



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

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Commissioner

PEST: Boxwood Blight (*Cylindrocladium buxicola*)

BASIC PROFILE: BB is a fungal disease affecting mainly boxwood and related plants. It was first found in 2011 in a few Eastern U.S. states. Symptoms include dark canker stripes on stems and dark leaf discoloration. Tiny white spores may also be present. Defoliation and dieback are common. BB does not seem to directly kill the plant but once it is established BB can remain in plant debris or soil for years to re-infect plants, making plants for sale unmarketable and damaging landscape plantings. Regular applications of fungicide may be required to control the disease.

LDAF ACTIVITY: LDAF conducts visual inspections for BB during routine inspections at nursery grower/dealer locations. There are no federal or state quarantines in place for BB and at this time it has not been reported in Louisiana. However, if found on plants in the marketplace, a stop sale would be issued and the material treated, destroyed or returned to origin. In the future, LDAF may also conduct specific surveys for BB.

