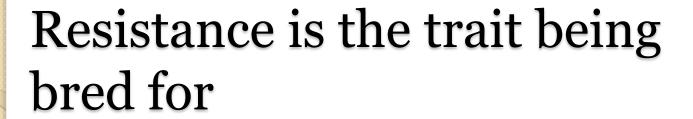


Challenging young trees with fungus



B3 Summer Science Camp at Olympic High School 2016



- These back-cross hybrids have been selected for *Cryphonectria* resistance, not *Phytophthora* resistance
- Very young trees are usually resistant they have smooth bark so the fungus has nowhere to insert itself.
- There are many strains of the fungus a pure culture of the test strain is grown in the lab.
- We need to be careful not to introduce anything from the bark or soil into the wound we create.

Bark /Blight (Cryphonectria parasitica)









Dr. Jennifer Weller B3 2015

Wipe the tree bark with an 70% ethanol dampened cloth, to sterilize the surface

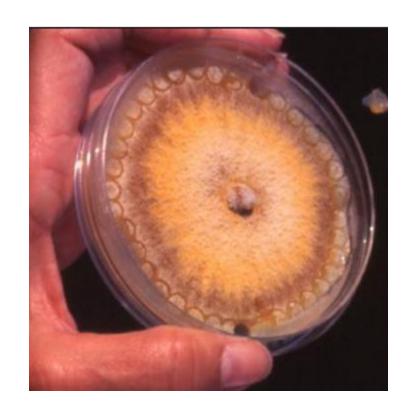


Use a cork borer or punch to make a small hole in the trunk, through the bark (but not too deep) about 12-18 inches above the ground



Make plugs in the agar plate containing the fungus with a rigid plastic straw (or similar) – in the region where the fungus is white and fuzzy.





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Sterilize a metal spatula - dip it in 70% ethanol, pull it out, hold next to lighter and flame it. Tilt it slightly down (so burning liquid runs away from your fingers) and hold over the ground, not your knees.



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Pick up a plug on the end of the spatula and poke into the hole in the bark.



Cover the infected area with tape (so the fungus-agar plug does not wash away. Mark the tree with a fluorescent ribbon.



