

Ukiah & Eureka, California May 12-13, 2010

Biology and epidemiology of P. ramorum

Matteo Garbelotto, U.C. Berkeley



The year was...

70's, 80s?

P. ramorum growing in a Petri dish



Organism new to science

- Origin unknown
- Biology unknown
- Symptoms caused unknown
- Immediately though highly regulated





Rhododendron:

In EU mostly a nursery issue, but also present in nurseries in US and Canada







Symptoms not always present



- Early stages of infection
- Cryptic infection in rhododendron roots
- -Plants chemically treated
- -Leaves plucked

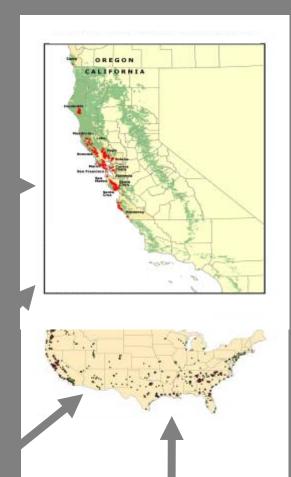












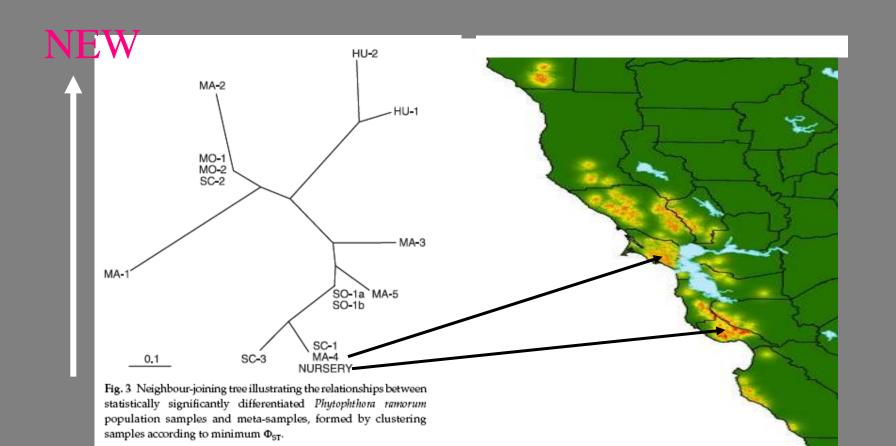


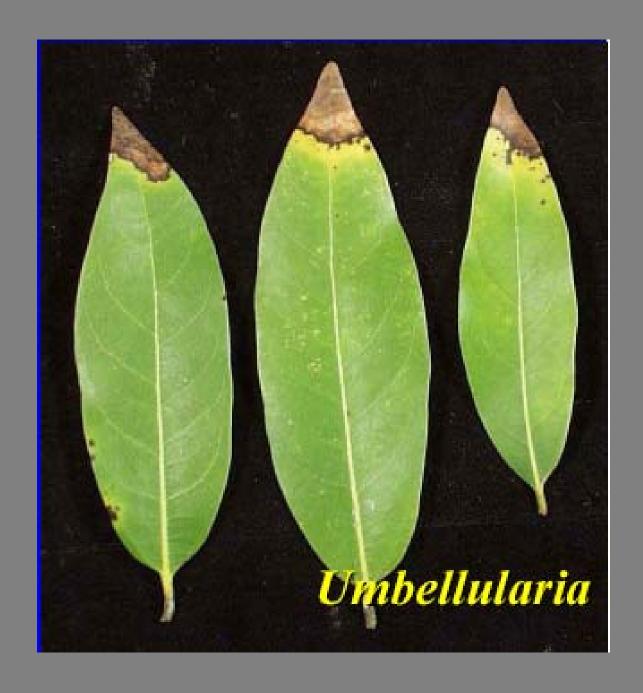


Pathogen

• Q: Where does it come from?

A: While area of origin is still unknown, commercial plant nurseries were unequivocally identified as sources of original introduction





Phytophthora ramorum



Sporangia: produced when It is wet

Chlamydospores



How do sporangia move?

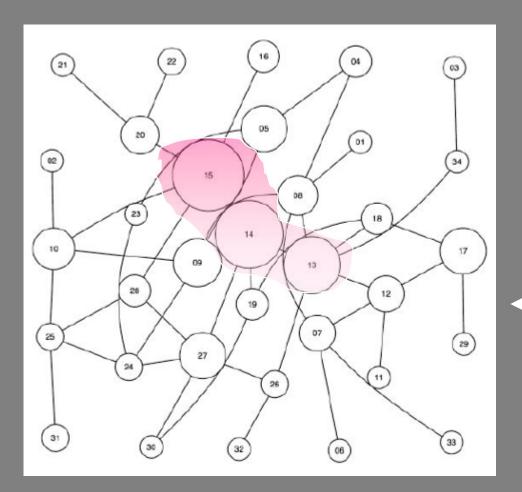
Airborne

Waterborne/soilborne/ movement of infected plants

• Can move 100-200 m, but in strong winds up to 2 km

Reconstruction of the Sudden Oak Death epidemic in California through microsatellite analysis of the pathogen Phytophthora ramorum

S. MASCHERETTI,* P. J. P. CROUCHER,* A. VETTRAINO,† S. PROSPERO‡ and M. GARBELOTTO*
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USA, †Department of Plant Protection, University of Tuscia, 1-01100 Viberto, Bally, ‡INRA, UMR 1202 Biodinersité Gènes et
communités, Equipe de pathologie Forestiere, BP 81, 33883 Villenave d'Omon Cedex, France



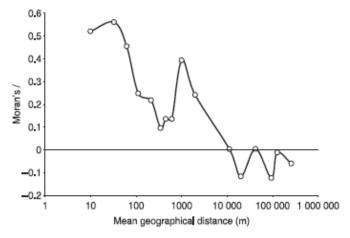


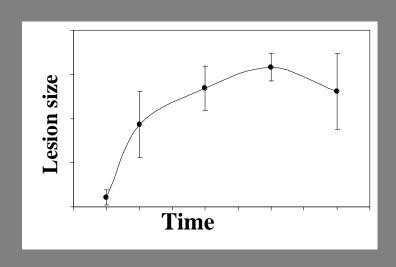
Fig. 4 Spatial autocorrelation analysis of genetic and geographical distance in *Phytophthora ramorum*. Moran's *I*-index, averaged over loci, was calculated from the repeat number at each of four variable microsatellite loci.

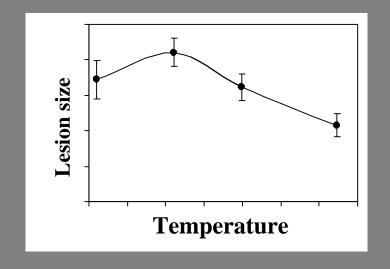
Circles represent genotypes: red shade indicates those that were introduced, are common in all infested sites, and are the progenitors of all other genotypes. Relatedness is indicated by connecting lines

When do sporangia infect new hosts?



• Temperature and leaf wetness





12 hours

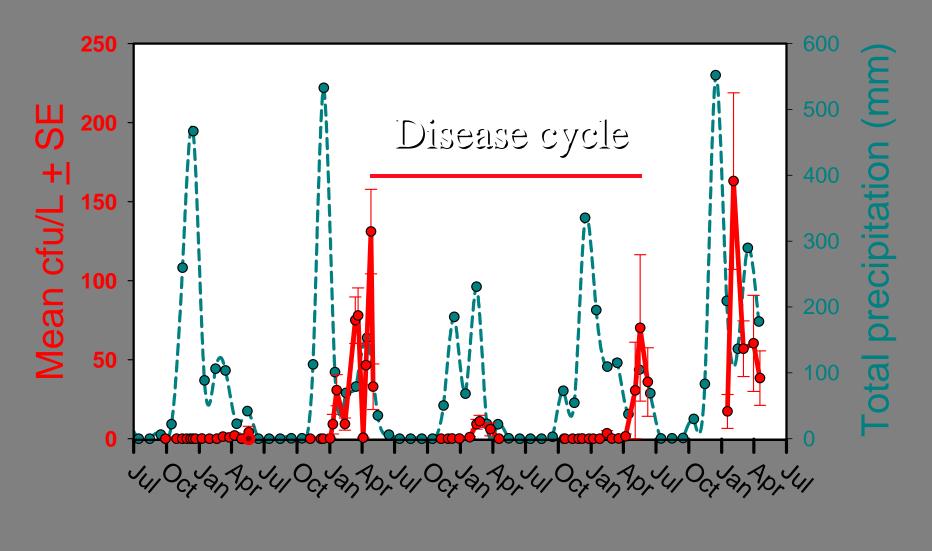
20 C

Infection occurs....

