Laurel Wilt in North Carolina





Laurel wilt is a devastating invasive disease of plants in the Laurel family. (Note: This does NOT include mountain-laurel or rhododendron.)

Susceptible plants in North Carolina are redbay, sassafras, swampbay, spicebush, pondberry, and pondspice. It has only been detected in redbay (primary host) and sassafras (detected in 2018).This disease is spread by the redbay ambrosia beetle and can be moved to new locations in woody material from infested trees.

The N.C. Forest Service is a division of the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Steve Troxler, Commissioner.