



Monthly

August 2024



News

- BBIG Scientists at Virginia Tech surveyed public boxwood plantings in southern Europe while attending an international conference. They collected and brought back 35 symptomatic boxwood samples under an USDA APHIS permit to determine whether *Calonectria henricotiae* (*Che*) is present at any of the surveyed gardens and plantings. *Che*, tolerant of higher temperature with reduced sensitivity to some important fungicide chemistries than *C. pseudonaviculata* (*Cps*), is not known to be present in the U.S. These surveys aimed to assist in preventing this potentially more devastating blight pathogen from entering the country.
- Box tree moth found at [a private garden in Kent county, Delaware](#).
- Recording of the EPA IPM Webinar – Protecting boxwood against blight and box tree moth, posted under [the Outreach to Different Stakeholders/Horticulturists section of the BBIG Knowledge Center](#).
- New news manager-Karen Snover-Clift will be taking over the publications, *Monthly* and the quarterly *Newsletter*, please send future submission ideas to her.

Research Presentation

- Daughtrey, M., Luster, D., Calabro, J., Gray, J., Hall, C., Weiland, J., Baysal-Gurel, F., Gouker, F., Kong, P., Crouch, J., LaMondia, Pscheidt, J., Santamaria, L., Shishkoff, N., Snover-Clift, K., Westrick, N., and Hong, C. X. 2024. Fighting a good fight against invasive pathogens through the Boxwood Blight Insight Group. The 20th International Plant Protection Congress. Athens, Greece. July 1 to 5.
- Kong, P., and Hong, C. X. 2024. *Burkholderia* sp. SSG – a safe and powerful broad-spectrum biocontrol agent and biofertilizer. The 20th International Plant Protection Congress. Athens, Greece. July 1 to 5.

Extension Program & Presentation

- Hong, C. X. 2024. Boxwood blight and other signature programs. Statewide Annual Master Gardener College. June 7.
- Li, X. P. 2024. Tiny but mighty - unlocking the microbiome potential to enhance boxwood resilience to diseases and environmental stresses. BBIG Boxwood Seminar Series. July 25.
- Li, X. P., and Hong, C. X. 2024. Understanding the impacts of fertilization and irrigation on boxwood microbiome and crop health. 2024 Field Day of the Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association. Virginia Beach, VA. July 25.
- Shishkoff, N. 2024. Boxwood blight – box cultivars, climate, and disease control. Cultivate'24. Columbus, OH. July 14.

Online Resources

- [Boxwood Blight Knowledge Center](#).
- [Updated list of boxwood cultivars](#) resistant to both boxwood blight and leafminer.
- [Boxwood blight infection risk model](#) to help time fungicide treatment.
- [Boxwood leafminer risk model](#) to help time insecticide application.

BBIG Membership

Membership is open to everyone who is interested in fighting against boxwood blight. You can join by sending an email to boxwood-advocate-g+subscribe@vt.edu or chhong2@vt.edu.

Call for Submission

If you have news items to share with the BBIG community, please send to kls13@cornell.edu.

Together we can save boxwood crops and plantings.

