

How to sample for pine wilt disease



Figure 3. Healthy and a dead pine from pine wilt.

The following steps describe how to secure a pine wilt sample. The sample should be sent to a qualified laboratory.

Pines that die from pine wilt should be removed from the location to prevent new infection. The sawyer beetle will emerge from the dead wood in late spring carrying the nematode and when feeding on live pines will infect those trees. If the tree is positive for the nematode one should assume it also

contains the pine sawyer beetle. Remove the tree.

STEP ONE:

Cut a branch at chest height with about a 10 inch stub.



Cut about 4 to 8 discs from two or three branches at chest height.

STEP TWO:

Use a chain saw or limb saw and cut about 4 to 8 discs from two to three branches. Discs should

be about 1/2 to 1 inch thick.



Step Three: Gather the discs and label with proper identification noting the species of pine, date, and your contact information. Seal in resealable plastic bag and keep out of the sunlight and heat. Submit.

