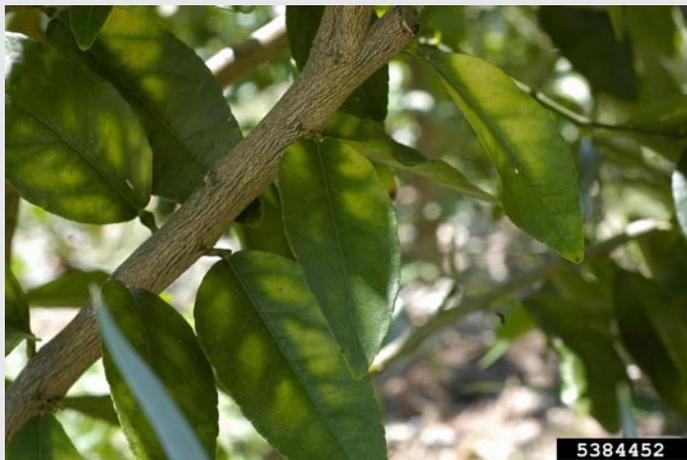


National Updates

Update on Quarantine Areas for Asian Citrus Psyllid and Citrus Greening in the U.S.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is expanding the Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*) (ACP) quarantine area in California and expanding the quarantine areas in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas to include the entirety of those states. This action is necessary in order to prevent the interstate spread of ACP. ACP is considered a vector for citrus greening.



Foliar symptoms of citrus greening. Photo Natalie Hummel, www.forestryimages.org

On October 20, 2008, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) announced the detection of

ACP in Imperial County, California. ACP has been found at several locations within Imperial County. The southern portion of Imperial County, California is now under quarantine. The quarantined area, as well as the rest of the County, has been surveyed and found to otherwise be free from ACP, and the quarantined area is defined by recognizable boundaries.

Continued on page 2...

Issue Highlights:

- ◆ Update on Quarantine Areas for Asian Citrus Psyllid and Citrus Greening in the U.S.
- ◆ 2009 Soybean Rust Short Course
- ◆ New! Broadleaved Shrubs and Shade Trees: Problems, Picture Clues and Management Options
- ◆ Diagnostic Subcommittee Update
- ◆ Pest and Disease Diagnostics for International Trade and Food Security - International Short Course
- ◆ Workshops Offered as Part of North Central APS Meeting
- ◆ Diagnostic Tip of the Month: Using Window Screening as a Strainer for Isolation Material
- ◆ Training and Education Subcommittee Update
- ◆ National Database Subcommittee Update

National Updates

Continued from page 1...

In addition, the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas have determined that as an alternative to the establishment of intrastate quarantines, they will agree to quarantine the entirety of those states for ACP.

Two parishes in Louisiana (Orleans and Washington) are now under quarantine for citrus greening ('*Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*') (CG). The state has established a parallel quarantine prohibiting any intrastate movement of regulated articles from these parishes. This fulfills the APHIS requirement for a parallel intrastate quarantine. Therefore, only these two parishes within Louisiana are quarantined for CG.

For more information on this, please visit on the web: [NAPPO Phytosanitary Alert System: Update of Asian Citrus Psyllid and Citrus Greening Quarantine Areas - United States](#)

2009 Soybean Rust Short Course Registration Now Available

A short course on soybean rust will be held August 26-27, 2009 at the North Florida Research and Education Center in Quincy, Florida.

This short course has been designed with the agricultural specialist or consultant in mind; the intended audience includes soybean professionals from across the country. As such, the course will concentrate on hands-on identification of the disease on the plant. Additionally, the course will focus on scouting techniques and demonstrate methods used to maximize chances of finding the signs of this pathogen in the field. There will be a section concerning field trials at the research station as well. This course will be registered for Pest Management CEUs.

Registration for this course is free. Click [here](#) for a registration form. Questions or comments about this short course can be directed to Carrie Harmon at clharmon@ufl.edu.



Foliar symptoms of soybean rust on soybean. Photo Gary Bergstrom, Cornell University

New! Broadleaved Shrubs and Shade Trees: Problems, Picture Clues and Management Options

A new book on diagnosing both disease and insect problems on woody ornamentals will be coming out in March from NRAES.

Authored by Dave Clement and Mary Kay Malinoski of the University of Maryland Home and Garden Center, this book is based on part on the University of Maryland's plant diagnostic web site (www.plantdiagnostics.umd.edu) and has color keys to symptoms and causes of problems.

To learn more about this publication, please visit on the web: [Broadleaved Shrubs and Shade Trees: Problems, Picture Clues and Management Options](http://www.plantdiagnostics.umd.edu).

