



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Provided to you by:

Plant Problems to Watch for in 2023

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UW Plant Disease Facts



Lipstick Rust

Hosts: Chinese juniper, apple, crabapple

Pathogen: *Gymnosporangium yamadae*

Signs/Symptoms: Brown blobs with orange gelatinous masses (juniper), red leaf spots (apple, crabapple)



Boxwood Blight

Host: Boxwood

Pathogen: *Calonectria pseudonaviculata*

Signs/Symptoms: Circular, brown leaf spots followed by leaf drop and shrub death

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0023](#)



Late Blight

Hosts: Tomato, potato

Pathogen: *Phytophthora infestans*

Signs/Symptoms: Water-soaked spots on leaves, leathery areas on tomato fruits, rapid plant death

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0068](#)



Septoria Leaf Spot and Early Blight

Host: Tomato

Pathogens: *Septoria lycopersici* and *Alternaria solani*

Signs/Symptoms: Spotting and eventual total collapse of leaves, working from the bottom of the plant up

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0100/D0046](#)



Septoria Leaf Spot of Lilac

Host: Lilac

Pathogen: *Septoria* sp.

Signs/Symptoms: Dead spots on leaves, potentially leading to complete leaf browning



Verticillium Wilt

Hosts: Woody and herbaceous ornamentals, vegetables

Pathogens: *Verticillium* sp.

Signs/Symptoms: Wilting, branch dieback, plant death

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0121/D0122](#)



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Powdery Mildew

Hosts: Herbaceous and woody ornamentals, fruits, vegetables, turf

Pathogens: Miscellaneous powdery mildew fungi

Signs/Symptoms: Powdery white growth on leaves

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0084/86/87](#)



Rhizosphaera Needle Cast

Hosts: Colorado blue spruce, other spruces

Pathogen: *Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii*

Signs/Symptoms: Browning/purpling of interior needles of lower branches, followed by needle drop

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0093](#)



Diplodia Shoot Blight and Canker

Hosts: Austrian pine, other pines

Pathogen: *Diplodia* spp.

Signs/Symptoms: Dieback of branch tips with dead needles showing uneven lengths

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0042](#)



Chlorosis

Hosts: Pin oak, red maple, birch, azalea, white pine, blueberry

Pathogen: None (Abiotic)

Signs/Symptoms: Yellow leaves with dark green veins

For more information see: UW Plant Disease Facts [D0030](#)



Improper Planting

Hosts: Woody trees and shrubs

Pathogen: None

Signs/Symptoms: No root flare at the soil line, girdling roots, frost cracks, canopy thinning, early fall color, branch dieback, tree/shrub decline and death

For more information on plant problems to watch for:
See <https://pddc.wisc.edu/> or contact your county Extension agent.