

Sudden Oak Death

Phytophthora ramorum

Background

Phytophthora ramorum is an invasive plant pathogen that is responsible for killing thousands of oaks and tanoaks. *P. ramorum* produces spores in moist and humid conditions which spread easily through its large list of hosts through wind-blown rain, plant material, nursery stock, contaminated soil or potting mix, and human activity.



Image Credit: Joseph OBrien, USDA Forest Service

Impact

The introduction of *P. ramorum* into nonnative environments poses a threat to a variety of native and ornamental plants where it can kill or weaken its host. There is currently no cure for Sudden Oak Death and the extent of the impacts of *P. ramorum* on our environment is not fully known. Keeping this plant pathogen out of our forests and urban areas protects and ensures the health of our ecosystems.

Signs and Symptoms

- Bark Cankers
 - Calluses often seeping black or reddish
- Foliage Dieback
- Leaf Spots
- Twig Dieback

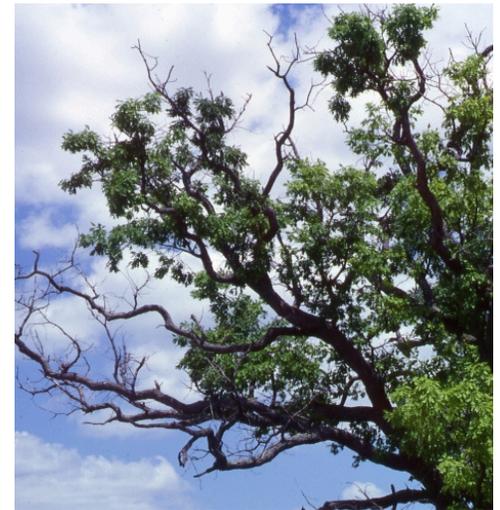


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Preventing the movement of *P. ramorum*-infected plants is the best way to protect our forests

