



Bugs and Blights
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Bugs and Blights Workshop

October 23rd, Wednesday; 10:00am to 12:00 noon Cost is \$20.00.

The Bugs and Blights workshops have been a mix of lecture, lab samples and field walk. Each month for the last five years, Dave Pehling and I have brought in hundreds of samples from yards and gardens with the goal of improving the ability of nursery and landscape professionals, and Master Gardeners to correctly diagnose sickly plants and identify insects, diseases and cultural/environmental damage. October 23th will be our last workshop for a while as we explore better ways to reach more nursery and landscape professionals, Master Gardeners and curious home gardeners.

We have focused on diagnosis for a reason. Once diagnosed correctly, there are resources that provide monitoring and management options. At the WSU Plant Clinic in Puyallup, 60-70% of the plant problems have cultural and environmental causes. Together we can reduce pesticide applications and run-off that ultimately reaches Puget Sound without sacrificing plant quality, simply by diagnosing or identifying problems correctly. When nursery personnel educate their customers on proper application techniques and timing, the homeowner can achieve better control without non-target or “collateral” damage to the pollinators, beneficials or environment. If diagnostic training and information are of interest to you, contact me at collmans@wsu.edu. We’d love to hear what you would like, and how you would like get information on currant pests.



Pest management resources that are literally at your fingertips include:

Gardening in Washington State has a new look and layout. <http://gardening.wsu.edu>. The old site has been replaced with an illustrated metaphor for home and landscape. Move the mouse over the picture and pop-ups link you to the resources for that topic. Hover over the vegetable garden for access to new publications on growing specific crops such as carrots or squash complete with cultivars and common pests. All publications have been peer reviewed for accuracy. More are being developed even as I write.

PestSightings is a free pest alert listserv started by Todd Murray, WSU Skamania Co. Extension. Outbreaks, hatchings, new invasives and other information are sent to and by subscribers. Sign-up is easy: copy and paste http://lyris.cahe.wsu.edu/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=pestsightings-hg&page=all_forums. Then fill in your email address (name optional) and click the subscribe box (lower right on screen). You will also get information on how to unsubscribe if this listserv doesn’t serve your interests.

PNW Insect Management Handbook (Misc0047) – <http://pnwhandbooks.org/insect/hort/landscape>

PNW Disease Management Handbook (Misc0048) – <http://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdisease/maple-acer-spp-leaf-scorch>
Hardcopies of either handbook can be ordered from <http://pubs.wsu.edu> search on number or title.

Hortsense <http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/> Select a plant category (ornamentals, small fruit), then a specific plant, then select options from insects or diseases. There is also a link to **Pestsense** which lists public health, storage, wood destroying, nuisance and stinging pests. Both list IPM options along with pesticides by brand name that are registered in Washington for that host. For common pests print out the sheet and highlight the products carried in the nursery.