

VINELAND

TREE CARE

Nectria Canker

Nectria galligena and *N. cinnabarina*

HOSTS: *N. galligena*- maple (*Acer* spp., primarily *A. platanoides*) and many other hardwoods, *N. cinnabarina*- honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)



CO-OCCURRING ISSUES/ LOOK-ALIKES: Host dependent

DISEASE CYCLE:

- During rain or moist weather, spores are produced in small, white, orange, or red fruiting bodies on infected areas. These spores are dispersed by wind or water and enter a new site through bark in areas damaged by sunscald, hail, frost cracks, and pruning wounds, particularly from improper pruning.
- Nectria fungi are generally saprophytic, decaying already-dead wood, but can become weakly parasitic if infecting weakened, stressed trees.
- Vigorously growing hosts can usually quickly wall off an infection and grow enough callus tissue to seal the canker. If the tree is unable to seal off the canker, the fungus will invade the new callus tissue. This will create a back-and-forth of callus tissue and fungal growth resulting in a target-like growth.

CONTROL:

Chemical -

- There are no effective treatments for Nectria canker.

Cultural -

- Pruning out infected branches can work for small infections, but prevention is the best method. Do not prune honeylocust in wet conditions, and avoid pruning other susceptible trees in wet weather if active cankers are observed.

RESULTS/ PROGNOSIS/ EXPECTATION MANAGEMENT:

- Trees can generally survive for long periods with cankers, however cankers create a weak point with a high potential for failure. If a canker encircles a branch or trunk, the entire branch or tree will be killed.

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