



Monthly

September 2025



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

News

- **This is the last edition of the BBIG Monthly** digest as half of the Project Directors concluded their project activities on August 31, 2025. We thank you for your support of this award-winning project! The remainder of the team will continue project activities through August 31, 2026 and is looking for another venue for future communication.
- **Reminder-BBIG Focus Issue Updates.** PhytoFrontiers is open for manuscript submissions. When submitting your manuscript via the journal portal, please clearly indicate placement in the BBIG focus issue and your preferred section. This will help the journal Editor-in-Chief - **Dr. Natalia Peres** - assign the submission to the respective guest editor. All manuscripts will go through the regular review process to ensure publication quality. **Remember the deadline for manuscript submission is October 1, 2025.**
- **Srikanth Kodati**, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, provided a webinar on their copper nanoparticle research for the final BBIG Project Directors quarterly meeting held August 20, 2025.
- **Nathaniel Westrick**, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, will be speaking about their copper nanoparticle research at the final BBIG Advisory Panel meeting on September 05, 2025.
- **Jerry Weiland**, USDA-ARS, will provide a webinar titled, “Herbal Distancing: Keeping Boxwood in Your Nursery Free from Blight” on October 23 at 1:00 PM.

Research Publications

- Li, X., Hemmings, G., Omolehin, O., Tseng, H.T., Taylor, A., Taylor, C., Kong, P., Gouker, F., and Hong, C. 2025. [Mycobiome of low maintenance iconic landscape plant boxwood under repeated treatments of contact and systemic fungicides](#). Scientific Reports 15, 30150

Research Presentations

- Daughtrey, M. L., Luster, D. G., Calabro, J., Gray, J., Hall, C., Weiland, J. E., Baysal-Gurel, F., Gouker, F., Kong, P., Crouch, J. A., LaMondia, J., Pscheidt, J., Santamaria, L., Shishkoff, N., Snover-Clift, K., Westrick, N., Brindisi, L., and Hong, C. X. 2025. Fighting a great fight against boxwood blight. Plant Health 2025 – Annual Meeting of American Phytopathological Society in Honolulu, HI, August 2 to 5.
- Hong, C. X., Kong, P., Brand, T., Guarnaccia, V., Ioos, R., Daughtrey, M., and Luster, D. 2025. Ever-expanding international collaborative research safeguards boxwood crops and plantings. Plant Health 2025 – Annual Meeting of American Phytopathological Society in Honolulu, HI, August 2 to 5.

Online Resources

- [Boxwood Blight Knowledge Center](#).
- [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.

BBIG Membership

Membership is open to everyone who is interested in fighting against boxwood blight. You can join by sending an email to 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.