Diagnostics Subcommittee Update

Karen L. Snover-Clift
Committee Chair
Cornell University
Department of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology

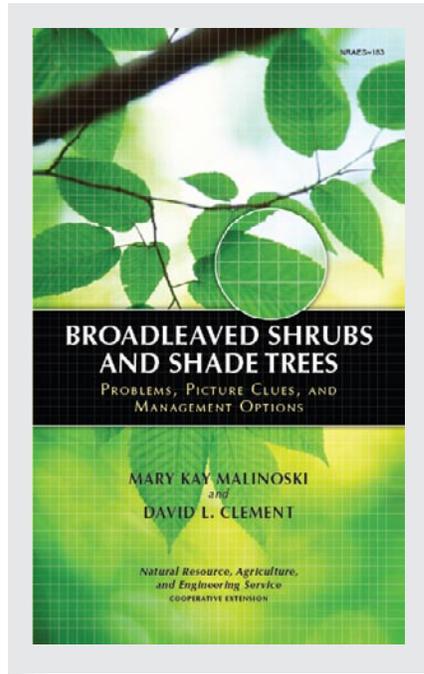
The NPDN diagnostics subcommittee held a conference call on February 19, 2009. During this meeting a number of issues were addressed. Please refer to the diagnostics subcommittee web page of the [NPDN web site](http://www.npdn.org) for complete minutes

of this meeting (login and password required).

Topics of discussion included:

- Phytophthora kernoviae workshops, Beltsville-NPDN Diagnostician Training
- Basic technique workshop update
 - Status of SOPs and new select agent SOPs
 - Inclusion of street address for Beltsville Lab for all SOPs, 9901 Powder Mill Rd.
 - Request from Gail Ruhl for help with the Diagnostic Tips section of the NPDN Newsletter
 - Tentative planning of IT-Diagnosticians meeting

The next conference call will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2009.



Pest and Disease Diagnostics for International Trade and Food Security - International Short Course

The Ohio State University will be offering a [Pest and Disease Diagnostics for International Trade and Food Security - International Short Course](http://www.osu.edu/~plantdiag/). This will be a two-week, lab-based short course, to be held on August 10-21, at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, Ohio.

Continued on page 4...

Diagnostic Updates

Diagnostic Updates

Continued from page 3...

The course will provide training in classical and modern diagnostic methods for a broad range

of plant diseases and pests, Sanitary/ Phytosanitary (SPS) issues pertinent to international trade, diagnostic networking opportunities, and train-the-trainer programs.

The training is part of efforts to improve plant disease diagnostic capabilities in developing countries through the International Plant Diagnostic Network (www.intpdn.org), led by Ohio State and funded by the USAID Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPM CRSP).

Laboratories and field trips will provide hands-on learning opportunities. "This is a very useful course in my work . . . I feel like I can implement each piece of information we gathered here in some part of my work and seriously improve it," wrote a 2008 participant. In the past two years, the course has trained over 30 scientists from Africa, Central and South America, and Europe.

The course fee is \$4000 and includes instruction/ bench fee, materials, local travel (except to/from airport), local meals and lodging. A \$250 non-refundable registration fee is due June 1 to secure class enrollment. The course is limited to 15 participants. For information on the possibility of partial scholarships, please contact Sally Miller or Luis Cañas:

Luis Cañas, Department of Entomology
The Ohio State University
E-mail: canas.4@osu.edu
Tel. (330) 263-3818

Sally Miller, Department of Plant Pathology
The Ohio State University
E-mail: miller.769@osu.edu
Tel. (330) 263-3678

Workshops Offered as Part of North Central APS Meeting

Several workshops will be offered in conjunction with the North Central APS Meeting to be held at Reiman Gardens at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. These workshops include:

- Corn Nematode Workshop Sunday, June 21, 2009, lead by Greg Tylka
- Seed Pathology Workshop, Tuesday June 23, 2009, led by Gary Monkvold
- Disease Assessment Workshop Tuesday June 23, 2009, led by Forrest Nutter and Paul Esker

The theme of the North Central APS Meeting is "Meeting the Challenges of Global and Energy Food Production", and the scientific program will include symposia on:

- Plant Pathogens that Threaten the
- Biosecurity of Agriculture in the North Central Region
- Plant Pathogens and Biofuels
- Impacts of Global Change on Future Disease Risk
- Biology and Impact of Nematodes in the North Central Region

Riemann Gardens provides an excellent venue for meeting rooms and an opportunity to enjoy beautiful, scenic gardens.

The symposia and workshops offered at this meeting should be of interest to NPDN diagnosticians throughout the US.

Diagnostic Tip of the Month: Using Window Screening as a Strainer for Isolation Material

Meg Williamson

Clemson University Plant Problem Clinic

In our lab, we use synthetic screening material as a strainer in the surface sterilization process.