- Via zoospores produced by airborne sporangia....
- Requires water: limited infection with fog, high with rain
- Needs warm temperatures



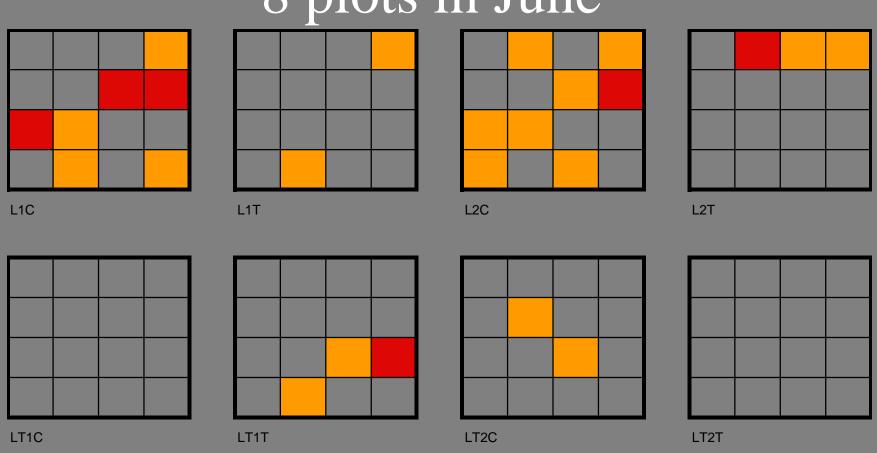
Spores in rainwater 2001-06

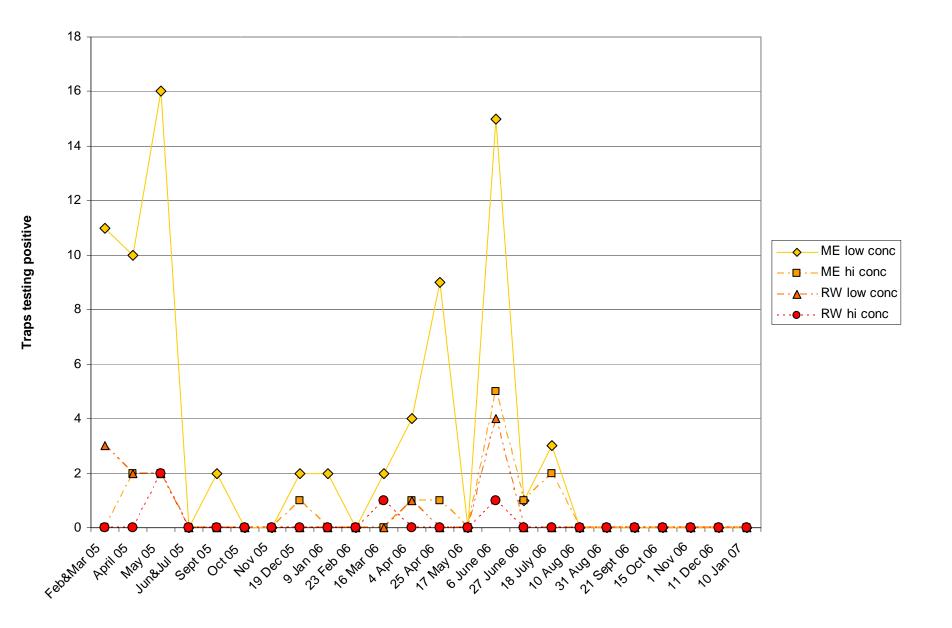




Buckets with water and healthy bay leaves as bait are placed on the vertices of a grid

Medium (yellow) and high (red) inoculum levels in bucket baits in 8 plots in June







Duglas-fir sapling branch tip wilted by P. ramorum



Symptoms on Buckeye leaves and petioles





Scorching of maple leaves caused by *P. ramorum*

Spring



Autumn

Most severe levels of disease and many plants species infected

• In proximity of infected bay laurels

• Tanoaks started were reported dead in 1995

Coast live oak and black oaks in 2000







Oaks

Quercus agrifolia
Black oak
Q. kellogii
Shreve's oak
Q. parvula var. shrevei
Canyon Live oak

Q. chrysolepis





Cankers end at soil line



Redwood-Tanoak forest

Tanoaks of all ages can be infected

Tanoaks mortality rate of adults can locally be 100%

Tanoaks can be infectious

Mixed-evergreen forest

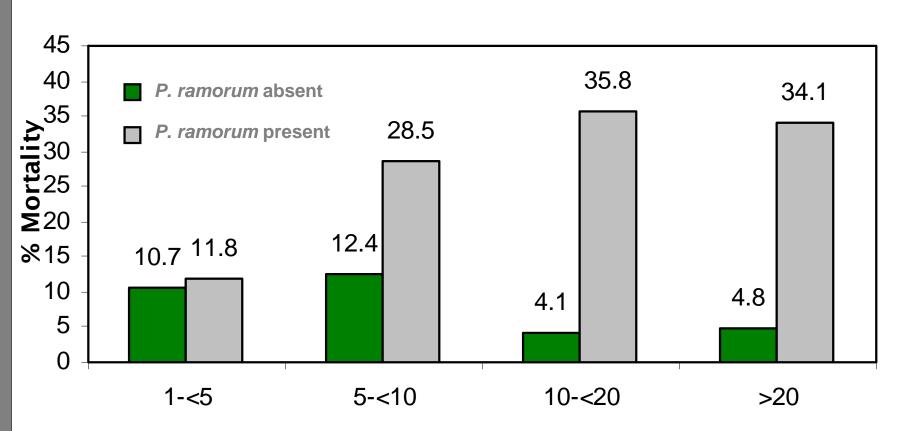
Only mature oaks are Infected

Oak mortality still under 50%

Oaks are not infectious and their infection normally occurs near other infectious hosts and



% Mortality of Tanoak by Stem Size Class



Tanoak stem diameter size class (cm)







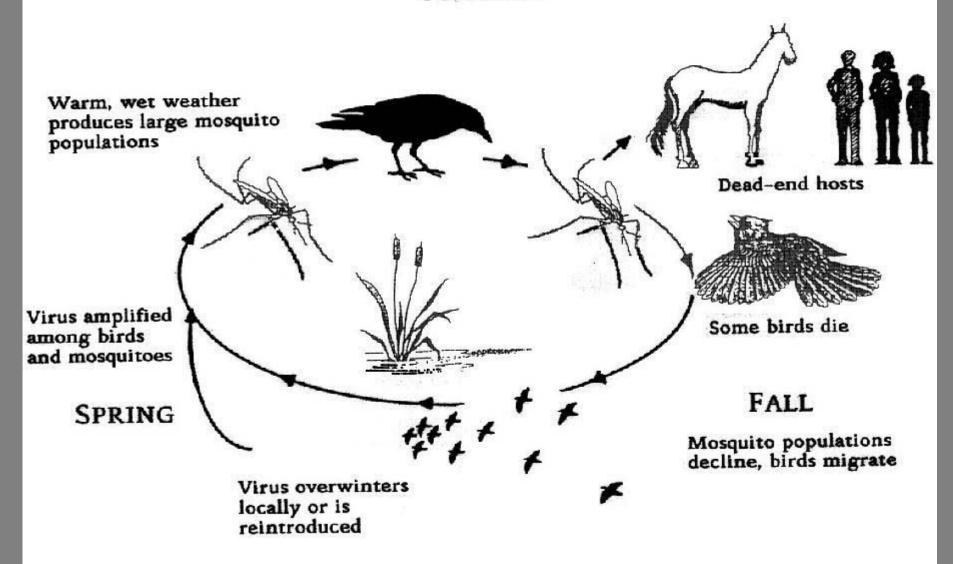
Bay/Oak association

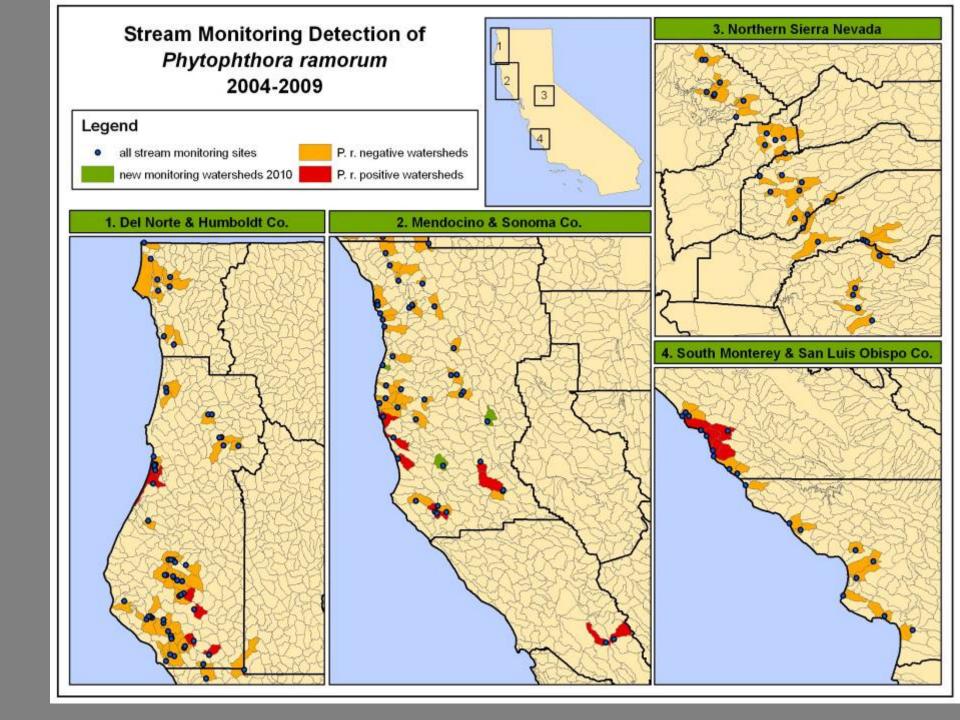


SOIL, WATER

Life Cycle of the West Nile Virus

SUMMER







Host(s)



Research

Evidence for the role of synchronicity between host phenology and pathogen activity in the distribution of sudden oak death canker disease

Richard S. Dodd³, Daniel Hüberli², Wasima Mayer³, Tamar Y. Harnik³, Zara Afzal-Rafii³ and Matteo Garbelotto³

³Department of Environmental Science Policy and Management, 137 Mulford Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA; ²Centre for

Phytoglothors Science and Management, School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Murdoch University, Murdoch, WA 6150, Australia

Summarv

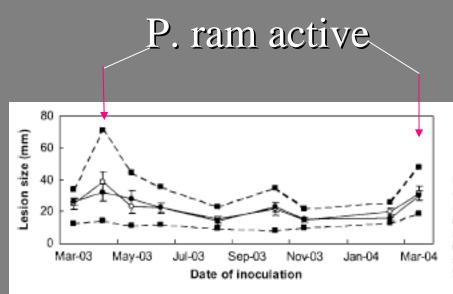


Fig. 1 Size of lesions at different inoculation dates in coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia) after inoculation with Phytophthora ramorum. Open circles, Chicken Coop site; closed circles, Miwok site. Overall maximum and minimum lesion sizes are shown as dotted lines with closed rectangles. Standard errors are shown as vertical bars.

