

Protecting Utah From Invasive Pests



2026 CALENDAR



Extension
UtahStateUniversity



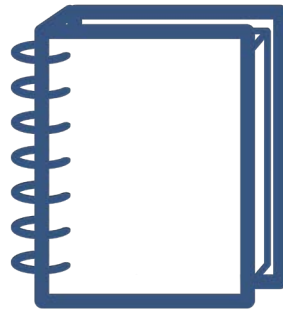
Protect Utah and the U.S. From Invasive Species

Invasive species (insects, plant diseases, weeds, and more) threaten our agricultural and natural resources. Many thousands are established in the U.S., and new introductions occur regularly by unintentional or human-assisted means. You can help prevent introduction or spread of invasives by following a few simple steps.



Buy local.

Avoid transporting and shipping plant material or animals outside their area of origin. Buy local produce and firewood.



Learn.

Become familiar with the invasive species that occur in (or have potential be introduced into) your local area and areas where you travel.



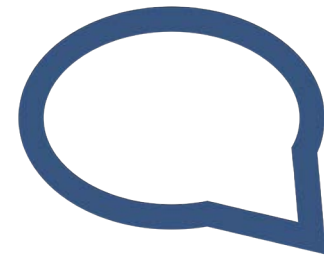
Clean up.

When you travel, remove plants, soil, and animals from your personal belongings, pets, and vehicles.



Report suspects.

Contact your local county extension office or state department of agriculture if you suspect a new **invasive pest**.



Share knowledge.

Tell your family and friends about the environmental, economic, and health impacts of invasive species.

Oversight of Invasive Introductions

Federal and state agencies conduct surveys for invasive pests. The Utah Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program oversees much of the programs for invasive pests. It is led by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) and is comprised of experts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS), Utah State University, U.S. Forest Service, Utah Weed Supervisors Association, and other federal and state partners.



UDAF

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food conducts statewide surveys of invasives and provides **regulatory** information.



USDA APHIS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service protects against the entry, establishment, and spread of invasives and provides national **regulatory, monitoring, and management** information.



USU Extension

Utah State University Extension specialists conduct smaller statewide surveys of other invasive pests, perform research, and provide **educational** information about invasives.

Learn More

USU Extension offers Master Gardener Program training each spring in almost every county in the state. Master Gardeners may elect to become a "First Detector," with annual training of invasive pests provided by the Plant Health group. Plant Health is a group of USU Extension entomologists and plant pathologists who work to solve pest issues that concern all citizens of Utah. Learn more about invasive species and everyday pests at Plant Health (planthealth.usu.edu), where you can access our newsletters, fact sheets, pest management guides, and more.



January

Pale Cyst Nematode (*Globodera pallida*)

The pale cyst nematode is a soil-dwelling pest originally from South America that poses a major threat to potatoes and other solanaceous crops in the U.S. It feeds on plant roots, disrupting nutrient and water uptake and causing stunted growth, yellow foliage, and small, poorly-developed tubers. As females mature, their bodies swell into white round cysts attached to roots. Over time, these cysts harden and can survive in soil for more than a decade. This persistence makes management difficult, as infested fields remain contaminated long after crops are harvested.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Native to: South America

Utah status: Not known to occur

Top: Cysts on potato root.

Bonsak Hammeraas, NIBIO - The Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Cysts on unripe potatoes.

Florida Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org





February

Silverleaf Whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*)

The silverleaf whitefly is native to the Middle East/Asia region and is now regarded as a major agricultural pest worldwide. Adults are extremely small (1–2 mm long) with powdery white bodies and triangular wings held roof-like over their backs. Both adults and immature nymphs feed by sucking sap, weakening plants, and leaving sticky honeydew on which sooty mold grows. This pest feeds on more than 500 plant species, including cotton, cucurbits, tomatoes, beans, and many ornamentals. Beyond direct damage, it is a notorious vector of plant viruses that can cause devastating yield losses.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 President's Day	17 Chinese New Year Ramadan begins	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Native to: Southwest Asia

