MARCH

Horticulture Newsletter

2025

Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Cutting Back Branches Leaves Trees with Healthier Outlook

To stay healthy, sometimes trees need a little help in the form of a trim. Pruning is an essential maintenance activity to promote tree health, safety, and aesthetics. Since trees are large, long-living plants in our landscape, pruning throughout the life of a tree can have a significant impact on how it functions in the landscape and how long it survives. Pruning while a tree is young can have exponentially beneficial results for long-term tree health, maintenance requirements, and beauty.

Because no two trees are the same, pruning is both an art and a science. Research has helped advance our understanding of tree physiology and response to pruning activities, improving techniques and outcomes. Deciding which pruning cuts to make depends on many unique factors, such as plant species, age, reasons for pruning, and desired outcome.

Before making a pruning cut, it is important to assess the entire tree and surrounding site conditions that influence the tree. It is also critical to determine your objectives for pruning. Every pruning cut, large or small, should have an explicit purpose and advance the tree toward the identified goals.

There are many reasons for pruning a tree, including safety, health, and appearance.

Prune for safety

Pruning for safety involves pruning branches that interfere with human activities or pose a threat. You can improve safety by removing limbs that block traffic sight lines or branches over sidewalks and trails that impede pedestrian traffic. Additionally, broken limbs in the canopy pose a fall risk and should be removed.

Prune for tree health

Pruning for health includes the removal of branches that cross or rub with others to minimize self-wounding. Pruning trees for structural integrity is an effective way to increase safety and promote tree health. One of the most common structural concerns is co-dominant leaders. Trees with two or more dominant leaders develop structurally weak branch angles that threaten to split under the weight of the canopy. Corrective pruning should be done to encourage a single leader. Pruning dead or diseased limbs removes disease pathogens from the tree and should always be an objective of a pruning regime.

Mary Dossett

Agent for Horticulture
Advisor for McCracken County Extension Master Gardeners

Savannah Gilbert
Horticulture Assistant

Prune for appearance

Pruning for aesthetics turns the focus toward human preferences. The desired appearance is a subjective analysis, however, pruning decisions made for looks should still adhere to proper pruning techniques and prioritize the health and safety of the tree.

When should trees be pruned?

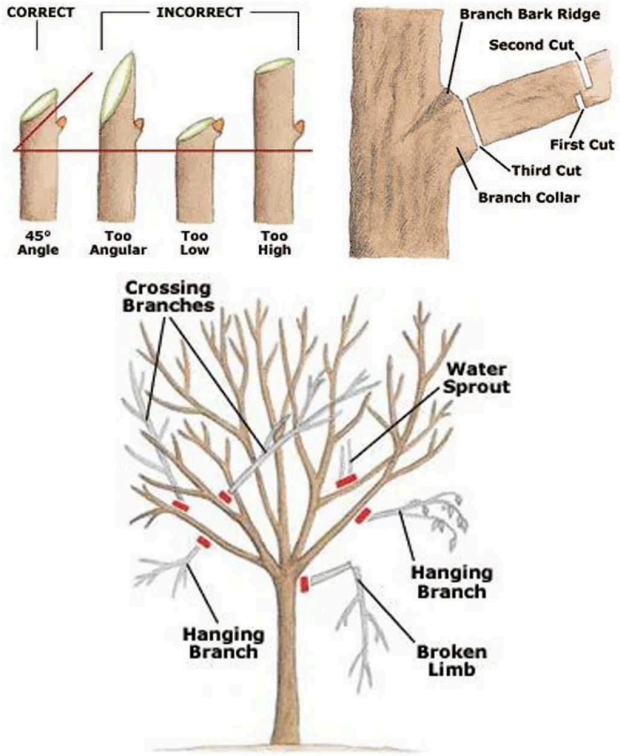
In the Midwest, the late dormant season is the optimal time to prune deciduous trees. While dormant, deciduous trees have shed their leaves, making it easier to assess the overall form of the tree and make pruning choices related to structural integrity easier. By pruning just before spring, trees can better allocate energy resources toward producing leaves that will remain on the tree throughout the growing season. They also dedicate energy to sealing the wounds created by pruning. Pruning branches full of leaves diminishes the tree's capacity to photosynthesize and replenish carbohydrate reserves. Finally, pruning in later winter means that opportunistic insects and disease pathogens are also dormant, reducing the risk of infection.

