

5 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF RAPID 'ŌHI'A DEATH



1 AVOID INJURING 'ŌHI'A

Wounds serve as entry points for the fungi and increase the odds that the tree will become infected and die from ROD. Avoid pruning and contact with heavy equipment wherever possible.

2 DON'T TRANSPORT 'ŌHI'A INTER-ISLAND

Comply with the new quarantine rule to help prevent ROD from spreading. Don't move 'ōhi'a plants, whole or parts, 'ōhi'a wood, or soil from Hawai'i Island without a permit.

3 DON'T MOVE 'ŌHI'A

Do not move 'ōhi'a wood, firewood, or posts, especially from an area known to have ROD. If you don't know where the wood is from, don't move it and keep it out of the greenwaste.

4 CLEAN YOUR GEAR/TOOLS

If you must work around or cut 'ōhi'a, clean tools and gear before and after use, especially when used on infected 'ōhi'a. Brush all soil off of tools and gear, then spray with 70% rubbing alcohol. Shoes and clothes should also be cleaned before and after entering forests. Wash clothes with hot water and soap.

5 WASH YOUR VEHICLE

Wash the tires and undercarriage of your vehicle with detergent and remove all soil or mud, especially after traveling from an area with ROD and/or if you have traveled off-road.



RAPID 'ŌHI'A DEATH

A disease that is new to science and new to Hawai'i has killed hundreds thousands of 'ōhi'a trees (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) across thousands of acres on Hawai'i Island. Known as **Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD)**, it is caused by a **fungus** called *Ceratocystis*. We can all help minimize further spread, and buy time to help researchers find answers and potential treatments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT rapidohiadeath.org

SYMPTOMS

- Crowns of 'ōhi'a trees that appear healthy turn yellowish or brown within days to weeks; dead leaves remain on branches for some time.
- Sometimes, single branches or limbs turn brown first and over two-three weeks the rest of the tree turns brown.
- All ages of 'ōhi'a trees can be affected and can have symptoms of browning of branches and/or leaves.
- If a tree with ROD is cut down, or a section of the tree is removed, the fungus shows up as dark staining in the sapwood along the outer edge, and there may be an over-ripe fruit-like odor.
- A tree may be infected for months or longer before we can see outward signs of infection.

QUARANTINE RULE

The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture passed a permanent quarantine rule that prohibits interisland movement except by permit of all 'ōhi'a plants or plant parts, including:

- Logs, wood, twigs, flowers, leaves, seeds, stems, cuttings
- Unfinished 'ōhi'a wood and wood products
- Green waste, mulch, sawdust, wood chips and frass (wood dust from boring beetles)
- Soil

IF YOU SUSPECT ROD IN YOUR AREA PLEASE CONTACT:

Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death Outreach Team

Phone: (808) 969-8268

Email: ohialove@hawaii.edu

