Tobacco mosaic virus, the same virus that was present in several Kansas production houses was recently found in a major chain store with petunia flowers. These flowers were grown by RBGI in St. Elmo Illinois and then shipped into Kansas. Apparently the large operation had imported plants from Dummen group (same source as earlier reported) then had missed or infected more than what was originally thrown out.

All petunias from this source were destroyed by the retail chain in cooperation with KDA. It is now believed that over $300,000 in retail sales have been affected from this disease and regulatory action here in the state. Many more dollars have been saved by stopping the virus from getting into numerous other plants present in retail centers and gardens of Kansas. TMV disease has a wide host range, easily transmitted to tomatoes, peppers and other flowers, and very stable on contaminated equipment, gloves, and hands of workers.

Over the past month other diseases in greenhouses and retail lots have included downy mildew, mosaic virus, and black spot of roses. Downy mildew is particularly hard to control requiring special fungicidal sprays. Downy mildew is favored by cool conditions that have been present for the last few weeks.

In coleus, an unidentified virus has been found causing ring-spot patterns and tested negative for tospovirus and tobacco etch virus.

Fig 1. Coleus displaying ring spot viral symptoms.

Tobacco mosaic virus found in Retail Chain; many stores affected

Wheat crop: Disease outlook is good

Recent surveys by KSU and KDA staff have found little in the way of plant disease in the 2014 crop. Much of the story lies with the weather here in Kansas and to states to the south. In Oklahoma and northern Texas, stripe and leaf rust are for practical purposes absent in the crop and related to drought and some freeze damage. Freeze damage kills leaf tissue along with disease.

This past week, wheat root nematode survey was started by KDA and KSU cooperators. Previous studies and survey have found that a complex of nematode root feeders to be in the majority of wheat fields. Loss generally hovers around 2% for the crop statewide. If this hold true, lesion nematodes that make up the bulk of the complex could be the most important disease to the crop in 2014. This would be a first for wheat losses here in the state.
PLANT PROTECTION AND WEED CONTROL
PROGRAM
PO BOX 19282
FORBES FIELD, BLDG 282, STREET 1
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66619-2180
Phone: 785-862-2180
Fax: 785-862-2182

http://www.kda.gov/plant%
5Fprotection/
WEB ADDRESS FOR THE PLANT PROTECTION PROGRAM

AUTHOR: JON A. APPEL
PLANT PATHOLOGIST
KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MANHATTAN, KANSAS
PHONE: 785-537-3155
EMAIL: JON.APPEL@KDA.KS.GOV

2014 National Walnut Council Meeting in Manhattan

From KSU Forestry—Bob Atchison
https://www.kansasforests.org

The Kansas Forest Service, Kansas Chapter of the Walnut Council and the Kansas Forestry Association are pleased to be hosting the 2014 National Walnut Council Meeting, June 8-11, 2014 in Manhattan. This unique opportunity will feature nationally recognized and local experts in the growth, culture and utilization of black walnut and other fine quality hardwoods. Landowners, farmers, ranchers, natural resource professionals, scientists, and forest industry will all benefit attending this event.

The meeting will kick-off on Sunday afternoon with an optional preconference van tour of the 8,616 acre Konza Prairie. Participants may view over 50 species of prairie wildflowers that will be at the height of their bloom and over 300 bison with some bulls that weigh close to a ton. In the evening we will have a special treat, a tour and reception at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. A perfect way to introduce people to the tall grass prairie region while offering plenty of time to network with fellow landowners and natural resource professionals.

Monday and Tuesday we will travel to field sites, touring the privately owned Chase-Riat Plantation and Kansas State University’s Geyer Forestry Research Area. The sites feature over 40 years of research on black walnut and other fine quality hardwoods and great opportunities to observe best management practices for black walnut. You should take away several good ideas for your own property.

Tuesday night is the annual awards banquet with background musical entertainment from Bob Atchison, forester, with Kansas Forest Service.

Walnut Council Meeting is not the only thing coming to Manhattan in June. The new state Kansas Department of Agriculture building will be completed and KDA will become Manhattan operational in mid June. KDA will be joining USDA, KSU, and many private ag businesses in the Manhattan area.