August 2025 Issue 43



MIDDLE TH NURSERY EXTENSION



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Symptoms of Southern blight can progress rapidly. Within a few days, the apple tree in the middle wilted and died. Photo: TSU Factsheet ANR-PATH-02-2015





(small, round tan/white structures) on Delphinium. Photo: Christa Carignan, Univ. of Maryland Extension

• Because disease progression occurs so quickly, once a plant is seen wilting it cannot be saved and needs to be removed (bag and take care to not spread pieces of the fungus).

NURSERY IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT

- In case you didn't know, there's a 3-part series of info sheets on responsible and efficient practices for managing irrigation in nurseries.
- The series covers general water use (Part 1), strategies to increase irrigation efficiency (Part 2) and strategies to manage runoff (Part 3).
- The extension infosheets were made by Amy Fulcher (UT) and Tom Fernandez (Michigan State Univ.).

SOUTHERN BLIGHT

- Southern blight is caused by the fungus Sclerotium rolfsii. Infections in apple and pear trees are often severe; the fungus can infect 500+ plant species.
- It favors 80-95°F and wet, humid conditions.
- Disease symptoms start with wilting and flagging of leaves and immature shoots. Soon after, plants turn brown and die. Infected plants sometimes have dark, water-soaked or sunken cankers near the soil (crown).
- Initial infection occurs when the white, fungal mycelia meets the trunk in the soil and begins to break down the tissue. This leads to girdling of the plant (restricting the vascular system) and wilting.
- Look at the crown for tiny, spherical structures (sclerotia), which allow it to remain in the soil for several years until encountering a host plant to infect under ideal conditions.

For more info, visit:

Southern Blight Factsheet





Spanish Version





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TNGRO - OCT. 23 & 24

Schedule

 October 22nd: Trade Show Exhibitor Move-in/Setup 8:00am - 4:00pm

October 23rd

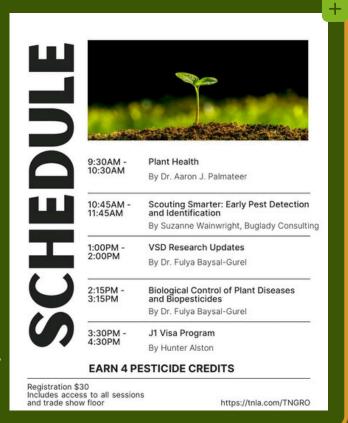
- Trade Show: 9:00am 5:00pm
- Education Seminars: 9:30am 4:30pm
- Annual Awards Banquet & Business Meeting: 5:00pm

October 24th

- Trade Show: 9:00am 2:00pm
- Move out 2:00pm 5:00pm







PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATIONS TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2026

- Be sure to earn the required points before your pesticide certification expires
- You can now earn your CEUs at any pace, as long as it is before the expiration date
- Email: Pesticides.CEU@tn.gov



TSU's Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center





