

# Fire Blight Disease – Time is Key

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Finding and treating fire blight early can save your plant

It is also recommended to sterilize the clippers after every clip you make. Dip the tool into an alcohol solution or a mixture of household bleach and water (one part bleach to nine parts water) after every clip; wash and dry the clippers when you're done to prevent corrosion.

Catching and treating fire blight early will minimize the disease's impact on your plant. If you have to clip many twigs and branches to fight the blight, you might end up with a wiry tree or plant and opt to remove the whole thing. So time is of the essence, for all of us who love our gardens, as fire blight spreads very quickly.

It is always helpful to check with your local garden or landscape center for advice. For more information on fire blight, go to [www.fireblight.com](http://www.fireblight.com).

The photo to the left shows details of what fire blight looks like:

1. Leaves will have brown-edged holes
2. Remaining leaf will turn dark and dry out
3. Fruit will wrinkle and get dry
4. Whole twigs and branches will dry out



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