How to make a pruning cut

Once you decide a pruning cut is necessary, proper technique is required.

Preserving the branch bark collar is essential to wound sealing. The branch bark collar is a swollen or raised strip of bark at the intersection of the branch and the trunk of a tree. Pruning practices of the past that include flush cuts removed the branch bark collar and are no longer recommended.

Make pruning cuts just outside the branch bark collar and have a smooth finish. If larger branches are being removed, a three-point pruning cut is recommended to avoid ripping the bark as the limb falls during the pruning activity under the weight of the branch.



Proper tree pruning illustration

Pruning is an ongoing maintenance activity, and trees should be assessed annually for pruning needs. Being consistent with assessment and action can help minimize the workload for pruning and minimize stress response in trees. If mature trees need pruning, it is best to consult with a professional arborist. Safety should always be the top priority. Pruning activities that require lift equipment or power tools should be performed by a professional arborist.

Emily Swihart is an Illinois Extension horticulture educator for Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, and Stark counties. Gardeners Corner is a quarterly newsletter from gardening experts around the state. Each issue highlights best practices that will make your houseplants, landscape, or garden shine in any season. Join the Gardener's Corner email list at go.illinois.edu/GCsubscribe for direct access to timely tips.

PHOTO CAPTION: The photos in this article are available to download for media use. Photos by Emily Swihart, Illinois Extension. Make pruning cuts just outside the branch bark collar that have a smooth finish. For larger branches, a three-point pruning cut is recommended to avoid ripping off bark.

COMMON GARDENING TERMS

Basic Types of Plants:
- **Annual**: Plants that grow, flower, set seed, and die all in one growing season
- **Perennial**: Plants that come back year after year; some are evergreen, some are deciduous
- **Shrub**: Woody plants that have several main stems; some are evergreen, some are deciduous

Evergreen: Plants that do not go dormant and keep their leaves through winter

Deciduous: Plants that go dormant and drop their leaves in winter

Zone: There are 11 different growing zones in the U.S. and Canada based on the lowest average temperature each area receives during winter. Knowing what zone you are gardening in allows you to pick plants that will withstand the coldest expected temperature for your area.

Exposure: The amount of sun or shade a plant needs
- **Full sun**: 6 or more hours of direct sunlight each day
- **Partial sun/shade**: 4 to 6 hours of direct sunlight each day
- **Full shade**: Less than 4 hours of direct sunlight each day
- **Dappled shade**: A mixture of sun and shade, usually under an open tree; similar to partial shade

Habit: Refers to the general structure or shape of the mature plant
- **Climbing**: Plants that climb fences, trellises, or structures (i.e., vines)
- **Clump forming**: Plants that form clumps of foliage, often spreading to form more clumps
- **Mounded**: Plants with a rounded shape, usually wider than tall
- **Spreading**: Plants that are low-growing and spread along the ground, rooting at nodes along the stem
- **Trailing**: Plants that trail along the ground or cascade out of containers, but do not root from the stem
- **Upright:** Plants that are taller than wide, with generally straight sides

Height & spread: The estimated size of a mature plant

First or last frost date: The average date for your area for the first frost in fall or the last frost in spring

Native: A plant that has grown naturally over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular area. These plants are well adapted to their native growing conditions (soil, climate, water, etc.) and are beneficial to their local pollinators and wildlife.

Invasive: A non-native plant that becomes established in an area outside it's native region and spreads rapidly, to the point of disrupting the native environment and ecosystem.

