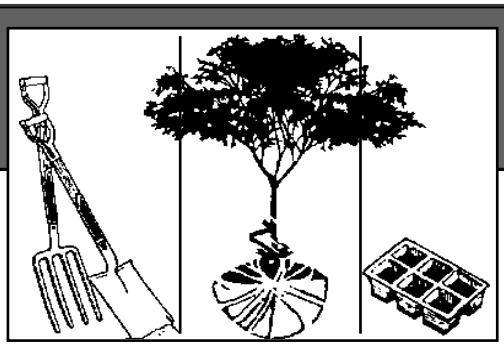

An educational newsletter with research-based information for businesses and individuals involved in selling, planning, designing, servicing, and enjoying landscapes and gardens.

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Ladders, Landscapers and Homeowners ?!

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"Springfield, Mass (WWLP.com) May 8, 2010 -
A man from Springfield died after a tree branch fell on top of him. Neighbors told 22 NEWS that he was standing on top of a ladder using a chainsaw to remove a large damaged tree branch. The Springfield Fire Department told 22 NEWS it was windy at the time and the branch snapped off, knocking him to the ground. He fell 15 to 20 feet, and the branch landed on top of him. He was taken to Baystate Medical Center with critical injuries and died as a result of his injuries."

The above news report is just one of many that has taken place in New England recently. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission records more than 164,000 emergency room-treated injuries in the U.S. relating to ladders and offers the following safety precautions to help prevent these injuries.

- Make sure the weight your ladder is supporting does not exceed its maximum load rating (user plus materials). There should only be one person on the ladder at a time.
- Use a ladder that is the proper length for the job. Proper length is a minimum of 3 feet extending over the roofline or working surface. The three top rungs of a straight, single or extension ladder should not be stood on.
- Straight, single or extension ladders should be set up at about a 75-degree angle.
- All metal ladders should have slip-resistant feet.
- Metal ladders will conduct electricity. Use a wooden or fiberglass ladder in the vicinity of power lines or electrical equipment. Do not let a ladder made from any material contact live electric wires.
- Be sure all locks on extension ladders are properly engaged.
- The ground under the ladder should be level and firm. Large flat wooden boards braced under the ladder can level a ladder on uneven ground or soft ground. A good practice is to have a helper hold the bottom of the ladder.
- Do not place a ladder in front of a door that is not locked, blocked or guarded.
- Keep your body centered between the rails of the ladder at all times. Do not lean too far to the side while working.
- Do not use a ladder for any purpose other than that for which it was intended.
- Do not step on the top step, bucket shelf or attempt to climb or stand on the rear section of a stepladder.
- Never leave a raised ladder unattended.
- Follow use instruction labels on ladders.

Monitoring Checklist for September

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PLANT PHENOLOGY: *BETWEEN 2400 - 2800 GROWING DEGREE DAYS*

BEGIN BLOOM | **FULL BLOOM** | **END BLOOM**

Franklinia alatamaha (Franklinia)
Hepticodium micinioides (Seventh Son Flower)

PLANT	PEST OR PROBLEM	GDD OR ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	WHAT TO DO
All maples, birch, elm, horse-chestnut, willow, poplar, other hardwoods	**Asian Longhorned Beetle** *Anoplophora glabripennis*	**GDD:** 1100 – 2800 for the adult beetles.	August is *Asian Longhorned Beetle Awareness Month* because that is the most active time for the adult beetles, but these large and obvious beetles are also active well through September. Adult beetles, new egg-laying sites, fresh exit holes, and sawdust are all prevalent now in areas of infested trees.	**1) Know the signs of this beetle** by visiting *www.umassgreeninfo.org/fact_sheets/wood_attackers/ALB_2008/recognize_alb_ppt.pdf* **2) Know where to report** suspected finds of ALB: http://**massnrc.org/pests/albreport.aspx** Toll-free: **1-866-702-9938**. Take photos if you can.
Rose-of-Sharon (Hibiscus)	**Rose of Sharon Moth ("Hibiscus Caterpillar")** *Anomis commoda*	May into early September.	This introduced species has multiple generations per year and can be found in the caterpillar stage from May into the early autumn. The color form varies but, in general, they are similar in coloration to the host stem material and, when not feeding, will lie parallel to the stem and become very difficult to find visually. When handled or disturbed, this caterpillar thrashes wildly but does not harm people. When occurring in large numbers, this insect is capable of defoliating entire plantings of the host plant.	Inspect plants for ragged foliage and defoliation that is ever increasing. Then inspect stems very closely for the cryptically colored caterpillars. Infested plants can be sprayed with a product that contains Spinosad or with one of the labeled and registered chemical insecticides, such as a pyrethroid.
Part of its life on apples and crabapples; part on junipers, esp. Eastern red cedar and Rocky Mountain juniper	**Cedar-apple Rust** *Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginiana* (fungus) pp. 260-262	In the spring, orange jelly-like fruiting structures erupt out of round galls on infected junipers. During wet periods, wind borne spores infect apple leaves. Reddish yellow pustules develop on infected leaves during summer. From mid-summer to autumn spores are wind-carried from apple leaves and infect green shoots and needles of junipers.	Bulging red-orange-yellow spots arise on apple leaves by late spring. By mid-summer tiny yellow-white tubes extend from the underside of infected leaves. Pea-sized to 2" diameter round, brown galls appear on susceptible juniper needles and twigs during the fall, winter and spring 12-20 months after infection. Orange jelly-like horns grow out of the galls in mid-spring.	Grow rust-resistant apple and juniper varieties. Remove dormant galls on juniper during the summer, fall, winter, and early spring (before jelly-like horns form). Do not grow susceptible junipers close to apples. Apply fungicides to protect susceptible high-value apples during wet springs. Though seldom performed, if desired, protect junipers from late summer until apple leaves drop off in autumn.

