



The Prairie Arborist

The Official Publication of the ISA Prairie Chapter Issue 1 2022



Photo by Keith Anderson



Toni Newsham
President

For the first time in over two years, the entire Prairie Chapter Board met for a face to face meeting at the end of February in Edmonton.

Here, the 2022 budget was finalized, we moved forward with continual planning for our Tree Climbing Competition, and we began finalizing the upcoming 2022 Prairie Chapter Conference to be held in St. Albert, AB on October 17 & 18.

We were able to officially meet our new board members (elected at our AGM on ZOOM in October) and it felt great to shake some hands!

Currently our board covers a broad spectrum of the Arboriculture Industry. We have people in the private sector, municipal, commercial, educational; large companies and small companies; urban foresters, climbers, and Consulting Arborists. The wide range of expertise on this board has brought new ideas, strategic plan concepts, social media opportunities, and new contacts to the Prairie Chapter.

Along with that, we plan to continue with our webinars. We are grateful to those who have been willing to partner with and provide the Prairie Chapter membership some CEU opportunities. We plan to bring approximately four more from the Chapter to our membership before the fall Conference so keep an eye on the emails from Keith.

TRAQ
Registration is open for TRAQ course that will be running in Olds, AB in May. The full workshop is now sold out, but

if you need to renew your TRAQ, there are lots of seats available in that.

Registration is now open for a second TRAQ taking place in Edmonton in June. Check the website for registration information and forms.

Chapter Awards

The board would like to put a more active focus on Achievement Awards within the Prairie Chapter.

We have many worthy communities, companies and individuals in our industry, on the Prairies that should be acknowledged or recognized for their contribution to Arboriculture on the prairies.

If you know of a community with an exceptional Arbor-Day program or a company promoting arboriculture and contributing in a positive way to the urban forest, please contact VP Peter LaRue (his contact info is on page 15).

Or, you may know of someone in arboriculture education that has a long meaningful history teaching students for the future of the industry. You may know of someone doing research or a maybe a student excelling and contributing in some positive way, or, you may know someone who is just a phenomenal tree-person. We want to know. The board will be actively seeking out potential award recipients, but we would also like to hear from you!

If you have someone, a company, or group of people in mind, please contact the ISA Prairie Chapter Office, or Peter LaRue (our Awards Coordinator & Vice President).

Enjoy these lengthening days and remember that Spring is on the move!
See you soon.



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Northern garden Collection

Alberta Elm Pruning Ban
April 1st to September 30

Manitoba Elm Pruning Ban
April 1st to July 31

Saskatchewan Elm Pruning Ban
April 1st to August 31



Save the Date

Certification Exam

There are no paper based exam opportunities available at this time.

All Arborist Certification candidates are encouraged to write their exam on line

Apply for eligibility here:

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Apply-Now/Apply-for-Eligibility>

Enroll to write the exam here:

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Apply-Now/Enroll-to-Take-Exam>

TRAQ Workshops

Registration is now open for two

TRAQ Workshops

May 16 in Olds, AB - One day renewal.

May 17, 18, 19 in Olds. Full Workshop **Sold Out**
And

June 21 in Edmonton - One day renewal

June 22, 23, 24 in Edmonton. Full Workshop

<http://www.isaprairie.com/traq-workshops>



Save the Date

Tree Risk Assessment Requalification

Did you know that you can now
renew your TRAQ designation
on line?
It's true.

You can register with any Chapter that is
hosting an online TRAQ renewal.

For upcoming TRAQ renewal go here:

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/events/eventscalendar/index?category=ISA+Qualification%20Renewal>

For more information please call the
Prairie Chapter office at
866-550-7464

Save the Date

The Prairie Chapter
is planning a live
Conference to be held in
St. Albert, AB
October 17 & 18 2022

Managing Growth, Limiting Liability,

Don't miss this long overdue opportunity to
network and bump elbows with your
Fellow Arbs

More information to follow as the planning
unfolds



ASCA's Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualification (TPAQ)

This course is being revised and is expected
to be available in 2023.

There are no workshops at this time.



