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## Ticks in Maryland

by Mary Kay Malinoski, Extension Specialist, Entomology

Several ticks are common in Maryland. **The American Dog Tick**, *Dermacentor variabilis*, also called Wood Tick, commonly attacks dogs and humans. It is a carrier of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and tularemia and causes tick paralysis. It is a fairly large tick, the adult female is 3/16 of an inch long, before feeding. When engorged it may be up to 5/8 of an inch long and 3/8 of an inch wide. It is flattened, brown, with whitish markings on the back. The American dog tick does not survive well indoors. A similar species, **the Brown dog tick**, prefers warm dry indoor conditions but does not do well outdoors in wooded areas.



Wood tick



Brown Dog Tick



Deer tick



Lone star tick

**The Lone star tick**, *Amblyomma americanum*, attacks humans and is a carrier of tularemia, occasionally Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and possibly Lyme disease. The unfed adult female tick is about 1/8 of an inch long, reddish brown, with a whitish spot in the middle of its back. A fully fed female may be up to 7/16 of an inch long and 3/8 of an inch wide. It does not survive indoors.

**The deer tick**, *Ixodes scapularis* also known as the black-legged tick, is the primary carrier of Lyme disease. The unfed adult female tick is about 1/8 of an inch long and brown. The life cycle of this tick takes 2 years to complete. Adult ticks feed during the winter on white-tailed deer. The larval and nymphal ticks are found throughout the summer and feed on small mammals such as mice, chipmunks, and voles. The preferred host is the white-footed mouse.

### To protect against ticks follow these guidelines:

1. Tuck pants into socks, keep shirts tucked in. Avoid sitting on logs, stumps, or the ground in brushy areas. Periodically inspect clothing and the body before ticks become attached. Use insect repellents according to label directions.
2. If a tick is found attached, remove it with a slow, steady pull that will not break off the mouthparts. It is best to use forceps, with the tips placed on or just behind the mouthparts. Clean the attachment area. Save the tick in a container of alcohol for identification.
3. If ticks are a problem on your property, keep the grass mowed less than 3 inches, trim back vegetation along trails, paths and yard edges. Remove debris and ground cover, and keep bird feeders at the edge of the yard to discourage rodents.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture will identify ticks free of charge. (They do not test for Lyme disease.) Please use this [form](#) to send in your sample for identification.

[TOP](#)

## Protect and Improve Your Soil with Cover Crops

*Jon Traunfeld, Extension Specialist, Fruits and Vegetables, and  
State Master Gardener Coordinator*

Farmers have been growing cover crops for thousands of years to increase crop yields. Cover crops, also known as green manures, are an excellent tool for vegetable gardeners, especially where manures and compost are unavailable. They lessen soil erosion during the winter, add organic material when turned under in the spring, improve soil tilth and porosity, and add valuable nutrients.



A mixture of winter wheat (tall plants) with hairy vetch (vining plants)



Oats planted in the fall beginning to die from cold winter temperatures



Fast growing daikon or forage radish sown in the fall produces a large root that can help break up compacted soil.

Popular fall-planted cover crops include oats, winter rye, winter wheat, crimson clover and hairy vetch (see the chart below). The latter two crops are legumes- plants that can add a lot of nitrogen to your soil after they decompose. These crops are typically planted as early as August 15, but no later than October 10. They should make some growth before the first hard frost. Some cover crops (oats and daikon radish) are killed by cold winter temperature, but most go dormant and resume growth in the spring. Cover crop roots grow deeply into the soil pulling up nutrients that might otherwise leach out of the soil. The crops are turned into the soil before going to seed, usually sometime in late April or early May. Other cover crops, like buckwheat and Dutch white clover, are sown in the spring or summer to cover and improve bare soil.

