Sudden oak death is a forest disease caused by the water mold *Phytophthora ramorum*. It is considered especially dangerous because it affects a wide variety of plants and there is no known cure.

**WHAT TO LOOK FOR ON TREES**
- Black or reddish ooze seeping from bark cankers

**WHAT TO LOOK FOR ON ORNAMENTALS**
- Leaf spots
- Twig dieback
- Excessive leaf drop
THE HARM IT CAUSES

*P. ramorum* naturally thrives in cool, wet climates and can spread through wind-blown rain, contaminated irrigation water, and infected plants. Significant infections can also occur in plant nurseries that produce susceptible host plants under wet, relatively cool conditions. The pathogen may also move with potting mix that becomes infested in nurseries with diseased plants. Since 1995, many tanoaks and coast live oaks have succumbed to this disease in California. The epidemic is mainly driven by California bay laurel; *the water mold thrives on the leaves of these trees without killing them* and spreads to other host plants under their canopies.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- **Early detection** through ongoing surveys of nurseries and wildlands is essential.
- **Do not transport, mail, or import** cuttings or plants into your State or any other unless agricultural inspectors have cleared them beforehand.
- **Do not remove cuttings** or plants from your property if located in a quarantine area.
- **Disinfect tools and shoes** that may have been in contact with contaminated plants.
- **Allow authorized agricultural workers** access to your property to inspect for the disease.

For more information visit: HungryPests.com