Grow a more successful garden with a new and fun calendar

Source: Rick Durham, Department of Horticulture professor

Gardening is a rewarding experience that provides fresh produce and a deeper connection to nature. The Growing Your Own - GARDEN calendar from Plan Eat Move—a part of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Cooperative Extension Service—is an excellent resource to guide both novice and seasoned gardeners through the planting and harvesting seasons. With monthly recommendations and engaging activities, the calendar helps individuals and families plan a productive and enjoyable gardening experience.

A well-planned garden starts with careful preparation. Before planting, sketching a layout can be a useful exercise. For families, involving children by having them cut out pictures of vegetables and placing them on the garden plan can be both educational and fun. This interactive approach encourages engagement while helping gardeners visualize plant placement and spacing for optimal growth.

The calendar provides a detailed month-by-month breakdown of what to plant and when to harvest. Beyond planting and harvesting, the calendar incorporates family-friendly activities to make gardening even more enjoyable. Keeping a garden journal allows individuals to track planting dates, growth progress and harvest yields.

Children can add their own observations through drawings or short descriptions. Taste tests with homegrown produce introduce youth to different flavors while emphasizing the benefits of fresh food. Creative activities, such as making DIY garden markers with craft materials, add a personal touch and help with plant identification.

Success in gardening often comes down to simple, consistent practices. By following the guidance in the Growing Your Own - GARDEN calendar, gardeners can cultivate a thriving space that not only produces nutritious food but also fosters family bonding. Gardening is a journey filled with learning, patience and the satisfaction of harvesting what was planted. Whether tending to a small backyard plot or a larger garden, these seasonal tips and activities provide the foundation for success.

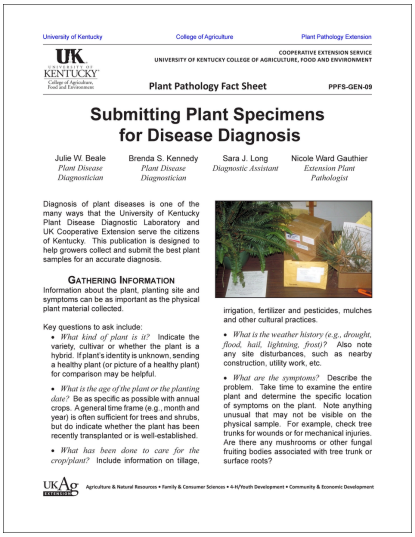
Contact McCracken County Cooperative Extension office for more information on how to create a successful garden or to pick up this calendar.

Publications on Collecting Samples for Plant Disease Diagnosis

Extension Plant Pathology has several fact sheets designed to assist growers, Extension agents, and consultants in collecting plant samples for disease diagnosis. Whether the sample is submitted to a local Cooperative Extension Service (CES) office only or ends up in the Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab, providing a good representative sample and detailed information are crucial to obtaining an accurate diagnosis. Insufficient samples or those that deteriorate enroute can make disease identification difficult to impossible.

The following publications provide specifics on collecting samples and gathering the appropriate information needed for the best possible diagnosis. Directions on packaging samples, whether they will be delivered in-person or mailed to a CES office, are also included. All three fact sheets are available online.

- **Submitting Plant Specimens for Disease Diagnosis (PPFS-GEN-09)**
- **Canker Sampling of Trees & Woody Ornamentals (PPFS-OR-W-27)**
- **Submitting Turfgrass Samples for Disease Diagnosis (PPFS-OR-T-14)**



University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Plant Pathology Extension

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Plant Pathology Fact Sheet PPFS-GEN-09

Submitting Plant Specimens for Disease Diagnosis

Julie W. Beale, *Plant Disease Diagnostician*; Brenda S. Kennedy, *Plant Disease Diagnostician*; Sara J. Long, *Diagnostic Assistant*; Nicole Ward Gauthier, *Extension Plant Pathologist*

Diagnosis of plant diseases is one of the many ways that the University of Kentucky Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and UK Cooperative Extension serve the citizens of Kentucky. This publication is designed to help growers collect and submit the best plant samples for an accurate diagnosis.