These are some suggested steps for experimenting with cover crops this fall:

- Decide which cover crops to plant. Combine legumes and non-legumes when possible. Sow oats if this is your first time trying a cover crop or if you want to be able to plant early spring vegetables. Oats are killed by the first hard freeze, leaving a brown decomposing mat in spring.
- Purchase seed locally if possible from a farm supply store or garden center. You can also order cover crop seeds from most retail seed companies. (See the last page of [HG# 70](#) "Recommended Vegetable Cultivars for Maryland")
- To sow a cover crop over an entire bed: Prepare the soil by tilling under or removing plant wastes and mulch from the summer. Then rake the area smooth.
- To sow a cover crop while vegetable crops are still producing: Remove mulch from around plants and rake the area smooth. Your cover crop will get a good start but will not interfere with vegetable plant growth.



Turning under a wheat cover crop in May with a powerful tiller. The wheat was planted in September, grew about 8 inches in height and then went dormant. It began to re-grow vigorously in April.

- Now let's plant: The seed must directly contact soil to germinate. Use the amount of seed shown in the chart. Mixing seeds with soil or compost will make it easier to distribute the cover crop seeds evenly by hand. Broadcast the seed by hand or with a hand-held broadcast seeder, preferably before a rain, and gently rake seeds evenly into the soil. Then walk on the seeds to press them into the soil.
- Winter wheat and winter rye will produce massive root systems- great for breaking up tight, clay soil. They are also difficult to turn under in the spring unless you have access to a tiller.
- Remember that spring planting may be delayed somewhat by a cover crop (except for oats and daikon radish), since you must allow about 2 weeks for the plants to break down.

Be a good steward of the earth by planting a cover crop this fall.

## Cover Crops for Vegetable Gardens

<i>Type (L=legume)</i>	<i>Amount (oz) to Sow per 100 sq. ft.</i>	<i>When to Sow**</i>	<i>When to Turn Under</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Alfalfa (L)	½	Spring or Late summer	Fall Spring	Loam, fairly fertile soil; needs warm temps for germination. Hardy and drought tolerant.
Barley	4	Spring or Late summer/fall	Spring	Prefers medium-rich, loam soil. Not as hardy as rye. Tolerates drought.
Buckwheat	2 ½	Spring Summer	Fall	Must leave part of garden in cover crop during season. Grows quickly. Not hardy.
Crimson clover (L)	3	Spring or Late summer/fall	Fall Spring	Beautiful spring blooms.
Forage radish*	4	Late summer/fall	Spring	Large white roots break up clay soil. All parts are edible. Monitor for harlequin bugs.
Spring Oats*	4	Spring or Late summer/fall	Summer Spring	Needs adequate manganese. Not hardy; tolerates low pH.
Winter rye	4	Late summer/fall	Spring	Very hardy. Can plant till late Sept.
Hairy vetch (L)	3	Late summer/fall	Spring	Inoculate with appropriate <i>Rhizobium spp.</i> ; slow to establish. Fairly hardy. Till under at bloom; can become a weed.
Winter wheat	4	Late summer/fall	Spring	Same as barley. Can be planted later than other cover crops.

\*Will winter-kill in most years, leaving a "mat" of dead vegetation which can be planted through in spring or turned under.

\*\*Sow late summer/fall crops from August 15- October 1, depending on location, use, and species.

## Seeding Your Lawn

*by Raymond Bosmans, Professor Emeritus*

Lawns can be improved by an annual “touch-up” seeding to fill in thin areas where the grass has died during the summer. Late August through mid-October is the recommended time of year to over-seed or renovate a lawn in Maryland. There is a second time to do over-seeding, but not for total renovation; that is in late February. Your time spent in properly preparing the seed bed to receive grass seed will make all the difference between a great stand of grass or a failure.

What type of grass should you use? Maryland lawns are primarily bluegrass, red fescue or the turf-type tall fescues. Of these, the most drought tolerant, and insect and disease resistant are the various turf-type tall fescues.

