

# Fireblight *Erwinia amylovora*

## WHAT:

Fireblight is a destructive, highly infectious disease. The bacterial infection begins in the flowers, and is spread by pollinators, wind and rain. As it progresses, oozing cankers can develop. Tree vigor has a major influence on infection - heavy pruning or high synthetic nitrogen fertilizers promote excessive response growth (unsustainable), exacerbating infection.

## WHERE:

This disease affects trees in the Rosaceae family: *Pyrus spp.* (pear), *Photinia spp.*, *Prunus spp.* (plum, cherry), *Malus spp.* (apple, crabapple) and *Eriobotrya* (Loquat). In spring when weather is sufficiently warm and moist (75-85 F) and trees resume growth, cankers and spores become active as bacterium multiply.

## SYMPTOMS:

New growth is quickly discolored and burnt. Burnt appearance of canopy. "Shepherds Crook" - stems and leaves wilt and droop.

## HOW:

Systemic treatments can be performed throughout the year while blossom and bloom sprays must be performed January-March while trees are budding, in bloom and/or producing new growth.

Consult with one of our Urban Forestry Experts to find out when and how your tree affected by Fireblight would best be treated.

Prescribe a preventative program curated for your trees today.



*Fireblight of Pear - infected new growth*



*Fireblight of Apple - infected sapwood*



*Fireblight of Pear - scorched appearance*