

# A HEALTHY TREE is a HAPPY TREE

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### Cedar Apple Rust

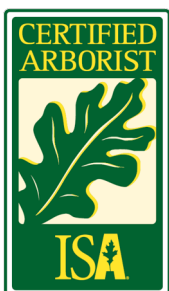
**Description:** Cedar apple rust (CAR) is an important fungal disease of apple trees in North Carolina. The CAR fungus requires two hosts, apple and eastern red cedar to complete its life cycle. Spores produced on apple do not infect apple, but only cedar and spores produced on cedar infect only apple.

**Symptoms:** On juniper or eastern red cedar, small (3/8 to 1 and 3/16 inches in diameter) galls develop throughout the tree on needles and small twigs. When mature, these galls swell considerably and repeatedly produce orange, gelatinous telial horns during rainy spring weather. As spring rains subside, the galls die, which may cause death of the twig from the gall to the tip.

On susceptible crabapples and apples, tiny yellow spots appear on the leaves after infection in the spring. As the spots mature, they become yellow/orange and swollen with a red border, and develop tiny black dots in the center of the lesion. By mid-summer, small cup-like structures with tubes are visible on the undersides of mature leaf lesions. The fungus may also infect fruit and even succulent twigs of very susceptible apple varieties.

**Control:** CAR can be minimized on susceptible cultivars if red cedars are eliminated from their vicinity. Where susceptible cultivars are grown in proximity to red cedars, a fungicide program should be followed from tight cluster through first cover.

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