Gathering Information

Information about the plant, planting site and symptoms can be as important as the physical plant material collected.

Key questions to ask include:

- *What kind of plant is it?* Indicate the variety, cultivar or whether the plant is a hybrid. If plant's identity is unknown, sending a healthy plant (or picture of a healthy plant) for comparison may be helpful.
- *What is the age of the plant or the planting date?* Be as specific as possible with annual crops. A general time frame (e.g., month and year) is often sufficient for trees and shrubs, but do indicate whether the plant has been recently transplanted or is well-established.
- *What has been done to care for the crop/plant?* Include information on tillage, irrigation, fertilizer and pesticides, mulches and other cultural practices.
- *What is the weather history (e.g., drought, flood, hail, lightning, frost)?* Also note any site disturbances, such as nearby construction, utility work, etc.
- *What are the symptoms?* Describe the problem. Take time to examine the entire plant and determine the specific location of symptoms on the plant. Note anything unusual that may not be visible on the physical sample. For example, check tree trunks for wounds or for mechanical injuries. Are there any mushrooms or other fungal fruiting bodies associated with tree trunk or surface roots?

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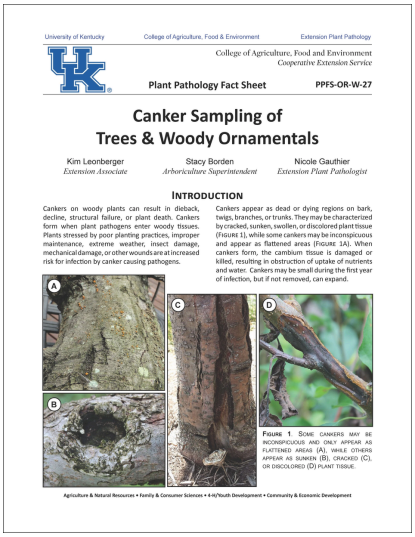

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food & Environment Extension Plant Pathology

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Plant Pathology Fact Sheet PPFS-OR-W-27

Canker Sampling of Trees & Woody Ornamentals

Kim Leonberger, *Extension Associate*; Stacy Borden, *Arboriculture Superintendent*; Nicole Gauthier, *Extension Plant Pathologist*

Introduction

Cankers on woody plants can result in dieback, decline, structural failure, or plant death. Cankers form when plant pathogens enter woody tissues. Plants stressed by poor planting practices, improper maintenance, extreme weather, insect damage, mechanical damage, or other wounds are at increased risk for infection by canker causing pathogens.

Cankers appear as dead or dying regions on bark, twigs, branches, or trunks. They may be characterized by cracked, sunken, swollen, or discolored plant tissue (Figure 1), while some cankers may be inconspicuous and appear as flattened areas (Figure 1A). When cankers form, the cambium tissue is damaged or killed, resulting in obstruction of uptake of nutrients and water. Cankers may be small during the first year of infection, but if not removed, can expand.

Figure 1. Some cankers may be inconspicuous and only appear as flattened areas (A), while others appear as sunken (B), cracked (C), or discolored (D) plant tissue.

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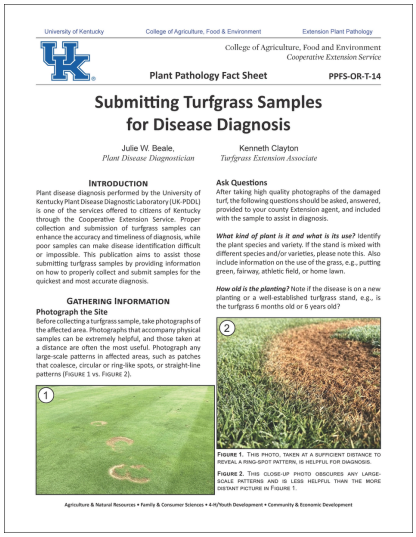

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food & Environment Extension Plant Pathology

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Plant Pathology Fact Sheet PPFS-OR-T-14

Submitting Turfgrass Samples for Disease Diagnosis

Julie W. Beale, *Plant Disease Diagnostician*; Kenneth Clayton, *Turfgrass Extension Associate*

Introduction

Plant disease diagnosis performed by the University of Kentucky Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (UK-PDDL) is one of the services offered to citizens of Kentucky through the Cooperative Extension Service. Proper collection and submission of turfgrass samples can enhance the accuracy and timeliness of diagnosis, while poor samples can make disease identification difficult or impossible. This publication aims to assist those submitting turfgrass samples by providing information on how to properly collect and submit samples for the quickest and most accurate diagnosis.

