STEPS FOR ANALYSIS

Sample Collection

Sample Inspection

Disease Diagnosis

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Department of Agricultural Commissioner / Weights & Measures

acwm.lacounty.gov

Plant Pathology Laboratory
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This information is available in alternative formats.

For further assistance:
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May 2014

Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights & Measures

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Laboratory Services

Dr. Jerrold Turney
Senior Biologist/Plant Pathologist

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ABOUT THE LABORATORY

The primary mission of the Plant Pathology Laboratory is to prevent the introduction of exotic plant diseases, plant pathogenic nematodes, and invasive weeds into Los Angeles County through nursery stock and other agricultural shipments from other states. Plant Pathology Laboratory Services available to the public include:

- Plant disease and damage diagnosis
- Plant and mushroom identification
- Nematode identification
- Consultation on landscape maintenance

Services provided by the laboratory are free.

Oak root rot mushrooms

Oak root rot fungus under bark

PLANT DISEASE AND DAMAGE DIAGNOSIS

Many plant diseases occur in nurseries, landscapes and on farms. Growing conditions and cultural care can cause plant damage. Samples of plant parts containing symptomatic tissue that are submitted to the Plant Pathology Laboratory may be cultured to isolate potential pathogens. Well known diseases can be diagnosed based on symptoms.

PLANT AND MUSHROOM IDENTIFICATION

Whole plants or plant parts can be submitted to the Plant Pathology Laboratory for plant identification. Plant parts needed for plant identification include:

- Leaves
- Stems
- Flowers
- Fruit

Digital images of plants may also be submitted for identification. When submitting mushrooms it is critical to collect the entire mushroom and quickly submit the sample to the laboratory. Please visit our website for sample submission instructions and a printable submission form (http://acwm.lacounty.gov).

Need more information?

University of California, Davis
www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

LANDSCAPE CONSULTATION

Damage to plants may involve the action of a pathogenic organism or be caused by adverse cultural conditions. It is often necessary to determine the cultural conditions that exist where a plant is being grown in order to correctly diagnosis the damage. The plant pathologist can provide technical information that will assist the grower, landscape manager, or homeowner to determine what cultural changes are necessary to prevent further damage. Technical information can include:

- Proper irrigation rates and timing
- Plant placement and location suitability
- Fertilization
- Integrated pest management

Olive Leaf Scorch

Oleander Leaf Scorch