

MIDDLE TN NURSERY EXTENSION

nursery e-news

[Camphor Shot Borer - Nursery Pest Factsheet](#) OR



And in Spanish: [El Barrenador del Alcanforero - Plaga de Viveros](#)



(below) Maple tree with granulate ambrosia beetle frass ('toothpicks') extruding from holes in trunk. (Photo: Ginny Travis)

(above) Close-ups of ambrosia beetle pests: A) Camphor shot borer B) Granulate ambrosia beetle and C) Black stem borer, D) Size comparison in millimeters. (Photo: Zenaida Viloria)



OR

['Ambrosia Beetles Important to TN Nurseries' TSU Factsheet](#)



SCOUTING FOR & MANAGING AMBROSIA BEETLE PESTS

With the unusually early warm weather this month, plants AND insects are responding in kind. Dr. Jason Oliver, Entomology Prof., and his team have been closely monitoring population activity of ambrosia beetles (AB). They are still abundant and active since our March 6th email alert.

Prevention is the best management practice to protect trees from attacks:

- Treating trunks and lower branches with pyrethroid-containing products, specifically: permethrin, bifenthrin, lambda-cyhalothrin, deltamethrin, and cypermethrin, has been shown to reduce AB holes. Furthermore, permethrin and bifenthrin had consistent and higher effectiveness on AB than the other products listed above (information from: [Joseph et al., 2025](#))
- Trees that recently experienced flooding or frost damage are most susceptible
- For more info, please read the guides at left
- For questions, contact Dr. Jason Oliver (joliver@tnstate.edu) or Dr. Kaitlin Barrios (kbarrios@tnstate.edu)

Got Crown Gall? Check out the New TSU Factsheet!



OR

[Crown Gall of Woody Plants Factsheet](#)

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
CROWN GALL OF WOODY PLANTS
Rising concerns of crown gall in woody nursery production systems

Cassia Okel, Kaitlin Barrios, and Fulya Beyaz-Gurel
Contact: 931-815-5143, fbeyaz@tnstate.edu



Important facts
Causal agent: *Agrilus anoplophilus*
Symptoms: Gall
Infection method: The bacteria enter through wounds on the roots, crown, or stem.
Mechanism: The bacteria inject a plasmid into the plant cells, causing genetic transformation and abnormal growth.
Environmental Factors: The bacteria survive in the soil for years and spread via contaminated water, soil, or infected nursery stock.




What causes crown gall disease
Agrilus anoplophilus, known as *Abrusium radicola*, is a Gram-negative rod-shaped bacterium found in soil. It causes crown gall disease, characterized by tumor-like growths mostly on trees and shrubs. It damages the plant's vascular system, making it difficult to transport nutrients and water, which ultimately kills the plant. The pathogen enters the host through any injury site, and its DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) is then integrated into the plant genome. These galls are the result of uncontrolled cell division in plant tissues induced by the pathogen.
Symptoms
Crown gall is characterized by the formation of abnormal, tumor-like growths (galls) that typically develop at the crown (soil line) on roots, and on lower stems of trees and other woody plants (Figure 1). Young galls are



a) incense cedar



b) red maple



c) redbud



d) flowering dogwood

nursery e-news

Upcoming Events

NURSERY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

April 1st, 2026



UT-TSU Extension Office

330 Joyce Ln.

Winchester, TN 37398

9am-1:30pm

3 Private points; 3 points in C02, C03, C10, C12



Scan to RSVP!

Topics include:

- Pesticide Labels & Preventing Resistance - *Dr. Kaitlin Barrios, TSU Nursery Specialist*
- Refining Pesticide Application - *Dr. Amy Fulcher, UT Nursery Specialist*
- TDA Updates - *Samantha Willis, TDA Plant Inspector*
- Spotted Lanternfly, Ambrosia Beetle, and Imported Fire Ants - *Dr. Karla Adesso & Dr. Jason Oliver, TSU Nursery Researchers*

For more information or to RSVP, please call 931-967-2741 or email crt@utk.edu



Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

TAEF LISTENING TOUR

April 9, 2026

Thursday
2-4 pm Central

Tennessee Farm Bureau
Clyde York Conference Room
147 Bear Creek Pike
Columbia, TN 38401



Warren County Extension is giving educational sessions for Certified Pesticide Applicator CEUs

Location: Warren Co. Admin. Bldg. 201 Locust St. McMinnville, TN 37110 Magnolia Room

- Monday, March 30th 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 14th 6:00 PM
- Monday, April 27th 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, May 12th 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, May 26 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, June 2nd 6:00 PM - Warren Co. Admin. Bldg. 201 Locust St. McMinnville, TN 37110 Early Voting Room.

FIELD DAY- OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center

MAY 7, 2026

8 AM	REGISTRATION AND WELCOME TNLA President & NRC Center Director
8:30 AM	PEST PROBLEMS ON THE HORIZON Dr. Karla Adesso
9 AM	TIMING PRE-EMERGENT HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS FOR NURSERY FIELDS Dr. Anthony Witcher
9:30 AM	ROBOTIC SPRAYING IN SPECIALTY CROPS Dr. Chenchen Kang
10 AM	BREAK, PLUS LABS OPEN FOR VISITS
10:30 AM	VASCULAR STREAK DIEBACK UPDATES Dr. Fulya Baysal-Gurel
11 AM	AMBROSIA BEETLE MANAGEMENT FOR NURSERY PRODUCTION Dr. Jason Oliver
11:30 AM	IRRIGATION SYSTEM DESIGN TO IMPROVE DISEASE PREVENTION & UNIFORMITY IN NURSERY CROPS Dr. Jake Shreckhise
12 PM	LUNCH, PLUS LABS OPEN FOR VISITS
1-2 PM	HANDS-ON DEMOS A. Irrigation System Design for Nursery Crops Dr. Jake Shreckhise B. Robotic Spraying & Drones for Specialty Crops Dr. Chenchen Kang C. Plant Pollination Techniques - Dr. Lisa Alexander
AND	
2-3 PM	



TO REGISTER



Register



TSU-20-00189(B)-12b-61065 — Tennessee State University is an AA/EEO Employer.

Sponsored By: Tri-Green of McMinnville, TN



Scan to pay



Middle Tennessee Nursery Association

Field Day 5.15.26

See you there!

Exhibitors, please complete the contract and pay no later than April 30, 2026. You may pay online at mtna.com or by using the QR Code above.

- 305 Shinglet La Lane
McMinnville, TN 37110
- move-in: Thurs. 5/14 9-4
- Exhibits: 5/15-8:30-2:30
- Seminars: between 8:30-3:30
- Move-Out: 2:30-5:00



Phone: 931-507-7322 | 1410 Sparta St. Ste. 10, McMinnville, TN 37110

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



TSU Nursery Research Center

789 likes • 875 followers



TSU's Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center



<https://www.tnstate.edu/agriculture/nrc/>