Gathering Information

Photograph the Site

Before collecting a turfgrass sample, take photographs of the affected area. Photographs that accompany physical samples can be extremely helpful, and those taken at a distance are often the most useful. Photograph any large-scale patterns in affected areas, such as patches that coalesce, circular or ring-like spots, or straight-line patterns (Figure 1 vs. Figure 2).

Ask Questions

After taking high quality photographs of the damaged turf, the following questions should be asked, answered, provided to your county Extension agent, and included with the sample to assist in diagnosis.

What kind of plant is it and what is its use? Identify the plant species and variety. If the stand is mixed with different species and/or varieties, please note this. Also include information on the use of the grass, e.g., putting green, fairway, athletic field, or home lawn.

How old is the planting? Note if the disease is on a new planting or a well-established turfgrass stand, e.g., is the turfgrass 6 months old or 6 years old?

Figure 1. This photo, taken at a sufficient distance to reveal a ring-spot pattern, is helpful for diagnosis.

Figure 2. This close-up photo obscures any large-scale patterns and is less helpful than the more distant picture in Figure 1.

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For publications on plant diseases, visit the UK Plant Pathology Extension Publications webpage.

By Cheryl Kaiser, Plant Pathology Extension Support, and Nicole Gauthier, Plant Pathology Extension Specialist

Protecting your Home Against Termites

by Michael F. Potter, Extension Entomologist
University of Kentucky College of Agriculture

The Entomology Department often receives calls from people wanting to know how to protect their home from. Homeowners can reduce the risk of termite attack by following these suggestions:

1. Eliminate wood in contact with the ground. Termite problems often occur when wood components of the building are in direct contact with soil. Earth-to-wood contact affords termites' easy access to food, moisture and shelter, and direct, hidden entry into the building. Wood siding, door and window frames, etc. should be at least six inches above ground level. Eliminating wood-to-soil contact may require regrading or pulling soil or mulch back from the foundation, cutting the bottom off wood latticework, or supporting steps or posts on a concrete base. Posts or stairs embedded in concrete are also vulnerable to termite attack since they usually extend all the way through the concrete to the soil. Contrary to popular belief, pressure-treated wood is still vulnerable to termite attack; termites often enter the wood through cracks and cut ends, or build tunnels over the surface.

Fig. 1: Wood-to-ground contact aids entry into buildings.

2. Do not let moisture accumulate near the foundation. Termites are attracted to moisture and are more likely to infest if the soil next to the foundation is consistently moist. Water should be diverted away with properly functioning gutters, downspouts and splash blocks. Leaking faucets, pipes and air conditioning units should be repaired, and the ground next to the foundation should be graded (sloped) so that surface water drains away from the building. Homes with poor drainage may need to have tiles or drains installed. Lawn sprinklers and irrigation systems should be oriented to minimize water puddling near the foundation.

Fig. 2: Divert water away from foundations. Downspout splash blocks are helpful, but this one is facing in the wrong direction.

3. Reduce moisture and humidity in crawl spaces. Most building codes call for one square foot of vent opening per 150 square feet of crawlspace area. For crawlspaces equipped with a vapor barrier (see below), the total vent area often can be reduced to one square foot per 300 to 500 square feet of crawlspace area. One vent should be within three feet of each exterior corner of the building. Vents should be kept free of leaves, dirt, and debris, and should not be obstructed by vegetation. Moisture and humidity in crawl spaces can further be reduced by installing 4-6 ml polyethylene sheeting over about 75 percent of the soil surface. The soil cover will act as a vapor barrier to reduce evaporation from the soil and condensation of moisture on joists and subflooring. Vents and vapor barriers are installed by most pest control companies

Fig. 3: Moisture in crawl spaces can be reduced by installing plastic sheeting.

