

The Hoe Truth Newsletter

Helping You Grow!

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Houseplant Insect Control

Many houseplants enjoy time outdoors during the summer. However, it's a tough world out there and more than a few plants develop insect or mite infestations while they are basking in the summer sun. A few weeks indoors can allow pests to increase while the plants adjust to indoor conditions and symptoms become more apparent.

Common culprits include aphids, mealybugs, scales, spider mites, thrips, and soil-dwelling fungus gnats.

Pressure washing, hand picking, and pruning are among the quickest and easiest ways to deal with some problems, others require a long-term approach.

Your options, and the likelihood of a happy outcome, depend in great part upon the resilience of the plant and the type of pest that is involved. Plants suspected of being infested should be isolated from other plants to reduce the chances of an expanded infestation. Inspect them carefully to determine if an insect or mite is causing the problem and identify it or get help from your county extension office.

In some cases, and insecticide may be the best way to bring an infestation under control. Products with the following active ingredients (and example brand names) are labeled for a variety of houseplant pests: bifenthrin, cyfluthrin (Bayer Rose & Flower Insect Killer Ready-to-use), permethrin (Eight), pyrethrins (Spectracide Bug Stop for gardens), Insecticidal soap (Garden Safe Brand Insecticidal Soap), and neem (Bon-Neem).

Submitted by Lee Townsend and Mike Potter, Extension Entomology Specialist's, University of Kentucky, Department of Entomology.



Plant of The Month

Metamorphosa Japanese Maple



An *Acer palmatum*, commonly called Japanese maple, *Metamorphosa* has an upright, outwardly spreading, arching habit and a moderate growth rate. This Japanese maple ranges in size depending on growing conditions, ranging in height between 5 feet and 13 feet and ranging in width between 3 feet and 10 feet, with largest size occurring in optimal conditions. *Acer Metamorphosa* is a perfect specimen plant, adding delicate texture and kaleidoscopic color to the landscape, and it fits nicely in a small garden or in a large container.

Horticulture Webinars, FREE!



Webinar
Wednesdays

12:30pm EST/11:30am CST

Registration link:

<https://tinyurl.com/UKYHortWebWed21>



HORTICULTURE HOW TO

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

COME MAKE YOUR OWN WREATH
WITH LIVE GREENERY!
PARTICIPANTS CAN STOP BY ANYTIME
DURING THE DAY.

COST \$25.00 BOW INCLUDED

DECEMBER

12

9:00 AM UNTIL
4:00 PM

WASHINGTON COUNTY COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION OFFICE
245 CORPORATE DRIVE
SPRINGFIELD, KENTUCKY
CALL TO REGISTER 859-336-7741



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

November To-Do's

*When the ground freezes mound soil or mulch over the bud union of your roses to keep them from freezing out. This isn't necessary if you have roses on their own root meaning they weren't grafted.

*Apply 3 inches of mulch to your perennial bed after the ground freezes to prevent them from heaving out of the ground when it freezes and thaws.

*Plant any spring flowering hardy bulbs now.

*Extend harvest of cool season vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, radish, turnip, beet, lettuce, spinach, etc. by covering them with remay fabric or tobacco canvas.

*Cut back asparagus tops after they have frozen back. Apply a fresh layer of mulch after the ground has frozen.

*It's not too late to plant a cover crop of winter wheat or rye.

*Discard and compost any vegetable plant material. Use the compost on the flower garden if you aren't sure you have a hot compost pile. This way you won't risk introducing insects and disease next year.

Happy
Thanksgiving!
Eat More
Vegetables!!!



Cover Crops For Kentucky Gardens

It has been a hard year in the garden. The heat and drought left our plants looking pitiful for most of the summer. If you feel like the time has come to put the garden to bed for the season, why not plant a cover crop? Cover crops can add organic matter to the soil, reduce soil erosion, aid in weed suppression, and help to maintain the integrity of the soil.

There are several types of green manures to choose from. They can be broken down into two categories: legume and grass. Grasses tend to be more easily established than legumes. However, legumes, such as clover and vetch, can actually add nitrogen to the soil. In the chart below there are some of the best cover crops for Kentucky gardens.



Planting a cover crop is as easy as getting your garden ready for any other plant. As soon as you get room in your garden, remove the plant debris. This will help cut down on disease in the garden next year. Rake the area smooth. Broadcast the seed according to the rates on the seed bag. Lightly rake again and water the area with your hose or sprinkler with a light mist.

In spring, till or plow the cover crop under. You should do this at least three weeks before planting in order to allow time for the organic matter to decompose. If the cover crop has gotten too tall to turn under easily, mow first. Do not allow your cover to go to seed! This will only lead to weed problems.

Cover Crop	Time of Seeding	Grass or Legume	Pros	Cons	Seeding Rate per 1000 sq ft
Rye	Sept. - Nov.	Grass	Excellent cover, early spring growth	If not killed early enough in spring can lead to too much top growth	3-4 lbs
Wheat	Sept. - Oct.	Grass	Easy to manage	Not as hardy as rye	3 lbs
Annual Ryegrass	Aug. - Sept.	Grass	Produces good thick growth in fall	May die in cold weather	1 lb
Hairy Vetch	Aug. - Sept.	Legume	Easy to establish and winter hardy	May volunteer where it is not wanted	1 lb



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Cooperative Extension Service

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We Are On The Web!!!

[washington.ca.uky.edu](http://www.washington.ca.uky.edu)

<https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountyKentucky4H/>

Washington County Extension Updates each
Tuesday Morning at 8:30 AM On WLSK 100.9 FM And
Extension Tips Daily After Farm Report

facebook

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Extension



Recipe of The Month Sweet Potato Crisp

3 large fresh sweet potatoes, cooked until tender.

8 ounces reduced fat cream cheese, softened

1 cup brown sugar, divided

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 tablespoon ground cinnamon

2 medium apples, chopped

½ cup all-purpose flour

⅔ cup quick cooking oats

3 tablespoons butter

¼ cup chopped pecans

1. Preheat oven to 350° F. Lightly spray a 13 x 9 x 2 inch pan with non-stick spray.

2. Mash sweet potatoes. Add cream cheese, $\frac{2}{3}$ cup brown sugar, vanilla and cinnamon. Mix until smooth.

3. Spread sweet potato mixture evenly into pan.

4. Top sweet potatoes

with chopped apples.

5. In a small bowl, **combine** flour, oats, and $\frac{1}{3}$ cup brown sugar. **Cut** in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbles. **Stir** in pecans.

6. Sprinkle mixture over apples.

7. Bake uncovered for 35-40 minutes or until

topping is golden brown and fruit is tender.

Yield: 16, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup servings.

Nutritional Analysis:

240 calories, 6 g fat, 3 g sat fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 200 mg sodium, 44 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 20 g sugar, 4 g protein.

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.

