

# Fire Blight

## Did you know?

Fire blight is a contagious systemic bacteria disease. Bacteria *Erwinia Amylovora*, attack the blossoms in early spring and then move up the twigs and branches through the tree's system. The name Fire Blight comes from the scorched appearance of the infected leaves, stems, and bark. These areas may appear black, shrunken and cracked.

## Identifying Fire Blight and its damage

- Fire Blight commonly affects apple and pear trees, but can also affect quince trees and other members of the Rosaceae family.
- Fire Blight may exhibit an amber colored ooze which is heavy with bacteria from the bark of the tree.
- Blossoms will turn brown, wilt, and die about 1-2 weeks after infection occurs.

## How to keep your Trees Vigorous to reduce attacks

- Remove the blighted wood from infected shrubs and trees, as this will help in preventing the spreading of disease.
- Fire Blight spray can help control bacterial infection, it should be applied from bloom time through the spring period.



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Fire Blight damaged trees had to be removed