



DECEMBER 2007

HOMEOWNER PLANT DISEASE CLINIC REPORT

Holly Thornton, Homeowner IPM Specialist

As the holidays near, I find it harder to concentrate at the office with sample submission slowed and my mind racing about visiting family and friends. The climate throughout Georgia continues to fluctuate from warm, spring days to frigid, windy winter weather conditions.

As temperatures drop and moisture levels increase, here are a few plant diseases to expect: white mold (*Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*) on various vegetables and herbs, gray mold (*Botrytis cinerea*) on young succulent plant tissues (petals and flowers), and rust and downy mildew on various ornamentals and turf plants. Plants damaged by freezing temperatures will also be more susceptible to a range of plant diseases. So be sure to tell homeowners how they can protect their precious plants from winter diseases and cold injury.

See the homeowner sample submission table shown below for a list of diagnosed plant problems. There will be no disease of the month for December. Happy Holidays to everyone!!!

DECEMBER 2007 Homeowner Samples

County	Plant	Common Name of Disease (Pathogen)	Type of Sample – DDDI or Physical
Berrien	Centipede	Take all root rot (<i>Gaeumannomyces graminis</i>)	Physical
Camden	St. Augustine	No disease suspected	DDDI
Coffee	Azalea	Possible fungal leaf spot	DDDI
Jenkins	Bermuda grass	No disease	DDDI
Jenkins	Collard	Possible insect damage	DDDI
Jenkins	Collard	Possible Downy mildew	DDDI
Liberty	Mushrooms	Basidiomycete – possibly <i>Armillaria</i> sp.	DDDI
Total samples (late-November to mid-December): 7			