

## Where is fire blight in New York & New England?

### Submit fire blight infected trees and strikes for testing

Samples are tested for fire blight bacteria, streptomycin resistance, and strain.

Contact one of the persons below to help you collect samples and take data:

Kerik Cox, 315-787-2401, [kdc33@cornell.edu](mailto:kdc33@cornell.edu), NYSAES (Receiving lab)  
Janet VanZoeren, 585-797-8368, [jev67@cornell.edu](mailto:jev67@cornell.edu) CCE LOFT, Orleans Office  
Dan Donahue, 518-322-7812, [djd13@cornell.edu](mailto:djd13@cornell.edu), CCE ENYCHP, Hudson Valley Lab  
Mike Basedow, 518-410-6823, [mrb254@cornell.edu](mailto:mrb254@cornell.edu), CCE ENYCHP, Champlain Valley

Samples should be mailed to:

Kerik Cox  
Cornell AgriTech  
15 Castle Creek Dr.  
Geneva, NY 14456

### Sample information

Please fill in as much of the information below as possible:

Date collected \_\_\_\_\_

Collector's name \_\_\_\_\_

Grower name \_\_\_\_\_

Farm name and block/location \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

GPS coordinates of the sample collected \_\_\_\_\_

Part of the tree infected is (circle) -

blossom cluster      current shoot      young wood      trunk

Length of strike (ft. in.) \_\_\_\_\_

Variety \_\_\_\_\_ Rootstock \_\_\_\_\_

Age of tree/year planted \_\_\_\_\_

If a newly planted tree, from what nursery? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Blossom and shoot blight management applications in 2020**

Date	Material
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## **Instructions:**

It is only possible to isolate the bacteria (*Erwinia amylovora*) from fresh, active lesions, where healthy tissue meets the diseased tissue. i.e. the lesion margin.

### **Sampling the Lesion Margin**

Collect samples that include about 3 inches of healthy tissue beyond the infected tissue, and include about 3 inches of infected tissue. Do not submit all the dead branch of the strike, this is often too long and can be cut back, as described. Do not collect entire branches or trees unless symptoms are unusual.

Protect samples from drying out prior to submitting them. If possible, refrigerate them. It is impossible to isolate fire blight bacteria from dead, dried out tissue.

If possible collect samples with visible ooze!



Fire blight strike on current shoot (photo courtesy of J. Carroll).

Healthy growth. Trim this down, leaving about three inches of healthy tissue.

Lower lesion margin. Cut at least three inches into healthy tissue, below the lesion.

The strike. Cut this back, leaving about three inches of infected tissue.



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