

Eastern Region Nursery and Greenhouse Program  
Danny Lauderdale, Area Specialized Agent



## Eastern NC Nursery News

October 2019

Find the latest information about nursery production in Eastern NC below!

Visit Danny's Website

### USDA Disaster Assistance

I sent out an email about a month ago related to the announcement of this program. I was able to get more information so I have included all I have found below. If you have questions about any of this your local FSA office administers the program, so check with them.

Click the link below for more information related to further assistance for 2018 and 2019 losses:

[USDA Resources Available for Farmers Hurt by 2018, 2019 Disasters](#)

Note that there are many qualifications including future insurance requirements. More info can be found at:

[USDA Nursery Crop Loss Provisions and Qualifications](#)

[USDA Nursery Commodity Insurance](#)

### European Pepper Moth

Over the past few months I have been



Delta trap with European Pepper Moth pheromone lure and male moths.

distributing delta traps and lures to growers to monitor for European Pepper Moth, an insect whose caterpillar feeds on lower foliage and can girdle plant stems at the soil line. This insect supposedly does not overwinter here outdoors but can in greenhouses, propagation houses, or overwintering houses. At every nursery where traps have been put out, we have trapped adult males that are lured to the pheromone and found feeding damage. Loropetalum seems to be the most preferred genus of woody ornamentals but they have also been trapped near abelia, ligustrum, and many others. A single adult moth can fly 62 miles. This is an insect pest we all need to pay more attention to moving forward. More information can be found at the link below:

[University of Florida European Pepper Moth Fact Sheet](#)

## Fall Red Headed Flea Beetle Update



Itea flushing after shearing and systemic drench treatments.

Although adult red headed flea beetles are slowing down as temperatures cool, do not forget about them yet. Stay vigilant over the next month with scouting and adult management applications to prevent the last generation adults from laying eggs that will begin next year's population.

Neonicotinoid insecticides applied as drenches at potting or granular products either incorporated or topdressed at potting are showing good results in trials and demonstrations. These products can also be applied to existing crops prior to first generation egg hatch next year about 200 GDD to significantly improve control and reduce foliar damage later in the year. There are other options if neonicotinoids do not fit in your production system. Data from this year's spring larvae control trials will be available this winter to help with management recommendations for Spring of 2020.

If you have questions about controlling RHFB, need help getting started monitoring GDD, or want to develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan for this insect, contact me and we can work on a management plan for your situation.

## February 11, 2020 Eastern NC Nursery Conference

Save this date to learn about Nursery Weed Management, Scale Management, Diseases of Needle-leaved Evergreens, and Nursery Tree Pruning.

Pesticide disclaimer: Recommendations for the use of agricultural chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services in this publication does not imply endorsement by NC Cooperative Extension nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned.

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The Eastern Region Nursery and Greenhouse Program at NC Cooperative Extension is your source for research-based production information for greenhouse and nursery crops in Eastern North Carolina.

Danny Lauderdale | Area Specialized Agent| 252-714-0274 | [danny\\_lauderdale@ncsu.edu](mailto:danny_lauderdale@ncsu.edu) | <https://wilson.ces.ncsu.edu/profile/danny-lauderdale/>

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