4. Never store firewood or wood debris against foundations or inside crawlspaces. Firewood, lumber, cardboard boxes, newspapers, and similar materials attract termites and provide a source of food. Stacked against foundations they also offer hidden entry into the structure and may allow termites to bypass surrounding soil treated with a termiticide. Vines, ivy, and other dense plantings touching the house should be avoided as well. Where practical, remove stumps and dead roots around and beneath buildings, and any form boards left in place after the building was constructed.

Fig. 4: Don't stack wood against the side of a building.

5. Use mulch sparingly, especially if you already have termites or other conducive conditions. Many people use landscape mulch for its aesthetic and plant health benefits. Improper usage, however, can contribute to termite problems. Termites are attracted to mulch primarily because of its moisture-retaining properties, and the insulation it affords against temperature extremes. The mulch itself is of poor nutritional quality to termites and a non-preferred source of food. Since the moisture retaining properties of mulch are more of an attractant than the wood itself, it makes little difference what type of mulch is used (cypress, pine bark, eucalyptus, etc.). Crushed stone or pea gravel are comparable to wood mulch in terms of attraction, since they also retain moisture in the underlying soil. Where mulch is used, it should be applied sparingly (a couple inches is usually adequate), and should never be allowed to contact wood siding or framing of doors or windows.

Fig. 5: Do not allow mulch to contact wood siding, doors and windows.

6. Consider having the home treated by a professional pest control firm. Buildings have many natural openings through which termites can enter, most of which are hidden. While the above measures will help make the structure less attractive to termites, the best way to prevent infestation is to protect it with a termiticide. Preventively treating a home for termites is a prudent investment, especially if the structure has had no prior history of treatment. If a pest control firm previously treated the building, it is a good idea to maintain the warranty by paying the annual renewal fee. Should termites re-infest -- which can happen even if the treatment was performed correctly, the company will return and retreat the affected area at no additional charge.

Whether one chooses to have their home preventively treated for termites, it helps to know the telltale signs of infestation:

• Pencil-wide mud foraging tunnels on foundations, piers, sills, joists, etc.

Fig. 6: Telltale signs of termites: mud tunnels

Detecting hidden termite infestation requires a trained eye. Pest control companies often offer free termite inspections and will alert homeowners to any conditions they uncover which are conducive to termite attack.

Termite prevention and control are complex subjects. For more information, see our other entomology extension publications, Entfact 604: Termite Control: Answers for Homeowners, and Entfact 639: Termite Baits: A Guide for Homeowners.

CAUTION: Some pesticides mentioned in this publication may not be legal in your area of the country. If in doubt, please consult your local cooperative extension service or regulatory agency. Furthermore, ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS FOR THE PRODUCT YOU ARE USING.

Commercial Spray Schedule for Production of Winter Squash and Melons (PPFS-VG-36 & PPFS-VG-37)

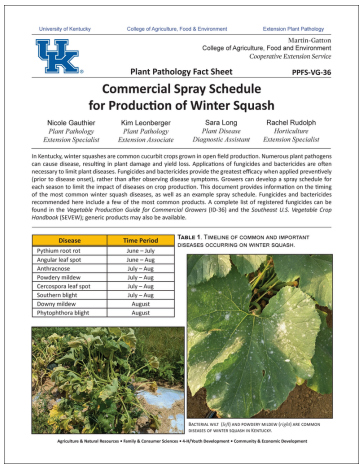
Winter squash and melons are popular cucurbit crops grown commercially in Kentucky. These crops can be affected by various plant disease pathogens, resulting in crop damage and yield loss. Applications of fungicides and bactericides are often necessary to limit plant diseases; however, these products provide the greatest efficacy when applied preventively (prior to disease onset).

