

THE LATEST FROM AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

August 4, 2026

RCE EVENTS



Eat What You Grow: Fall

**Thursday, October 8, 2026
6 to 8pm**

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cape May County
355 Court House - South Dennis Road, CMCH, NJ 08210



Presenters: Anneliese Kuemmerle, MS, RDN, FCHS Program Associate II
Jen Sawyer Caraballo, ANR Program Associate II

Topics include...

- Planting garlic
- Prepping your vegetable gardens for next Fall
- How to use your garlic harvest
- Food preservation: dehydrating

Cost is \$20. Register by October 5 at:

<https://go.rutgers.edu/zosuwv78>



Questions: Call 609-465-5115 Ext. 3607, Email capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu

County Employees who attend this class will earn 10 Wellness Incentive Points!

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

OTHER EVENTS

- 24- Aug [Nutrition Benefits: Trends & Transitions](#). 3:15 PM. Free Webinar
- 25- Aug [Whole Farm Revenue and Crop Insurance: What to Consider](#). 12:00 PM. Free Webinar
- 11- Sept [Your Money Matters Series. Multi-Day Series](#). 12:00 PM. \$10
- 16- Sept [Transitioning the Farm: How to Form an LLC](#). 12:00 PM. \$15 Webinar
- 16-Sept [How to Improve Your Farm Website Without Starting Over](#). 1:00 PM Free Webinar

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [Food Animal Concerns Trust Grants](#): Grants funds to improve farm animal welfare, expand humane farming, and support capital and operational work. FACT awards scholarships of up to \$400 for livestock and poultry farmers to attend educational events.
- [USDA Rural Cooperative Development Grants](#): RCDG funding is used improve the economic condition of rural areas by helping nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance to start, expand, or improve cooperatives and mutually owned businesses in rural areas.
- [Agriculture & Food Research Initiative](#): The goal of this program is to invest in agricultural production research, education, and extension projects for more sustainable, productive, and economically-viable plant and animal production systems.

FACTSHEETS

- [FS232: Diamondback Moths in the Home Garden](#)
- [FS1124: Vegetable Disease Recommendations for Home Gardens](#)
- [FS1123: Vegetable Insect Control Recommendations for Home Gardens](#)
- [FS1123SP: Recomendaciones para el Control de Insectos de Hortalizas en Huertos Urbanos](#)
- [FS1140: Incorporating Native Plants in Your Residential Landscape](#)
- [FS1237: Japanese Stiltgrass Management in the Home Lawn and Landscape](#)
- [FS1391: Deer Damage Control in the Vineyard](#)
- [FS1392: Northern Red Oak in New Jersey](#)

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

- [Landscape, Ornamentals, Nursery, and Turf Pest Notes](#)
- [Vegetable Crop IPM update](#)
- [Tree Fruit IPM Report](#)



**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:
CAPE MAY COUNTY
AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES**

RESOURCES

- [Creating an Inclusive Agritourism Experience](#)
- [Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention](#)
- [National Cover Crop Survey Reports](#)
- [Guidelines For Developing Pollinator- Friendly Utility-scale Solar Projects](#)
- [Effective Pricing Methods for Produce at Farmers Markets](#)
- [Adding cover crops into integrated weed management programs](#)
- [Farmer Resource Guides](#)
- [Pricing Agritourism Events and Experiences](#)
- [A Food Hub Operator's Toolkit](#)
- [Identifying under performing products in your farm market](#)
- [Strawberry Fungicide Recommendations Resource for 2026](#)
- [Mid-Atlantic Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations, 2026/2027](#)

GOT GARDEN QUESTIONS?

**Call the Cape May County Horticulture Helpline
(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3653**



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



Contact us:
capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu
(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3602

355 Court House – South Dennis Rd.
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
Mon – Fri 8:30AM – 4:30PM



USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Pest Alert

Box Tree Moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*)

The box tree moth is an invasive pest that primarily feeds on boxwood species (*Buxus* spp.). In its native range, it also feeds on burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), Japanese spindletree (*E. japonicus*), purple holly (*Ilex chinensis*), and orange jessamine (*Murraya paniculata*) once boxwood in the vicinity are completely defoliated.

