

# Ash dieback disease

*(Chalara fraxinea)*



1  
Diseased saplings typically display dead tops and/or side shoots.



2  
At the base of dead side shoots, lesions can often be found on the subtending branch or stem.



3  
Lesions which girdle the branch or stem can cause wilting of the foliage above.



4  
5  
Mature trees affected by the disease initially display dieback of the shoots and twigs at the periphery of their crowns. Dense clumps of foliage may be seen further back on branches where recovery shoots are produced.

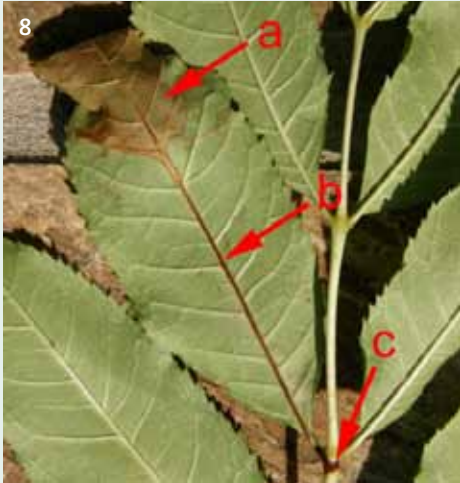


6  
7  
In late summer and early autumn (July to October), fruiting bodies of *Hymenoscyphus* can be found on blackened rachises (leaf stalks) of ash in damp areas of leaf litter beneath trees. These do not necessarily belong to the pathogen but can be tested to determine their identity.



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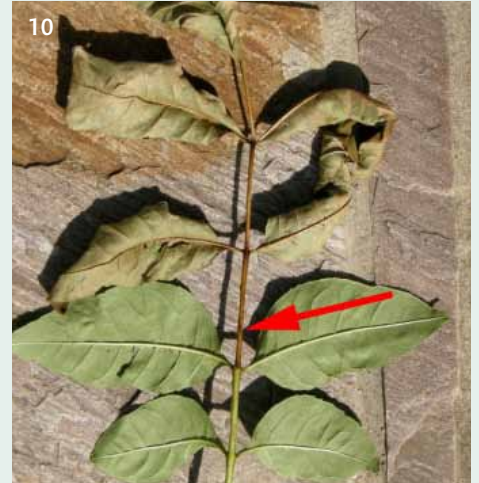
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8 Leaf necrosis (a) extending into leaflet vein (b) and rachis (c).



9 Lesion on rachis (ends arrowed) without leaflet symptoms.



10 Necrosis of rachis (arrowed) and associated desiccation of leaflets.



11 Developing lesions associated with leaf scars.



12 Older lesion associated with leaf scar.



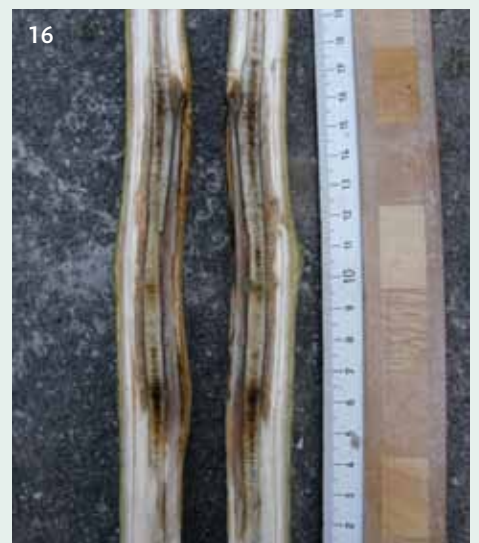
13 Developing lesion centred on a dead side shoot.



14 Older lesion centred on a dead side shoot.



15 Old lesion centred on a dead side shoot.



16 The wood and pith underlying bark lesions is usually strongly stained.

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