2022 Prairie Chapter

The 2022 Prairie Chapter Tree Climbing Competition

is being planned for
August 27, 28 in Regina, SK.

Hope to see you there.



Submitted by Andre Savaria

Arborists should be aware of the Federal Migratory Birds Convention Act Legislation that protects active nests and nests of protected birds year-round on crown land and private property, and ensure that they are in compliance to avoid any possible fines.

Note that provincial legislation may also exist in each of Prairie provinces that could impact your operations. For example, under possible provincial regulations nests of eagles, peregrine falcons, gyrfalcons, osprey, herons, and burrowing owls maybe protected year-round, regardless of nest activity. From a federal perspective, great blue heron nests are protected year-round.

Under the Federal Act, the following definitions apply

migratory bird

means a migratory bird referred to in the Convention, and includes the sperm, eggs, embryos, tissue cultures and parts of the bird; (oiseau migrateur)

nest means the nest of a migratory bird and includes parts of the nest.
(nid)

The link for the Federal Migratory Birds Convention Act legislation can be found

<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/M-7.01/>

In general, the legislation prohibits the disturbance or destruction of active nests and eggs. In Alberta a map of the Nesting zones in Canada can be found at this link <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods/nesting-periods.html>

In terms of the ISA Prairie Chapter, the region of concern largely falls within Zone B on this map – and specifically zone B for the Edmonton area. In this map, there is a high likelihood of encountering active nests between the ap-

proximate dates of April 20 through to August 30th. The implications of disturbing nests within this period are serious and include fines and possible imprisonment – see section 13 (2)(a)(i) of the act. Note that the few species that may nest in March would likely be Raven, Great horned owl, and Canada goose. So generally speaking, if you can avoid these 3 species, you would likely be safe until April 20.

Avoid tree and brush clearing activities wherever possible during the General Nesting Period of March 1 to August 31 to protect the active nesting season of most birds and avoid contravention of the nesting bird protection provisions under any applicable provincial wildlife legislation and the federal Migratory Bird Convention Act. Once again provincial regulations may

state that nests and trees with nests of eagles, peregrine falcons, gyrfalcons, osprey, herons, or burrowing owls are protected year-round, whether or not the nest is in use, and cannot be removed, damaged, injured, or molested at any time.

For “year-round” protected nests, nest surveys for protected nests must be conduct-

ed prior to tree clearing year-round to avoid contravention of the nesting bird protection provisions under the applicable provincial wildlife Act. Authorization from the Province and/or Federal Government is required to remove or modify a tree, snag, or other vegetation containing a nest of these species.

If tree and brush clearing must proceed during the General Nesting Period if trees or brush pose significant risk to the public or private property, or prevents safe access and use of trails, parks, and roadways, then individuals should undertake their due diligence to prevent harm to nesting birds. If tree removal during the General Nesting Period is unavoidable, a bird nest survey by a Qualified Avian biologist or avian naturalist, shall be conducted to identify any active or



Google Image Photo credit: Mathew Schwartz

(Continued from page 4)

protected nests. Tree and brush clearing may proceed if no active or protected nests are detected.

Works undertaken around active or protected nests must follow appropriate nesting season buffer zones and best practices to ensure compliance with any applicable provincial wildlife legislation and the federal Migratory Bird Convention Act.

If active or protected nests are detected and tree or brush clearing must occur, authorization by the province and/or Federal Government is required. Professionals must be familiar with and reference the resources listed below, where appropriate.

Reducing Risk to Migratory Birds. Available online:
[Guidelines to reduce risk to migratory birds - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/migratorybirds/2019/05/guidelines-to-reduce-risk-to-migratory-birds.html)

NOTE: This is not considered legal advice. You should obtain legal counsel for interpretation of federal/provincial laws and regulations.

Article by: Andre Savaria RPF#317
 ISA Certified Arborist PR-4880A
 Certified Tree Risk Assessor - TRAQ
 Ecofor Consulting Ltd
 Cell 780-288-8680



Registration for the ISA 2022 Annual International Conference in Malmö Sweden is now open

ISA is excited to return to an in-person conference in 2022 with the ISA Annual International Conference hosted in Malmö, Sweden 12-14 September.

