

Walworth County Landscaper's Workshop

March 24, 2021



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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Rock and Walworth Counties



Diagnostic Resources

Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) - <https://pddc.wisc.edu>

- assists in identifying plant diseases and provides information on plant diseases and their control.

Insect Diagnostic Lab - <https://insectlab.russell.wisc.edu>

- diagnostic services for insects, insect-damaged materials, spiders, and other arthropods.

Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab (TDL) – <https://tdl.wisc.edu>

- diagnostic information and management recommendations for all turf health issues.

UW Soil and Forage Lab - <https://uwlabs.soils.wisc.edu>

- soil testing and provides recommendations for amendments to improve soil.



Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

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XHT1101

University of Wisconsin Garden Facts



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Provided to you by:

Four-Lined Plant Bug

Carla Staab*, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and Phil Pelitteri, UW Insect Diagnostic Lab

The adult four-lined plant bug (*Poecilocapsus lineatus*) is a 1/5 inch long, yellowish to yellowish-green true bug with four longitudinal black lines down the wing covers and black antennae. This plant bug looks somewhat like a striped cucumber beetle. Nymphs of the insect are wingless and bright yellow to red with rows of black spots on the abdomen. Older nymphs are yellowish-green with a yellow stripe on each wing pad.



An adult plant bug.



Four-lined plant bug damage.

Plants Attacked and Damage: Both adults and nymphs have piercing-sucking mouthparts and attack a wide variety of annuals, herbaceous perennials, woody shrubs, vegetables, and herbs including dogwood, forsythia, honeysuckle, hydrangea, viburnum, weigela, coreopsis, dahlia, mint, basil, morning glory, mums, lettuce and zinnia. On some hosts, feeding causes curling, distortion, or browning. On most plants feeding damage causes black or translucent, circular spots (about 1/8 inch in diameter) giving the plants a diseased appearance. Dead plant tissue may drop, leaving a 'shot hole' similar to some leaf spot diseases. When disturbed, plant bugs drop quickly to the ground and hide under foliage. Therefore, you may not actually see plant bugs causing plant damage. Damage is mainly cosmetic, but can be a concern on herbs and flowering plants.

Life Cycle: Four-lined plant bugs overwinter as eggs. Eggs hatch shortly after foliage appears in late April or early May, and nymphs begin feeding on the undersides of leaves. Nymphs feed for about thirty days and do most of the damage because they are relatively immobile compared to adults. Adults feed for about a month and then mate. Females cut slits lengthwise into the stems of woody or herbaceous plants and deposit one half dozen or more eggs into each slit. There is one generation per year.

Control: Begin monitoring plants by mid-May for signs of plant bug feeding. Hand picking can be effective if your eye and hand are faster than the plant bugs. Insecticidal soap can be used on edible plants and ornamentals. In addition, most garden insecticides are effective. In the fall, after the leaves drop, egg-containing slits can be easily seen on trees and shrubs, and these branches can be pruned out.

For more information on four-lined plant bug: Contact your county Extension agent.

*Completed as partial fulfillment of the requirements for an associate degree in Horticulture at the Milwaukee Area Technical College.

XHT1002

University of Wisconsin Garden Facts



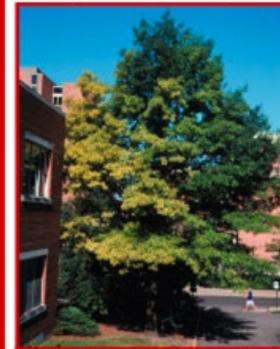
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Provided to you by:

Chlorosis

Brian Hudelson, UW-Madison Plant Pathology

What is chlorosis? Chlorosis is a common nutritional disorder of many woody ornamentals in Wisconsin, particularly in the southern and eastern parts of the state. Pin oaks are most commonly affected by chlorosis, although many other trees and shrubs (e.g., white oak, red maple, white pine and *Rhododendron* spp.) are also very susceptible.



Yellowing of foliage characteristic of chlorosis.

What does chlorosis look like? Symptoms of chlorosis are easy to distinguish from those of other diseases. Affected leaves turn yellow, except for the veins, which remain green. In severe cases, foliage may turn brown and die. Symptoms can occur on isolated branches, or over an entire tree.

