

## Sample Submission for Oak Wilt analysis in New York State

The Cornell Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) is conducting a survey for the Oak Wilt pathogen during the 2015 growing season. We are interested in learning about possible suspect trees.

If you are a private citizen, please do not collect samples from or take photos of trees on others' private property. If you know of samples at a location other than your own property, please let PDDC staff know where you have observed suspicious trees, and state regulatory officials (NYS DAM, DEC, USDA, USFS) or Cornell Cooperative Extension or PDDC personnel may be able to contact the owners of the property regarding analysis.

Samples from suspect trees may be submitted directly by individual homeowners/landowners. Prior to collecting and shipping a sample, **please** submit one or more good digital photos showing the overall symptoms on the tree(s) and the symptoms on individual leaves.

Digital photos may be submitted to the diagnostician of the Cornell Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) at: [slj2@cornell.edu](mailto:slj2@cornell.edu). **Note:** If photos are very large, please submit one at a time.

If symptoms are determined to be suspicious and sample submission approved, you will be contacted by PDDC personnel. Please provide contact information and answer questions on page 2 for the tree(s) from which you wish to submit a tissue sample.

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### Instructions for Collecting and Shipping the Sample(s)

From one or more living branches on each suspicious tree exhibiting foliar symptoms, collect a minimum of three (3) branch segments that are 6 to 12 inches long and a minimum of 1/2 inch diameter but not more than 2 inches in diameter.

Bag each sample separately and provide a unique identification for each sample such as: "Left side of house" or "Right front corner of yard", etc.; label each sample accordingly.

Although leaf tissue is not tested, symptoms can provide diagnostic information. Please include 5-20 symptomatic leaves. Leaves should be dry/free of moisture and placed in a separate self-sealing plastic bag.

Suspect branch tissue should be placed in doubled plastic bags and sealed for shipment, and shipped in a secure container such as a sturdy cardboard box, mailing tube, or styrofoam container.

Samples should be shipped via overnight delivery service or hand delivered to the diagnostic facility.

The Cornell PDDC has an established FedEx account for this oak wilt project to be used to ship approved samples to the Clinic. When contacted by Clinic personnel with authorization to submit sample tissue, you will be provided with the Fedex account number to use. Please note that the Clinic cannot reimburse postage, etc. for samples are shipped via another method and/or without prior approval.

For additional information on symptoms of Oak Wilt please visit our web page at:

[www.plantclinic.cornell.edu/oakwiltpage.html](http://www.plantclinic.cornell.edu/oakwiltpage.html)

Or see one of the following on-line web sites:

NY Invasive Species Info link:

[http://nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive\\_detail&id=46](http://nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive_detail&id=46) or

USFS [http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/howtos/ht\\_oakwilt/identify\\_prevent\\_and\\_control\\_oak\\_wilt\\_print.pdf](http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/howtos/ht_oakwilt/identify_prevent_and_control_oak_wilt_print.pdf).

Location of state or other private land (**Private citizens— please DO NOT collect samples from state land or property owned by others!**) Describe the area in detail so that owners may be contacted and/or authorized individuals may examine the trees and collect tissue if symptoms warrant analysis:

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If you suspect one or more oak trees of being infected with the oak wilt pathogen and you wish to submit a sample for analysis, please include the following information:

Host tree(s) showing symptoms (genus and species or full common name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If **unknown**, please indicate **one** of the following:

- The tree(s) is (are) in the red oak family (leaves typically have pointed lobes)
- The tree(s) is (are) in the white oak family (leaves typically have rounded lobes)
- More than one tree is showing symptoms, and trees may not be the same species

The number of trees showing symptoms near sample collection area:

- 1       2 to 5       6 or more       too many to estimate

What date did you collect your sample (MM/DD/YY)?: \_\_\_\_\_  
How many samples are you submitting from this site? \_\_\_\_\_  
Please provide unique identification for samples coming from different trees:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address or location of symptomatic trees:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

GPS Coordinates, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide **your** complete contact information in case we need to contact you with further questions, or if we need to send someone to help collect a suitable sample for testing:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the contact information of your **referring agent (CCE Agent, Consultant, Arborist)**, if applicable:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

When did symptoms first appear?

Date (even if approximate): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Observable Signs & Symptoms:

- Cracks in bark
- Dieback
- Leaf distortion/cupping/curling
- Marginal leaf scorch (browning)
- Shedding/thinning
- Vascular discoloration/streaking
- Wilting
- Yellowing
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Symptoms Distribution on Plant:

- Lower branches
- Upper branches
- Scattered branches
- Entire tree(s)
- Varies by tree
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_