



IN SEARCH OF SOOTY BARK DISEASE OF MAPLES

Washington State University seeks collaborators across the US to complete a population genetic study of *Cryptostroma corticale*, the causal fungus of Sooty Bark Disease (SBD) of maples.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

BLACK CANKERS IN BARK



SBD-infected trees have black 'soot-like' cankers in the bark containing millions of fungal spores. Spores can also be white and the cankers can weather to become more gray in color.

BRANCH DIEBACK



Fungal spores/cankers are commonly found on dead tree branches or limbs. Investigate trees with branch dieback for 'sooty' cankers.

INTERNAL STAINING



A green-brown stain is often seen in the cross section of infected trees. The stain can originate from the center or the side with the canker.

ABOUT SOOTY BARK DISEASE

WHAT IS SBD?

SBD is a disease of maples caused by the fungus *Cryptostroma corticale*, an opportunistic pathogen of maple (*Acer*) species. It has a long latent phase, where no disease occurs until triggered by other stressors.

IS SBD IN YOUR STATE?

SBD has been confirmed in samples from in MI, CA, and WA in the United States. In Canada, the fungus has been isolated from trees in BC and ON.

POTENTIAL HAZARD

Inhalation of *C. corticale* spores has been linked to Maple Bark Disease in people, a type of hypersensitivity pneumonitis. While uncommon, chronic exposure and pre-existing health conditions are considered risk factors.

Please contact Taylor McNeas at WSU to collaborate, submit a sample, or ask a question

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<https://treehealth.wsu.edu/sbd>