Two newly developed fact sheets provide plant disease management information for winter squash, muskmelon (cantaloupe), and watermelon. Content includes timing of the most common field diseases, recommended disease management practices, and sample spray schedules.

These fact sheets are available online:

- Commercial Spray Schedule for Production of Winter Squash (PPFS-VG-36)
- Commercial Spray Schedule for Production of Melons (PPFS-VG-37)

By Cheryl Kaiser, Plant Pathology Extension Support, and Nicole Gauthier, Plant Pathology Extension Specialist



University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food & Environment Extension Plant Pathology

Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Plant Pathology Fact Sheet PPFS-VG-36

Commercial Spray Schedule for Production of Winter Squash

Nicole Gauthier, *Plant Pathology Extension Specialist*; Kim Leonberger, *Plant Pathology Extension Associate*; Sara Long, *Plant Disease Diagnostic Assistant*; Rachel Rudolph, *Horticulture Extension Specialist*

In Kentucky, winter squashes are common cucurbit crops grown in open field production. Numerous plant pathogens can cause disease, resulting in plant damage and yield loss. Applications of fungicides and bactericides are often necessary to limit plant diseases. Fungicides and bactericides provide the greatest efficacy when applied preventively (prior to disease onset), rather than after observing disease symptoms. Growers can develop a spray schedule for each season to limit the impact of diseases on crop production. This document provides information on the timing of the most common winter squash diseases, as well as an example spray schedule. Fungicides and bactericides recommended here include a few of the most common products. A complete list of registered fungicides can be found in the *Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers* (ID-36) and the *Southeast U.S. Vegetable Crop Handbook* (SEVEW); generic products may also be available.

Disease	Time Period
Pythium root rot	June – July
Angular leaf spot	June – Aug
Anthracnose	July – Aug
Powdery mildew	July – Aug
Cercospora leaf spot	July – Aug
Southern blight	July – Aug
Downy mildew	August
Phytophthora blight	August

TABLE 1. TIMELINE OF COMMON AND IMPORTANT DISEASES OCCURRING ON WINTER SQUASH.

BACTERIAL WILT (LLW) AND POWDERY MILDEW (YQHS) ARE COMMON DISEASES OF WINTER SQUASH IN KENTUCKY.

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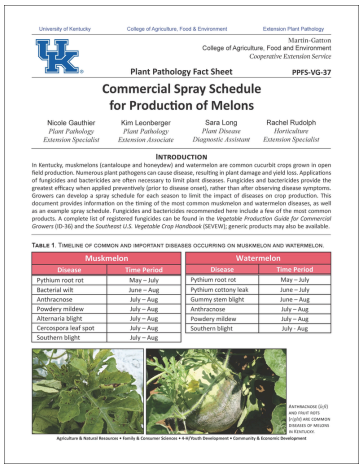

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food & Environment Extension Plant Pathology

Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Plant Pathology Fact Sheet PPFS-VG-37

Commercial Spray Schedule for Production of Melons

Nicole Gauthier, *Plant Pathology Extension Specialist*; Kim Leonberger, *Plant Pathology Extension Associate*; Sara Long, *Plant Disease Diagnostic Assistant*; Rachel Rudolph, *Horticulture Extension Specialist*

INTRODUCTION

In Kentucky, muskmelons (cantaloupe and honeydew) and watermelon are common cucurbit crops grown in open field production. Numerous plant pathogens can cause disease, resulting in plant damage and yield loss. Applications of fungicides and bactericides are often necessary to limit plant diseases. Fungicides and bactericides provide the greatest efficacy when applied preventively (prior to disease onset), rather than after observing disease symptoms. Growers can develop a spray schedule for each season to limit the impact of diseases on crop production. This document provides information on the timing of the most common muskmelon and watermelon diseases, as well as an example spray schedule. Fungicides and bactericides recommended here include a few of the most common products. A complete list of registered fungicides can be found in the *Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers* (ID-36) and the *Southeast U.S. Vegetable Crop Handbook* (SEVEW); generic products may also be available.