The page numbers in the second column, after the pest, refer to the texts Insects That Feed on Trees and Shrubs, 2nd ed., Johnson and Lyon, and Diseases of Trees and Shrubs, Sinclair, Lyon and Johnson, Cornell University Press. These references provide color photos and more detailed information on the specific problems.

Bob Childs, Extension Entomologist
Dan Gillman, Extension Plant Pathologist

When working on trees, the ANSI Safety Standard for Arboriculture Z-133 is very clear. While ascending a ladder to gain access to a tree, **the arborist shall not work from nor leave the ladder until he or she is tied in or secured to the tree.** Ladders made of metal or other conductive material shall not be used where electrical hazards exist. Only wooden or nonconductive ladders made of synthetic material equal to or exceeding the strength of wooden ladders shall be used. When using a tripod/orchard ladder, the third, or hinged, leg shall be braced, tied off or fastened when on hard or slick surfaces.

These crippling accidents are happening because people try working off of a ladder to prune trees. This is extremely dangerous and should only be undertaken by an arborist, using proper climbing equipment and working for a legitimate tree care company. You can and will be held liable if your brother-in-law or neighbor is injured on your property while trying to help you do some tree pruning.

If tree work is required on your property or your client's and you are not a climbing arborist, hire a Massachusetts Certified Arborist to do the job.

For additional information in finding a qualified arborist, contact the Tree Care Industry Association at 800-733-2622 or the Massachusetts Arborist Association at 508-653-3320.

With tree work, if you need to leave the ground, call in a Massachusetts Certified Arborist and have a safe day.

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Scouting for Diseases of Woody Ornamentals in the Landscape Twilight Meeting

Sept. 30, 4-6 pm
Location: College of the Holy Cross
Worcester, MA

Learn how to put IPM practices to work efficiently. Join UMass Extension Plant Pathologist Dan Gillman for a walk through the landscape for demonstrations of IPM tools and techniques, as well as a close look at some of the most common disease problems of woody ornamentals.

Cost is $50 / $45 per person for three or more registrations from the same company (10% discount). Dress for walking; workshops are held rain or shine.

Pesticide credit: 2 contact hours will be offered for categories 29, 36, and Applicator's License. 2 ISA, 1/2 MCA, 1 MCLP and 1 MCH credits available.

For a registration form, go to www.umassgreeninfo.org or call (413) 545-0895.

Registration Now Open for UMass Extension's 2010 Green School

Location: Doubletree Hotel, 11 Beaver St., Milford, MA
(at exit 19 off Route 495)
Dates: November 1 - December 10, meets two days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Green School, a comprehensive 11-day certificate short course for Green Industry professionals taught by UMass Extension Specialists and University of Massachusetts faculty. This popular course is designed for landscape professionals, lawn care specialists, arborists and other horticultural practitioners wishing to gain an understanding of horticultural fundamentals and strategies, as well as their relationship to environmental quality, but who can't fit a full academic course into their schedules. Green School students come away with the knowledge needed to make environmentally appropriate decisions related to turf and plant selection, arboriculture, plant maintenance, and pest and nutrient management. This will be the only opportunity until 2012!

THREE SPECIALTY TRACKS TO CHOOSE FROM:

- **Landscape Management**
- **Turf Management**
- **Arboriculture**

For more details or a registration form, go to **www.umassgreeninfo.org** or call (413) 545-0895.

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