### **Lawn Renovation:**

This “overhaul” of the lawn is a lot of work and is warranted if the lawn is over 50% weeds or has very compacted soil where the grass has never really done well. Total renovation is best done in the early fall, such as September. The procedure involves first killing all the weeds and grass with a non-selective herbicide such as glyphosate. Next rototill in organic matter such as compost or leaf compost to improve the soil structure. Add the recommended amount of lime and fertilizer. Rake the soil smooth and broadcast the seed. The ideal technique is to use a slicer/seeder machine that actually plants the grass seed about ½ inch under the soil.

If you are broadcasting the seed by hand or with a spin seeder, spread it out evenly and cover with straw (not hay) or peat moss. Water the new seed lightly daily until it germinates. As the grass grows, continue to water if there is insufficient rain but for a longer period of time making sure the water infiltrates the soil.

### **Over-Seeding:**

In most situations, lawn improvement only requires re-seeding bare or thin areas, with little disturbance of the existing turf. Good seed to soil contact is important. Scratch (don't till) up any bare or thin areas with a metal rake. Apply the recommended lime and fertilizer to the entire lawn. Cover the seeded areas with straw or peat moss. When over-seeding an entire existing lawn it is necessary to use a slit-seeder or a core aerator. In this instance, covering the seeds is not needed. Water lightly daily until all the seed has germinated. After germination, continue to water if needed but more deeply until the grass is established. If broadleaf weeds appear, pull them by hand or spot treat them with a broadleaf weed killer. Do not apply the weed killer to the entire lawn until the lawn has been mowed 3 times and has matured. Mow the lawn high, 2-3 inches with a sharp mower blade.

## Landscape Diseases

*by David Clement, Extension Specialist, Plant Pathology*

Early fall is a good time to think about cleaning up any diseases that have been present in the garden during the growing season. Pruning out dead or diseased branches on woody plants and removal of spotted leaves on herbaceous plants will slow down disease spread next season. The following are a few of the diseases we usually see in the fall.

## Bacterial Leaf Scorch



*Bacterial leaf scorch on oak*

Bacterial leaf scorch is a relatively new disease of shade trees and affects a large number of plants including elm, oak (see photo), sycamore, maple, mulberry and hickory in the landscape. Symptoms typically appear in mid to late summer on lower branches as irregular marginal browning on interior leaves. Symptoms progress along the branch towards the tip. Symptoms will occur every year and progress through the crown. Scorched areas may have a yellow halo around them depending on the tree species. Reduced growth and dieback are also common in severely infected plants.

These symptoms are sometimes mistaken for drought, environmental stress, or other diseases. Bacterial scorch symptoms differ from drought scorch symptoms, in that they appear first on the lower branches and on the older interior leaves. Drought scorch symptoms will be more uniform and will first appear near the upper branches and on the younger leaves near the tips of the branches.

**Management:** There are not treatments for bacterial leaf scorch. However, infected trees may continue to persist in the landscape if symptomatic branches and dead wood is pruned out promptly. Antibiotic trunk injections have shown promise but they only relieve symptoms and don't provide a cure.

## Powdery Mildew on Shade Trees



*Powdery mildew on dogwood*



*Powdery mildew on oak*



Powdery mildew is the common name for the disease and symptoms caused by a closely related group of fungi. These fungi grow on the upper and lower leaf surfaces, young stems, and shoot tips of plants. As they grow, they produce microscopic chains of spores that give infected areas their characteristic white powdery appearance.

The fungi parasitize the tissues of the plant causing a decline in its vigor. They also block light needed for photosynthesis. Infection is rarely lethal, but does cause leaf yellowing and browning, leaf distortion, early fall coloration, premature leaf drop, and blemished or aborted flowers and slower-than-normal growth.

The optimum conditions for powdery mildew development are warm days followed by cool, humid nights. Dry daytime weather allows spores to spread to other plants on air currents. On a cool evening they absorb enough moisture from the air to germinate and cause infection. The entire powdery mildew life cycle can take place in less than a week under ideal conditions, and

many overlapping infection cycles can occur within a single growing season.