Peaks of susceptibility correspond to peaks of cambial activity

(c)

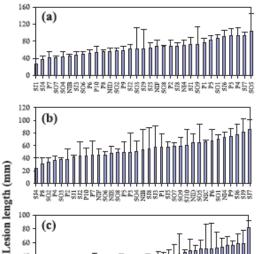
Is variation in susceptibility to Phytophthora ramorum correlated with population genetic structure in coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia)?

Richard S. Dodd¹, Daniel Hüberli¹, Vlad Douhovnikoff¹, Tamar Y. Harnik¹, Zara Afzal-Rafii² and Matteo Garbelotto¹

*Department of Environmental Science Policy and Management, 151 Hillard Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA: *IMER, Faculté des Sciences St. Jérôme, Université d'Aix-Maneille III, 13397 Maneille, France



Host(s)



Individual

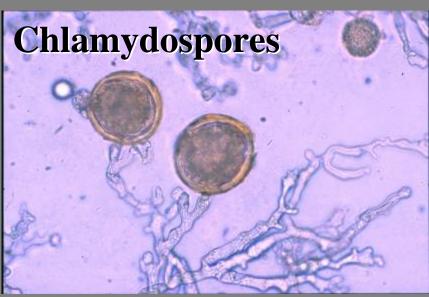
Significant variation in susceptibility (up to 20x) highlighted through inoculation studies

Although variation is mostly amongst individuals within a population, some populations differ as well. Population-level significance may allow us to predict local disease severity.

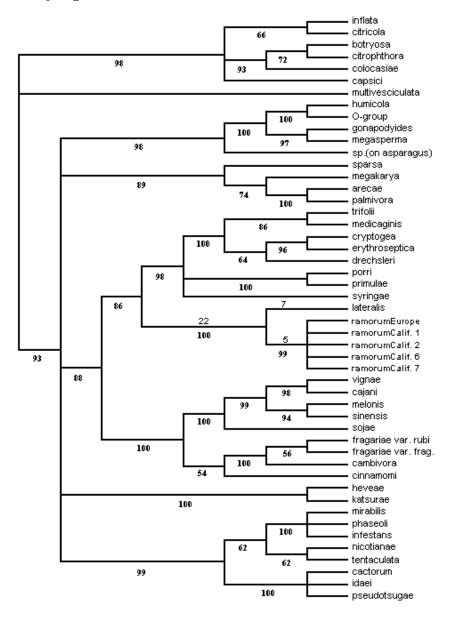
It is unclear what drives the observed difference (genetics vs. environment). First understanding of genetic structure of coast live oaks

Phytophthora ramorum





Phytophthora - ITS



Known Host Range of *Phytophthora ramorum*

Andrew's clintonia bead lily

Bigleaf maple

Blueblossom

California bay laurel

California black oak

California buckeye

California coffeeberry

California hazelnut

California honeysuckle

California maidenhair fern

California nutmeg

California wood fern

Camellia species

Camphor tree

Canyon live oak

Cascara

Chinese witchhazel

Coast live oak

Coast redwood

Douglas fir

Drooping leucothoe

European ash

European beech

European turkey oak

European yew

Evergreen huckleberry

False Solomon's seal

Formosa firethorn

Fetterbush

Goat willow

Grand fir

Griselinia

Holly olive

Holm oak

Horse chestnut

Hybrid witchhazel

Japanese evergreen oak

Laurustinus

Lilac

Madrone

Magnolia varieties

Manzanita

Michelia

Mountain laurel

Northern red oak

Oleander

Oregon ash

Osmanthus

Pacific yew

Persian ironwood Pieris varieties

Planetree maple

Poison oak

Portuguese laurel

cherry

Red fir

Red tip photinia

Redwood ivy

Rhododendron

species

Roble beech

Rugosa rose

Salal

Salmonberry

Scotch heather

Sessile oak

Sheep laurel

Shreve oak

Southern red oak

Spicebush

Spreading euonymus

Star magnolia

Strawberry tree

Striped bark maple Sweet bay laurel **Sweet chestnut**

Sweet Cicely

Sweet olive

Tanoak

Toyon

Viburnum varieties

Victorian box

Vine maple

Western maidenhair

fern

Western starflower

White fir

Winter's bark

Witch hazel

Wood rose

Yew

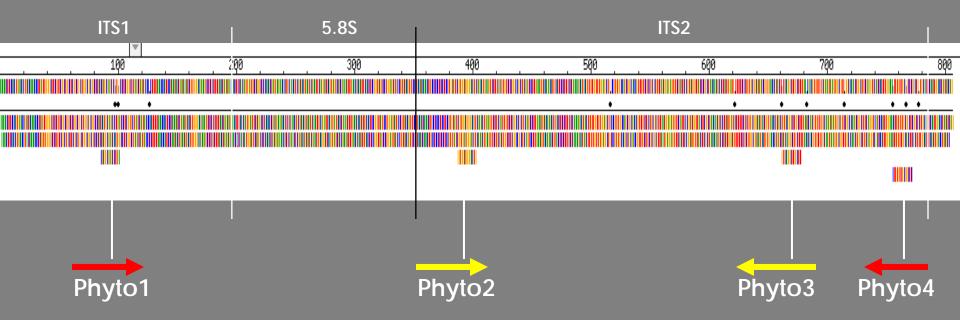
Problems

- Host lists started expanding (now over 100) in all plant families and ferns
- Symptoms looked extremely different on different hosts
- Isolation of organism from symptomatic tissue often not possible
- Isolation success extremely different in different seasons

DNA-based diagnostics

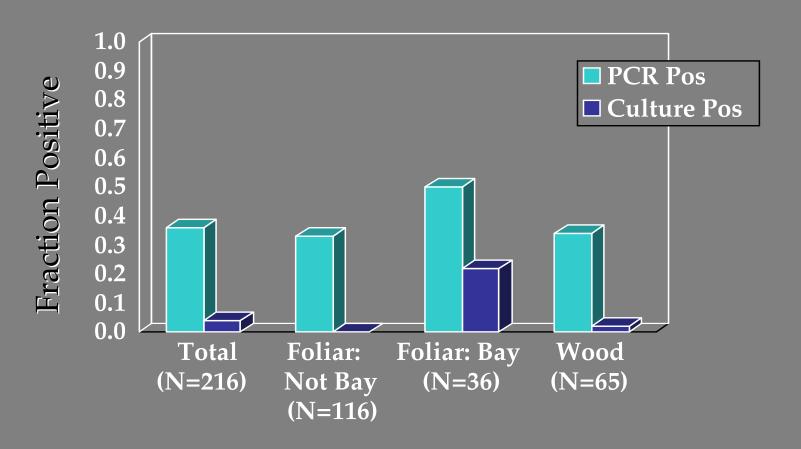
Designed 2 sets of *P. ramorum* specific primers (www.primer3 software)

- phyto1-phyto4 (1st round PCR)
 - highly specific for P. ramorum
 - 687 bp fragment (in between red arrows)
- phyto2-phyto3 (2nd round PCR)
 - nested in phyto1-4 amplicon; specific for Phytophthora spp.
 - 291 bp fragment (in between yellow arrows)





Culture versus nested PCR



Significant effect of diagnostic type (P < 0.001) and sample type (P=0.0036)

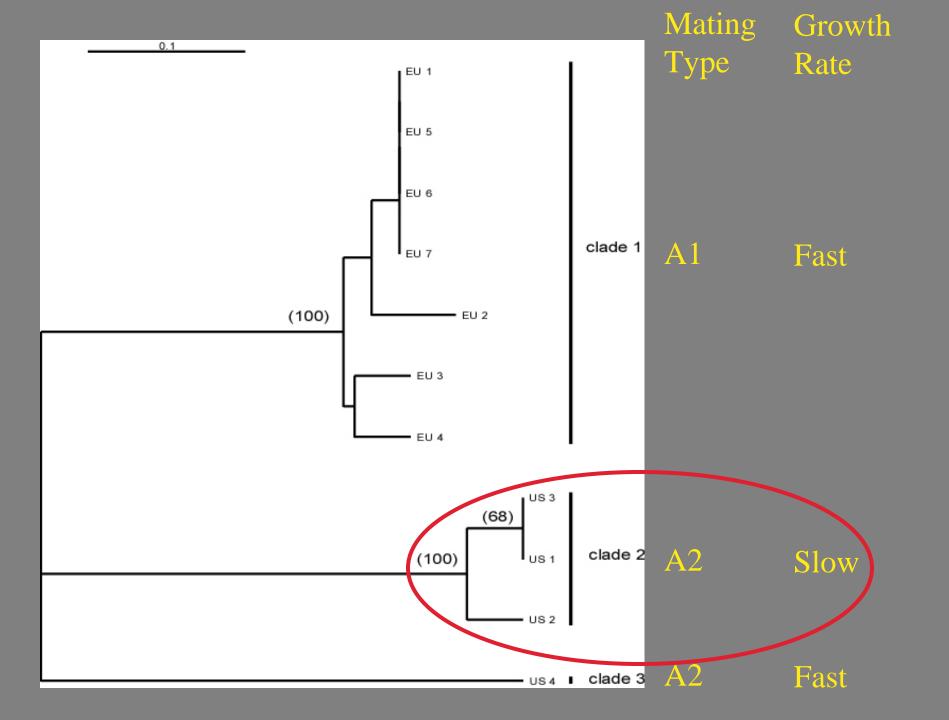
The assay we developed became the first DNA assay to diagnose non viral plant pathogens. Now diagnosis of most microbes will be DNA based

What else have we learned thanks to DNA analysis

- P. ram is introduced
- P. ram reproduces clonally in CA forests
- P. ram comes in three "varieties"
- P. ram in CA forests is not the same "variety" as in European nurseries
- P. ram is evolving through mutations
- P. ram was introduced multiple times in California from the same nursery source
- P. ram is "breathing" even if it does not grow

