

Plant Disease Fact Sheet

Gummosis

Wide variety of causes

Description

Gummosis is a condition of stone fruits. Formation is most commonly attributed to perennial cankers, bacterial cankers, and borers, but can also be formed by viruses, mechanical damage, and adverse growing conditions. Gummosis causes plant stress and lowers aesthetic appeal of affected trees.

Symptoms & Diagnosis

Gummosis is easily identified by the characteristic amber sap oozing from trees. The cause of gummosis can be identified by inspecting the tree and soil conditions.

Treatment

Gummosis itself does not require intervention. The cause of gummosis, once identified, will help direct a treatment plan to eliminate external stresses. Establishing a mulch ring will help redirect mowers to avoid damage to trunks, while pruning and destroying infected branches helps reduce the spread of infection.

Management

Managing tree stress is a crucial component of management. Tree can remain healthier and aesthetically pleasing longer by properly managing water, avoiding compaction and grade changes, and controlling disease. Fertilization improves tree vigor.

Affected Species

<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Cherry
<i>Prunus domestica</i>	Plum
<i>Prunus persica</i>	Peach
<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>	Apricot
<i>Prunus persica</i>	Nectarine



Amber sap oozing from a cherry with gummosis.



A bacterial canker and resulting gummosis forming on a cherry.