**Management strategies:** Control begins with selection of plants resistant to powdery mildew. Place susceptible plants where there is adequate sunlight and good air circulation to reduce humidity levels. Allow proper plant spacing for the same reasons. Pruning for better air circulation also may help. Registered fungicides may be needed if disease is severe. Check the label registration on horticultural oil products for powdery mildew control listings.

When selecting new dogwood varieties, choose powdery mildew resistant cultivars. Among the cultivars of *C. florida*, 'Cherokee Brave', 'Kay's Appalachian Mist', 'Jean's Appalachian Snow' and 'Karen's Appalachian Blush' have shown significant resistance to powdery mildew. Most of the *C. kousa* and *C. kousa* x *C. florida* hybrids are also resistant. Resistant *Kousa* dogwoods include 'Milky Way' and 'Steeple'. The resistant hybrids include 'Celestial', 'Stardust', and 'Stellar Pink'.

## Powdery Mildew on Herbaceous Plants

Powdery mildews grow as a white powdery coating over the surfaces of leaves, buds, flowers, twigs and stems. Another characteristic of powdery mildews is that they produce their sexual spores within a round dark colored structure called a cleistothecium. These structures observed under a hand lens appear as very small dark spheres with attached



Powdery mildew on phlox



Powdery mildew on liatris

appendages. These fungi can over winter as spores on fallen leaves or in buds. Spores are carried to the leaves by air currents. The first symptoms of infection usually occur as a superficial white coating of mycelium on older leaves. Disease spread occurs as spores are released from the surface layer of mycelium. Perennials commonly troubled by powdery mildews include *Aster*, *Centaurea*, *Coreopsis*, *Lathyrus*, *Monarda*, *Phlox*, and *Rudbeckia*.

**Management:** Most foliar diseases can be lessened with proper watering. Water plants as early in the day as practical to allow foliage to dry before nightfall. Alleviate poor air circulation or crowded conditions with proper plant spacing. Inspect new growth and older foliage regularly for signs of infection to catch infections early. Sometimes simply removing the infected spotted leaves or plants will solve the problem. Selection of resistant varieties will also help to eliminate the application of costly controls.

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## Daylily Leaf Streak



Daylily leaf streak -  
photo courtesy of Univ.  
of Illinois Extension

Daylily leaf streak, caused by the fungus *Aureobasidium microstictum* is very common disease on daylilies. The first symptoms are visible in early spring as dark green spots that later turn into brown spots along the leaf midrib. These spots quickly run together under wet weather conditions and cause brown streaks typically with yellow margins that extend the entire leaf length. Infected leaves eventually will turn yellow or brown and die.

**Management:** There are no registered fungicides for this disease. There is a wide range of disease resistance between daylily cultivars to this disease. This disease is often visible at the time of purchase and so purchase only healthy plants. Also, select among the more resistant named cultivars for landscape plantings. Check with the various daylily societies and state extension web sites for local recommendations. Prompt removal of symptomatic leaves will help slow disease spread

during the growing season. Since the fungus can survive and overwinter in dead leaves a good fall clean up and removal of dead foliage will help slow disease spread next season.

## Southern Blight on Groundcovers

When a plant or part of the plant (leaf, flower, fruit) rapidly collapses and dies the symptom is called a blight. Many bacteria, fungi and viruses can cause blights. Most blights are favored by certain weather conditions, such as hot and humid or cool and moist.



*Southern blight on thyme*



*Southern blight on stem*

Southern blight is caused by the fungus *Sclerotium rolfsii*. This fungus can attack probably all herbaceous perennials. It is active only during hot weather, so plants can grow well in infested soil during most of the growing season, and only become damaged during the hottest part of the summer. The first symptoms seen are wilting and collapse of individual stems or entire plants. Close inspection of the stem at the soil line reveals white mycelium (strands of fungus growing on the stem and mulch or soil surface), and small (1/8 to 1/16 inch), tan spherical sclerotia, that resemble mustard seeds (They are white when first formed, and gradually over several days turn brown). Roots of infected plants are unaffected. Cortical decay of the stem at the soil line is common during hot, humid weather.

