Oak shoot blight (a new bacterial disease in Japan)

Why
Bacterial shoot blight came to our attention, as it was recently reported as a new disease of oak in Japan.

Where
Japan. Dieback of evergreen oaks was observed in nurseries in Japan in Kagoshima and Miyazaki prefectures, 10 years ago. In recent years, similar diseases occurred in other Japanese oaks (including deciduous oaks) in nurseries, artificial and natural forests.

On which plants
Evergreen and deciduous Japanese oaks (*Quercus* spp.: *Q. acutissima* (= *Q. serrata*), *Q. aliena*, *Q. glauca*, *Q. glauca*, *Q. hondae*?, *Q. myrsinifolia*, *Q. phillyraeoides*, *Q. stenophyla* (= *Q. salicina*), *Q. sessilifolia*? (= *Q. petraea*?))

Damage
Brown to black necrotic lesions on young shoots and petioles which may develop into cankers. At the beginning of the disease, discoloration or bacterial ooze often appear on the young shoot.

Possible identity
The causal agent was identified as a *Xanthomonas campestris*, and the disease has been called bacterial shoot blight.

Pathway
Unknown (plants for planting? wood?).

Possible risks
Oak is an important forest and ornamental tree in the EPPO region. Data is lacking on the causal agent, susceptibility of European oaks, severity and extent of the disease in Japan.

Source(s)

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