

Insect Fact Sheet

Lace Bug

Corythucha spp.

Description

Lace bugs are small, flat insects that feed on the underside of many ornamental trees and shrubs. Both adults and nymphs have piercing-sucking mouthparts to remove nutrients from leaves. Repeated, heavy infestations can lead to defoliation and decreased plant vigor.

Symptoms & Diagnosis

Although lace bugs feed on the underside of leaves, the damage appears on the upper leaf surface as chlorotic stippling.

Treatment

Foliar applications to the undersides of infested plants, and systemic treatments applied to the soil are effective controls of adults and nymphs. Annual treatments ensures control of future generations.

Management

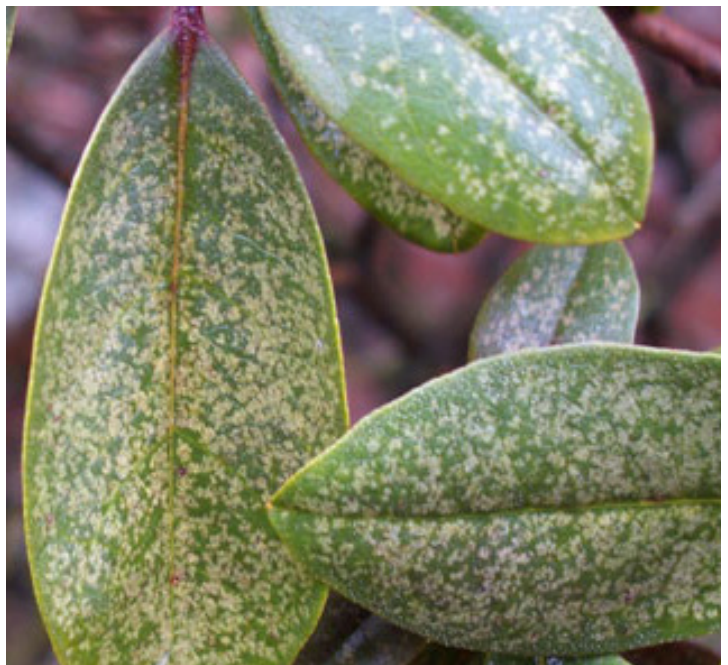
Managing tree stress is a crucial component of insect management. Trees can remain healthier and aesthetically pleasing longer by properly managing water, avoiding compaction and grade changes, and controlling disease. Fertilization improves tree vigor.

Affected Species

<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	Azalea
<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	Rhododendron
<i>Pieris japonica</i>	Pieris
<i>Quercus spp.</i>	Oak
<i>Betula spp.</i>	Birch



Lace bug nymphs (left) and adult (right). The black spots are waste deposits known as frass.



Lacebugs will feed on the underside of leaves causing a yellow to white stippling effect. This rhododendron has a major infestation.