University of Minnesota Plant Disease Clinic hosted a portion of an oak wilt training event

The USDA Forest Service organized a multi-day oak wilt training event that included a workshop and field tours for over 30 visiting scientists from around the country. The event began with a workshop led by the University of Minnesota Plant Disease Clinic. Visitors looked at the oak wilt pathogen, *Bretziella fagacearum*, in culture and microscopically. There were also infected branch samples for visitors to see the symptoms (or lack of symptoms) in wood. Plant Disease Clinic staff shared their tips for isolating *B. fagacearum* in culture and testing by nested PCR. During the workshop, visitors also had the chance to see look-alike diseases, other pathogens, insects, and unique physiological conditions on oak.


New ITP identification tool on *Phytophthora*

**Issue highlights**

- ITP releases IDphy
- New First Detector promotional videos
- September phytosanitary alerts

*morphology of the extype of Phytophthora pseudosyringae*
IDphy: molecular and morphological identification of Phytophthora based on the types

Amanda Redford, Biological Scientist, Identification Technology Program, USDA APHIS PPQ S&T

USDA-APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine’s Identification Technology Program (ITP) and the S&T Beltsville Lab are pleased to announce the release of IDphy: molecular and morphological identification of Phytophthora based on the types, ITP’s first pathogen tool. Some species of Phytophthora are devastating plant pathogens that have a significant impact in agriculture or natural ecosystems. Phytophthora are challenging organisms to identify, and it is not uncommon to find sequences from misidentified specimens. IDphy was developed to facilitate accurate and efficient identification to species for the genus, using the type specimens from the original descriptions wherever possible. This website aims to offer PPQ and its partners the most complete, valid, and up-to-date resource for identifying the species of Phytophthora that have been described as of May 2018. Stay tuned for an IDphy Lucid mobile app later this fall...

IDphy includes a variety of resources to aid in accurate and efficient identification of suspect samples of Phytophthora species:

- detailed protocols for molecular identification (right)
- voucher sequences from the types or other well-authenticated specimens
- filterable image gallery
- searchable fact sheets
- an interactive Lucid key
- a tabular key for quick reference
- background and life cycle/biology information

IDphy can be accessed at: https://idtools.org/id/phytophthora/

IDphy is one of over 40 online identification tools produced by the USDA-ITP. To learn more about ITP’s products, please visit https://idtools.org or email the ITP team in Fort Collins, CO at itp@usda.gov.

Homepage for IDphy (top); protocols for comparing your sequence with a valid type sequence (middle); and morphology of the extype of Phytophthora pseudosyringae.
New videos available for sharing!

Rachel McCarthy, Plant Pathology and Plant Microbiology, Cornell University

Two videos were released this summer to promote the First Detector program and improve early detection efforts. First Detectors play an essential role in the detection of introduced plant pests and diseases but more people are needed to monitor for and report these pests. The videos show that anyone can be a First Detector and aim to inspire all individuals—including community members, environmentalists, and plant enthusiasts—to help protect the plants in their communities by becoming First Detectors and getting involved.

If you use social media help promote the First Detector program by liking and sharing these videos or embedding them on your website. The videos can be found on the new First Detector YouTube channel (which also needs subscribers so we can obtain our First Detector vanity url) www.youtube.com/channel/FirstDetector.

These videos were produced with support from the Farm Bill and are part of a larger suite of materials that educators can use to promote the First Detector program. Find these print resources under program promotion at www.firstdetector.org/outreach.

In case you missed it...

September phytosanitary reports

Xanthomonas spp. (Citrus Canker)

Diaphorina citri (Asian Citrus Psyllid)

Anastrepha ludens (Mexican Fruit Fly)

Lymantria dispar (Gypsy Moth)

Anoplophora glabripennis (Asian Longhorned Beetle)

All images Bugwood.org

www.pestalerts.org
Upcoming events

October 22–24, 2019
GPDN Regional Meeting
Stillwater, OK

November 17–20, 2019
Entomology 2019
St. Louis, Missouri

February 9–11, 2020
SPDN Regional Meeting
Charleston, SC

March 2–6, 2020
WPDN Regional Meeting
Tucson, AZ

contribute

Share tips and news with your colleagues
Recently write an article for a trade journal? Do you have a tip, announcement, job listing or network update you would like to include in the NPDN News? Email Rachel McCarthy at rachel.mccarthy@cornell.edu.

connect

NPDN outreach. Connect with us on social media!

First Detector YouTube has moved...subscribe to our new channel!