

A HEALTHY TREE is a HAPPY TREE

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Seridium Canker

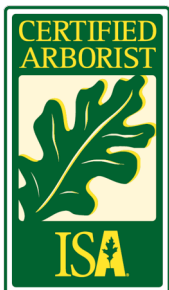
Description: Seridium canker, caused by *Seiridium unicorne*, is probably the most damaging disease on Leyland cypress. Cankers may form on stems, branches and in branch axils causing twig, branch or, at least on smaller plants, stem dieback. Cankers appear as sunken, dark brown or purplish patches on the bark, often accompanied by extensive resin flow. Scattered twigs or branches killed by the fungus turn bright reddish brown, and are in striking contrast to the dark green healthy foliage. Spores of the fungus are spread to other parts of an infected tree, or from tree to tree by water splash from rain or irrigation.



Symptoms: Symptoms include browning of individual branches, which is called flagging. Often only one or two limbs initially exhibit symptoms, but following favorable weather periods (moderate temperatures, humid periods), the disease may spread so that many limbs are affected. The cankers are often not observed near the shoot tips, but are located several feet down the branch close to the trunk.

Control: Plant Leyland cypress trees at a minimum of 12 to 15 feet apart to ensure good air circulation between trees. Provide trees with adequate water (at least 1 -2 inches per week below the entire drip line), and avoid over - fertilization. To reduce the spread of spores, avoid overhead irrigation or restrict it to early morning hours. Prune out branch cankers by making pruning cuts 3 to 4 inches below diseased tissue. Since spores can be spread via pruning tools, it is important to sterilize tools with a 10% bleach solution following the pruning of diseased limbs. Fungicides provide no control once an infection has taken place.

Frady Tree Care takes great pride and passion to care for your trees. Trees are TREMENDOUS renewable resources. They are valuable in respect to life and your landscape. We are here to serve your tree care needs by preserving and enhancing the quality of your property through tree care education and services.



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