Utah status: Occurs in greenhouses only

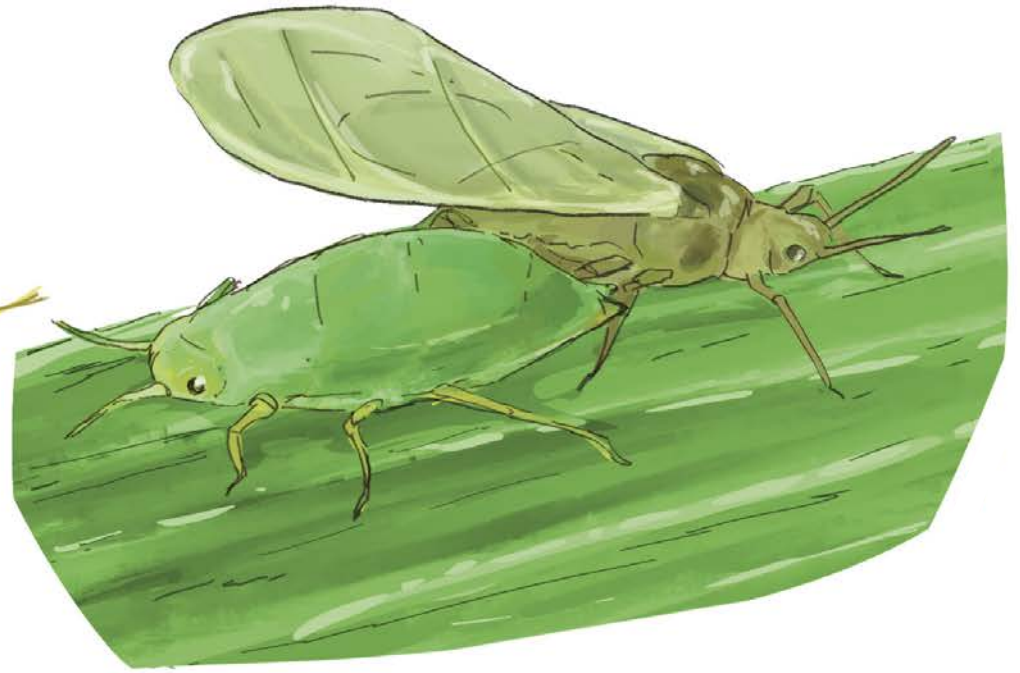
Top: Adult silverleaf whiteflies.

Joseph LaForest, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Silverleaf whitefly feeding damage.

Gerald Holmes, Strawberry Center, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Bugwood.org





March

Russian Wheat Aphid (*Diuraphis noxia*)

First detected in the U.S. in the 1980s, the Russian wheat aphid is a pest of wheat and barley. As aphids feed on foliage, toxins in their saliva cause distinctive white striping on leaves, rolled foliage, and stunted heads. Infested fields may appear pale and uneven, with reduced grain yield. About the size of a grain of rice, Russian wheat aphid is light green with a short, wedge-like body. Multiple overlapping generations occur each season, allowing populations to grow quickly.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Saving Time starts	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring begins	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday	30	31	1 Passover begins at sundown	2	3 Good Friday	4

Native to: Eurasia

Utah status: First detected in 1987 and now found throughout the state

Top: Adult Russian wheat aphid.

Frank Peairs, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Russian wheat aphid feeding damage.

Jack Kelly Clark, Statewide IPM Project, 2000.





April

Viburnum Leaf Beetle (*Pyrrhalta viburni*)

The viburnum leaf beetle is native to Europe and Asia and is invasive in the eastern U.S. Adults are small brown beetles about 4–6 mm long, while larvae are yellow with black spots. Both larvae and adults feed on viburnum foliage, skeletonizing leaves and causing defoliation. Other symptoms include clusters of shot holes in leaves, browning foliage, and dieback after many seasons of infestation.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 Palm Sunday	30	31	1 Passover begins at sundown	2	3 Good Friday	4
5 Easter	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17 Arbor Day	18
19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

Native to: Europe and Asia

Utah status: Not known to occur

Top: Adult viburnum leaf beetle.

Paul Weston, Cornell University, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Viburnum leaf beetle larva.

