



**EXTENSION**  
College of Agriculture,  
Biotechnology & Natural Resources

**SP 00-02**

## **SCOUTING THE LANDSCAPE**

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### **SCOUTING: OBJECTIVES**

#### **NOTES**

1. Reduce pesticide use.
2. Reduce development of pesticide resistance.
3. Conservation of beneficial insects.
4. Make better management decisions.
5. Maintain water quality.
6. Reduce potential health hazards from pesticides.
7. Create and maintain an attractive, environmentally friendly landscape.
8. Keep in touch with the landscape.
9. Early detection and treatment.
10. Reduce cost and increase profitability while protecting the environment.

## SCOUTING EQUIPMENT

## NOTES



1. Hand lens or photo loupe.



2. Map of landscape.

3. Clipboard and pencil.

4. Insect traps.



5. Permanent marker and plastic ribbon.

6. Collecting bags and bottles.

7. pH test strips.



8. Stress detection glasses.

9. Sweep net.

10. Soil probe and sample bags.

11. Soil thermometer.



12. Aspirator.

13. References and ID cards.

14. Beater sheet.



## GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Always inspect key plants  first. Key plants  are those that are most susceptible to a particular pest, disease, nutrient deficiency, or other environmental problems such as drought or too much water.

### INSECTS (KEY PLANTS)

**Aphids:** roses, tomatoes, willows, and ash on new growth.

**Bark Borers:** cherries, plums, and pines.

### DISEASES (KEY PLANTS)

**Cytospora Canker:** poplars and willows and others.

**Powdery Mildew:** roses, euonymus, apples and cottonwoods.

**Sooty Canker:** mulberries, olives, ashes, fruit trees, willows.

**Fire Blight:** roses, apples, pears, pyracanthus, mountain ash, and loquat.

## NOTES

Always accurately identify pests.

Know which season different pests appear.

Know your landscape and if there are any pests present.

Know how to identify beneficial insects and other organisms and do not kill them.

### **WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM**

1. How many plants are affected?
2. Is this a new or long-standing problem?
3. What is the number of pests per sample?
4. Is there a pattern in the landscape?
5. Is the damage “Done”? What can you do at this time?
6. Will the next flush of growth cover the damage?
7. Does the damage exceed tolerable levels?
8. Do you have the resources to meet the expectations of the client?
9. Is the pest population building, stagnant, or declining?

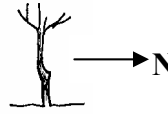
### **MECHANICAL AND CULTURAL CONTROLS**

1. Use climatically adapted plants.
2. Put the right plant in the right place.
3. Fertilize and water wisely.
4. Avoid hedging and improper pruning.
5. Do not over use pesticides.
6. Choose plants that provide pollen and nectar for beneficial insects in the landscape.

## PROPER PLANTING

## NOTES

1. Loosen roots from root ball.
2. Plant with graft union crook to the north.
3. When transplanting, replant as grown (shade to shade, sun to sun, north side to north side, etc.).
4. Plant at the same depth it was growing in the field, pot, or container.
5. Make the planting hole at least twice the width of the root ball (three to five times is preferred) but the same depth.
6. Pots, wire baskets, boxes, and/or burlap *after* the root ball is placed in the hole.



## PEST CONTROL DECISIONS

1. Do nothing and check back later.
2. Let natural predators do the control.
3. Evaluate cost effectiveness.
4. Use Bio-rational material.
5. Spot treat affected areas only.
6. Choose the next least toxic chemical.
7. Re-visit and re-evaluate conditions. Record control measures.



## TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL SCOUTING

1. Perform scouting **consistently**.
2. Use **trained** scouts.
3. Scouts must **know pests and beneficial insects and other organisms**.
4. **Verify** scout knows pest preferences.
5. Set your own **thresholds**.
6. **Be responsive** to scouting reports.
7. **Evaluate** control and suppression actions.

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