

Slime Flux Disease

Slime flux disease is not usually a serious problem, but the appearance can be alarming. Slime flux is caused by common surface-inhabiting bacteria or yeast fungi.


SYMPTOMS

The wood infected with the flux is frequently discolored or appears water-soaked. When the slime flux runs down the trunk the bark initially develops dark-colored streaks that usually turn light gray when they dry.

MANAGEMENT

More damage can be done to the tree in attempting to cure slime flux than the flux will do alone. Slime may continue to ooze for several weeks or months, but usually it eventually stops with no treatment and no apparent damage to the tree.

There is no preventive treatment or way to eliminate flux from an affected tree. To prevent infection, avoid wounding the trees with lawn and/or pruning equipment. Protect the tree from other stresses, especially soil compaction from vehicles or pedestrians.



If the fluxing continues for months, discoloration and branch decline may occur.

Slime
Flux
Disease

The liquid flux kills grass and other herbaceous plants that it contacts at the base of the tree.