Squares of window screen approximately 4 x 4 inches (figure 1) are cut out and stored near the isolation hood.

Isolation materials, such as roots, leaves or stem pieces, are placed in weigh boats, marked with the sample number. Those that need surface sterilization are covered with a screen prior to pouring in the 10% bleach solution (figure 2).

Generally, the tissues are surface sterilized for one minute and after that, the bleach solution is poured off, using the screen to retain the tissue in the boat (figure 3). After removing the bleach, sterile, distilled water is poured back into the boat to rinse the tissue. We let the tissue sit in the water for a few minutes before pouring it off through the screen again.

Diagnostic Tip of the Month

When the isolation procedure is finished, the

screens and weigh boats are placed in buckets containing a somewhat stronger bleach solution so as to sterilize them. These can then be washed by hand or in a dishwasher and used again.

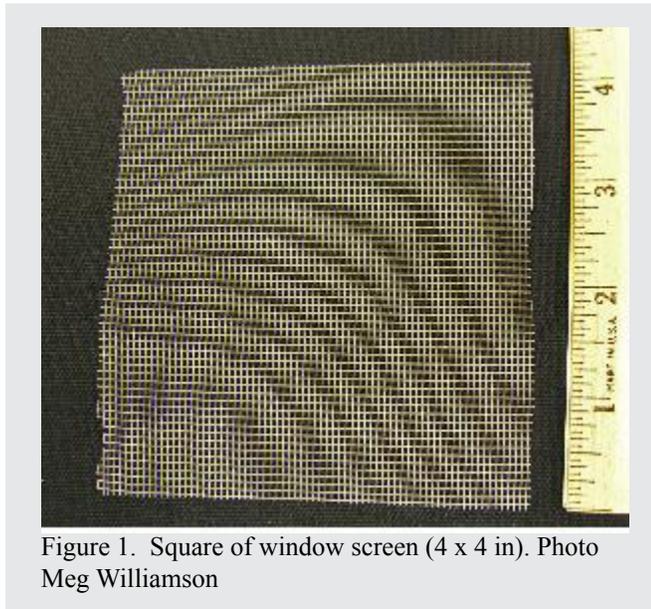


Figure 1. Square of window screen (4 x 4 in). Photo Meg Williamson



Figure 2 (left) Screen covering sample before surface sterilization. Figure 3 (right) Washing screens after use. Photos Meg Williamson

National Database

National Database Subcommittee Update

Karen L. Snover-Clift
Committee Chair
Cornell University

Department of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology

The NPDN national database subcommittee met on February 18, 2009 to continue our work on reviewing the massive EPA Pest and Host lists and revising guidelines for uploading documents that will clarify how sample diagnoses should be transmitted to the National Repository at Purdue University. During this meeting a number of issues were addressed. Please refer to the national database subcommittee web page of the NPDN web site for complete minutes of this meeting (login and password required).

Topics of discussion included:

- Discussed change submission requests
- Reviewed fungal disease common names beginning with the letter U, V, W

The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2009.

committee:

- Sharon Dobesh, Kansas State University
- Natalie Hummel, Louisiana State University

Topics discussed during the call included the following:

- Strategic planning matrix
- Training and education report template
- Incentives for conducting first detector training
- IPED (Inventory Pest Early Detection System)
- NPDN 2009 national meeting update
- S-CAP (Strengthening Community Agricultural Planning)

The training and education subcommittee has spent the last few conference calls extensively working on recommendations for the strategic planning matrix as well as the training and education report template. Both of these documents will be submitted to the NPDN operations committee in February of 2009.

Conference call details and other committee documents are available on the training and education subcommittee web page of the [NPDN web site](#) (login required).

The next conference call will be held on March 16, 2009 at 2pm EST.

Training and Education

Training and Education Subcommittee Update

Amanda Hodges
Committee Chair
University of Florida

The NPDN training and education subcommittee met via their monthly conference call on January 26, 2009.

Two new members were welcomed to the

National Events

March 24-26, 2009, [Sixth International IPM Symposium](#),
Portland, OR

December 6-10, 2009, NPDN National Meeting, Miami, FL

Diagnostician Training Events

Citrus Greening, USDA-APHIS-PPQ-CPHST-NGBTL, Beltsville, MD
February 3, 2009

Phytophthora kernoviae, USDA-APHIS-PPQ-CPHST-NGBTL, Beltsville, MD
March 3-5, 2009
March 10-12, 2009

Adult Lepidoptera Identification Workshops

March 17-19 2009, University of Maryland - College Park, MD
March 24-26, 2009, University of California- Davis, CA

Regional Events

March 17-19, 2009, NEPDN Annual Meeting, New Brunswick, NJ

Upcoming Events



[Mary McKellar](#), Editor
NEPDN
Cornell University