

Forest Disease Management Notes

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
Pacific Northwest
Region



Gray Saprot

Gray saprot is caused by the fungus *Cryptoporm* (*Polyporus*) *volvatus*, often called the pouch fungus. *Polyporus* is very common on recently killed conifers.

Hosts: Occurs on most conifers, but most common on ponderosa and lodgepole pine.

Recognition: Superficial soft grayish saprot of slash and dead trees.

White to tan leathery globose annual conks issue from insect holes in the bark; brown tube layer is completely enclosed by a leathery membrane.

Disease S read: Conks appear 6-18 months after tree death; bark beetles carry mycelial fragments of the fungus from infected to uninfected trees; tunneling activities of the beetles create suitable infection courts for fungus establishment; spores are probably not insect disseminated and are relatively unimportant in the infection process.

Management: Generally not a problem on living trees. Salvage dead trees promptly. Conky trees in recreation areas should be removed.

May be Confused With: Nothing if conks are present.

C. volvatus conk on
Douglas-fir