All speakers will present in English.

For more information on this event or to register visit:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ISA2022Conference/>



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By Daniela Gonzalez Porch Magazine

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Note from the editor: Article is an excerpt from the U.S. but with some great general information.

Learn just how much benefit your trees are adding to your property.

Everyone knows trees are valuable, but did you know you can actually calculate their specific added value to your property? If you've ever had to purchase a tree for your yard, you know that it can be an expensive investment, even for a young tree. And maintaining this tree can also be costly, such as leaf removal or tree trimming.

Having mature trees in your yard or property is usually seen as value commodity: trees provide necessary shade for houses, can act as a screen for unwanted noise or views, protect slopes from erosion, and are pretty to look at. But they can block a desirable view, create a leafy mess, cause damage to the home from broken limbs, and roots can damage driveways or underground pipes. So, should you be planting more trees in your yard or paying for their removal?

Overall benefits of trees

To get to the bottom of the question, "how much are my trees worth," let's take a look at the Tree Benefit Calculator. With just a few pieces of information, this website can tell you just how much value your trees are adding to your property. For example, in my climate zone, a 25-inch diameter Big Leaf Maple tree provides overall benefits of \$196.00 per year to my property.

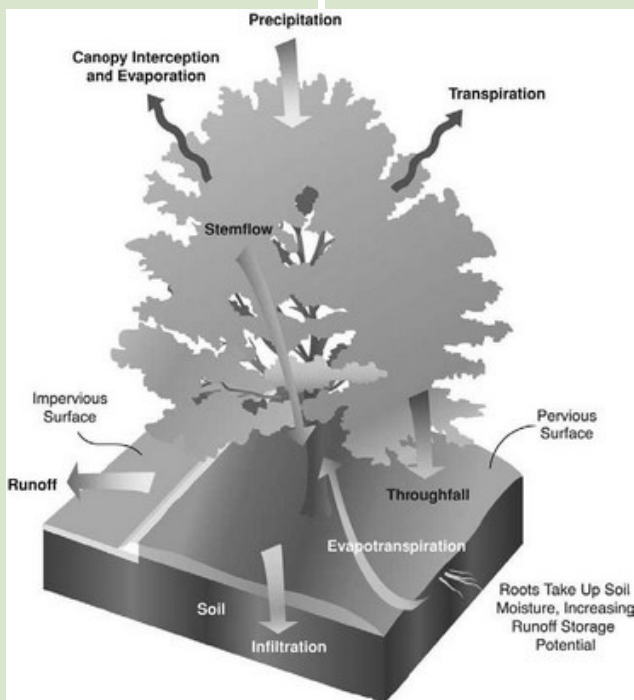
Other species, and their size, may lead to a larger or smaller cost-benefit. A similarly-sized Douglas Fir provides an annual benefit of \$232, with varying benefits to the property value, energy savings, and CO2 absorption. Overall, all trees benefit our environment, and it's always in our best interest to maintain them. Let's take a look at the specific cost benefits of owning trees.

Stormwater absorption by trees

The calculator estimates that within the course of one year, this 25-inch diameter maple tree will intercept 2,188 gallons of stormwater runoff on my property. The

image below shows just how much a tree does for water runoff, important for both wet climates that see continual rain as well as semi-dry climates that occasionally see flash-flood type of conditions. When rain falls, leaves and branches slow down the flow of water to the ground. Roots absorb water and also act as a filter for water running into our waterways.

As our towns and cities become covered with more concrete and asphalt, it's incredibly important that trees are planted to help filter water before it ends up in our rivers and lakes. And if you've ever had a neighbor cut down a lot of trees, then see how your property fills with water during a rainstorm; you can immediately see the impact that those roots had in absorbing water. In fact, property flooding isn't necessarily due to too much water; it's too much water with too few trees to absorb the excess.



Property value increases with trees

The presence of trees (or lack thereof) can significantly impact your property value. Using the same data, Tree Benefits calculates that this single maple tree will raise my property value by \$120 this year. Much of this calculation is based on Leaf Surface Area (LSA) models, "that's a researcher's way of saying that a home with more trees (and more LSA) tends to have a higher value than one with fewer trees (and lower LSA)," according to their website. The higher the LSA,

the higher the property value.

