Mini data sheet on *Eutypella parasitica*

Added in 2005 – Deleted in 2008

Reasons for deletion:
PRA concluded that the spread of the pest although slow, cannot be stopped and eradication is not possible. Damage caused by this pathogen was considered to be relatively minor. In 2008, it was therefore removed from the EPPO Alert List.

Eutypella parasitica (canker of *Acer pseudoplatanus*)

Why	In July 2005, the NPPO of Slovenia informed the EPPO Secretariat that a new canker disease of maples (*Acer* spp.) caused by *Eutypella parasitica* was discovered near Ljubljana. So far, this fungus was only known to occur in North America where it can cause damage. The NPPO of Slovenia suggested that *E. parasitica* should be added to the EPPO Alert List.
Where	**EPPO region:** Austria (reported in 2007, under eradication), Croatia (reported in 2007 near the Slovenian border), Slovenia (found in 2005 near Ljubljana). **North America:** Canada (Ontario, Quebec), USA (Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York State, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin).
On which plants	*Acer* spp. In North America, it occurs mainly on *A. saccharum* (sugar maple) and *A. rubrum* (red maple). It is occasionally found on *A. negundo* (box elder), *A. pensylvanicum* (striped maple), *A. platanoides* (Norway maple), *A. pseudoplatanus* (sycamore maple), *A. saccharinum* (silver maple), *A. saccharum* subsp. *nigrum* (black maple). In Slovenia, it was found on *A. pseudoplatanus* and *A. campestre* (field maple).
Damage	*E. parasitica* infects trees only through exposed wood tissue (via dead branches or wounds). Mycelium spreads around the infection site creating a perennial and slow growing canker (on average 1-2 cm per year). Due to the slow progress of the fungus, infection is hardly noticeable during the first years. The typical *Eutypella* canker has a flat or sunken centre, often retaining the dead bark and surrounded by thick callus. Whitish mycelial fans can be observed under the bark at the canker margin. After 5 to 8 years of infection, the fungus produces spores in tiny, black fruiting bodies (stromata with black perithecia or black perithecia alone) that develop in the centres of cankers. On certain hosts (e.g. *A. saccharum*) the edge of the canker is deformed and bark extensively swollen. The disease can cause tree mortality by girdling the trunk, especially on small trees. Cankers are not only affecting the aesthetic value of the trees, but with the presence of swollen and callused bark, wood quality is reduced and the affected tree is very susceptible to attacks by wood decay fungi and then to wind breakage. Pictures can be viewed on Internet: http://www.forestpests.org/subject.html?SUB=557
Dissemination	Fruiting bodies release ascospores during rain or irrigation at moderate temperatures and spores are dispersed by wind. Over long distances, trade of plants for planting or wood could spread the disease.
Pathway	Plants for planting, wood of *Acer* spp.
Possible risks	*Acer* species (e.g. *A. campestre, A. platanoides, A. pseudoplatanus*) are important forest and amenity trees in the EPPO region. Few control measures are available against *E. parasitica*. Affected branches can be pruned, but there is hardly any treatment possible for trunk cankers. In an urban environment, good growth conditions (adequate watering and fertilization) may help trees to resist infection. A preliminary study on the risk of spread of *Eutypella* canker in Europe (Ogris *et al*., 2005 paper presented by at the EPPO Conference) showed that a large portion of European forests could be affected by the disease. However, more data would be needed on the abundance of host species in Europe and

economic damage in areas where the fungus occurs. It is desirable to avoid further spread of this disease which is a threat to *Acer* species grown in forests, urban environments and in nurseries.

Source(s)

Jurc D, Ogris N, Slippers B, Stenlid J (2005) First report of *Eutypella* canker of *Acer pseudoplatanus* in Europe. New Disease Reports, http://www.bspp.org.uk/ndr/jan2006/2005-99.asp

Ogris N, Diminic D, Piškur B, Kraigher H (2008) First report of *Eutypella parasitica* causing cankers on field maple (*Acer campestre*) in Croatia. New Disease Report volume 16 (August 2007-January 2008). http://www.bspp.org.uk/ndr/jan2008/2008-01.asp

Ogris N, Jurc D, Jurc M (2006) Spread risk of *Eutypella* canker of maple in Europe. *Bulletin OEPP/EPPO Bulletin* **36**(3), 475–485.

NPPO of Slovenia, 2005-07 – PRA and datasheet (in Slovenian), 2006-05.

NPPO of Austria, 2007-03.

EPPO Conference on *Phytophthora ramorum* and other forest pests (Falmouth, GB, 2005-10-05/07)
Introduction to *Eutypella* canker by Ogris N and Jurc D.
http://archives.eppo.org/MEETINGS/2005_meetings/ramorum_presentations/21_ogris&jurc/Ogris&Jurc1.HTM
Spread risk of *Eutypella* canker of maples to Europe? by N. Ogris
http://archives.eppo.org/MEETINGS/2005_meetings/ramorum_presentations/22_ogris/Ogris1.HTM

INTERNET

Canadian Forest Service. *Eutypella* canker of maple.
http://www.glfc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/treedisease/eutypella_canker_of_maple_e.html

Pennsylvania State University - Plant Disease Facts. *Eutypella* Canker on Maple
http://www.ppath.cas.psu.edu/EXTENSION/PLANT_DISEASE/eutypell.html

EPPO RS 2005/176, 2006/143, 2007/051, 2008/028

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