Pr03 (Ld, Mar) Pr04 (Qk, Mar) Pr05 (Ld. Mar) Pr05 (Qa. Nap) Prio (Ld. Mon) Prio (Qa. Mon) Prio (Qa. SCr) Pr19 (Oa. Nap) Pr20 (Qa. Son) Pr22 (Qs. Son) Pr24 (Qs. Son) Pr27 (Qs. Mor) Pr28 (Ld. Son) Pr35 (Qs. Son) Pr47 (Qa. Son) Pr50 (Qa. Son) Post (Ld. SCI) Pr58 (Vo. Mar) Pró5 (Qp. SCr) PY70 (Vo. Mar) Py71 (Oa. Son) PY72 (Rh., Ala) Py75 (Oa. Mon) Pt80 (Vo. Mar) Pr82 (Vo. Mar) Pr84 (Soil, Mar) Pr86 (Am. Mar) Pr87 (Am, Mar) Pr88 (Uc. Son) Pr89 (Uc. Son) Pr90 (Qa. Mar) Pr91 (Uc. SCr) Pr97 (Qa. Nap) U.S. Pri04 (Ld, Mar) Print (Ue. Son) Prilit (Uc., Mar) Pr112 (Us. Mar) Pr113 (Uc. Mar) Prilife (Uc., Nap) Pr136 (Uc. Men) Pr146 (Ld, 5Ma) Pri53 (Uc. Sol) Pri56 (Ld. OR) Pr157 (Ld. OR) Pr158 (Ld. OR) Pr201c (Rh. SCr) Pr343 (Ss. Son) Pr1282257 (Cs. Sta) Pri3 (Qu. SCr) Pr36 (Qa. Son) Pr103 (Ld. Mar) Pr108 (Uc. Son) Pri20 (Ld, Men) PrSDC21.6 (Ss. Son) Pr06 (Qu. Mar) Pri05 (Ld. Mar) Pri06 (Lig. Son) Pr345 (Ss. Son) 3 Pr52 (Rh, SCr) PrCoen (Rh. SCr) Prili4 (lic, Mar) Pr159 (Ld. OR) Pr01 (Qa. Mar) Pr3-74-1 (Pi, OR Al) Pr3-74-2 (Vb, OR Al) CSL 1599 (Rh, UK) PD 98/8/6933 (Rb. NL PD 98/8/6285 (Rh. NL) PD 98/8/5233 (Vb. NL. PD 98/8/6743 (Rh. NL) CSL 1571 (Vb, UK) PD 98/8/2627 (Rb, NL) 584 CSL 1652 (Rh; UK) BBA 12/98 (Rh. GER) EU - BBA 13/99-1 (Rh. GER) FL BBA 9/95 (Rh, GER) PD 94/844 (Rh, NL) - PRISOS (Vb. BE) Phyram5 (Rh, SP) BBA 104/S (Water, GER) Phyram? (Rh., SP) BBA 16/99 (Vb. GER) BBA 69082 (Rh. GER) P. lateralis 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0

- US forest isolates clearly distinct from EU nursery isolates, also have different mating type
- •Isolates from nurseries in WA, OR, & BC both of the US and EU types
- Potential for XXX sex and recombination in US nurseries
- •US forest population is genetically very homogeneous, trademark of an introduced species











EFFECTS OF SOD

- Ecological and sociological impacts: tanoaks at risk of extinction: change in forest structure and composition
- Biota linked to vanishing trees highly impacted
- Hydrogeological impact
- Climate and nutrient cycle impact
- Hazard to humans and properties
- Added cost because of intense regulation of pathogen: cleaning, prescriptions, testing
- Affecting trade

Outlook

• Pathogen

 No clear trade- off between virulence and transmission. Predict an increase in virulence, already supported by some preliminary data

• Host

- Bays: seem to be favored by SOD, their presence likely to increase
- Oaks: climate change predicted to lengthen the window of maximum susceptibility
- If resistance present it will take thousands of years to become significant, hampered by long distance host gene flow

Environment

- Warmer winters may mean infection may be rampant in winter

Yana Valachovic
UC Cooperative Extension

Sudden Oak Death in Forestlands: Management Options?

Outline

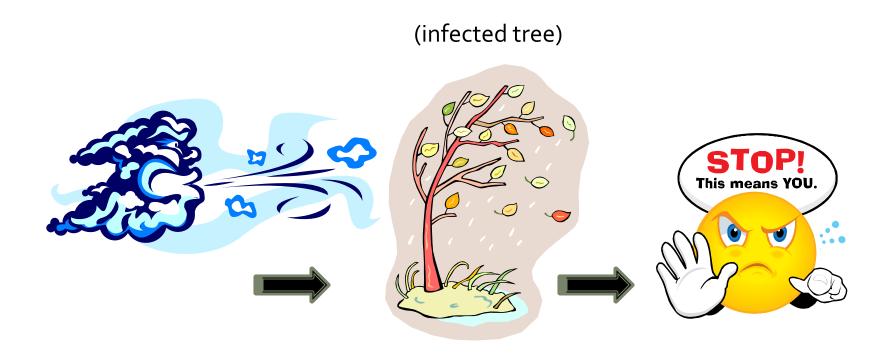
- What you can expect from this disease
- Is there hope
- Results of management trials
- Stand-scale management approaches
- Landscape management approaches

What you can expect

Tanoak mortality in high numbers Fuels and fire risk problems Regeneration problems? Market restrictions?

- Wildlife habitat and forage loss, how will this affect listed species?
 Loss of cultural resources
- Restrictions on movement of plant materials/ soils
- Costs to businesses for regulatory compliance and sanitation
- Aesthetic issues
- Continued spread unless management occurs

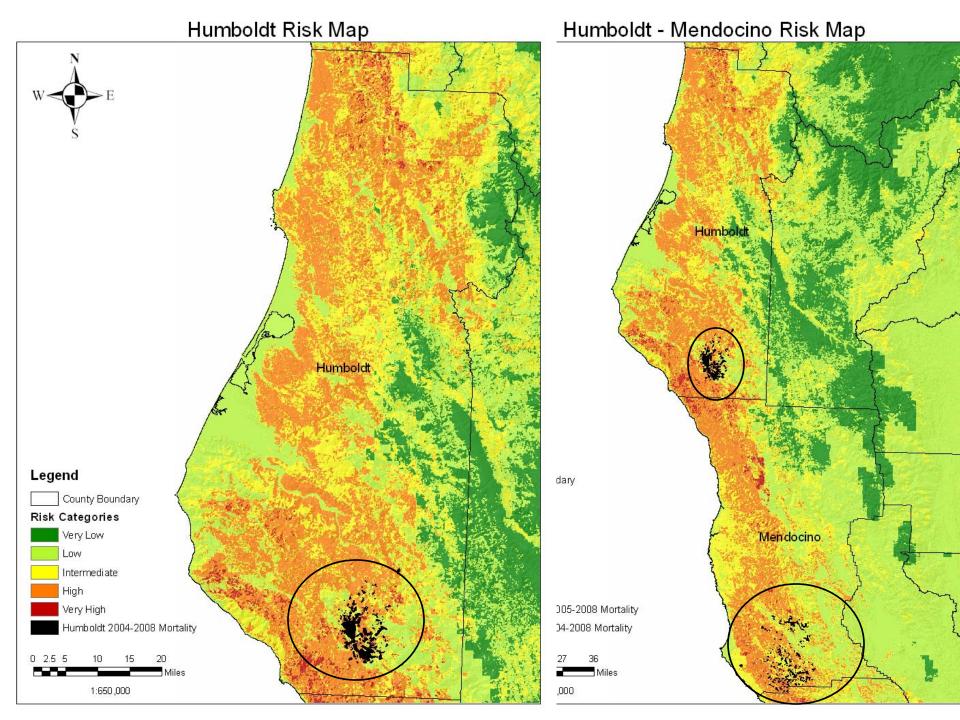
Is there hope?



It depends, on what you are trying to achieve . Requires an understanding of the stand and the landscape dynamics .

Is there hope?

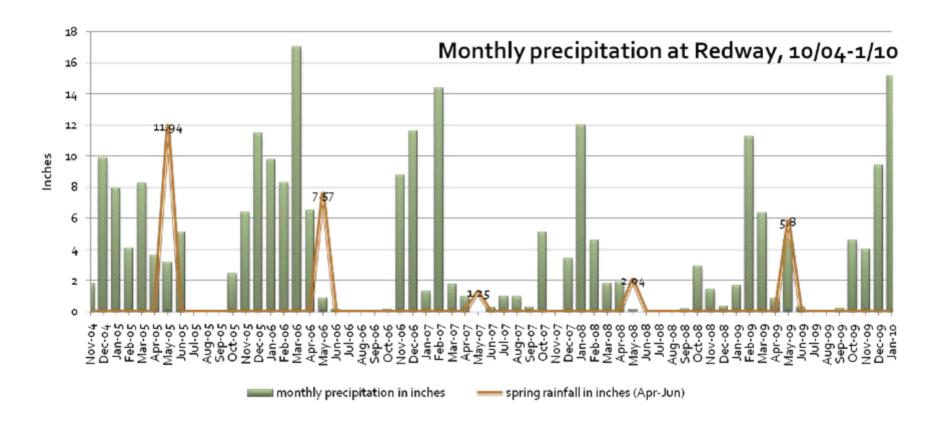
- More options outside of the infested area
- Some tools are emerging within the infested areas
- Always risk and uncertainty in any treatment effort
- Not much time to take action
- Only 10% of at-risk area in CA has been impacted and much less in the north coast



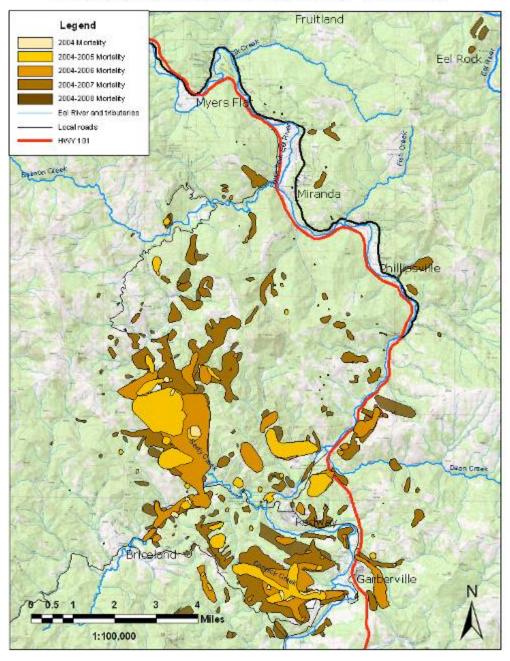
P. ramorum Management Considerations

- Treatments have to be designed to address:
 - Stand structure: pathogen needs moisture to survive
 - Species composition: favors bay and tanoak, which serve as reproductive platform (aka- seed head)
- Treatments must be responsive
 - Disease expands rapidly during wet spring conditions
- Monitoring is critical
 - Small infestations can grow rapidly
- Long-term habitat needs
 - No tanoak resistance observed to date

2005 and 2006 were highly supportive for pathogen spread, what will happen this year?



