New Disease Threats for our Trees



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Tree Diseases on our Doorstep

- Oak Wilt
- Bacterial Leaf Scorch of Shade Trees

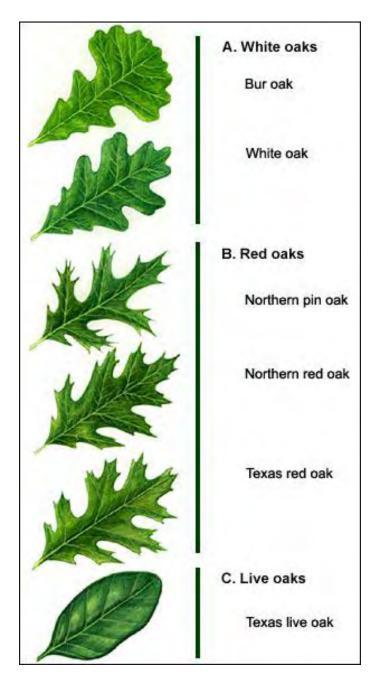
Thousand Cankers Disease



Oak Wilt

- Affects many species of red oaks and live oaks
- Caused by the fungal pathogen
 Ceratocystis fagacearum
- First identified in the 1940's in Wisconsin





White oaks are fairly resistant

Red oaks and live oaks are very susceptible





Photo by The Iowa State Extension Service

Bark boring beetles carry in the fungal spores, and the fungus grows in the galleries, making fungal mats that produce more spores









Photo by F. A. Baker, Utah State University

Fungus moves in the vascular system of the tree.



Pin oak with oak wilt

Photo by True Blue Sam



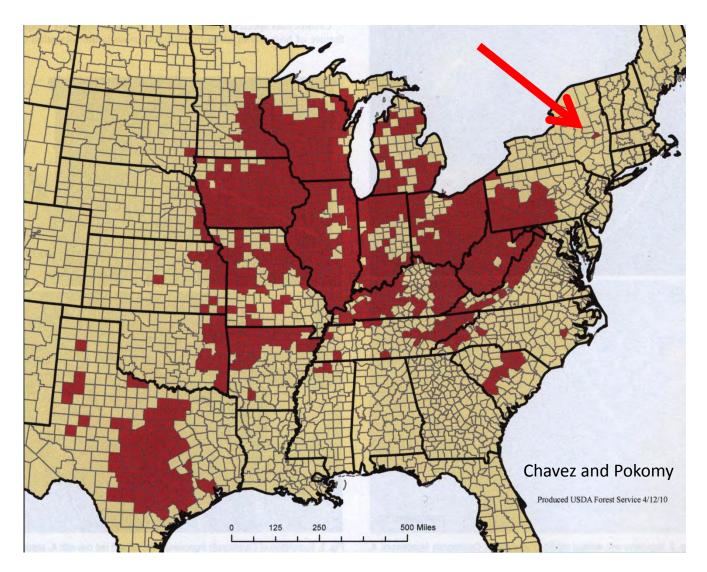


Red oaks in Minnesota with oak wilt





Oak Wilt





Bacterial Leaf Scorch of Shade trees

- Affects oaks, maples, and mulberries in the North East
- Caused by the bacterium Xylella fastidiosa
- First observed on grapes in the early 1890's, identified in 1980

Spread by many kinds of leafhoppers and spittlebugs that have piercing-sucking mouthparts, and which suck xylem fluid out of leaf cells





