

Where is fire blight in New York & New England?

Submit fire blight infected trees and strikes for testing

Samples are tested for fire blight bacteria, streptomycin resistance, and strain. Testing is completely free and we will get back to you with the result of your sample as quickly as we can.

Contact one of the persons below to help you collect samples and take data:

Isabella Magna Yannuzzi, imy3@cornell.edu, Cornell Agritech (Receiving lab)
Kerik Cox, 315-787-2401, kdc33@cornell.edu, Cornell Agritech (Receiving lab)
Janet VanZoeren, 585-797-8368, jev67@cornell.edu CCE LOFT, Orleans Office
Dan Donahue, 518-322-7812, djd13@cornell.edu, CCE ENYCHP, Hudson Valley Lab
Mike Basedow, 518-410-6823, mrb254@cornell.edu, CCE ENYCHP, Champlain Valley

Samples should be mailed to:

Kerik Cox
Cornell AgriTech
15 Castle Creek Dr.
Geneva, NY 14456

Instructions:

It is only possible to isolate the bacteria (*Erwinia amylovora*) from fresh, active lesions, where healthy tissue meets the diseased tissue. i.e. the lesion margin.

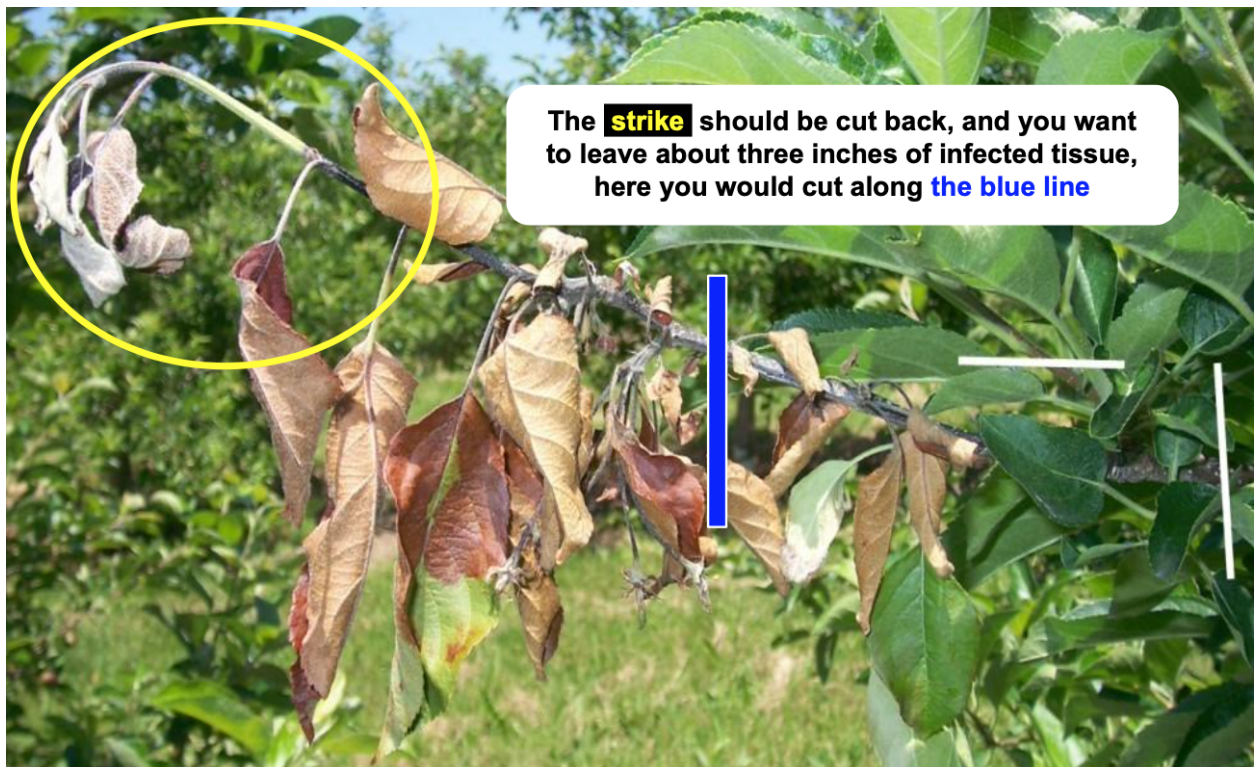
Sampling the Lesion Margin

- Collect samples that include about 3 inches of healthy tissue beyond the infected tissue, and include about 3 inches of infected tissue. Do not submit the entire dead branch of the strike, this is often too long and can be cut back, as described. Do not collect entire branches or trees unless symptoms are unusual.
- Protect samples from drying out prior to submitting them. If possible, refrigerate them. It is impossible to isolate fire blight bacteria from dead, dried out tissue.
- If possible collect samples with visible ooze, this includes leaves, fruits, and shoots!

Step One:



Step Two:



Step Three:



(photo courtesy of J.Carroll)



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension

