

From: "Juzwik, Jennifer -FS" <jjuzwik@fs.fed.us>
Date: May 26, 2016 at 5:31:46 PM CDT
To: "Dey, Daniel C -FS" <ddey@fs.fed.us>
Subject: RE: question about oak wilt and fire

Hi Dan,

Interesting that you would ask the question about fire and oak wilt. When Steve Seybold was an Assistant Prof in Dept of Entomology, Univ of Minnesota, we actually had a graduate student who was funded to do a wildland fire – oak wilt interaction study. She trapped for potential insect vector species on trees near or just inside a recent (the year before) burn area that had oak wilt “all around” the area and compared that to insects captured in oak wilt areas with no burn. None of that went into her thesis because it was very incomplete data. Interestingly, there were a different suite of bark and ambrosia beetles on or near the burned trees. *Monarthrum mali* was quite common.

Otherwise, I am not aware of other studies looking at this question

Prescribed burning or a wildland fire would not make a tree more susceptible to oak wilt development, i.e. disease severity or progression of symptom development in a tree. In 2002, our thought was that a recent burn might deter or enhance the insect vector presence and thus lead to higher incidence of infected trees. But, as I said above, we weren’t able to collect sufficient data to answer that question.

No, I don’t think oak wilt is an important variable to consider in determining when to do a prescribe burn, unless there is a large oak wilt infection center with a number of dead trees that would greatly increase fuel loading.

Hope that helps a little bit.

Best,
Jenny



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From: Dey, Daniel C -FS
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2016 1:54 PM

To: Juzwik, Jennifer -FS <jjuzwik@fs.fed.us>

Subject: question about oak wilt and fire

Hi Jenny, I was at an oak meeting of Michigan DNR managers and there were several questions about prescribed burning and oak wilt, will it make oak wilt worse? Should we not burn at certain times of the year? Do you have any info or thoughts on questions like these??? Dan



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