The Pacific Northwest Research Station recently conducted a study of just how much trees raise property values in the city of Portland, Oregon. Considering the annual maintenance cost that cities spend on trees, understanding the economic value of these trees is important.

In fact, this study found that the presence of trees along the street increased the sale prices of houses in east Portland neighborhoods by an average of \$8,870 and reduced time on the market by an average of 1.7 days. Trees in front of the house also increased the home's sale price by an average of \$7,130. "Citywide, street trees add \$1.1 billion to Portland's property value, or

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

\$45 million a year. Annual maintenance costs of \$4.6 million are a small fraction of the trees' value and are mostly borne by property owners." (*Data and information from itreetools.org)

Energy benefits of trees

Trees can provide necessary shade for houses, which creates a cooler interior environment. My example of the single maple tree is expected to help me conserve 92 Kilo-watt/hours of electricity this year.

The illustration shows the three primary ways trees can help reduce the amount of electricity or natural gas homeowners spend heating or cooling their homes. Trees provide shading for a house,

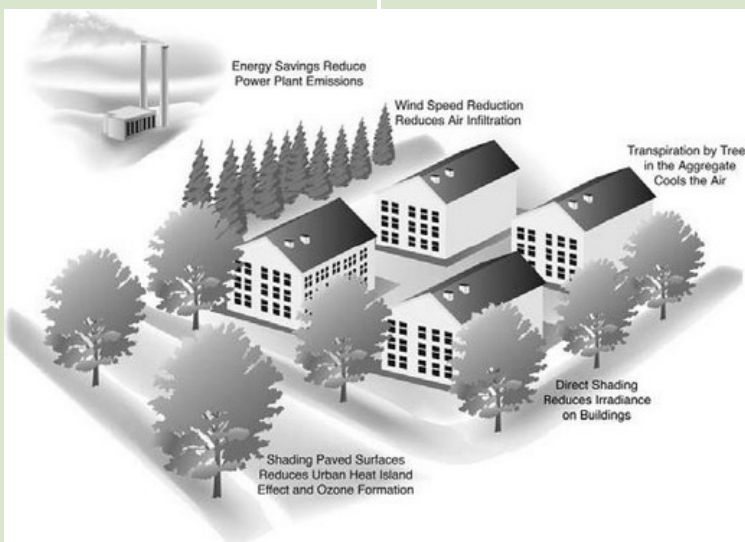
making the house cooler and can reduce the amount of heat absorbed by the structure.

Evapotranspiration, which is the process of liquid water converting to water vapor and subsequently cooling the air, helps create a slightly lower air temperature. Additionally, trees and tree canopies can slow down the surrounding wind, reducing the amount of heat lost through the house (like windows).

Air quality improves with trees

Most of us are aware that trees can provide oxygen to our environment as well as absorb carbon dioxide, creating a better air quality. Air

(Continued on page 8)



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(Continued from page 7)

pollution is a health hazard for many people globally, leading to asthma, cancer, or serious respiratory diseases. Trees can absorb numerous toxic chemicals like sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and ozone. Trees can also absorb tiny particles like dust, ash, and smoke, which can get into our homes and lungs. Trees can lower the overall air temperature, reduce ozone production, and release oxygen into the air. The destruction of forests negatively impacts our overall air quality, but planting even one tree on your property can positively impact your surrounding environment and air quality.

Carbon dioxide absorption by trees

Carbon dioxide is released into our environment in multiple ways, but the most common are vehicles and other forms of transportation. My single maple tree is expected to reduce atmospheric carbon by 694 pounds this year. In comparison, an average midsize car can generate about 11,000 pounds of CO₂ per year. So although one tree doesn't cut out a person's entire carbon footprint, planting trees in your yard and helping to preserve trees in your neighborhood can significantly help absorb CO₂ in your environment.