Distribution and Spread

The box tree moth is native to temperate and subtropical regions in Asia. It was first reported in Europe in 2007, after which it spread rapidly across European countries and into Western Asia and Northern Africa. In 2018, it was documented in Canada. The rate of spread for the box tree moth has varied since its introduction in Europe, with some cases peaking at 96 miles per year. Long distance movement of the box tree moth across Europe occurred primarily through the movement of infested boxwood plantings.

Box tree moths are highly mobile and are good fliers. Natural spread of this moth in Europe is about 3 to 6 miles per year. One analysis from Europe concluded that natural dispersal from continental Europe to the United Kingdom was possible, suggesting sustained adult flights of over 20 miles.

Damage

In 2014, boxwood made up 15 percent of broadleaf evergreen sales in the United States, and the estimated value was \$126 million (USDA NASS, 2015). Boxwoods are typically planted as ornamentals



Adult moths (top and bottom left), damage (bottom)

and used for edging, as hedges, and/or clipped into different shapes to make topiaries. The box tree moth can cause heavy defoliation of boxwood plants if populations are left unchecked. Defoliation of existing and new growth can kill the plant. If no foliage is available, larvae have been observed feeding on the bark, which can cause branches or the entire plant to die.

Description

Adult box tree moths generally have white bodies with a brown head and abdomen. Their wings are white and slightly iridescent, with an irregular

thick brown border spanning 1.6 to 1.8 inches. Some adults have completely brown wings with a small white streak on each forewing. Males and females show both colorations.

The eggs are pale yellow and average 0.04 inches in size. They are laid in flat clusters of about 5 to 20 on the underside of boxwood leaves. As they mature, a black spot appears marking the larval head.

Newly hatched larvae have black heads and are green to yellow in color. As they age, dark brown stripes develop on the body. The most mature larvae are about 1.6 inches

long and have thin white and thick black stripes and black dots outlined in white along the length of the body.

Pupae develop inside a silk cocoon and are 0.6 to 0.8 inches long. They are initially green, with black stripes on the back, and turn brown as they mature.

Life Cycle

Adult female box tree moths lay their eggs singly or in clusters of about 5 to 20 in a gelatinous mass on the underside of boxwood leaves. Box tree moths overwinter as larvae. Once temperatures rise, overwintering larvae emerge and typically begin feeding in March, continuing until they pupate in late April to early May. As they develop, they spin silken webs to hold leaves together and create protected areas to feed. They tend to feed on leaves in the lower portion of host plants but reside in the upper portion and remain active until September or October.

Pupation occurs on the host leaves in silk cocoons. If the boxwood host is defoliated, pupation may occur away from the host plant using leaves from the surrounding area. Pupae will typically first appear in April or May and will be present continuously through the summer and into the fall, depending on the local climate and timing of generations.

Adults first emerge from the overwintering generation between April and July, depending on climate and temperature. Subsequent generations are active between June and October. Adults typically live for 2 weeks after emergence.

APHIS 81-35-040
 Issued May 2021
 Slightly revised by MDAR August 2023

Credits: Light-colored adult moth, caterpillar, and damage photos courtesy of Matteo Maspero and Andrea Tizzardi, Centro MIRT - Fondazione Minoprio (1). Egg mass photo courtesy of Walter Schön, www.schmiedtting-raupe.de/en/perspectalis.htm. Pupa photo courtesy of Ilya Mityushin, Department of Plant Protection of the Russian State Agrarian University - Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy. Dark brown adult moth courtesy of Christine Walker, www.apforum.de/webfiles/images/forum_2/pic13963.jpg.

