

Laurel Wilt: Causal Agent – a Fungal Pathogen



An Ophiostoma-like fungus is consistently isolated from areas of sapwood discoloration on wilted trees.

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The pathogen – an *Ophiostoma*-like fungus



- Based on analysis of sequences of the ribosomal DNA
- The fungus grows well on CSM agar media (i.e. tolerates cyclohexamide).
- Anamorph is a *Raffaelea* sp.

The fungal pathogen responsible for laurel wilt was identified by Dr. Thomas Harrington, Iowa State University. Dr. Harrington is presently describing the fungus as a new species.

Conidia and conidiophores of the Raffaelea sp.





Budding yeast-like phase of the Raffaelea sp.