According to Tree Benefits, trees sequester CO₂ in their roots, trunks, stems, and leaves as they grow. Additional-

**THE PRAIRIE CHAPTER
TREE CLIMBING
CHAMPIONSHIP**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27 – DAY ONE
PRELIMINARY EVENTS: 9 AM – 5 PM

WORK CLIMB
Contestants climb to five stations in a tree, performing a different task at each station

AERIAL RESCUE
Contestants reach and safely lower an injured climber (actually a life-sized mannequin)

THROWLINE
Tests contestants' ability to accurately place lines 30 - 60 feet up in a tree

BELAYED SPEED CLIMB
Contestants ascend a predetermined route from ground to about 60 feet.

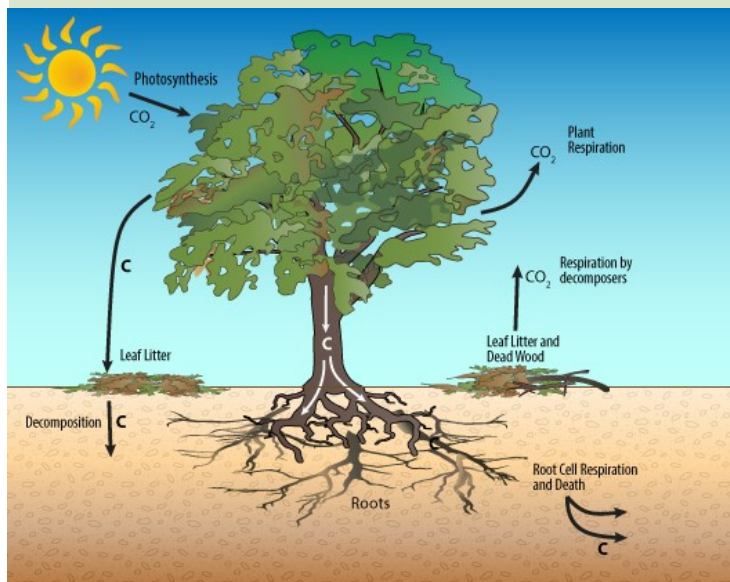
ASCENT EVENT
Measures climbers ability to perform a 50 foot + vertical ascent.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 – DAY TWO
MASTERS CHALLENGE: 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM

The Masters' Challenge is the championship round of the competition. The top men and top women finishers from the preliminary round advance to the Masters' Challenge to compete for the title.

WASCANA PARK, REGINA, SK

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Carbon Cycle of a Single Tree. Credit: Valerie Martin, TERC

ly, trees can help reduce the need for heating and cooling, leading to lower CO₂ production.

Check out the National Tree Benefit Calculator.
<http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator/index.cf>



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Google Image
Western Producer

By Toso Bozic

European Elm Scale (*Eriococcus spurius*, also known as *Gossyparia spuria*). European elm scale is danger to our elm trees and it can create significant damage on the Prairie Provinces. The elm trees add significant beauty to our cities, towns and farms. These majestic trees are mostly recognizable by the umbrella looking crowns, thick furrowed bark and unique leaves with very uneven bases at the leaf stalk: a familiar characteristic of all elms. It has been introduced insects from Europe in 1884 to the USA and spread very quickly from coast to coast.

Google Image
Western Producer

Pest ID

It is relatively easy to recognize this insect. It attacks only elm trees. From a short distance, you will notice the dark black colour of branches or stems on affected trees (compare to the brown/gray colour of healthy trees). This black colour comes from oozing soothing mold that is growing on the honeydew produced by the insect sucking sap from the branches and leaves. In closer inspection, you will notice a brown colour scale surrounded by a very distinct white waxy fringe around the body of the scale. The other scales do not have this white waxy fringe around the body of the scale. The scale is up to 10 mm (5/16 inch) long with males smaller than females. It has a one-year generational life cycle. Female scale overwinters between bark cracks or twig notches.

There are several symptoms to recognize that elm trees are under the attack of this insect:

- The dark black colour of bark on branches or trunk due to soothing mold growing on honeydew
- Sticky honeydew secretion on leaves, bark, sidewalks, vehicles or nearby structures
- Yellowing of the leaves will lead premature leaves drops
- In springtime, leaves are developing later compared to healthy trees
- Branch dieback and the very thin canopy is usually a symptom of a very heavy infestation



**Visible,
Mature Scales**

Google Image from BioForest

(Continued on page 10)



European Elm Scale Crawlers/nymphs
Google Image from Utah State University

How To Detect European Elm Scale- Symptoms

As results of attack of this insect, it can significantly reduce growth, kill branches and eventually kill trees.

