Ailanthus Verticillium Wilt Photoguide – Help Find It in Ohio

Verticillium wilt caused by *Verticillium albo-atrum* was detected on *Ailanthus altissima* in Pennsyvlania in 2002. It is caused by a soil-fungus that infects the vascular tissues of Ailanthus trees. Infected trees die rapidly, typically within a growing season. Donald Davis and Mark Schall have done extensive research demonstrating its specificity and virulence to *Ailanthus*. It shows promise as a potential biological control agent of *Ailanthus*. However, before it can be tested for biocontrol use in Ohio, it must first be found in Ohio. Photos courtesy of Dr. Donald Davis, The Pennsylvania State University.

If you see these symptoms, contact: Joanne Rebbeck, USFS, Northern Research Station, Delaware, OH at jrebbeck@fs.fed.us or 740-368-0054

Wilting

Initial

Severe

Vascular Discoloration

Healthy *Ailanthus*

Wilting *Ailanthus*

Declining Trees

Dead trees

Typically, distinct patches or areas of declining or dead trees will be found. These patches increase in size over time. It is uncommon to find isolated single infected or dead trees. Tree death is rapid.