Dutch Elm Disease
FACT SHEET

GREEN DROP Tree Care







What it is:

Dutch Elm Disease (DED) has had a devastating impact on Manitoba's native American Elm tree population since its arrival here in 1975. Dutch elm disease is a fungal disease that blocks water movement in elm trees and eventually leads to the death of the entire tree. A dead or dying elm attracts elm bark beetles, which breed underneath the bark of the tree. Beatles emerging from trees killed by Dutch elm disease are contaminated with the spores of the fungus and spread them to other elms to feed or spend the winter. Although more resistant than the American elm - Siberian elms can still become infected and not only help the disease spread to more trees - but also die as well.

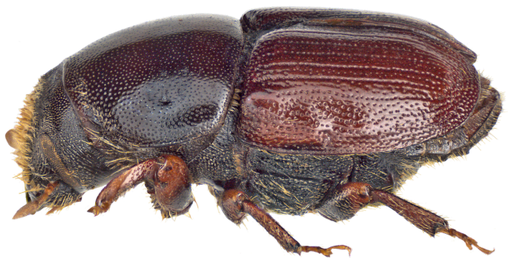
Symptoms:

Trees may produce sparse leaves in spring. In early summer, you'll notice a sudden wilting of leaves, usually at the top of the tree. Leaves curl and turn brown but do not fall from the tree. In late summer, leaves may become yellow and fall prematurely. Symptoms can spread quickly throughout the tree.

What is a native and European elm bark beetle?

The native and European elm bark beetle is an insect that carries the fungus that causes Dutch elm disease in elm trees.





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Prevention:

Watering & Fertilizing

- Elms can be kept healthy by watering and fertilizing.

Pruning

- Prune dead or dying branches immediately.
- Pruning restrictions in the
- Dutch Elm disease act prohibits pruning elm trees between April 1 to July 31.
- it is illegal to store or transport elm wood for any other reason than disposal at a landfill designated to receive elm wood.

Therapeutic Injection

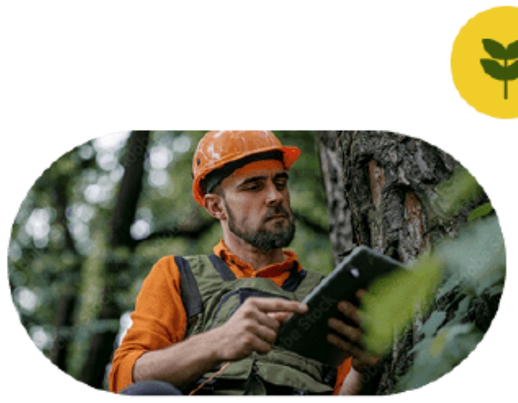
- Fungicides are injected directly into elm trees to prevent the DED fungus from growing in the tree.
- Injections should be performed by licensed injection specialists in order to obtain effective results.
- The procedure is most effective when leaves reach full size.
- This treatment needs to be repeated every few years.

Insect Control

- Repeated defoliation by defoliating caterpillars will weaken the tree making it susceptible to DED.
- Early treatment by spraying the leaves of the tree in early spring with an environmentally friendly product (BT) can prevent this.
- Tangle foot banding: Although this is still a widely used method of control for Cankerworms, unfortunately it is ineffective for other defoliators, such as Bruce Spanworm, and does not prevent migration from un-banded trees. In most cases, banding will only control a small percentage of defoliators.



Contact:





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