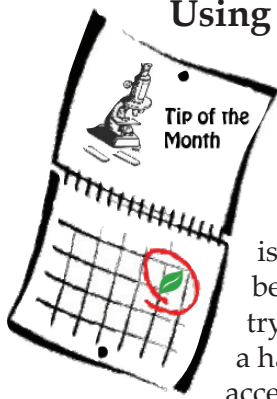


Using a Hammer and Chisel to Isolate From Large Branches and Trunks

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The next time you receive a large diameter section of a branch or trunk and wish to isolate from discolored woody tissue observed several inches beneath the bark (Fig. 1) do not despair nor injure yourself trying to whittle down to the discoloration. Instead, try using a hammer and chisel, as shown in the accompanying images, to access the desired woody tissue. 🌿

(Clockwise from top right) Fig. 1 Vascular discoloration caused by *Ceratocystis fagacearum* (oak wilt). Photo courtesy of D. W. French, University of Minnesota, Bugwood.org. Figs. 2-5 Stepwise use of hammer and chisel for obtaining wood chips to use on isolation plates. Photos courtesy of Gail Ruhl, Purdue University.



Have a tip you would like to share with your fellow diagnosticians?
Or a technique you would like to learn more about?
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