

HOME GROUNDS FACT SHEET



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Nassau County



Nassau County
Horticulture Program
East Meadow Farm
832 Merrick Avenue
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Phone: 516-565-5265

Leaf Rollers

(including Leftiers, Cankerworms, Inchworms)

Leaf rollers are several species of caterpillars that attack a broad variety of plants including maple, oak, locust and honeysuckle.

The caterpillars usually hatch about April or May just at the time the buds begin to open. The length of the caterpillar period is about one month. During this period they feed on the opening buds and leaves, which they web together with silk. Later, the caterpillars roll up a single leaf or several leaves, webbing them with silk.

The moths of these insects are of various sizes and colors. They are harmless since they have no mouth feeding parts. The only function of the adult moth is the perpetuation of the species.

Management Options

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Considerations

IPM is a common sense approach to pest control and plant care. It employs a number of measures to prevent, control or reduce plant problems. These include using resistant plant varieties, proper plant selection and placement, good aftercare and biological and/or mechanical controls. As a last resort, after all other remedies have been

explored, a pesticide* that is least toxic to people and natural predators, can be considered. Prior to using any pesticides, plants should always be monitored for the degree of infestation and a sensible control measure considered.

* A pesticide is a substance that kills, or attempts to kill, a particular pest, e.g. *insecticide, fungicide, herbicide, etc.*

Leaf rollers rarely cause severe problems, but they can be harmful to the health of the tree if they get too numerous. By rolling themselves in the leaf, the caterpillars are difficult to kill with insecticides. Spraying thoroughly and early (before the leaves are rolled) is essential for good control.

Chemical pesticides may be available. If you choose to use a chemical pesticide, contact your local Cooperative Extension office for specific recommendations.

**WHENEVER YOU USE A PESTICIDE,
ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND FOLLOW
THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS
AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

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Euonymus scale *Unaspis euonymi*

Scale is the only common serious pest of *Euonymus*. The *Euonymus* Scale will attack most *Euonymus* plantings sooner or later. It ruins the appearance of the plants and may finally kill them. The scales are obvious as whitish or brownish encrustations on the stems and twigs and whitish spotting on the leaves, mainly on the undersides. Defoliation, slow growth and killing of branches ensues. All kinds of *Euonymus* are attacked, as are *Pachysandra* and *Celastris* (bittersweet).

Female scales winter on the stems and leaves. Crawlers are produced in early June. A second generation occurs in mid-summer. The white scales on the leaves are the males; the females are larger, pear-shaped, and dull brownish.

Management Options

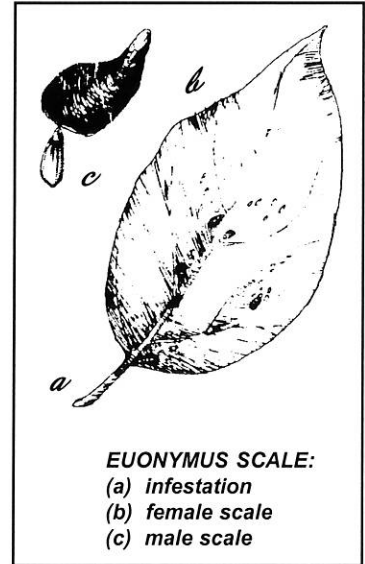
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Control

If scale infestations are small, prune out affected plant parts. Rake up all debris from around plants. Use horticultural oil for dormant spray in mid-April, 35-120 GDD. If additional control is needed, use horticulture oil during the crawler stage in early June and a second application in mid-summer. Other pesticides may be used. Chemical pesticides may be available. If you choose to use a chemical pesticide, contact your local Cooperative Extension office for specific recommendations.



Do not use a hose-end sprayer!

Hose-end sprayers do not dissolve, mix or apply pesticides accurately or evenly. The changing rates of water pressure, different hose diameters and water temperature provide variables that prevent accurate mixing and delivery. A hand-pump or powered tank sprayer, where the pesticide is pre-mixed to the proper dilution, allows for the application of a known mixture as per label instructions.

WHENEVER USING A PESTICIDE, ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

"This publication contains pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly and human errors are still possible. Some materials mentioned may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. All pesticides distributed, sold or applied in New York State must be registered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use in New York State should be directed to the appropriate Cornell Cooperative Extension specialist or your regional DEC office (631) 444-0341. Read the label before applying any pesticide. Cornell Cooperative Extension and its employees assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsement of products is made or implied."