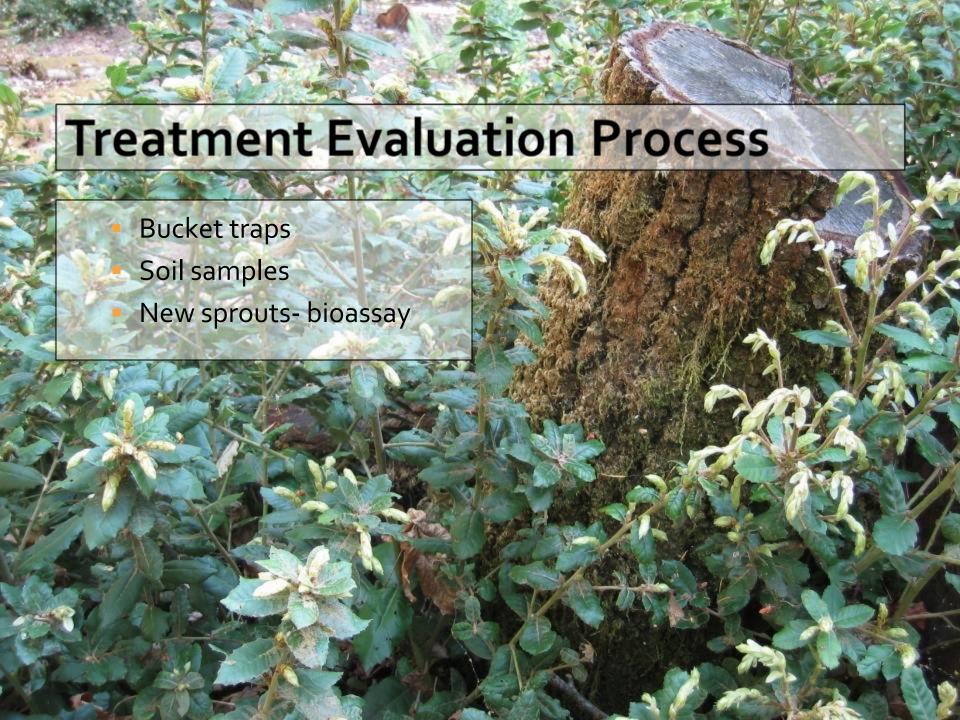
Southern Humboldt Tanoak Mortality -2004-2008

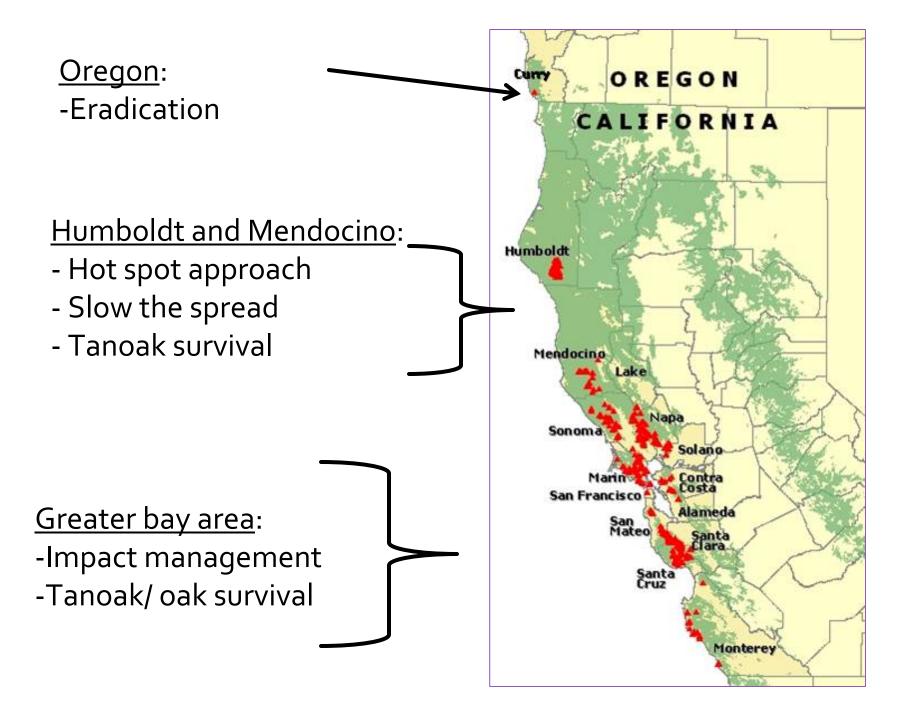


Outline

- What you can expect from this disease
- Is there hope
- Results of management trials
- Stand scale management approaches
- Landscape management approaches









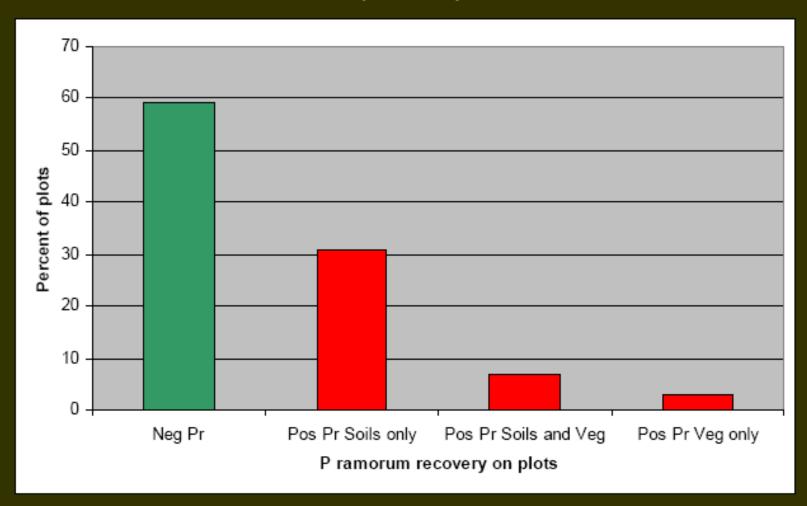
Treatment

- Hack & squirt tanoak to prevent stump sprouting (except on BLM land)
- 2. Cut tanoak, rhododendron, huckleberry, sometimes myrtle.
- 3. Burn (piles or broadcast)
- 4. Plant, follow-up treatments





All Plots on Sites Treated 2001-2007 (n = 119)



59 percent plots No Pr detected

31 percent Pr+ soils* only

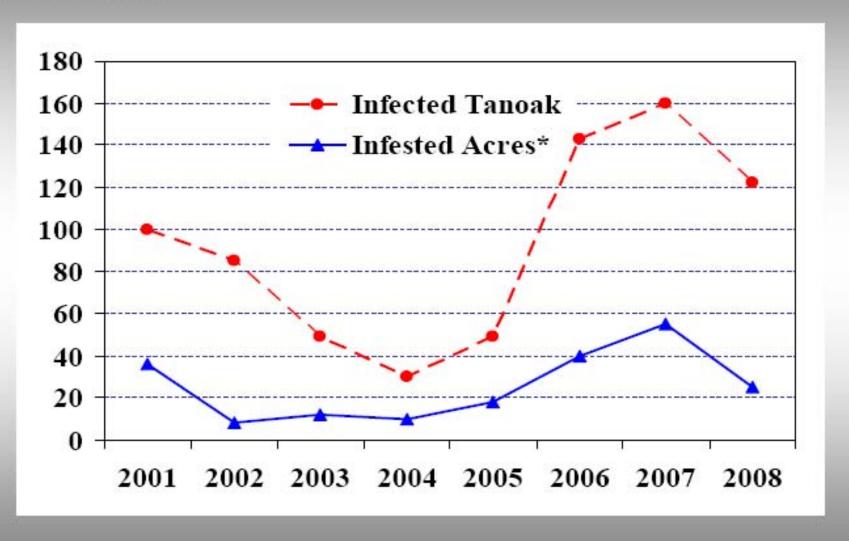
7 percent *Pr*+ soils* and vegetation

3 percent Pr+ vegetation only

Sudden Oak Death in Oregon Forests

31 December 2008

#Acres or Trees



California Approaches

Goal	Minimizing Property Impacts from Sudden Oak Death	Strategic Protection of Tanoak Islands, Old- Growth Tanoak, or Particular Geographic Areas	Suppression of Phytophthora ramorum and Limitation of Spread
Treatment	Dead tree removal	Manual removal of bay laurel only	Manual removal of bay laurel and tanoak (+/- prescribed underburning)
	Reforestation	Agri-fos® application	Modified fuel hazard reduction removal (+/- bay girdling)
	Maintain some tanoak with thinning (manual or by Agri- fos®)	Combination of manual removal of bay laurel and Agrifos® application	Herbicide host removal (bay laurel and tanoak)
	Combination treatments to address site specific goals		

Known hosts in north coast

- Bigleaf maple Blue blossom ceanothus

- California black oak California black oak California buckeye California hazel
- Canyon live oak Coast redwood
- Coffeeberry