What causes chlorosis? Chlorosis occurs when a tree or shrub is lacking certain micronutrients, in many cases iron or manganese. Lack of micronutrients in a tree may reflect a lack of these nutrients in the soil due to poor fertility. Often, however, there are sufficient micronutrients in the soil, but they cannot be absorbed by a plant's roots. Poor absorption of micronutrients is common in Wisconsin because of the high pH (alkalinity) of many soils.

How do I save a tree or shrub with chlorosis? Chlorosis is rarely fatal and can be treated. For treatments to be effective, you must determine the exact cause of the chlorosis. Have the soil around an affected plant tested for micronutrients and for pH prior to applying any treatment. If the soil test indicates a lack of specific micronutrients, fertilize with these micronutrients. For example, chelated iron compounds can be used to increase the amount of iron in soil. If the soil test indicates a high soil pH, lower the pH by applying sulfur or ammonium sulfate (see University of Wisconsin Garden Facts XHT1151). Contact your county Extension agent for information on soil testing, and for details on a treatment once you have determined the specific cause of your chlorosis problem.

How do I avoid problems with chlorosis in the future? Plant trees and shrubs that are less susceptible to chlorosis, and make sure your trees and shrubs receive sufficient water (approximately one inch per week). This will help plants with micronutrient uptake. If rainfall is insufficient, use a drip hose or soaker hose to apply supplemental water. Remove turf from around the base of a tree and shrub out to at least the drip line, and apply shredded hardwood, pine or cedar mulch in this area to help keep the plant's root system moist. On heavy clay soils, use three inches of mulch. On other soils, use three to four inches of mulch. Be sure to keep mulch two inches from the main trunk of a tree. If you decide to plant susceptible trees or shrubs, watch them closely for yellowing characteristic of chlorosis and apply corrective treatments as soon as symptoms appear. Treatments should always be based on the results of soil micronutrient and pH tests.

For more information on chlorosis: See UW-Extension Bulletin A2638 (available at <http://www.peststore.wisc.edu>) or contact your county Extension agent.

Upcoming Free Webinars

Take Action to Keep Our Lakes Healthy

Tuesday, March 30th, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Via Zoom meeting

Invasive plants can dominate our rights-of-way and parks. Lesser celandine, *Phragmites* and knotweed are three high impact invasive plants in southern Wisconsin that can thrive in rights-of-ways, shorelines, and other wet areas. Learn how to identify them, their effects, management tips, and how you can take action by looking for and reporting infestations via email or with the Great Lakes Early Detection Network app.

Register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/rm395x>

Upcoming Free Webinars

Weed Management When Establishing Pollinator Plantings

Wednesday, March 31

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Join Dr. Mark Renz to learn more about weed management for greater success of your pollinator plantings! He will share his research that evaluates the impact of cover crops, herbicides and mowing on establishing native plants for pollinators. Results from over 30 pollinator plantings in Wisconsin will provide insight as to what factors you should consider when planning a pollinator planting.

Register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/aqelvq>

Upcoming Free Webinars

Pollinator Gardens: Plant Selection and Garden Care

Tuesday, April 6

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Susan Carpenter from UW-Arboretum you will learn how to select and care for plants to attract and support diverse pollinators in your garden all season long. This presentation will emphasize native plants and pollinators and will include sustainable gardening practices.

Register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/842s07>

Upcoming Free Webinars

Jumping Worms: The Impacts of a New Soil Invader

Wednesday, April 21

12:00-1:00 p.m.

A new group of non-native, invasive earthworms collectively referred to as jumping worms, are moving into Wisconsin with potentially destructive consequences. We will discuss the impact of jumping worms in gardens, the latest research on their ecology and biology, how to tell them apart from other species of earthworms and what we can do to slow their spread.

Register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/5y045k>

More events can be found at UW-Madison Division of Extension's
Calendar of Events - <https://extension.wisc.edu/events/>

And find articles, resources and more at UW Extension's Horticulture
page - <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/>

Or contact me directly with questions:

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