

## Symptoms on camellia



Photos: Oregon Dept. of Agriculture & Cheryl Blomquist, CDFA

Camellia plants infected with *P. ramorum* were shipped to almost every U.S. state during the last year or two. Symptoms on camellia vary depending on the cultivar of camellia, and the environmental conditions under which camellias are grown. The slides with the black background show different camellia cultivars in California infected with *P. ramorum*. The brown lesions can be irregular in shape or restricted to the leaf tip. Under humid conditions, the edges of the lesion are less distinct, as shown in the photo of a camellia leaf in Oregon in the bottom right.

## Symptoms on camellia



Photo: Cheryl Blomquist, CDFA

**On this camellia, note the irregular brown lesions on the larger leaf, and lesions on the leaf tips on the smaller two leaves. The lower leaves on the plant tend to show symptoms most readily. Sometimes the infected leaves fall off prematurely, leaving lower stems with few leaves as shown here.**

## Symptoms on camellia

- Symptoms can be subtle
- Look for irregular-shaped brown lesions on the leaves
- Sometimes only the tips of leaves are brown
- Look for lower leaves that have fallen off



Photo: Cheryl Blomquist, CDFA

Symptoms on camellia can be subtle and difficult to see. Look for irregular-shaped brown lesions on the lower leaves or brown leaf tips, as well as infected fallen leaves.

## Similar symptoms – submit sample



Sun scorch on camellia

Photo: Carrie Harmon, University of Florida

Other pathogens or abiotic disorders can cause lesions on camellia leaves, and this can be confusing. Look at where the symptoms occur on the plant. If the symptoms are uniformly distributed all over the plant, or only where the leaves are exposed to full sun, it is probably not a disease. This camellia sample has symptoms of sun scorch, not *P. ramorum*. If in doubt, samples should be submitted for testing, especially if the camellia was purchased since 2002.

## Similar symptoms – submit sample



Cold injury on camellia

Photo: Richard Regan, Oregon State University

**These camellia plants show the results of cold injury. Again, if the camellia leaf symptoms are similar to those caused by *P. ramorum* and you cannot rule out other causes, you should submit a sample for laboratory tests. This is particularly true if the camellia was purchased since 2002.**