Evergreen huckleberry Hairy and common manzanita Inside-out flower

- Maidenhair fern
- Pacific yew Salmonberry Sweet cicely
- Tanoak

- Toyon Vine maple Western star flower
- Wood rose

Mendocino OnlyPacific Yew,Coast Live Oak

- **Shreve Oak**



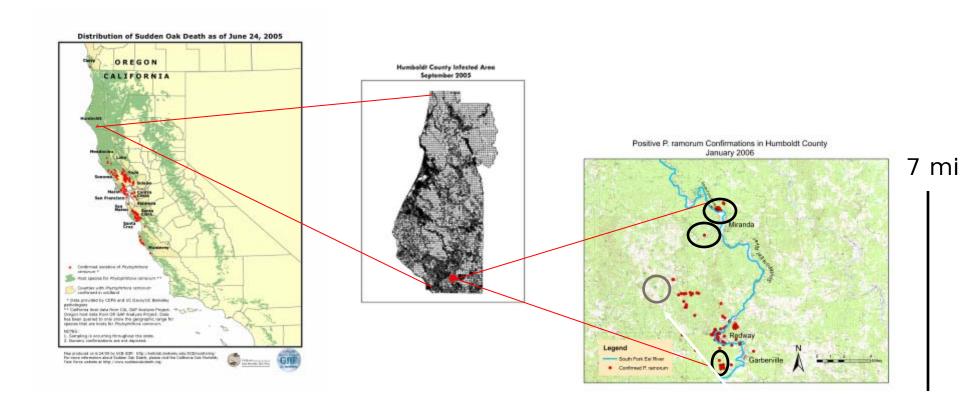






Hot Spot Treatment Strategy

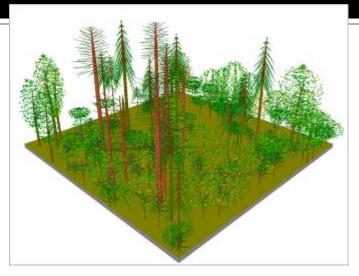
"Fire Control Model"



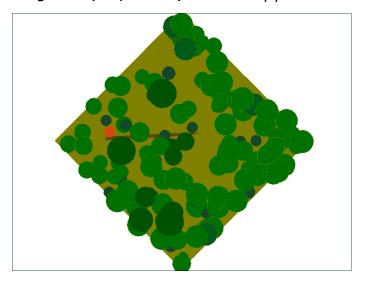
Forth project tied to a community fire protection project

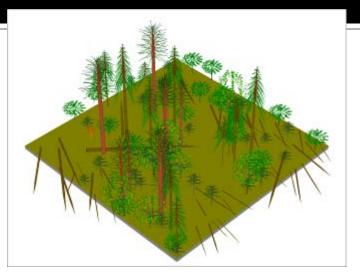


P. ramorum management

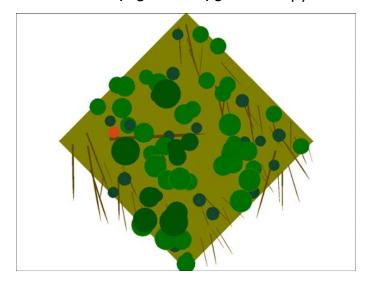


156 TPA, 187 Ft² BA, 61% Canopy Cover





108 TPA, 131 Ft² BA, 51% Canopy Cover



Bay's miracle



What does it take?





Humboldt Summary

- Data after 4 seasons post-treatment
 - Significant re-sprouting, but few symptoms observed
 - Prescribed burn sites had the most material consumed, likely more effective
 - No spread observed north of bay removal zone on Ave of the Giants
 - Evidence mounting to be able to control the pathogen at the backyard to smaller site scale
 - Bay removal appears most effective (though not appropriate in all situations). Herbicide bay removal is questionable. Imazapyr + glophosate.
 - Results are very weather dependent
 - Recommendations still very site specific and reflect landowners long-term goals.





Agri-Fos

Wildland trials
Six counties, treatment by
Agri-Fos versus control

Island treatment strategy, assessing treatment in two old-growth stands of tanoak



Outline

- What you can expect from this disease
- Is there hope
- Results of management trials
- Stand-scale management approaches
 - What is practical?
- Landscape management approaches

Stand-scale approaches

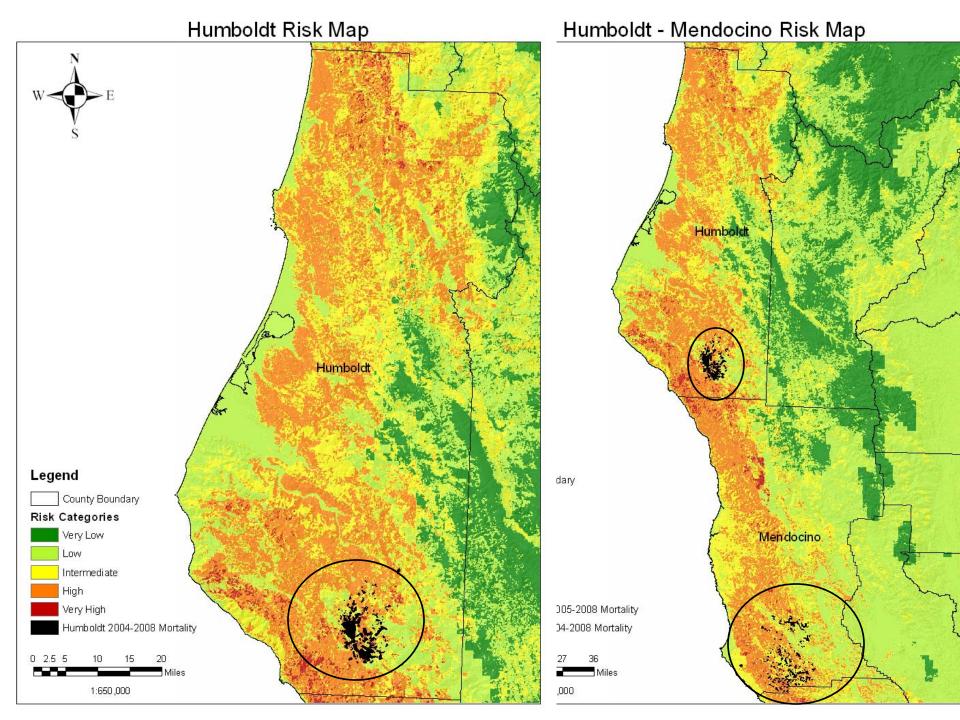
- Prioritize your property
- What is most at risk, least at risk?
- Are you inside or outside of the infested area?
- Work strategically
- Don't bring it home

Management options depend on goals and stand conditions

- Remove infected hosts to stop spore production
- Change species composition
- Change stand structure and canopy cover, to dry a location
- Use Agri-fos to protect high value tanoak or oak trees
- Remove bay adjacent to high value tanoak or oak trees, stump treat bay to prevent sprouting
- Install a reduced or no-host zone to prevent tree to tree spread
- Integrate SOD management into other activities

Outline

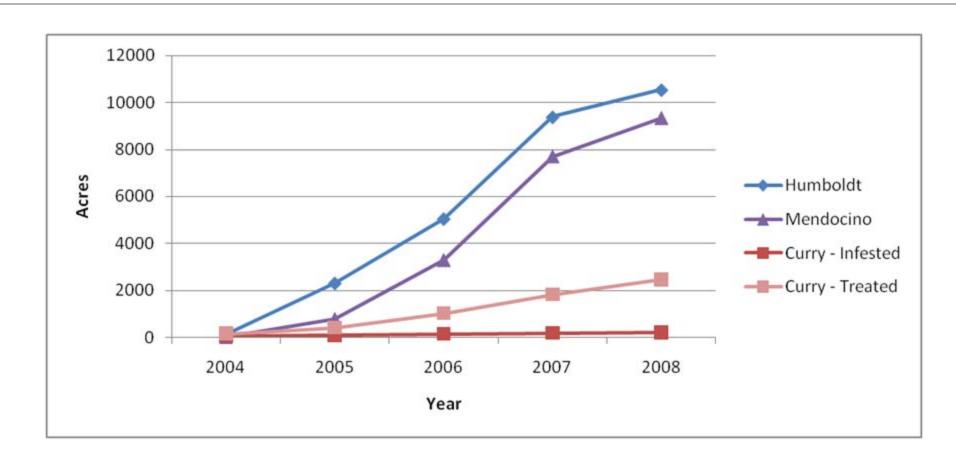
- What you can expect from this disease
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- Results of management trials
- Stand scale management approaches
- Landscape management approaches
 - Hot-spot approach?
 - Coordinated action?
 - Regulatory support for action?



Tools in the Tool Box

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	Combination treatments to address site specific goals			

Curry, Humboldt and Mendocino Acres



P. ramorum management

- Remember that it has mostly been a disease of the unmanaged landscape!
- Coordinated action in Oregon is producing results
- We still have options in the north coast
- We need to work together to have regulatory support to take action
- Monitoring disease development is essential
- We are developing forecasting tools, to help managers make decisions

Acknowledgements

- Funding
 - USDA FS State and Private Forestry; PSW Research Station
 - CDF's California Forest Improvement Program and Vegetation Management Program
 - Bureau of Land Management
- In kind donations of labor and technical expertise
 - Cal Fire, UCCE, DPR, Cal Trans, and several small landowners.
- Organizations Involved
 - Treatment- Southern Humboldt Fire Safe Council/Institute for Sustainable Forestry, USFS State and Private aerial detection staff, DFG, USFWS, several private vegetation management contractors, and consulting foresters
 - Monitoring- Hoopa and Yurok Tribes, Redwood National Park, Bureau of Land Management, Mattole Restoration Council, UC Davis, UC Berkeley, Sonoma State

Ways that are being investigated to control *P. ramorum*

- Wind Chimes
- · Holy Waiter
- Banning cell phone use
- · Using dark energy from outer space
- · Hugging trees
- Chemicals
- Natural resistance