Paul Weston, Cornell University, Bugwood.org





May

Oystershell Scale on Aspen (*Lepidosaphes ulmi*)

Oystershell scale is an immobile, armored scale insect native to Europe that has naturalized throughout North America. It has a very wide host range, including most fruit trees and ornamental deciduous trees. In recent years, it has killed thousands of forested aspen in southern Utah and northern Arizona. The brown, 1/8-inch long scale bodies resemble oyster shells. They feed by sucking plant sap through bark, causing leaf yellowing and drop, branch dieback, and eventual tree death.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Native to: Europe, Asia, and North Africa

Utah status: Common throughout the state

Top: Adult female scales with oyster-like bodies.

Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Exposed oystershell scale eggs.

Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org





June

European Cherry Fruit Fly (*Rhagoletis cerasi*)

European cherry fruit fly is native to Europe and was first detected in the U.S. in the 2010s. Its primary hosts are cultivated and wild cherries, where the female fly lays eggs just under the skin of ripening fruit. The larvae, or maggots, hatch inside the fruit and tunnel through the pulp, causing cherries to soften, discolor, and rot from within. Damaged fruit quickly becomes unmarketable and entire crops can be lost when infestations are heavy. Adults are small, shiny black flies about 4–5 mm long with yellow sides and distinctive dark banding across their clear wings.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20
21 Father's Day Summer begins	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4 Independence Day

Native to: Europe and Asia

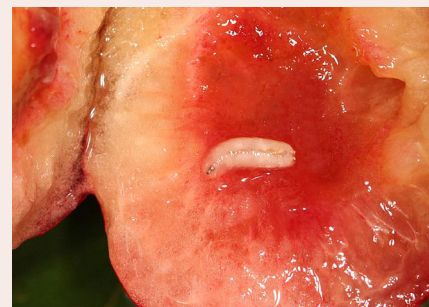
Utah status: Not known to occur

Top: Adult European cherry fruit fly.

Alison Morris, Bugwood.org

Bottom: European cherry fruit fly larva.

Holger Krisp, CC BY 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons





July

Dotted Paropsine Leaf Beetle (*Paropsis atomaria*)

Native to Australia, the dotted paropsine leaf beetle has become a significant pest of eucalyptus trees in southern California since its discovery in Los Angeles County in 2022. Adults are approximately 3/8-inch long, oval-shaped, and tan-colored with reddish brown spotting. Larvae are yellow and develop black stripes as they mature. Both adult beetles and larvae feed on the leaves of eucalyptus and *Corymbia* species. Significant feeding can cause the defoliation of mature trees and even death of young trees.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Pioneer Day	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Native to: Australia

Utah status: Not known to occur

Top: Dotted paropsine leaf beetle larvae.

Pest and Diseases Image Library , Bugwood.org

Bottom: Adult dotted paropsine leaf beetle.

Martinlagerwey, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons





August

Bagrada Bug (*Bagrada hilaris*)

Sometimes called the painted bug, the bagrada bug is native to Africa. It feeds on cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli, kale, and cauliflower, leaving behind white patches on the foliage. Young seedlings are especially vulnerable and may wilt or die after heavy feeding. Adults are black with bright white and orange spots and are about the size of a pencil eraser. In warm regions, several generations occur in a single year, making management difficult.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Native to: Southeastern Africa

