UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA | IFAS EXTENSION

Viburnum

Viburnum odoratissimum,
Viburnum suspensum

Propagation

V. odoratissimum, sweet viburnum, is usually propagated by semi-hardwood secondary cuttings taken in early summer. The cuttings should still be hairy. Rooting should occur in 6-12 weeks under low light and intermittent mist when wounded cuttings are used.
V. suspensum, sandankwa viburnum, is usually propagated by semi-hardwood secondary cuttings collected at any time. Rooting should occur in 6-8 weeks with intermittent mist and high water volume.

Pests and Diseases

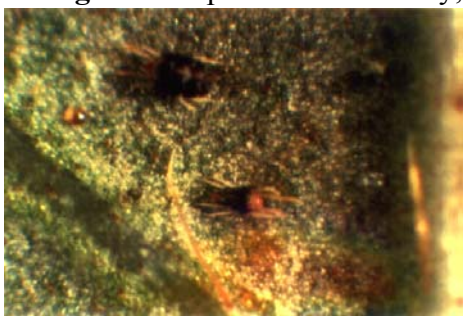
The current Insect Management Guide for Commercial Foliage and Woody Ornamentals can be found at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IG012 . The current Professional Disease Management Guide for Ornamental Plants can be found at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PP123 .

Aphids

Recognition: Aphids cluster and feed on new growth, causing leaf curling and distortion. Aphids have small, pear-shaped bodies with paired cornicles (look like dual exhaust pipes on the rear). Aphids excrete honeydew on which sooty mold grows.
Contributing factors: Aphids are usually most numerous in the spring, but may be present throughout the growing season.
Management recommendations: Aphid mummies are a sign that natural biological control is occurring. High populations may be treated with soaps, oils, or other approved insecticides.

Spider mites

Recognition: Spider mites are tiny, eight-legged pests generally found on the undersides of the leaves. Southern red mite is the most common on viburnum. Mite feeding causes a stippled or bronzed appearance of the leaves.



Contributing factors: Southern red mites are most numerous in cool weather.

Management recommendations: Use a white piece of paper and/or a hand lens to monitor for mites. Check for the presence of predatory mites, which are larger and mover faster. Use insecticidal soaps, oils, or approved miticides if necessary.

Thrips (greenhouse thrips)

Recognition: Thrips cause a flecked, bleached, silvered or russeted appearance to viburnum leaves. Spots of shiny black excrement are visible. The adults are tiny (‹1 mm) and black; nymphs are translucent.

Contributing factors: Thrip populations are at their peak during the spring months. Greenhouse thrips prefer shade and are weak flyers so infestations tend to be very localized.

Management recommendations: Control of severe infestations may require use of approved insecticides.

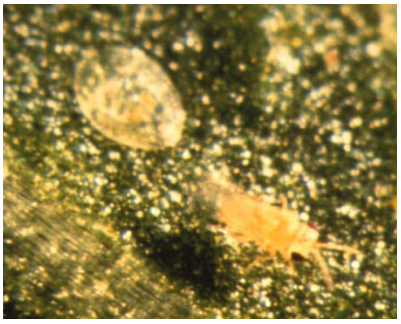
Whitefly (both citrus and silverleaf types)

Recognition: The tops of the leaves become pale or spotted due to feeding by whiteflies; sooty mold also grows on the sugary substance excreted by

the whiteflies. Whiteflies resemble tiny white moths, and the adults will fly when the plant is disturbed, then re-light on the leaves. Their bodies are covered with a powdery wax. The silverleaf whitefly tends to fold its wings at an angle over its body, while the citrus whitefly holds its wings flat over its back, but it is difficult to tell them apart. Nymphs are translucent yellow ovals. They are mobile for the first part of their life, then insert their mouthparts into the leaves and remain stationary until they pupate.

Contributing factors: There are three generations of citrus whiteflies per year, typically in late March, mid-June and late August.

Management Recommendations: Parasitic wasps assist in keeping whitefly populations under control. Wasp parasitism can be recognized by round emergence holes in the pupae, rather than T-shaped holes made by emerging whiteflies. The silverleaf and whitefly is more difficult to control than the citrus whitefly. Alternate classes of insecticides. Check the IFAS Insect Management Guide for specific recommendations.



Mushroom Root Rot (*Armillaria tabescens*)

Recognition: Mushroom root rot causes a slow decline and thinning plant canopy.

Desiccated foliage on affected stems has a gray-green coloration. One or more stems may be killed. Bark removal at the base of the plant will reveal white, mat-like fungal growth (mycelium). Clusters of honey-colored mushrooms can sometimes be observed emerging from the trunk or roots nearby.

Contributing factors: Mushroom root rot is a wood rot fungus which colonizes old roots and stumps as well as living plants. This disease often occurs when plants reach old age. It can spread from one plant to others nearby through root grafts.

Management recommendations: There is no control for this disease. Remove the diseased plant as well as adjacent ones in a hedge. Remove roots and soil and replace with clean topsoil, or use a soil fumigant before replanting.

Sources

1. Cathy Neal, Celeste White and Eleanor Foerste. Key Plant and Key Pests in Central Florida Landscapes. University of Florida Extension slide set.
2. University of Florida Landscape Plant Propagation Information. http://hort.ufl.edu/lppi/

Prepared by:
Juanita Popenoe, PhD, Extension Faculty, Regional Commercial Horticulture
Lake County Extension, 30205 State Rd. 19, Tavares, FL 32778-4052
Tel.: (352) 343-4101, FAX: (352) 343-2767
November 2005

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Employment Opportunity - Affirmative Action Employer authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A. & M. University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating.