

# HOME GROUNDS FACT SHEET

CORNELL Cooperative Extension  
Nassau County



Nassau County  
Horticulture Program  
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## Pine Bark Adelgids *Pineus strobi*

Most white pine is infested by these adelgids, causing white cottony patches on the trunks, limbs, branches and even the needle bases. Light infestations cause little harm, but when the trunks and branches are noticeably white, slow growth and dieback of branches follows. Scotch and Austrian pines are sometimes infested. Adelgids feed by piercing the tree and sucking the sap. The adelgids winter in the wooly patches and deposit eggs in early spring. By late April, the new adelgids hatch, grow rapidly and reproduce; several generations live in 1 year.

### Management Options

#### **Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Considerations**

IPM is a common sense approach to pest control and plant care. It employs a number of measures to prevent, control or reduce plant problems. These include using resistant plant varieties, proper plant selection and placement, good aftercare and biological and/or mechanical controls. As a last resort, after all other remedies have been explored, a pesticide\* that is least toxic to people and natural predators, can be considered. Prior to using any pesticides, plants should always be monitored for the degree of infestation and a sensible control measure considered.

\* A pesticide is a substance that kills, or attempts to kill, a particular pest, e.g. **insecticide**, **fungicide**, **herbicide**, etc.

### Control

#### **Dormant sprays**

- Apply horticultural oil at 22-58 GDD or when pussywillow blooms. Oil must dry above 40° F.
- Apply on a warm sunny morning.

Chemical pesticides may be available. If you choose to use a chemical pesticide, contact your local Cooperative Extension office for specific recommendations.

#### **Spring sprays**

- Sprays can be used from 58-618 GDD or when boxelder and saucer magnolia are blooming.

For an explanation of GDD, growing degree days, see Home Ground Fact Sheet E-1-0.

#### **Do not use a hose-end sprayer!**

Hose-end sprayers do not dissolve, mix or apply pesticides accurately or evenly. The changing rates of water pressure, different hose diameters and water temperature provide variables that prevent accurate mixing and delivery. A hand-pump or powered tank sprayer, where the pesticide is pre-mixed to the proper dilution, allows for the application of a known mixture as per label instructions.



WHENEVER YOU USE A PESTICIDE,  
ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND FOLLOW  
THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS  
AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

"This publication contains pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly and human errors are still possible. Some materials mentioned may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. All pesticides distributed, sold or applied in New York State must be registered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use in New York State should be directed to the appropriate Cornell Cooperative Extension specialist or your regional DEC office (631) 444-0341. Read the label before applying any pesticide. Cornell Cooperative Extension and its employees assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsement of products is made or implied."

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