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Anthracnose on Shade Trees

Cool, wet weather has reared its ugly head, resulting in our first reports of anthracnose fungal disease on shade trees this year. Common on sycamore and maple, the disease can also infect oak, ash, elm and others.

On older leaves, look for brown areas that tend to show up along the major veins on the leaf. Younger leaves may actually wither and turn black. If the leaf stems (petioles) are infected, you might even see leaf drop, even as the leaves look perfectly fine.

If the disease is severe, leaf drop can result in complete defoliation – but don't panic. If your trees are healthy, they should leaf out again in a few weeks with the overall health of the tree relatively unaffected. Trees have plenty of time to produce new leaves and make the energy reserves needed to survive the winter.

Because anthracnose seldom causes significant damage to trees in Kansas, chemical controls are usually unnecessary. Since the fungicides do not cure infected leaves, applying fungicides now will be of no value.

NOTE to Editors: if this article is *not* of local interest, feel free to omit. Thanks! DGH Meadowlark Extension District Wheat Variety Plot Tour

The 2019 Meadowlark Extension District Wheat Variety Plot Tour will be held on Thursday, May 30th, starting at 9:00 a.m. Our hosts will be plot cooperators Doug and Leonard Edelman, with this year's plot located northwest of the intersection of W and 184th Roads, approximately one mile west of Sabetha on 184th Rd.

This year's plot consists of 12 entries (SY Benefit, Everest, WB 4269, SY Wolf, LCS Mint, WB 4303, SY Grit, Zenda, LCS Chrome, SY Monument, WB Cedar, and Karl 92) from four companies, with multiple new varieties to view. We'll discuss growth characteristics and yield performance of each entry with Dr. Stu Duncan, K-State Research & Extension, NE Area Crops & Soils Specialist.

Refreshments will be available starting at 8:45 a.m., courtesy of the Kansas Wheat Alliance and Meadowlark Extension District. For information (or in case of inclement weather), contact the Seneca Office of the Meadowlark Extension District at 785-336-2184 or e-mail David Hallauer at dhallaue@ksu.edu. Hope to see you there!

Tailgate Talk I - Save The Date

Tuesday, May 28th will be the first of our three-part Tailgate Talk forage management series. We'll start at 5:30 with a light supper sponsored by First State Bank & Trust and held at Swearngin Angus Ranch. More details to follow next week or contact the Oskaloosa Office of the Meadowlark Extension District at (785) 863-2212 or e-mail me at dhallaue@ksu.edu.