Southern blight is commonly found on *Lysimachia*, *Ajuga*, and ground cover thymes. It is capable of blighting most herbaceous perennials, vegetables, annuals, herbs and even turf and woody plants.

**Management:** The basis for control of Southern blight is to reduce the number of sclerotia surviving in the upper few inches of the soil. During the growing season, remove blighted plants and the mycelium clinging to stems and mulch. Deep plowing can provide good control by burying the sclerotia.

The cornerstone for control of all blight diseases is sanitation both during the growing season and in the fall. Wilted and blighted plants and plant parts should be promptly removed from the garden. Do not compost material killed by southern blight (*Sclerotium rolfsii*) or white mold (*Sclerotinia*) because the sclerotia of these fungi may survive composting. In the fall, all plant debris should routinely be cut at ground level and removed. This material may be composted.

## Black Spot on Roses



*Black spot on rose*

Black spot is the most important fungal disease of roses worldwide. The initial symptoms start as feathery edged, black spots on lower leaves. As these spots enlarge the leaves turn yellow and drop off. The disease will continue up the stems until the entire plant may become defoliated. Stem lesions are less obvious, but start as dark irregular blotches that eventually become blistered. Stem lesions are the most important source of fungal spores for initiation of the infection cycle next season.

The disease is caused by the fungal pathogen *Diplocarpon rosae* (imperfect stage: *Marssonina rosae*). Leaves are most susceptible when young and must usually be moist overnight before infection can occur. The disease can be spread by rain, dew, irrigation, people, insects and transport of infected plants. The fungus cannot live in the soil or last on pruning tools for longer than a month. Black spot spores can survive in fallen leaves and stem lesions over the winter, and will remain active year round on the plant in mild climates.

**Management:** Sanitation is critical for black spot management. Removal of fallen leaves and pruning infected canes will dramatically slow initial spring infections. Good air circulation will reduce the incidence of black spot by promotion of faster drying of leaf surfaces. Restrict irrigation during cloudy humid weather. Rose cultivars resistant to black spot are increasingly more available, but resistance can be regionally variable. Most people will need to use labeled fungicide sprays every 7-14 days as the first leaves emerge in the spring through the fall for adequate control of this disease.

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## Ask the Experts!

*by Debbie Ricigliano, Certified Professional Horticulturalist*

**Question:** Last weekend I went to the local nursery and noticed that many different types of trees were on sale. Is the fall really a good time to plant trees or should I wait until the spring?

**Answer:** The warm days and cool nights of early fall are ideal for planting many species of trees and shrubs. Warm soil temperatures allow root growth to occur before the winter cold sets in. However, there is a fairly long list of popular landscape trees that actually prefer to be planted in the spring. The list includes: American holly, dogwood, magnolia, tulip poplar, cherries, willow oak, birch, hornbeam, sweet gum, white oak and zelkova. Broad-leaved evergreens such as azaleas and rhododendrons should be planted early in the fall and kept watered, if necessary, as long as the ground is not frozen. Antidesiccant products sold to protect the foliage of broad-leaved evergreens from winter burn do not provide season-long protection of plants and are usually not recommended. So, get out to the nursery! This is a great time to find some bargains and to beautify your garden. For additional information refer to [HG 24 Planting Tips for Trees](#) found on our website [www.hgic.umd.edu](http://www.hgic.umd.edu).

**Question:** I am seeing more deer activity in my neighborhood lately and am concerned they will damage the trees I planted in the spring. I have seen them rub the bark off of young trees. What can I do to protect my trees now?

