

Our Mission here is to exclude or control harmful insects, plant diseases, and weeds.

# 1000 Canker Disease of Walnut - Alert

April 2009

Dear Stakeholder,  
We are asking nurserymen, landowners, arborists, and others in Kansas to be on the alert for a new disease of walnut. We need your assistance in early detection of this disease which could threaten black walnuts in the native woodlands, planted woodlots, and landscape. The disease may enter into Kansas by the natural movement of the bark beetle (shown below) or by human activity. This activity could be in the form of movement of firewood, nursery stock, or other movement of untreated wood or logs. Western Kansas is of highest risk. Please report suspects.

Contact KDA at  
785.862.2180

- The disease is caused by a fungus, *Geosmithia*.
- It is transmitted by the walnut bark beetle.
- LOOK FOR: Upper crowns yellowing and thinning, then branches die and the entire tree may suddenly wilt and die. Small black cankers are just under the bark with insect galleries.
- Trees die after 3 years from initial symptoms.
- Control is by early removal and destruction of wood.
- The disease is found in states west of Kansas including Colorado and New Mexico.

For more info go to: <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/>

**DON'T MOVE WALNUT TREES  
OR UNTREATED WOOD  
STOP INTO THE STATE.**



Walnut twig beetle, side view. About 1/8 inch in length. Photograph by Jim LaBonte, Oregon Department of Agriculture

A wilted walnut in last stage of disease. Ned Tisserat, Colorado State University



The shaved branch of thousand canker disease in advanced stage. Ned Tisserat, Colorado State University



Other contacts include your local county extension agent, Kansas State Forester, or KSU Manhattan. Please Call:

Name:

Ph:

Organization:

Plant Protection and Weed  
Control Program, Kansas  
Department of Agriculture

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