

## **Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Overview**

### **March 20, 2006**

- March 2006, during routine SOD retail nursery inspections, SOD-suspect camellias were found in two Tallahassee nurseries: Esposito Garden Center and Tallahassee Nurseries. Samples were confirmed positive by state and federal labs.
- Ten camellias were positive in Esposito Garden Center, 1,785 destroyed because of exposure to positives. Thirteen camellias were found positive in Tallahassee Nurseries, 785 destroyed because of exposure to positives.
- DPI worked with nurseries to address infestation. All positive and exposed plants were destroyed, areas where plants were kept were disinfected (groundcover and leaf litter was all appropriately disposed of). No host or associated host material can be planted in those areas. Esposito Garden Center chose to move some host material to another location where it remains quarantined for a minimum of 90 days. If no disease is found after 90 days, it may be released from quarantine.
- Neither Tallahassee Nurseries nor Esposito Garden Center is under quarantine. Businesses are operating normally.
- Regular surveys continue to closely monitor for any new infestations.
- SOD inspections are conducted twice a year – spring and fall on 6 nurseries in NE FL where SOD was found in 2004.
- The USDA is conducting tracebacks to determine where the infected material originated. The USDA contact is Ann Wildman, 352-331-3990.
- If property owners suspect they may have SOD, they can visit the DPI Web site [www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi](http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi) for photos and more information. To submit samples, please contact your county extension office or call the DPI toll-free helpline 888-397-1517.