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Egg mass (top), pupa (bottom left), caterpillars (bottom right)

Where To Look

Signs of damage may not appear at the beginning of an infestation because young larvae hide among twigs and leaves. Larvae skeletonize the leaves and feed on the bark, causing defoliation and dryness, leading to the plant's death. Signs of feeding include green-black frass (excrement) and webbing.

The female moths lay their eggs on the underside of the leaves of boxwoods.

Report Your Findings

If you find an insect that you suspect is the box tree moth in Massachusetts, please take photos and submit an online report here: www.mass.gov/pests/report.aspx

Nurseries growing or selling boxwood shrubs may also contact UMass Extension: ag@cms.umass.edu

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Clean means clean, with no residue seen

Pesticide Container Recycling

Collection Sites-2026

Helena Chemical
 67 Middle Road
 Hammonton, NJ 08037

April-10, May-15, June-12, July-17
 August-14, September-11, October-10

Helena Chemical
 440 N. Main Street
 Woodstown, NJ 08098

April-17, May-22, June-19, July-24
 August-21, September-18, October-23

Rutgers Specialty Crop Research & Extension Center
 283 Route 539
 Cream Ridge, NJ 08541

April-24, May-29, June-26, July-31
 August-28, September-25, October-30

Drop off from 9AM to 12PM

Program Details

Program is offered to licensed pesticide applicators. Sites are accepting #2 HDPE containers, sizes up to 55 gallons.

Containers MUST be triple rinsed and free of all residues, dried, and EPA labels removed. Non-refillable containers must have 6" hole or slit on the bottom.

Contact

609-414-0464
rachel.deflumeri@ag.nj.gov
www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/recycling.shtml

Recieve 1 CORE Credit

State of New Jersey
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 PO BOX 330
 TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

MIKIE SHERRILL
 Governor

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL
 Lt. Governor

EDWARD D. WENGRYN
 Secretary

Dear New Jersey Residents and Consumers,

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture wants to emphasize that no produce coming from New Jersey farms has been linked to the cyclosporiasis outbreak. To date, no New Jersey-grown produce has been identified as a source of cyclosporiasis cases. National and New Jersey health officials and experts are continuing to investigate the outbreak and monitor any cases.

Our Jersey Fresh farmers meet the high-quality standards imposed not only by their own compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) but also with the quality-grading standards of the Jersey Fresh program.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture will continue keeping the public informed about any produce categories grown in New Jersey that have been identified by health experts as being a risk.

To help protect against cyclosporiasis and other foodborne illnesses, NJDOH and NJDA recommend:

- Wash your hands with soap and water before and after preparing fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Wash all fruits and vegetables thoroughly under running water, even if you plan to peel them.
- Scrub firm produce, such as melons and cucumbers, with a clean produce brush.
- Cut away any damaged or bruised areas on fruits and vegetables before preparing or eating.
- Refrigerate cut, peeled, or cooked fruits and vegetables promptly.

Edward D. Wengryn
 New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture

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October Farming Twilight Meeting

October 22, 2026

6:00PM – 8:30 PM

Location:

1076 Seahorse Winery

Seashore Road

Cape May NJ 08204

Program

6:00 PM – Registration / Light Refreshments

6:15 PM – Welcome – *Claudia Gil Arroyo, County Agent III, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Cape May County; Rutgers NJAES*

6:20 PM – *James Shope, PhD., Assistant Extension Specialist in Climate Services, Department of Environmental Sciences, SEBS, New Brunswick; Rutgers NJAES*

6:50 PM – *Joseph Heckman, PhD., Extension Specialist - Soil Fertility, Department of Plant Biology, SEBS, New Brunswick; Rutgers NJAES*

7:20 PM – *David Hlubik, Burlington County Agent III, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Burlington County; Rutgers NJAES*

7:50 PM – *Patrick McMullen, County Agent III, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Atlantic County; Commercial Vegetable Production; Rutgers NJAES*

Light refreshments will be served.

The following pesticide recertification credits will be awarded:

Please RSVP by October 20, 2025:

Jocelyn Shillingford 609-465-5115 ext. 3607 or capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu

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