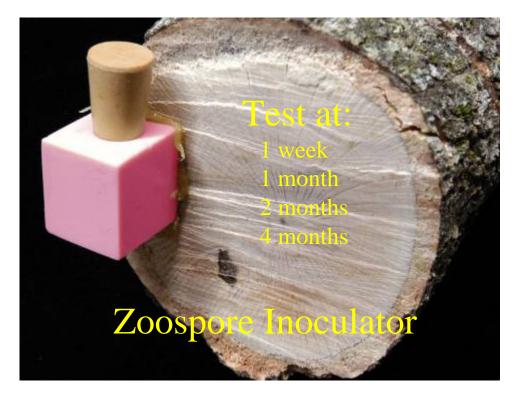
Ways that were suggested to us to control *P. ramorum*

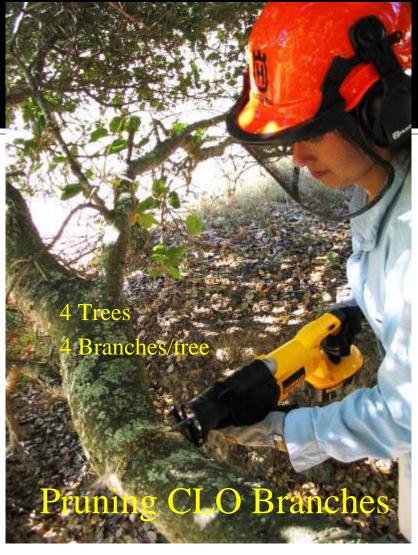
- Diagnosis
- Predictions/modeling
- Sanitation: soil/water/plant material
- Reducing risk: pruning and wounding
- Stand composition: removal of bays
- Preventive chemical treatment
- Natural resistance



Transmission of SOD through pruning:

- ▶ Does tree pruning introduce SOD infection?
- ► Is the timing of cutting a factor?





Skywalker / Grady Ranch Site

Transmission of SOD Through Pruning



AgriFos and PentraBark

Topical Application







Azomite Soil

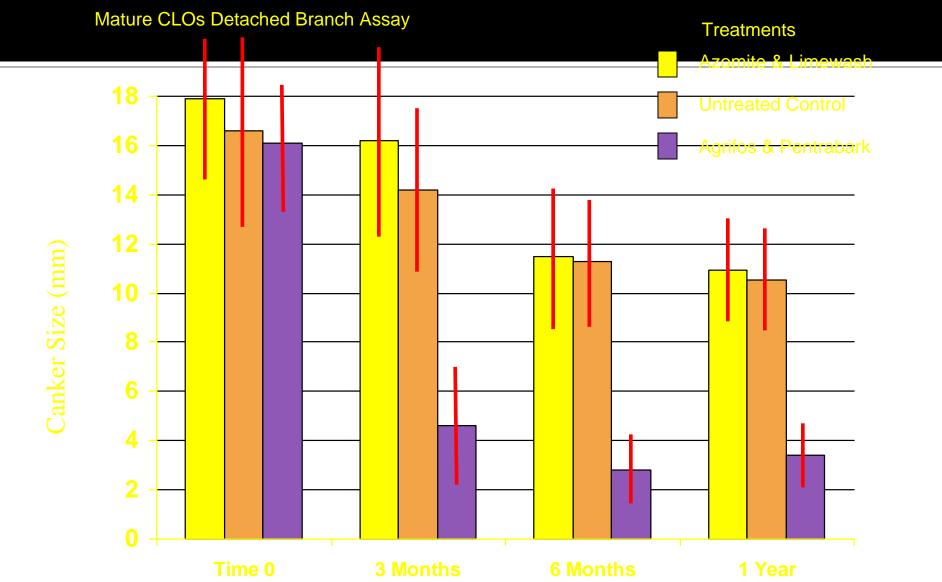
Sweetener and Limewash Application



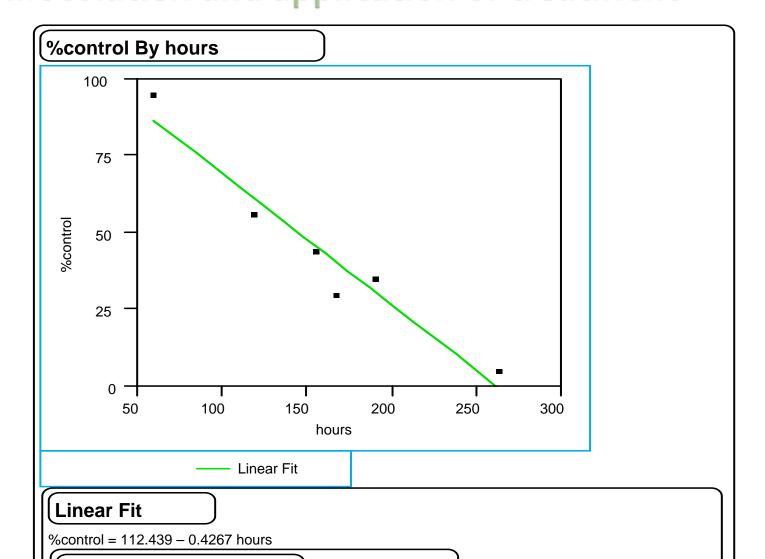




Agrifos vs. Azomite Treatments



Efficacy of curative treatments (% control) plotted against time elapsed between inoculation and application of treatment



Shell Beach

Long Term

Treatment of Tanoaks

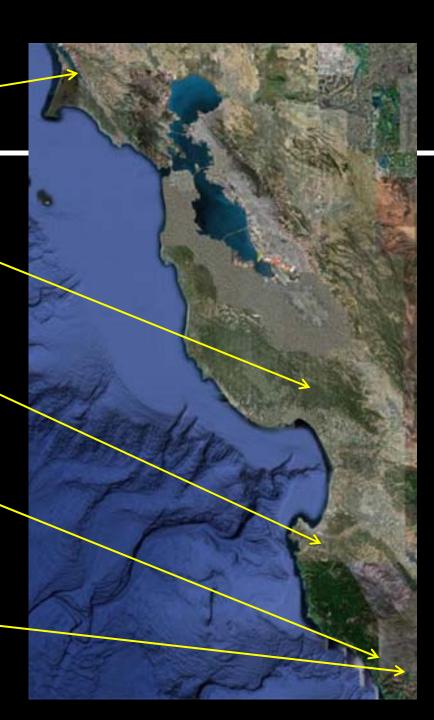
SDSF

Goetz

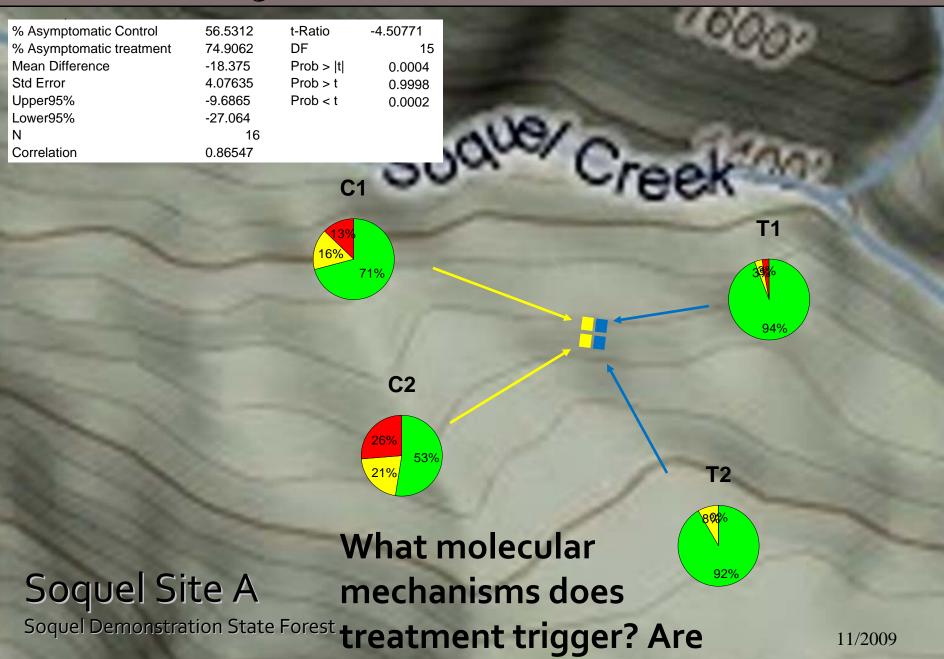
Santa Lucia x2

- 32 Field Plots
- 6 Sites in 3 Counties
- 672 Tanoaks > 8cm DBH

Mill Creek



Long Term AF Treatment of Tanoaks



Bicycles for Cargo Transport



Sanitation

Drying plant woody debris fast

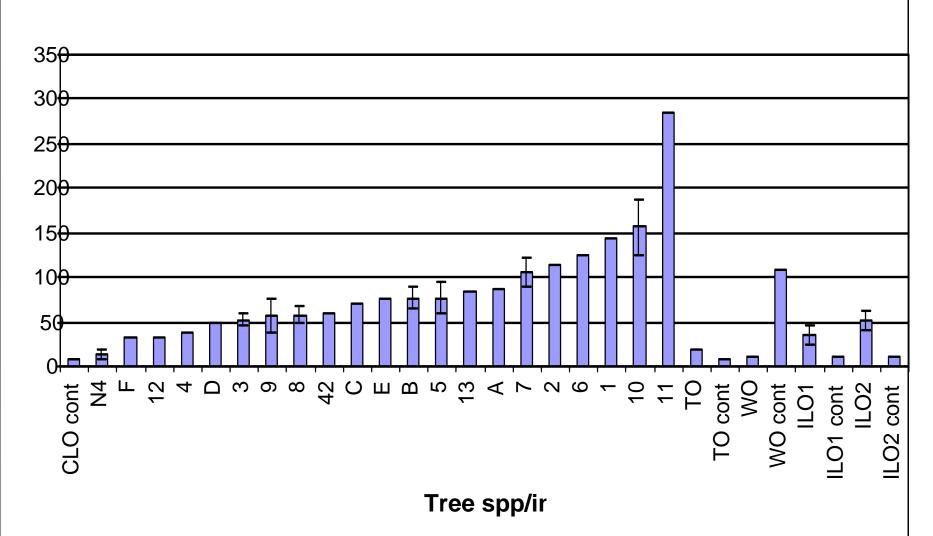
Composting

Chemical treatment of water

Diagnosis of wood decay agents may be of use for so called green tree failures

NATURAL RESISTANCE?