TABLE 1. TIMELINE OF COMMON AND IMPORTANT DISEASES OCCURRING ON MUSKMELON AND WATERMELON.

Muskmelon	
Disease	Time Period
Pythium root rot	May – July
Bacterial wilt	June – Aug
Anthracnose	July – Aug
Powdery mildew	July – Aug
Alternaria blight	July – Aug
Cercospora leaf spot	July – Aug
Southern blight	July – Aug

Watermelon	
Disease	Time Period
Pythium root rot	May – July
Pythium cottony leak	June – July
Gummy stem blight	June – Aug
Anthracnose	July – Aug
Powdery mildew	July – Aug
Southern blight	July - Aug

ANTHRACNOSE (LLE) AND FRUIT ROTS (YQHS) ARE COMMON DISEASES OF MELONS IN KENTUCKY.

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Broccoli Grape Pasta Salad

¾ cup diced pecans
8 ounces whole grain pasta (bow tie or other type)
5 slices turkey bacon
2 cups seedless red grapes
1 pound fresh broccoli
¾ cup low-fat mayonnaise
¼ cup honey
⅓ cup diced red onion
⅓ cup red wine vinegar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. **Bake** pecans in a single layer in a shallow pan for 5 to 7 minutes or until lightly toasted and fragrant, stirring halfway through. **Prepare** 8 ounces of pasta according to package directions. **Cook** bacon according to package directions. Cool and crumble into small pieces. **Cut** the broccoli florets from stems and separate florets into small pieces using the tip of a paring knife. **Slice** 2 cups of grapes into halves. **Whisk** together mayonnaise, honey, diced red onion and vinegar in a large mixing bowl. **Add** broccoli, cooked pasta and grapes; stir to coat. **Cover** and **chill** for 30 minutes. **Stir** in bacon crumbles and diced pecans just before serving.

Yield: 16, ½ cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 160 calories, 7 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 125 mg sodium, 24 g carbohydrate, 3 g fiber, 9 g sugars 4 g protein.

Plate it up! Kentucky Proud

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

ANNUAL FREE TREE SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

NO HOLDS | LIMITED QUANTITIES

MARCH 27TH | 10-5
MARCH 28TH | 10-1

McCracken County Cooperative Extension Office
2025 New Holt Rd
Paducah, KY 42001
270-554-9520

DAILY GIVEAWAY UNTIL SUPPLIES RUN OUT

EXPECTED VARIETIES:

WHITE PINE | PECAN | YELLOW POPLAR | KY COFFEE TREE | PIN OAK | AND WHITE OAK

Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
University of Kentucky

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS of KENTUCKY
The Soil is in our Hands

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Lexington, KY 40506

Cooperative Extension Service

2025 HORTICULTURE PROGRAMS

NATIVE PLANTS

5pm-6pm

Join us at the Extension Office to learn all about native plants. This program will be taught by Frannie Preston, Invasive Species Outreach from University of Kentucky. RSVP is required.

MARCH 4TH 2025

McCracken County Extension Office
2025 New Holt Rd.
Paucah, Ky 42001
(270) 554-9520

MARY DOSSETT,
HORTICULTURE AGENT

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
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MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Cooperative Extension Service

2025 Horticulture Programs

5:00 - 6:00 P.M.

McCracken County Extension Service
2025 New Holt Rd Paducah, KY 42001

Please RSVP for each program by calling (270) 554-9520

JAN 7	Winter Sowing
FEB 4	“Evergreens” Propagation (on-site)
MAR 4	Native Plants
APR 1	Fairy Gardens
MAY 6	Container Gardening
JUN 3	Floral Arranging
JUL 1	Love Shack Farm (on-site)
AUG 5	Drying & Pressing Cut Flowers
SEP 2	Lawn Management
OCT 7	Pumpkin Planters
NOV 5	Holiday Wreaths

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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