

Dr. David M. Rizzo

Professor and Chairperson, Department of Plant Pathology, UC Davis

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Biography

B.S. James Madison University, VA 1983 Biology

M.S. University of New Hampshire, Durham 1986 Plant Pathology

Ph.D. University of Minnesota, St. Paul 1993 Plant Pathology

Lab Website

[Rizzo lab web page](#)

Area of Specialization

mycology; forest pathology and fungal diseases of woody plants; fungal ecology and systematics

Research

Currently, the major focus of the lab is to study *Phytophthora ramorum*. Research projects range from basic studies on the biology and ecology of the pathogen to numerous management-related issues. Another project is looking at the spatial distribution of pathogens and insects and their impact on plant community development in mixed-conifer forests in the Sierra Nevada as part of the Teakettle Ecosystem Experiment. The lab has also recently become involved with a project funded as part of the NSF Biocomplexity Initiative to study "Common Mycorrhizal Networks [CMN]," looking at how mycorrhizal fungi and plant roots form networks which are influenced by spatial and temporal distributions of soil resources.