**Answer:** Deer become very active in the fall because it is breeding season. During this period male deer undergo physiological and behavioral changes and is referred to as the 'rut'. Male deer, or bucks, can cause serious damage to trees by rubbing and scraping their antlers against the trunk at this time. They do this to show dominance and also to remove the velvet that covers their antlers



H.G.I.C., U of MD



J. Karr, U of MD

*Antler rubbing damage to trees*

during the summer. They often return to the same trees to mark their territory therefore, continually damaging the trees. This shreds and tears the bark and can even break branches. Installing an 8-foot fence around your property would be the best way to deter deer. However, for most homeowners this is not a viable option and therefore the individual trees need protection from this destructive behavior. Look in garden centers or hardware stores for tree tubes or corrugated plastic sleeves that go around the trunk. Hardware cloth can also be loosely wrapped around trunks. Another option is placing three, 4-5 ft. wooden or metal stakes in the ground around the trees and wrapping them with deer netting. Both deciduous and evergreen trees need protection. Cover vulnerable shrubs with deer netting and secure it to the ground. Deer netting can also be found in hardware stores and garden centers.

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**Question:** Large flies have been swarming around indoor windows and on the outside of our home. We do not know how they are getting in, but they do seem to congregate on the sunny side of the house. They do not live for long. Every day I come home to 100 or more dead flies. I thought when we had a cold snap the problem would be eliminated, but no luck. This has been going on for over a month. Please help.

**Answer:** It sounds like you may have cluster flies. They often become active on warm, sunny, fall or even winter days. Cluster flies are larger than house flies, dark gray, and non-metallic.



*Cluster flies – photo courtesy of Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension*

They are sluggish fliers. The larvae are actually parasites of earthworms and are not associated with garbage, animal wastes, or other materials that provide breeding sites for the various 'filth flies'. Adult flies usually enter homes in the fall to overwinter and occupy attics and/or wall voids that are warmed by winter sun exposure (most often southern). They are a nuisance rather than a pest, but to minimize the problem seal up access openings before the flies enter the building. Place tight screens over vents. Caulk or seal cracks and holes particularly on the south and west side of the home. Use a shop-vac to vacuum up those that manage to get inside. For persistent problems it may be necessary to contact a licensed pest control operator.

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## Update

*by Maria Malloy, Business Manager, Certified Professional Horticulturalist*

August Update from Grow It Eat It campaign headquarters – Ramping it up for fall Food Gardening!

While much of civilization was on vacation, Alix & Emily, the Home and Garden Information Center's students from the School of Journalism, efficiently, enthusiastically, and skillfully modernized the way in which we communicate with the outside world.



**Video** - Alix & Emily braved Maryland's summer to capture gardening footage for our how-to and informational videos. Initially hoping to have 5 videos finished by summer's end,

the Dynamic A&E Duo wowed us with an impressive 29 videos completed for **GIEI** and **HGIC**. Many more have been filmed and are ready for editing. Topics include Soil Testing, No Till/Lasagna Gardening, Vertical Gardening, Snakes of Maryland, Turtles of Maryland, Bed Bugs (Eewww!), and The Invaders!

In 2 months, the number of unique users viewing videos on the **UMDHGIC YouTube** channel has grown from zero on June 23 when the first video was posted to over 400 unique viewers daily as of the end of August.



**Social Media** - Lest you think they were slacking, A&E succeeded in narrowing the generation gap of our audience by appealing to the tech savvy population through the magic of Facebook and Twitter. **GIEI's Facebook** page has 189 followers and **GIEI's Twitter** account has 116 followers and both are growing. Facebook followers can upload fan photos, share and comment on posts, view upcoming class events, and participate in discussions. Twitter followers re-tweet GIEI tweets to their followers and so on, and so on...

Why does this matter? The internet is here to stay. As people increasingly look for gardening information on the web, Facebook and Twitter are just 2 of many ways to increase the chances of them finding us!



**Join the Network** - The number of food gardeners in Maryland has grown to 2,730. Show your support of the program by joining **Maryland's Food Gardening Network** and you may just win a **Maryland Salad Box™** kit. Winners for May, June, and July are already harvesting their salad greens.

Will you be next?



