

(revision date:4/28/2014)

## ***Dogwood: Armillaria root rot***

*Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for successful plant problem management.*

### ***Biology***

Armillaria root rot is a fungal disease transmitted between plants by root contact. Armillaria is often found in newly cleared soils or ones which have been flooded. Symptoms typically include production of smaller-than-normal leaves, leaf yellowing, leaf drop, and dieback of branches. Symptoms may appear on part or all of the plant. White thread-like masses of the fungus may be found beneath the bark near the crown of infected trees, and/or as shoestring-like rhizomorphs, which are dark strands of the fungus growing on or just beneath the soil surface. Honey-colored mushrooms often grow near the base of infected trees in the fall. Infected trees may also exhibit a dark black line in the infected area encircling the base of the plant.

### ***Management Options***

#### **Non-Chemical Management**

- ~ Remove and destroy infected plants, including roots.
- ~ Air-dry soil from infected site before replanting.
- ~ Plant only resistant plants in infected areas.
- ~ Proper irrigation reduces the likelihood of Armillaria infection.
- ~ Leave newly cleared ground fallow for one year or longer.

*Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!*

#### **Chemical Management**

***IMPORTANT: Visit Home and Garden Fact Sheets for more information on using pesticides***

None recommended

*Dogwood: Armillaria root rot*

*Images*



~ Caption: *Armillaria root rot infecting trunk*  
~ Photo by: *C.R. Foss*



~ Caption: *Armillaria root rot infecting trunk*  
~ Photo by: *R.S. Byther*



~ Caption: *Armillaria rhizomorphs*  
~ Photo by: *R.S. Byther*