Keep Alberta DED free

- Under the Alberta *Agricultural Pests Act (APA)* "Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (PNCR)" the Dutch Elm Disease (DED) pathogens, smaller European elm bark beetle, and the native elm bark beetle are named declared pests.
- DED prevention/control measures for Alberta are enforceable under the APA and are found on the STOPPED website.
- Elm trees from a DED infected province cannot be shipped into Alberta.
- Elm Pruning Ban is April 1-September 30 annually.

CANADIAN
AGRICULTURAL
PARTNERSHIP

STOPPED

Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease

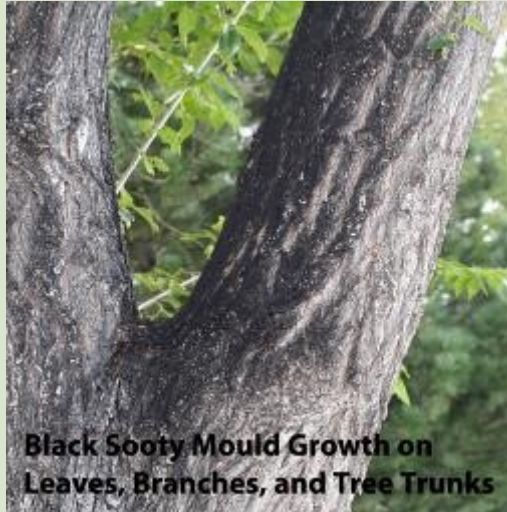
www.stopped.org 1-877-837-ELMS (3567)



What Can You Do – Management

In Alberta, you are not allowed prune elm trees between April 1 to September 30. So any pruning of affected trees should be done after these dates. European elm scales is danger and to reduce negative impact. Our services can help you with several management options for the control:

- Keep elm trees healthy by regular watering and if necessary adding fertilizer to boost growth and vigor of affected trees. Watering is critical during a drought period
- Use a pressure water gun to remove overwinter female's scales to produce new eggs once leaves drop or before spring bud break. Make sure that you don't excessively damage bark during this process especially on young trees



Black Sooty Mould Growth on Leaves, Branches, and Tree Trunks

Google Image from BioForest

- To kill overwinter nymphs you can use dormant horticulture oil early in spring before bud breaks or in fall when leaves drop. When you apply horticulture oil, you need to be conscious of the weather. Weather is a critical factor when using horticultural oil. The temperature should be above 0 Celsius and there is no rainfall in the weather forecast with 24 hours allowing oil to dry
 - On very small trees you can use a dry brush to physically remove scale instead of using water pressure or horticulture oils
 - Use of insecticidal soap to kill crawlers as foliar control
 - To protect trees you may use insecticide. For any chemical control, you may hire a professional pest licensed company to inject insecticide in the tree or for performing foliar spraying
- Avoid root damage and soil compaction which overall will negatively impact the health and vigor of the elm tree



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- ◆ Development opportunities

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CYTOSPORA CANKER *Cytospora kunzei*

Hosts:

Colorado and White spruce

Distribution and Disease Cycle:

Cytospora canker is caused by a fungal pathogen which attacks many species of conifer, including Colorado, white, Norway, and Engelmann spruce and Douglas-fir, with Colorado spruce more susceptible than any other species.

Spores are released from cankered branches throughout the growing season and spread by rain, wind, insects, birds or man to other branches on the same or other trees. Infection typically occurs through wounds, first infecting and killing the bark and eventually spreading to kill the entire branch.

Cytospora can also be opportunistic, growing in bark killed by other pathogens. Damage is usually seen on older, larger trees.

Symptoms and signs:

Cankers are a necrotic lesion on a localized area of stem/

(Continued on page 12)



Joseph OBrien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



ARBORICULTURE
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Alberta - Spring 2022 Schedule

Tree Insect & Disease Management
Red Deer - April 6 - 8

Chainsaw Safety & Cutting Techniques
Edmonton - May 12
Calgary - May 16

Tree Pruning
Edmonton - May 13
Calgary - May 17

Technical Tree Falling & Cutting
Calgary - May 18 - 19

Modern Tree Climbing Systems
Calgary - June 13 - 15

Emergency Readiness & High Angle Rescue
Calgary - June 16 - 17

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(Continued from page 11)

trunk tissue where tissue has died. Symptoms of *Cytospora* canker typically start on lower branches, with all needles on a branch being equally affected. Needles on infected branches turn brown and eventually drop, leaving entire branches bare, with dead (cankered) areas of the bark exuding a white or bluish resin. Infection is usually most severe on crowded or stressed trees.

Control:

Because *Cytospora* typically infects trees weakened by environmental stresses, maintain tree vigour by watering during periods of drought, do not cultivate deeper than a few inches nearby trees and avoid inflicting wounds to bark which act as infection entry points.

Remove and dispose of infected branches, these branches will not recover and only will serve as a source of infection. Prune during late winter or during dry periods whenever cankered branches are discovered. Prune to a lateral branch at least 10-15cm below any visible cankers or to the main trunk as required, sterilizing pruning tools with 5% bleach solution or alcohol between cuts.

When trees become large and crowded, thinning out some trees may help increase aeration and provide some control.

There are no chemicals registered for canker control in spruce.



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

BRONZE LEAF *Apioplagiostoma populi*

Hosts:

Trembling aspen, Swedish columnar aspen, tower poplar

Distribution and Disease Cycle:

Symptoms typically appear in midsummer. Spores are



dispersed from April-June when rainfall is present and temperatures are around 18°C. Once infected, the fun-

(Continued on page 14)



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I have created a wonderful lifestyle. I work very hard as an 'arborist' eight months of the year and enjoy traveling around the world the other four months. We are very lucky. I am not a big company, I usually employ three or four people to work with me, some of whom have been with me for many years. The rewards of our hard work are shared with my employees, as I never aimed to get rich off the backs of others. We work hard five days a week, but only about 140 days per year, as there is more to life than money. I could have grown the size of my business, but with annual sales of \$450,000, I make a comfortable living after all the bills are paid.

I have all the most up-to-date equipment in our industry, totaling \$600,000 in assets. Everything that is needed to operate a safe and efficient tree service is here and included. My company is very well known in the area and we always have more work than we can take on, with almost no advertising. There is definitely room for expansion if you want to work year round.

I'll be 63 years old this year and tree work is a young man's game. It is time to retire and let a young hard-working person take over. 'A good life' is what I'm selling, all the equipment, trucks, trailers, tractors and tools, my business name, contacts, website and a business reputation of integrity. This includes the acreage and our home with all its furnishings. We just take some personal items and start enjoying retirement.

You don't have to be an arborist, you just need to be willing to work hard and learn, everything is in place here for you.

\$1,550,000 and you can have 'my good life'

P.S. I am keeping the wife.

If interested, check out our history and equipment.

www.riteenterprises.ca Or contact John at ritetrees@gmail.com



(Continued from page 12)

fungus moves systemically within the leaf's vascular system, making it difficult to control.

Symptoms and signs:



Google Image from Ladybug Arborists

Leaf margins develop yellow, orange or reddish brown discolourations, which expand to consume the entire leaf. Often veins remain green while the remaining leaf tissue becomes discoloured.

Depending on the host, all leaves on a single shoot may exhibit symptoms of the disease or symptomatic leaves may be scattered throughout the crown of the tree.

Eventually, leaves develop a bronze or dark reddish brown hue, often remaining attached to the tree, rather than abscising in fall. As the disease progresses, the fungus will infect the stem and cause dieback after several seasons of infection.

Control:

Remove and destroy fallen leaves if

possible. Prune to remove dead branches and increase air circulation; avoid dense plantings that can reduce air flow. Avoid using monocultures of susceptible species in mass plantings or shelterbelts which can accelerate disease spread.



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