



Monthly

August 2025



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

News

- **BBIG Spanish Tab is LIVE!** Tremendous effort by many BBIG Project Directors, led by Luisa Santamaria, has resulted in the release of BBIG outreach website-[Spanish tab](#). It contains the first round of educational materials to help the large Spanish-speaking workforce in the environmental horticulture industry.
- **More BBIG website updates.** New materials added to three existing tabs - [Research Updates](#), [Knowledge Center](#) and [Box Tree Moth](#).
- **PBS features boxwood blight.** Boxwood blight research was recently featured on the Virginia Home Grown series, produced by a Richmond-area affiliate of PBS, [Our Favorite Plants, Season 25, Episode 4](#). Host, Peggy Singlemann, interviewed Bennett Saunders, General Manager of Saunders Genetics LLC and BBIG Advisory Panel member.
- **First Finds of Box Tree Moth in [VA](#), [MD](#), and [WV](#).**
- **Longwood Gardens Article.** Rachel McDonald describes Longwood's 5-year effort to protect their boxwood collections and offer homeowners advice, [Managing Boxwood Blight: From Longwood to Your Home](#), July 02.
- **BBIG Focus Issue Update.** PhytoFrontiers is open for manuscript submissions. Be sure to clearly indicate in your cover letter, placement in the BBIG focus issue and your preferred section. This will help journal Editor in-Chief, Dr. Natalia Peres assign the submission to respective guest editor. All manuscripts are peer-reviewed to ensure quality. **Hard deadline is October 01, 2025.**

Research Publications

- Kong, P., Li, X, Hong, C. X., July 2025, [Sporulation Dynamics Among US *Calonectria pseudonaviculata* Isolates on Infected Boxwood Leaves](#). Plant Disease: First Look.

Extension Programs & Presentations

- Daughtrey, M. **Research and news on boxwood blight, beech leaf disease and laurel wilt.** Plant Science Day. Long Island Horticultural Research & Extension Center, Cornell University, Riverhead, NY, July 17.
- Daughtrey, M. **Studies on dogwood, boxwood, beech and impatiens.** Long Island Agricultural Tour for Northern Neck Virginia Growers. Cornell University, LIHREC, Riverhead, NY, July 22.
- Santamaria, L., July 2025. Oregon State Univ. **Hands-on; Scouting for Boxwood Blight at local nursery**, July 24.
- Daughtrey, M. **Plant disease research on nursery crops.** Soil Health Field Day for Spanish-speaking Workers, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County. Cornell University, LIHREC, Riverhead, NY, July 25.

Online Resources

- [Boxwood Blight Knowledge Center](#).
- [Updated list of boxwood cultivars](#) resistant to both boxwood blight and leafminer.
- [Boxwood blight infection risk model](#) to help time fungicide treatment. Sign up for an email report [here](#).
- [Box tree moth](#).
- [Boxwood leafminer risk model](#) to help time insecticide application.
- [Box tree moth damage or life stages](#)
- [Boxwood Blight Insight Group | HRI](#)
- [Boxwood Blight Updates | BBIG Research](#)

BBIG Membership

Membership is open to all interested in fighting against boxwood blight.

Email to join: boxwood-advocate-g+subscribe@vt.edu or chhong2@vt.edu.

Call for Submission.

If you have news items to share with the BBIG community, please send to kls13@cornell.edu

Together we can save boxwood crops and plantings.

