

Bacterial Leaf Scorch (Fungal Complex) olive, liquidambar & other

WHAT:

Previously thought to be solely *Xylella fastidiosa* vectored by the insect *glassy-winged sharpshooter* there are a list of bacterial and fungal agents hosting our olives. This list includes: *Diplodia*, *Dothiorella*, *Phomopsis*, *Neofusicoccum*, and *Botryosphaeria*.

These complex of fungi and bacteria (*Xylella included*) have been found to not be strong enough to pathogenically cause tree mortality on their own - rather, it is the cultural environment, poor cultivation and other environmental stressors olive trees must endure that results in their loss. A similar and parallel situation might be occurring with *Liquidambar styraciflua* (American sweetgum), a popular landscape tree throughout California.

Dogwood, elm, grape, hackberry, maple, mulberry, oak, oleander, olive, sweetgum, sycamore

WHERE:

The olive tree, *Olea europaea*, has a long history in California. The Franciscans introduced olives during the development of the California missions in the 18th century. However, in the last 25 years or so, leaf scorch and twig and branch dieback have affected landscape olive trees in California, sometimes severely so, even leading to death.

SYMPTOMS:

Burnt stems, twigs and leaves, lack of vigor, sap ooze, die-back.

HOW:

Begin remediation of their environment as soon as possible.

Treatments can be performed throughout the year and are geared to address underlying cultural issues, as well as control the scorching diseases by systemic or topical means.

Consult with one of our Urban Forestry Experts to get an appropriate plan put in place, and review possible options for treatment and recovery.

