

Lachnellula willkommii

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Fungi	Ascomycota	Leotiomycetes	Helotiales	Hyaloscyphaceae

Common name European larch canker (English)

Synonym
Trichoscyphella willkommii
Dasyscypha willkommii

Similar species

Summary *Lachnellula willkommii* is a tree disease identified first in Europe and has since made its way to North America. It spreads easily from branch to branch infecting each tree (*Larix decidua*). *Lachnellula willkommii* is found in areas that have a high moisture content, in which it thrives.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Species Description

Lachnellula willkommii is visible by bulges on the trunk and branches. The bark of *Larix decidua* when infected will become wide and cracked. On the tree, fructifications of fungus will appear at a size of a few millimetres. They are orange and are saucer-like (Surini, 2004).

Notes

Symptoms of *L. willkommii* are bark necrosis, pathogenic resins, and fructification (Päques *et al.* 1999).

Habitat Description

Maritime climates are best suited for *L. willkommii* to grow because of high moisture content (Surini, 2004).

Reproduction

L. willkommii is propagated by wind and if tree branches are close together the fungus is easily spread (Surini, 2004).

General Impacts

Lachnellula willkommii is a fungus that attacks *Larix decidua*. The fungus does not kill the tree, although in some cases, but it does inhibit growth (Päques *et al.* 1999). The potential for *L. willkommii* to damage in North America is high and this has caused state and federal agencies to issue flyers to the public to warn and tell people to be cautious when transporting cuttings or seedlings (Campbell, 2004).

Management Info

Preventative measures: In Maine, regulated articles consist of "logs, pulpwood, branches, twigs, plants, scions, and other propagative materials of *Larix* spp. and *Pseudolarix* spp. except seeds." Regulations, such as having a permit, have been put in place to help control the spread of *L. willkommii* (CDFA, 1999).

Physical: To limit the spread of *L. willkommii*, infected branches are cut off the tree. This is done under specific conditions when the weather is dry and during winter. Some problems associated with the cutting of branches is sometimes the tools used are not sanitized properly, which in turn means that spores can be found on the tool and be easily transferred to another tree (Surini, 2004).

Principal source: [Surini, T. 2004. Le Chancre du Mélèze - Larch Canker, *Lachnellula willkommii*. Inforets.](#)

Compiler: National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) & IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review:

Publication date: 2007-08-07

ALIEN RANGE

[4] CANADA
[1] POLAND
[2] UNITED STATES

[1] CHINA
[1] SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

BIBLIOGRAPHY

12 references found for ***Lachnellula willkommii***

Management information

[California Department of Food and Agriculture \(CDFA\) Plant Quarantine Manual. 1999. European Larch Canker.](#)

Summary: This lists counties in Maine where *L. willkommii* is found and tells of regulated articles of *Larix* spp. and of restrictions of transport of this tree.

Available from: <http://pi.cdfa.ca.gov/pqm/manual/pdf/219.pdf> [Accessed January 15, 2007]

[Campbell, F. 2004. European Larch Canker - *Lachnellula \(Dasyscypha\) willkommii* \(Hartig\) Dennis. The Nature Conservancy.](#)

Summary: The website describes the distribution of *L. willkommii* throughout North America and how state and federal agencies are trying to curb the transportation of sensitive materials.

Available from: <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/products/gallery/lacwi1.html> [Accessed January 29, 2007]

[Surini, T. 2004. Le Chancre du Mélèze - Larch Canker, *Lachnellula willkommii*. Inforets.](#)

Summary: The article describes the origins of *L. willkommii*, as well as control, distribution, epidemiology, and susceptible species.

Available from: http://inforets.free.fr/article.php3?id_article=192 [Accessed January 15, 2007]

Tkacz, B. 2002. Pest risks associated with importing wood to the United States. *Can. J. Plant Pathol.* 24: 111-116.

Summary: The article explains how the importing of unmanufactured wood in the United States is dangerous. It explains pest risk assessment of wood in the United States.

Xu, Haigen, S., Qiang, Z. Han, J. Guo, Z. Huang, H. Sun, S. He, H. Ding, H. Wu, F. Wan. 2006. The status and cause of species invasion in China. *Biodiversity and Conservation*. 15: 2893-2904.

Summary: The article discusses introduced species in China. It talks about impacts invasive organisms have made in the country and there should be quarantine measures and risk assessment procedures put in place very soon.

General information

[Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\). 2001. Summary of Plant Quarantine Pest and Disease Situations in 2000, *Lachnellula willkommii*.](#)

Summary: The summary was done on insect pests, fungal pests, and viral pests. Aspects of distribution were assessed in the summary.

Available from: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/sci/sur/sit2000e.shtml> [Accessed January 15, 2007]

[Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(CFIA\). 2005. European Larch Canker - *Lachnellula willkommii*.](#)

Summary: This website gives a brief description of the distribution of *L. willkommii*.

Available from: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/pestrava/lacwil/lacwile.shtml> [Accessed January 15, 2007]

Karadzic, D. 1989. The Most Frequent Occurring in Plantation Larch Scots Pine and Macedonian Pine on Kopaonik Yugoslavia. *Zastita Bilja*. 40(3): 309-318.

Summary: This article discusses the fungal diseases prevalent in Yugoslavia. The degree of infection and where the disease was occurring on the trees is also mentioned.

[Kulej, M. 2006. Resistance of Larches of Polish Provenances to Larch Canker *Lachnellula willkommii* \(Hartig\) Dennis Under Mountain Conditions of the Sacz Beskid. *Journal of Polish Agricultural Universities*. 9\(2\).](#)

Summary: This study was done to determine if Larches were resistant to *L. willkommii* at different ages in mountainous areas in Poland.

Available from: <http://www.ejpau.media.pl/volume9/issue2/art-29.html> [Accessed January 15, 2007]

Maltras, J. 2001. Provenance Studies of the Forest research Institute on the European Larch in 1948-2000. *Proce Instytutu Badawczego Lesnictwa. Seria A*. 908/912: 41-63.

Summary: The study was done to find susceptibility to injuries of the Larch by abiotic and biotic factors.

Miller-Weeks, M., D. Stark. 1983. European Larch Canker in Maine. *Plant Dis.* 67(4): 448.

Summary: The article discusses stands infected with *Lachnellula willkommii* in Maine.

Péquies, L.E., G. Sylvestre-Guinot, C. Dalatour. 1999. Genetic variations among clones of *Larix decidua polonica* for resistance to *Lachnellula willkommii*. *Annals of Forest Science*. 56(2): 155-156.

Summary: This was a study that was done to determine resistance of the Larch to *L. willkommii*. The Larch clones were taken from native stands in Poland and the limbs were inoculated with the fungus.