

Sudden Oak Death

(*Phytophthora ramorum*)

WHAT:

Sudden Oak Death is a fungal disease of forest, commercial, residential trees caused by the fungus *Phytophthora ramorum*. It has devastated native California oaks since 2000.

WHERE:

This disease is found up and down the coast as well as more rural Southern California locations like Julian, Ramona, Valley Center, and more. Infected nursery plants were found in many other states. It is a very common disease of oak, and the name is misleading. Trees dealing with Sudden Oak Death take years to succumb.

SYMPTOMS:

Bole or trunk cankers form on coast live oak and other California native oaks. Shrubs or other plants show leaf spotting that leads to shoot death and dieback. Trunk cankers are the most threatening to oaks as they can coalesce into on another, girdling a tree.

Oaks suffering from *P. ramorum* are more susceptible to ambrosia beetles, golden-spotted oak borer and other wood decay causing organisms.

HOW:

Proper cultural care and remediation in combination with prophylactic treatment can extend the life of any tree dealing with *P. ramorum*. This approach can also result in a tree being capable of dealing with the infection on its own.

Consult with one of our Urban Forestry Experts today to see what your oak may be susceptible to, or what it may be dealing with.



Coast live oak canopy loss



Tip blight symptoms of sudden oak death on tanoak.



P. ramorum canker on coast live oak; outer bark has been sliced away showing the irregular margin of the canker.