

Aphids

Aphids frequently referred to as plant lice, aphids are small, slow-moving, soft-bodied insects, winged or wingless when grown. Usually they are found on the young leaves and stem of growing tips. Most aphids are plentiful during the spring months. Aphids, or plant lice, feed on plant juices and are occasional pest of the houseplants. Feeding may weaken or disfigure the plant by causing leaves to curl or to become covered with honeydew.

Plantbug-Leafhopper

Several plantbugs and a leafhopper may be found on the same tree, feeding on the leaflets. In early spring, the new expanding leaves become deformed, curled, and mottled yellow. Leaves drop and twigs die back in severe cases. Eggs, laid the previous summer near the buds and on small twigs, hatch as the leaves unfold. The young insects suck the sap from the leaves and may inject toxins, causing the mottling and distortion. Plantbugs and leafhoppers feed until the middle of summer. When infestations are heavy, twigs die back. To prevent damage next year, spray before the buds open in the spring.

What To Do

In most cases the infested trees are not killed, but damage can weaken the trees and result in more serious attacks by other insects. For this reason, it is important to do preventative maintenance of insecticide on an annual basis to control these insects.

Comments