

Hyperplastic canker

What is it?

Hyperplastic canker is a disease caused by the bacterium *Pseudomonas amygdali*. Primary hosts of this bacterium are almonds and peach. Infection affects branches and twigs of the host plant and results in tree decline.

Short distance spread of the pest occurs from active cankers during wind and rain.

What to look for?

Symptoms of Hyperplastic canker infection can be detected from leaf emergence. Infected trees have swollen bark canker around leaf scars and wounds. As the symptoms progress a longitudinal crack develops in the swollen bark. These cankers look like the bark has been peeled back to show discoloured wood beneath.



C. Panagopoulos

Longitudinal crack with peeled bark symptoms caused by Hyperplastic canker

Where is it found?

Hyperplastic canker is currently found only in the European countries of Greece, Afghanistan and Turkey.



C. Panagopoulos

Sparse foliage and cankers in infected tree



C. Panagopoulos

Discoloured wood visible underneath split bark

Check for soft, rough tissue at the margins of cankers. If there are multiple cankers they can girdle shoots. The buds in cankers will not develop so affected trees generally have little foliage. There are no specific leaf symptoms, however infected trees decline because of the lack of new growth.

Non-pareil shows some tolerance to this pest, so detection inspections should focus on other cultivars.

What is the best protection for my orchard?

Use clean planting material from a known source that utilises high health and hygiene strategies. Additional protection can be obtained by visually checking for cankers in all planting material before use.

Protect scars and wounds on tree stems and leaves to reduce the chance of infection.

Check your orchard frequently for the presence of new pests and unusual symptoms. Make sure you are familiar with common pests so you can tell if you see something different.

**If you see anything unusual,
call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline
on 1800 084 881.**

**EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881**

Disclaimer: The material in this publication is for general information only and no person should act, or fail to act on the basis of this material without first obtaining professional advice. Plant Health Australia and all persons acting for Plant Health Australia expressly disclaim liability with respect to anything done in reliance on this publication.