

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



Eastern NC Nursery News August 2020

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

Visit Danny's Website

Redheaded Flea Beetle Research Priorities and Survey

As a follow up to emails sent earlier this summer, the Southern Region Redheaded Flea Beetle Working Group I am a part of has updated our research/extension priorities input document for distribution to get your valuable input. Please give your input on priorities at the link below. The redheaded flea beetle pest survey I had previously sent out is also linked below. Please complete these by August 31 to guide us as we move forward to work together to continue to develop new strategies for management. As a reminder, at the end of each page click the red box with the arrow to continue. Thank you for your valuable input:

[Redheaded Flea Beetle Research/Extension Priorities Input](#)

[Redheaded Flea Beetle Pest Survey](#)

Crapemyrtle Rabbit Tracks Input Needed

Over the past couple of years I have seen an increase the supposed nutritional syndrome known as crapemyrtle rabbit tracks. In the online book, [IPM for Select Deciduous Trees in South](#), it is described as "a visual chlorosis and disfiguration of foliage". Spots of tissue typically become chloric between the veins, sometimes leaves twist and the chlorotic tissue eventually becomes necrotic and drops out, leaving the "tracks" from top to bottom

of leaves between the veins. I have included an image below that shows a range of symptoms. Tuskegee and Natchez seem to be the cultivars most affected.



These symptoms show up most often early in production shortly after rooting or potting up small liners to 1 or 3 gallon containers and plants get their first strong flush of growth. I have also seen it show up very late in the growing season in much larger container plants. Theoretically it is happening when plants can't take up nutrient needed fast enough to keep up with their strong early growth or when nutrients may be running out late in the growing season. Iron, manganese, zinc, copper, and sulfur deficiencies have been theorized as the cause. I have never tissue sampled a plant that showed deficiencies of any of these. I am asking for your help with this. If you have dealt with this issue and have or have not found a way to prevent it please email me at danny_lauderdale@ncsu.edu or call me at 252-714-0274 so I can learn more about it and find simple, inexpensive production methods to prevent it. Fortunately for most growers when plants are stepped up or planted in the field the symptoms disappear. I know it is not a major production issue for most but a curiosity I would like to find a definitive answer to. I have tried several fertility techniques to prevent it unsuccessfully.. Any input you have would be helpful.

Nursery Crop and Flower Growers Eligible for CFAP

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced earlier this month that nursery crop and flower growers are eligible for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. The details of this program can be found at: <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap/nursery>. If you have questions about this program contact your local FSA office. A fact sheet is also available at:

<https://www.farmers.gov/sites/default/files/documents/FSA-CFAP-Nursery-FactSheet-English-08182020.pdf>.

Deadline for applications is September 11, 2020.

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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.

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