Photo by J. R. Hartman

Scorch bacteria in the xylem of a pin oak leaf petiole



Infected Pin oak showing spotty distribution of damage

Photo by A. B. Gould



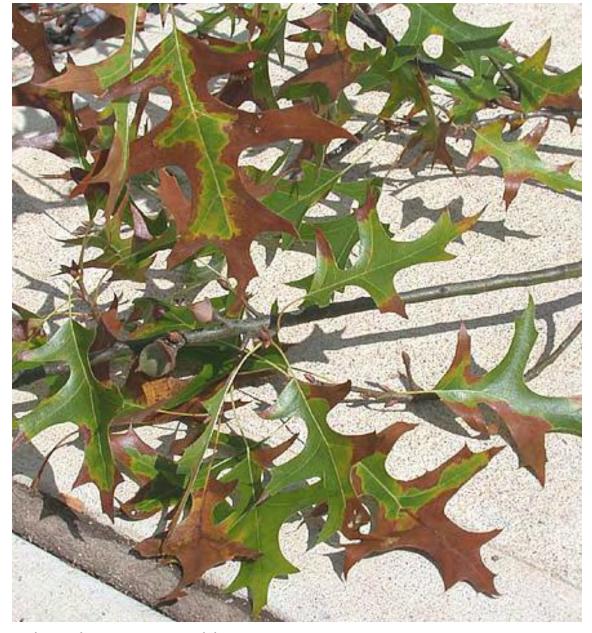


Photo by Ann B. Gould, Rutgers University





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Photo by J. L. Sherald





Bacterial Leaf Scorch has spread throughout New Jersey from mid-1980's when it was first detected near the center of the state.

Map by Ann B. Gould, Rutgers University



Thousand Cankers Disease

- Affects black walnuts, butternuts,
 Persian walnuts, and heartnuts
- Caused by the fungal pathogen
 Geosmithia morbida
- Spread by tiny, native bark boring beetles





Photo by Kathy Keatley Garvey





Photo by Jay Pscheidt

First a thinning of the canopy and then death

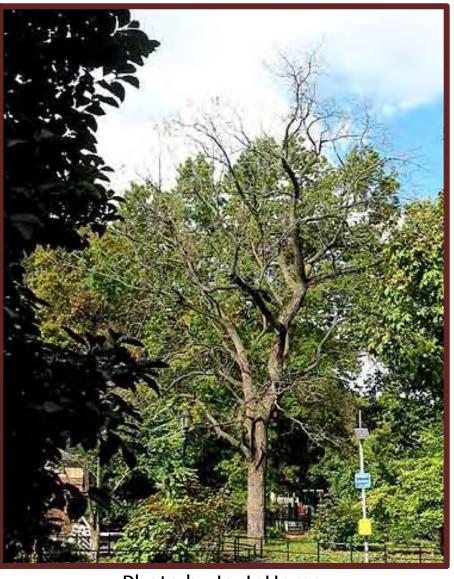


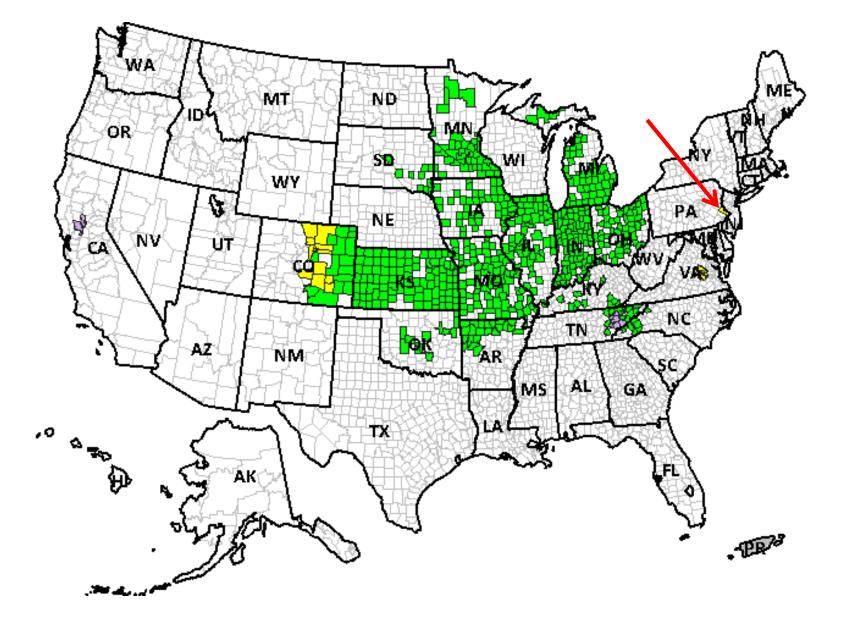
Photo by JoyInHome







A few cankers.....merge to kill the tree



Map made by Purdue University



"My tree is dying and I'm sure it has (1) oak wilt, (2) bacterial scorch, (3) thousand cankers disease, (4) a dire and deadly new disease."









First questions.....



CAES- Plant Science Day 2012









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Send us a sample!

www.ct.gov/caes/pdio

Plant Disease Information Office

Sample submission information



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