Utah status: Occurs in southern Utah, as of 2011

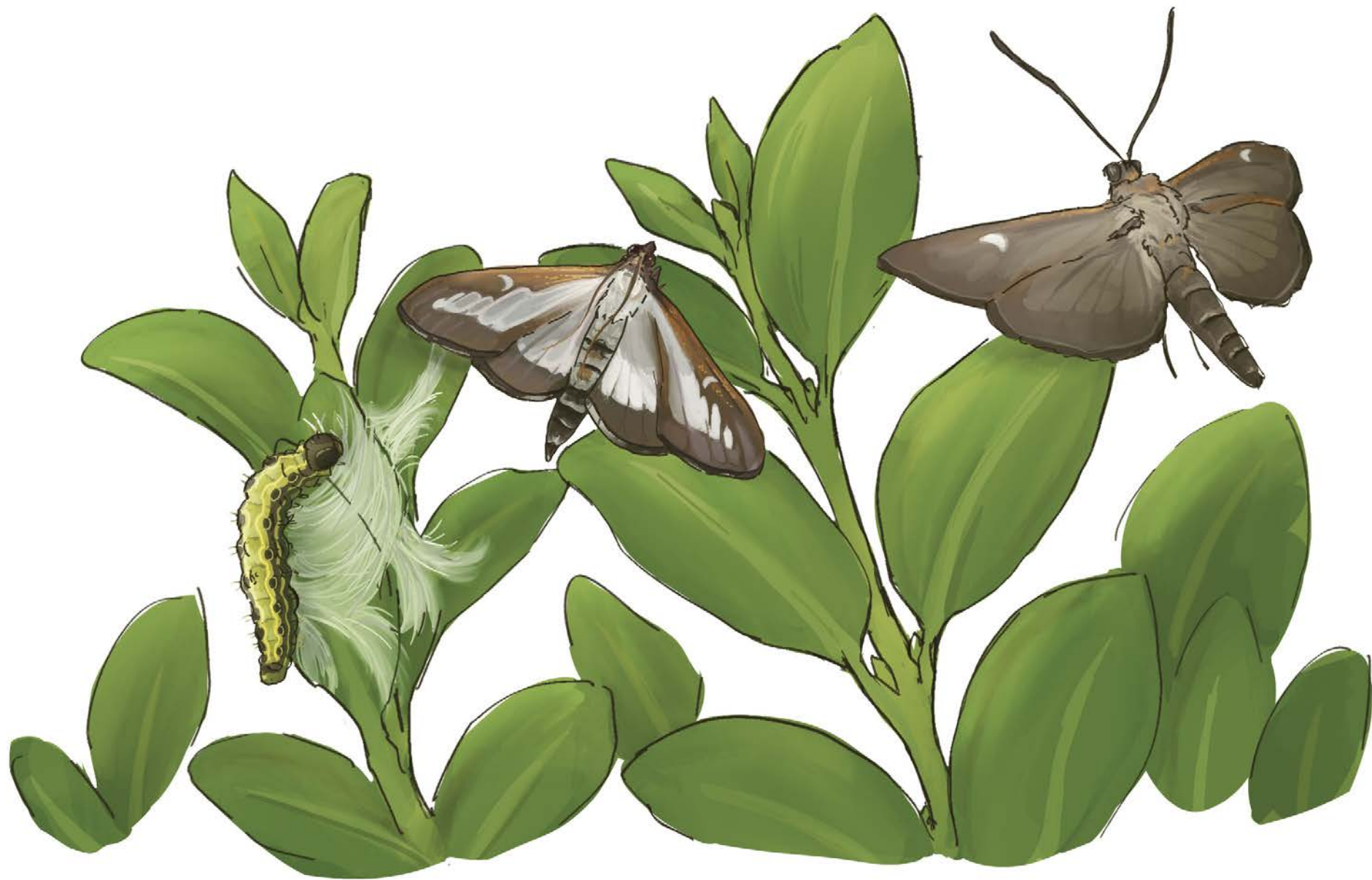
Top: Bagrada bug nymphs.

Jennifer Carr, University of Florida, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Adult bagrada bugs.

Gevork Arakelian, LA County Dept. Agriculture, Bugwood.org





September

Box Tree Moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*)

Native to eastern Asia, the box tree moth has become a serious invasive pest of ornamental boxwood in Europe and eastern U.S. The caterpillars feed heavily on leaves, covering them with silky webbing and skeletonizing them. Repeated defoliation can weaken shrubs and may kill them entirely. Caterpillars are bright green with black stripes and spots, while the adult moths are white with dark brown borders on their wings. Two to three generations occur per year in warm climates.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12 Rosh Hashanah
13 Grandparents Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Yom Kipper	22 Autumn begins	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Native to: East Asia

Utah status: Not known to occur

Top: Box tree moth larva.

Ferenc Lakatos, University of Sopron, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Adult box tree moth.

Szabolcs Sáfián, University of West Hungary, Bugwood.org





October

Kudzu Bug (*Megacopta cribraria*)

The kudzu bug is native to Asia and was first discovered in the southeastern U.S. in 2009. Its primary host is kudzu (an invasive vine), but it also feeds on soybeans and other legumes, piercing stems and leaves. Infestations on these crops lead to reduced photosynthesis, stunted growth, and lower seed yields. Adults are small, olive-green, shield-shaped insects with a speckled, square-like appearance. They overwinter in houses and structures, emerging to produce two generations per year.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

Native to: Asia

Utah status: Not known to occur

Top: Adult kudzu Bug.

