

CMG GardenNotes #108

Lab Worksheet: Diagnosis Practice

The objective of this exercise is to give you experience diagnosing tree insects and diseases.

For this activity, refer to *Insects and Diseases of Woody Plants in Colorado*. On pages 295 to 314 is a **Diagnostic Key to... Woody Plant Disorders**. Answer the following questions by using the key and reference pages cited.

1. Douglas fir

1. Plant ID: Douglas fir

2a. Describe signs and symptoms:

On severely stressed to recently killed trees, piles of sawdust and fiber accumulate below trees.



Wide galleries, just under the bark, are filled with fibrous frass. The adult beetle is about an inch long, brownish-gray with white specks and very long antennae.

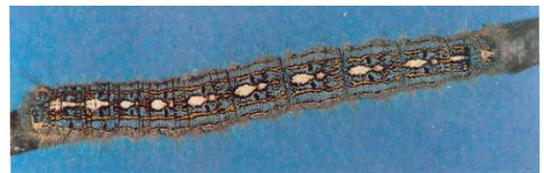
2b. What is the most likely (probable) insect that is causing the sawdust and frass?

2. Aspen

1. Plant ID: Aspen

2a. Describe signs and symptoms:

In the spring, leaves are being eaten by caterpillars with a bright blue stripe on their sides and yellow, keyhole-shaped spots on their backs. A neighbor thought they were tent caterpillars, but you haven't found any tents.



2b. What are the possible insects that could be causing the problem?

2c. What is the most likely (probable) cause?

3. Crabapple

1. Plant ID: Crabapple

2a. Describe signs and symptoms:

Four crabapple trees were lost to what a gardener believes is “fire blight”. The trees were planted in an irrigated lawn area three years ago, but never really grew well. The first spring (just after planting) the trees bloomed, but new growth was minimal. The second year, the trees looked “blighted” with smaller pale leaves and no new growth. By the third season, the trees went progressively downhill with no Blossoms, tiny pale leaves and no twig growth. Most leaves dropped by mid-summer. This fall, as the homeowner removed the dead trees, he noticed a large canker on the trunks just below ground level. He would like to replace them with fire blight resistant cultivars so he won't lose them again.



2b. What are possible causes of this problem?

2c. What is the most likely (probable) cause?