

Forest Disease Management Notes

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service
Pacific Northwest
Region



White Mottled Rot

White mottled rot is caused by *Ganoderma applanatum*, commonly called the artist's conk. This fungus is common throughout western Oregon and Washington.

Hosts: Hardwoods, some conifers (especially western hemlock and Douglas-fir).

Recognition: Hard, woody, shelf-like perennial conks which may reach a width of 2 feet or more; upper surface is smooth, zoned, gray to black in color; lower surface is white to yellowish turning brown when bruised, artist's scribe the lower surface. White mottled rot with fine black zone lines.

Disease Spread: Spores are windborne, infection occurs through wounds; mostly found on living or dead hardwoods or dead conifers; does occasionally cause rot of heartwood and living sapwood of conifers.

Management: Avoid tree wounding; remove live trees with broken tops, sizable wounds, or conks; harvest old, decadent trees. Trees with conks should be treated in recreation areas.

May be Confused With: Brown crumbly rot (*F pinicola*).

Conks of *G. applanatum*

