

PHYTOPHTHORA ROOT ROT

TREES AT RISK:

- All trees are susceptible

IMPORTANT:

- Prevention is the best option for this disease. Inspect trees regularly, will usually be in continuously wet soils/poorly drained
- To be sure it is best to get lab confirmation for this disease

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- Associated with warm wet soil
- Foliage changing from green to yellow to a red-brown
- Can appear as chronic water stress when soils dry
- Roots will be rotten, discolored, and soft
- Can appear a Red-Brown discoloration



RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Buy Christmas trees from reputable source and do not plant seedlings or trees that show signs of Phytophthora root rot.
- Inspect trees before planting to prevent bringing Phytophthora in. If located Phytophthora in field clean/disinfect tools and shoes to prevent the spread to other parts of the farm.
- Phytophthora thrives in poorly drained or heavy soils so may want to consider other crops other than Christmas tree.
- Remove dead trees as the spores may survive in the tree.

COMMONLY CONFUSED WITH:

- Air pollution
- Various needlecast diseases