Population genetics of host can help determine nature, frequency, and distribution of possible

resistance

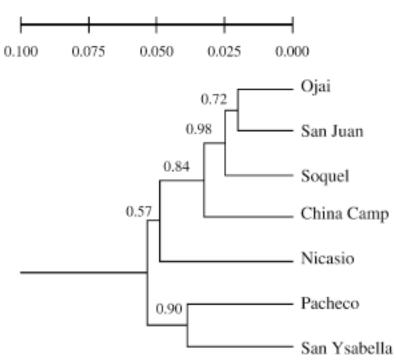


Fig. 5 UPGMA tree based on distances between populations estimated from Nei's unbiased genetic distance of amplified fragment length polymorphism (AFLP) fragments. Support for branches is given by bootstrap percentages for recalculated genetic distances from 1000 bootstrap replicates.

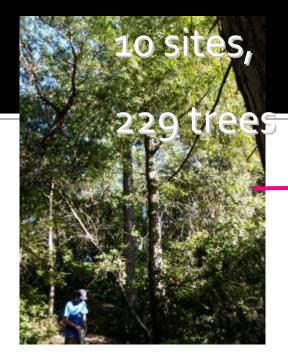
Table 5 Mantel R correlation coefficients between amplified fragment length polymorphism molecular similarity classes of Quercus agrifolia and Euclidean distances in lesion size of Q. agrifolia after inoculation with Phytophthora ramorum for each of four trials

Molecular similarity	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4
Up to 99%				
Lesion × genotype Up to 95%	0.022	0.040	-0.019	-0.04
Lesion × genotype Up to 90 %	-0.05	0.03	-0.102*	0.05
Lesion × genotype Up to 75%	-0.05	-0.01	-0.053	0.070
Lesion × genotype Up to 50 %	0.04	-0.04	0.05	-0.04
Lesion × genotype	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.10*

^{*,} P < 0.05.

common population membership remained significant for the 25% small lesion size class for all trials.





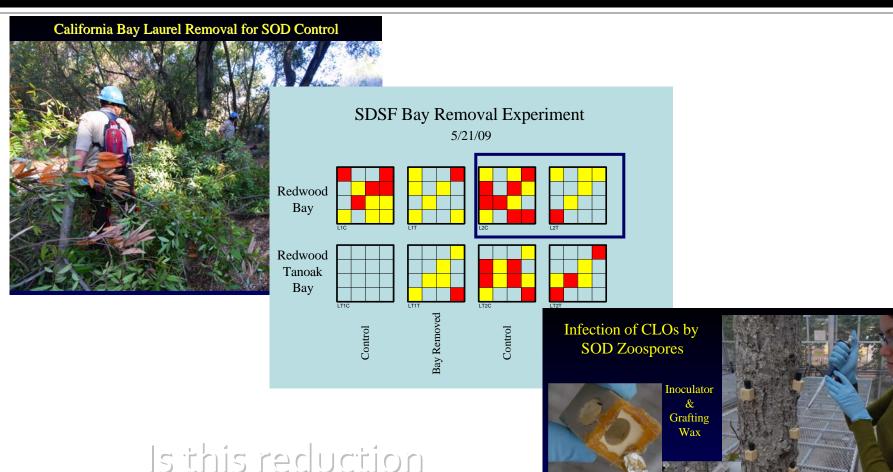








Bay removal reduces but does not eliminate inoculum



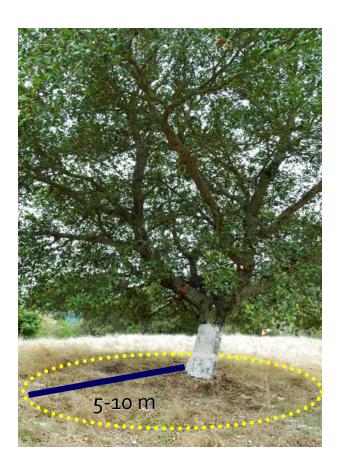
Pipetting Zoospore Suspension

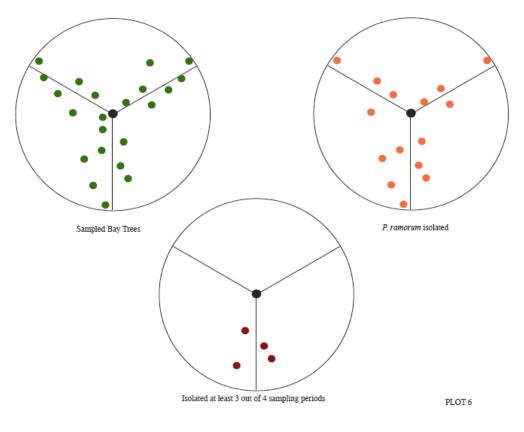
Is this reduction sufficient?

Elimination of all bays not feasible or desirable:

Eliminate bays near oaks

Eliminate bays identified as hotspots

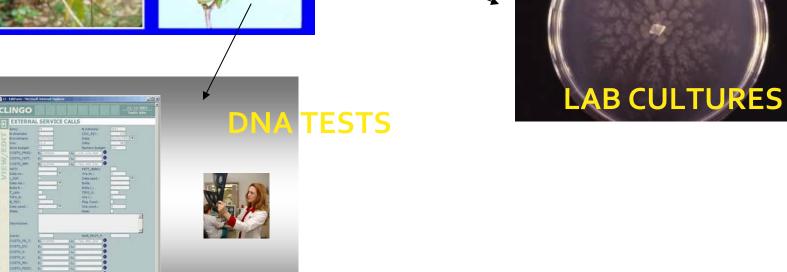




PREVENT: Diagnose

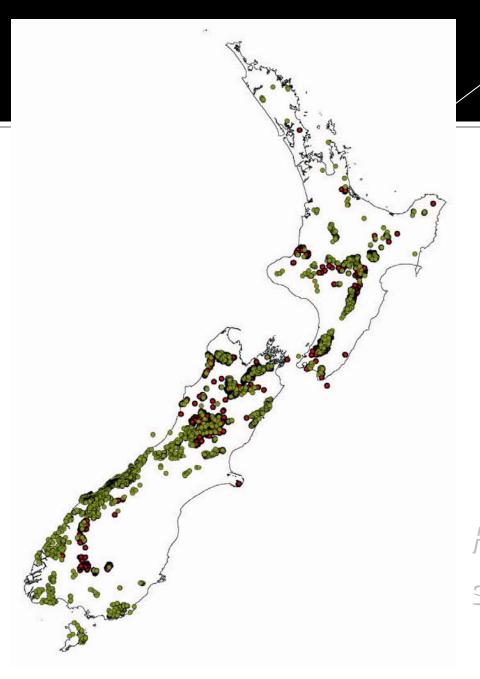


Symptoms relatively generic



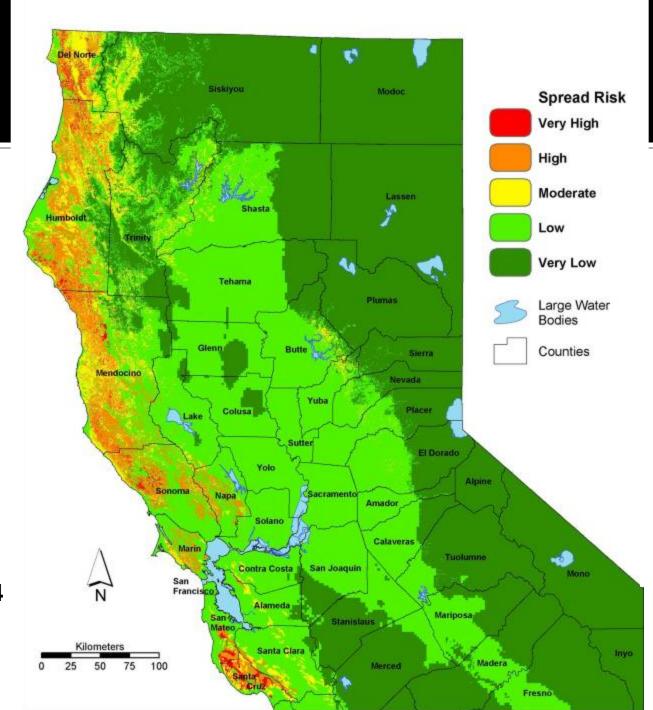
ERADICATION



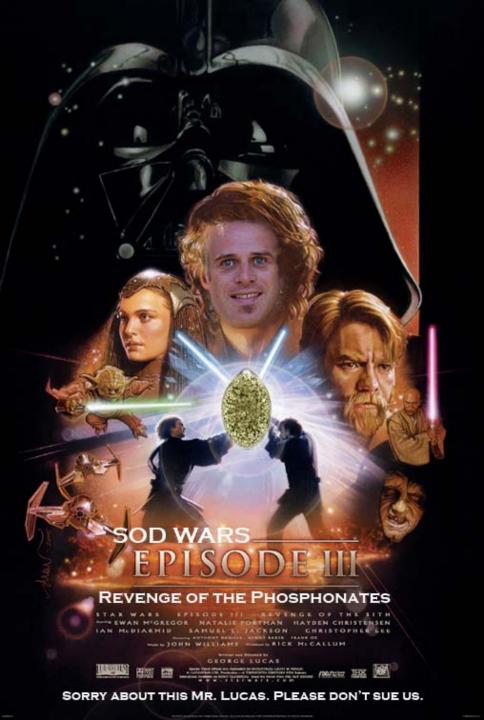


Nothofagus fusca =dead

Fuchsia excorticata = super spreader



Meentemeyer et al., 2004



USDA Competitive Grant Program
Pacific Southwest US Forest Service
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NSF: Ecology of Infectious Diseases



Ukiah & Eureka, California May 12-13, 2010