



ALERT!

BACTERIAL LEAF SCORCH

Xylella fastidiosa



APHIS/PPQ
CCE
NYS - DEC,
DOT, DPW,
DOH, DEP
PRISM

invasive species

Bacterial Leaf Scorch (BLS) is a disease that affects oak, maple and other trees throughout the eastern U.S. It is one of a group of diseases caused by a xylem-limited bacterium that threatens mature red and pin oaks planted as street and park trees. The urban forest is a prime target for spreading BLS in New York.

HOST PLANTS:

oak, maple,
sycamore, elm,
mulberry, grape,
peach, plum and
alfalfa



WHERE TO LOOK:

Top, outer edges of the tree canopy and on the mature leaves of the tree or plant

© Rutgers University
lashomb



BLS Diseased Oak Leaf
Close Up



IDENTIFICATION KEYS

- Leaves on diseased trees begin to dry along leaf margins in mid-summer and early fall
- Death of the leaf progresses slowly downward toward the midrib and petiole
- “Water soaked” appearance in the transition zone appears dull, pale green in color
- Finally, the entire leaf dies and turns brown
- Symptom development may be increased during periods of above normal temperatures



The federal-state Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program is focused on the early detection of exotic invasive agricultural pests. State inspectors and cooperators target invasive insects, diseases and weeds considered to have a high probability for introduction and establishment in the State and the U.S. exotic invasives have the potential to seriously impede our ability to move plants and plant products domestically and abroad in addition to posing a significant risk to the environment.

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