## **CALIFORNIA OAK MORTALITY TASK FORCE**

## **News Advisory**

## SUDDEN OAK DEATH PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT TRAINING SESSIONS

Date: February 21, 2008 Contact: Katie Palmieri

**Public Information Officer** 

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BERKELEY—Sudden Oak Death (SOD) infestations have increased over the past year, making the demand for preventative treatment training sessions greater than ever before. Responding to this need, free workshops will be offered on the UC Berkeley campus March – July on the second Wednesday of each month. The 2-hour field sessions will be held rain or shine, and are intended for all interested parties, including media. Sessions will cover basic SOD information, integrated pest management approaches to managing SOD, how to select candidate trees for treatment, and proper preventative treatment application.

When: Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Wednesday, April 9, 2008 Wednesday, May 14, 2008 Wednesday, June 11, 2008 Wednesday, July 9, 2008

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Where: Tolman Hall "Portico"

**Hearst Avenue at Arch/Le Conte** 

(a short block past the Oxford St.-Hearst Ave. intersection at the NW corner of campus)

**University of California** 

Berkeley, CA

"The Sudden Oak Death epidemic in California is at an all-time high. Currently there is only one preventative treatment registered for use in California on oaks and tanoaks. When applied properly, this treatment can help to protect susceptible trees from becoming infected. Anyone dealing with Sudden Oak Death should come to a session and decide if this preventative treatment could be useful for their situation," said Matteo Garbelotto, UCCE Specialist in Forest Pathology and Mycology, UC Berkeley.

Caused by the plant pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*, Sudden Oak Death is severely impacting oaks and tanoaks throughout 14 coastal California counties, from Monterey County, north to Humboldt County. Since the mid-1990s, *P. ramorum* has killed millions of oak and tanoak trees in California, and countless more are currently infected.

Pre-registration is required for these free training sessions, and space is limited. CEU credits have been applied for with both DPR and ISA (2.0 units). To register, email <a href="mailto:SODtreatment@nature.berkeley.edu">SODtreatment@nature.berkeley.edu</a>, and provide your name, phone number, affiliation (if applicable), and the date for which you are registering. For more information on the training sessions or on Sudden Oak Death issues, contact Katie Palmieri at (510) 847-5482 or <a href="mailto:Palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu">Palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu</a>.

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