Joe Eger, Dow AgroSciences, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Kudzu bug nymphs.

John Ruberson, Kansas State University, Bugwood.org





November

Pine Wilt (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*)

Pine wilt is a lethal disease of non-native pines in North America, such as Scotch and Austrian pines. The disease is caused by the pinewood nematode, which is spread through its vector, the pine sawyer beetle. Nematodes are introduced into the pines and colonize and block the water-conducting tissues, leading to a rapid wilting, graying, and then browning of needles within weeks. The nematodes survive inside the dead trees, feeding on blue-stain fungi, and are then picked up by pine sawyer larvae and adults.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Saving Time ends	2	3 Election Day	4	5	6	7
8 Diwali	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Native to: North America

Utah status: Pine sawyer beetle occurs in Utah, but the nematode does not

Top: Pine wilt disease symptoms.

Penn State Department of Plant Pathology & Environmental Microbiology Archives, Penn State University, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Pine sawyer beetle, the vector of pinewood nematode.

Eugene E. Nelson, Bugwood.org





December

Africanized Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera scutellata*)

The Africanized honey bee is a hybrid between African and European honey bees, first introduced to Brazil in the 1950s and now spreading throughout the Americas. It looks nearly identical to our naturalized European honey bee, with golden-brown and black-banded bodies. Colonies respond aggressively to disturbance, with large numbers attacking perceived threats. They nest in natural cavities and man-made structures, sometimes in more exposed locations than other honey bees.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4 Hanukkah begins at sundown	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Winter begins	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa
27	28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2

Native to: Sub-Saharan Africa

Utah status: Occurs in southern Utah, as of 2008

Top: Adult Africanized honey bee.

Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Bottom: Africanized honey bee hive.

Ktr101, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

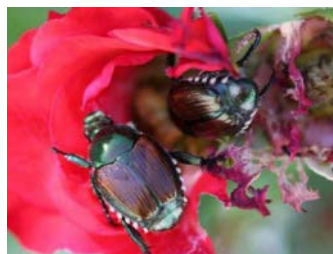




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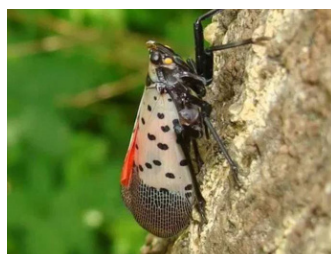
Invasive species are not native to the local area and harm the economy, environment, or human health. The term “invasive” is reserved for the most aggressive and destructive non-native species. Costs of damage and control exceed \$138 billion per year.



Japanese Beetle

(*Popillia japonica*)

Whitney Cranshaw, Bugwood.org



Spotted Lanternfly

(*Lycorma delicatula*)

Eric Day, Virginia Polytech Institute



Asian Longhorned Beetle

(*Anoplophora glabripennis*)

Gillian Allard, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



Spongy Moth

(*Lymantria dispar dispar*)

John H. Ghent, Bugwood.org



Emerald Ash Borer

(*Agrilus planipennis*)

Debbie Miller, USDA Forest Service

Top 5 Invasives to Watch for in Utah



Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

(*Halyomorpha halys*)

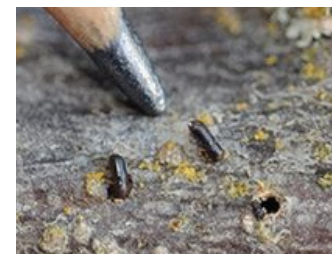
Susan Ellis, Bugwood.org



Elm Seed Bug

(*Arocatus melanocephalus*)

Ryan Davis, Utah State University Extension



Walnut Twig Beetle

(*Pityophthorus juglandis*)

Kathy Keatley Garcey, University of California, Davis



Balsam Woolly Adelgid

(*Adelges piceae*)

Giles San Martin, Wikimedia Commons



Plum Curculio

(*Conotrachelus nenuphar*)

Peter Jentsch, Cornell University

Analia Evans is the artist who produced the illustrations for this calendar. Born and raised in northern Utah and a USU graduate, Analia spends their free time hanging out with their cats, cooking, and helping their friends identify birds and insects. They have created illustrations for projects like the Save Our Great Salt Lake initiative, as well as zines and posters.



@ peach.moths