**Teaching Marylanders** - Jon Traunfeld has just completed the summer field trip portion of GIEI training for 500 Master Gardeners. Fall food gardening classes have begun. Click [here](#) to see what classes are scheduled in each county. This link will also show the GIEI contact information for each county. Don't see what you're looking for in your county? Contact the county GIEI coordinator to inquire about their schedule.



**Expanding Social Media to HGIC** - Blogging, Facebook, and Twitter have been so successful in promoting Grow It Eat It that it just makes sense to apply it to the Home and Garden Information Center as well. So effective immediately, you can now follow the Home and Garden Information Center on **Facebook** and **Twitter**!

**What's Next?** - Stay tuned...we have yet one more trick up our collective sleeves. But you'll have to wait until the September edition to find out. Or become followers of GIEI and HGIC on Facebook and Twitter to be the first to know!

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**Save the Date for our Annual Open House - Saturday,  
October 10<sup>th</sup> – 10 AM – 3 PM**



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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## HGIC Tips Calendars for September and October

Monthly calendar tips are posted on the Home and Garden Website

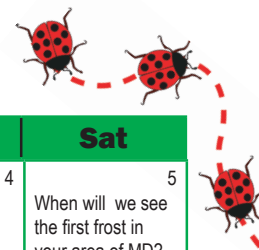
**[www.hgic.umd.edu](http://www.hgic.umd.edu)**, and are also attached to the end of this newsletter

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Thank you for subscribing to Home and Garden News. Our certified professional horticulturalists are available Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 1 PM to answer your questions. Call 800-342-2507 (in-state) or 410-531-1757 (out-of-state). Please visit us on the web at **[www.hgic.umd.edu](http://www.hgic.umd.edu)**. If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please e-mail **[jjacobs@umd.edu](mailto:jjacobs@umd.edu)**.

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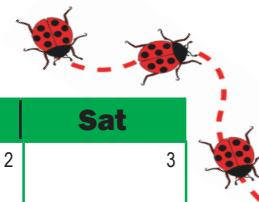
# SEPTEMBER 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Fall is the best time for lawn reseeding ▶ <a href="#">HG 102</a>	2	3 Do not prune trees or shrubs now unless the wood is dead	4	5 When will we see the first frost in your area of MD? See our <a href="#">Percent Probability Table</a>
6 Mums, pansies, ornamental cabbage, and daffodils can be planted now	7	8	9 This is a good time to divide perennials	10	11	12 Poison ivy leaves are turning red; do not touch or burn them
13	14 Prune out dead raspberry and blackberry canes that fruited	15	16	17	18 Cover crops can be sown through the middle of October	19
20 Pears are picked when color begins to lighten but fruits are still firm	21	22 Plant garlic now through the end of October	23	24 Fall is a good time to plant trees and shrubs	25	26 Start thinking about <a href="#">fall garden clean-up</a> - see our website for more information
27	28 Harvest figs when they soften slightly	29	30	Look! This symbol ▶ indicates we have a publication on this topic! Call 800-342-2507 to request a copy, or view it on our website <a href="http://www.hgic.umd.edu">www.hgic.umd.edu</a>		

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# OCTOBER 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>MARYLAND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK • EASTERN SHORE</p>			<p>Call us with your question! 800-342-2507</p>		1 Overseed cool season grasses by mid-October	2 3
4	5	6 Grow herbs indoors in strong direct sunlight or supplement lighting	7	8	9	10 <b>Open House!</b> 10AM - 3PM Rain or Shine! Call us for info. & directions
11 Build a compost bin before leaf drop ▶ <a href="#">HG 35</a>	12	13	14	15 Sow a cover crop in bare areas of your vegetable garden	16	17
18	19	20	21 Deter house mice by keeping weeds and turf mowed around the house	22	23	24
25 Control bamboo now when the plant is transferring nutrients to root system ▶ <a href="#">HG28</a>	26	27	28	29 Leave flower heads on ornamental grasses to provide visual winter interest	30	31

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