Oak Wilt in Michigan



Bob Heyd October 21, 2009

Oak Wilt



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Oak wilt is a tree disease that kills thousands of oaks each year in: WOODED LOTS



Oak Wilt Timeline

- 1881 Dying oaks are first noticed in Wisconsin
- 1912 Dying oaks are found dying in Wisconsin & Minnesota
- 1927 Oak wilt type symptoms are first described
- 1944 Causal agent found and named Ceratocystis fagacearum
- 1970's 2009 Oak wilt greatly expands its impacts in the Lake States and in Texas

Oak Wilt: Hosts

- Red oaks are most susceptible
- Bur oak is intermediate
- White oaks are resistant/tolerant
- Live oaks in Texas are susceptible





What is the range of susceptibility?



RED OAK GROUP

> Highly susceptible and can be killed very *quickly*.





WHITE OAK GROUP

> Varies greatly in susceptibility; can take years to die.

Oak Wilt Distribution



Oak Wilt Counties



Michigan's Oak Resource

- 2 million acres
 500 million trees
 0.7 billion bd ft
- 9.7 billion bd ft



OAK WILT: An Exotic Pathogen

"The origin of Ceratocystis fagacearum, the oak wilt fungus"

Juzwik, Jennifer; Harrington, Thomas C.; MacDonald, William L.; Appel, David N. 2008 Annual Review of Phytopathology. 46: 13-26. JRNL-NRS-46

"The weight of evidence indicates that *C. fagacearum* is an introduced pathogen, with possible origins in Central or South America, or Mexico."



National Oak Wilt Database

- DNR in Michigan, Wisconsin & Minnesota
- Texas Forest Service
- USDA Forest Service
 - Northern Research Station, St. Paul, MN
 - Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, Fort Collins, CO.
- Oak wilt database will provide:
 - An impact analysis needed to project expected short and longterm resource losses
 - Operational guidance for prevention and suppression efforts



National Oak Wilt Database

- National Risk Mapping is an integral part of the detection and evaluation protocol.
- Oak wilt risk maps
 - prioritize survey efforts
 - database will be used to improve risk mapping processes.
- \$50,000 Evaluation Monitoring grant to begin populating and testing the national database.

Oak wilt spore mats





Oak Decline



- Over 150,000 acres since 1990
- Northern pin oak on glacial outwash sands
- Even-aged
- Armillaria root rot
- Drought and frost events
- Forest tent caterpillar
- Gypsy moth
- Two-lined chestnut borer



Michigan Department of Natural Resources / Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Oak Wilt Field Survey And Laboratory Diagnostic

Requested under the authority of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Internal Use Only

Sample ID #

Survey Date

Observer								
Name				Agen	ю			
Address					Telephone Number			
City	State	ZI	IP	E-Ma	ail Address			
Site Location (include plat map showing location of dead or wilted Oak)								
County	Town		Range	9	Section	Management Unit		
Compartment	Stand	GPS (dd.dddd) Latitude:			. Longitude: .			
Landowner Mailing Address								
Name				A	gency or Co	mpany Name (if applicable)		
Address				Т	elephone Nu	umber		
City	State		ZIF	ΡE	-Mail Addres	35		
Property Address (if different from above)								
Address								
City	State		ZIF	P T	elephone Nu	umber		

Site And Diagnostic Data (mark entry that applies)							
Land Use/ Ownership		Stand Size			<u>Stand</u>	Type	
PR	Primary residential	ST	—	Single Tree	MS	-	Mixed Oak and other tree species
SR	 Secondary residential 	SS	-	Small Stand (< 0.5 acres)	RW O	-	Predominately mixed Red and White Oak
PC	Park or campground	MS		Medium Stand (0.5 – 5.0 acres)	RO	-	Predominately Red Oak
PN	 Private, non- industrial 	LS	-	Large Stand (<5.0 acres)			
HC	 Hunting Club 						
I.	 Industrial 						
F	- Federal						
ST	– State						
OP	– Other Public						

Diagnostic Questions						
Number of trees that died in this patch None 2-10 11-20 Over 20	Number of trees that wilted in this patch None 2-10 11-20 Over 20					
 Was an oak wilt pressure pad found? Yes No – Continue answering Questions 2 through 5 						
2. Were there pad-shaped silhouettes on dead trees with loose bark?Yes No	3. Did recently killed trees drop most of their leaves?Yes No					
4. Leaves have green and bronze tissue separated by distinct margins?Yes No	 Were there gray-blue streaks in light-colored wood below the bark? Yes No 					









MDNR Oak Wilt Management

Oak Wilt Timber Sale Clause:

No cutting will be allowed between April 15 and July 15 in cutting units where the residual oak stocking equals or exceeds 10 square feet basal area.

No Firewood permits in oak wilt areas April 15 to July 15

Oak Wilt Control Prevention





Thank you



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