



Monthly

August 2022



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

Latest Research

- Brand, T., Belz, H., Ehsen, B., Adhikari, U., Daughtrey, M. L., Luster, D., Kong, P., and Hong, C. X. 2022. Multi-year field plantings evaluating boxwood cultivars for susceptibility to the blight pathogens (*Calonectria* spp.) in northern Germany. Plant Disease. <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-05-22-1102-RE>.
- Li, X. P., Kong, P., Daughtrey, M. L., Kosta, K., Schirmer, S., Howle, M., Likins, M., and Hong, C. X. 2022. Characterization of the soil bacterial community in selected boxwood gardens across the United States. Microorganisms 10, 1514. <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2607/10/8/1514>.

Extension & Outreach Highlight

- BBIG presentations at Cultivate'22 featured in Nursery Management, a popular national trade magazine for the nursery industry (<https://www.nursemag.com/article/cultivate-boxwood-blight/>)
 - Baysal-Gurel, F. 2022. Effect of sanitizers on *Calonectria pseudonaviculata* causal agent of boxwood blight. HRI tHRIve Session of Cultivate'22, hosted by AmericanHort. Columbus, OH, July 17, 2022
 - Pscheidt, J. 2022. Pesticide coverage of boxwood plants with nursery sprayers. HRI tHRIve Session of Cultivate'22, hosted by AmericanHort. Columbus, OH, July 17, 2022.
 - Santamaria, L. 2022. Tools for training English and Spanish-speaking workers to scout for boxwood blight. HRI tHRIve Session of Cultivate'22, hosted by AmericanHort. Columbus, OH, July 17, 2022.
 - Weiland, J. E. 2022. Observations about boxwood blight in the nursery industry. HRI tHRIve Session of Cultivate'22, hosted by AmericanHort. Columbus, OH, July 17, 2022.
- Summer field class with ten graduate students in fulfillment of BOT 553 – Plant Disease Diagnosis course led by Dr. Jay Pscheidt involving visits to ornamental nurseries in Oregon from retail to wholesale to “pre-wholesale”. Problems included abiotic issues, insects and of course diseases. The very last block visited was one with boxwood blight.

Upcoming Event

BBIG at the American Phytopathological Society Conference at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 6-10, 2022

- **Special Session:** Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Management of an Emerging Disease – Boxwood Blight, at Plant Health 2022 – APS Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, August 8, 2022. This symposium was organized by Margery Daughtrey, Douglas Luster, Xiao Yang and Chuan Hong, and moderated by Fulya Baysal-Gurel with five invited speakers – Nina Shishkoff, Jerry Weiland, Len Coop, Xiao Yang, and James LaMondia.
- **Poster Presentation**
 - Li, X. P., Omolehin, O. O., Hemmings, G., Daughtrey, M., Kong, P., and Hong, C. X. 2022. Epiphytic bacterial communities of boxwood foliage impacted by fungicide commonly-used for boxwood blight management
 - Ohkura, M. M., Scagel, C. F., and Weiland, J. E. 2022. Rapid and scalable DNA extraction and real-time PCR assay for the detection of the boxwood blight pathogen *Calonectria pseudonaviculata*.
 - Omolehin, O. O., Kong, P., and Hong, C. X., 2022. Friend not Foe: *Bacillus methylotrophicus* strain BP1024 offers potential for boxwood blight disease management

- Omolehin, O. O., Daughtrey, M., Gray, J., Calabro, J., Yang, X., and Hong, C. X., 2022. BBIG International Boxwood Seminars: A successful global stakeholder partnership

- **Oral Presentation:** Weiland, J. E. 2022. Nursery production decisions on plant spacing and irrigation affect risks for boxwood blight

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 by sending an email to Olanike or Chuan via olanike@vt.edu or chhong2@vt.edu.

Call for Submission

If you have news items to share with the BBIG community through the Monthly or Newsletter, please contact olanike@vt.edu or chhong2@vt.edu

Together we can save boxwood crops and plantings.

