

Chestnut blight infection

Infected tree example



- ✓ Request a chestnut blight guide
- ✓ Create a biosecurity plan today!
- ✓ Don't hesitate to ask for help!



Chestnuts Australia Inc

About Us

Chestnuts Australia and Agriculture Victoria are working collaboratively to prevent chestnut blight and other diseases spread through the promotion of hygiene practices.

Contact Us

For more information or to get a copy of 'Farm Biosecurity planner for the Chestnut Industry', go to:

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Resource

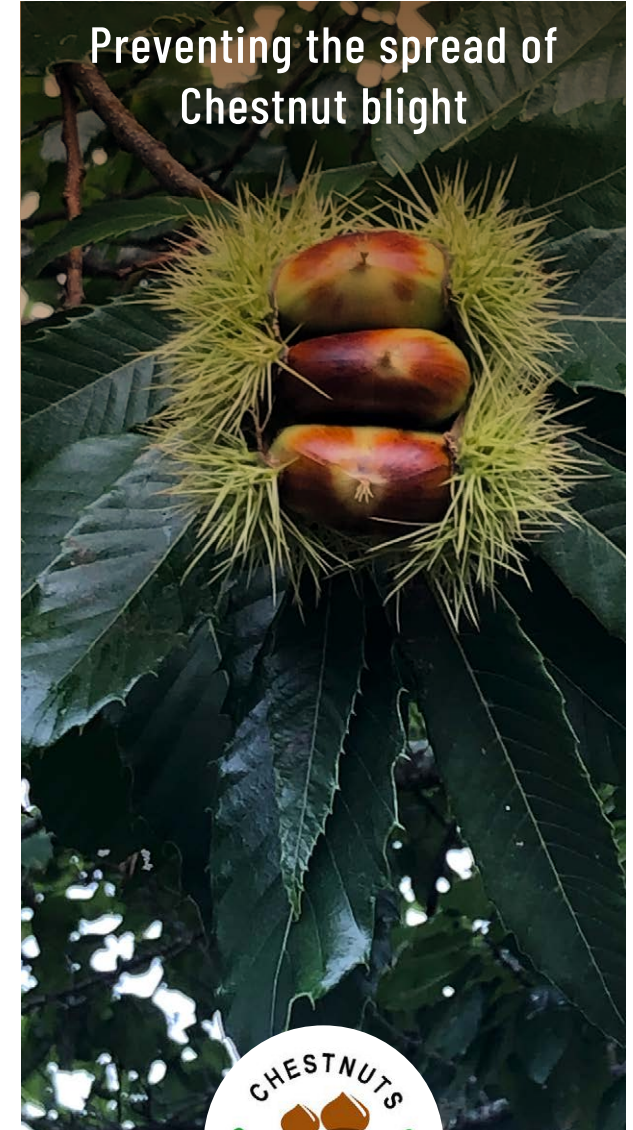
Create a biosecurity plan, visit:

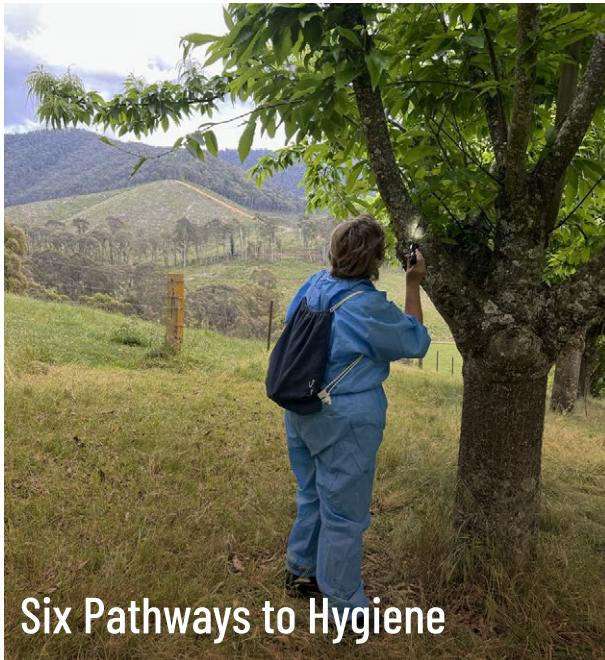
www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

HYGIENE IN THE ORCHARD

Preventing the spread of Chestnut blight





Six Pathways to Hygiene

1 Farm Inputs

Basically, most things that move onto your property can be a potential source of disease. To reduce the biosecurity risks to your property, monitor the movement of:

- Animals i.e. deer, livestock (damage they can cause)
- Plant materials that enter the property
- Nursery - check your propagation material and production nursery inputs
- Sources of water
- Feed, chemicals, fertilizer machinery, tools, storage containers and packaging

2 Farm Outputs

Responsibility for what happens after the farm gate.

What you do on your property supports biosecurity in your region – locally every farm may be affected.

Practicing good farm hygiene helps to avoid spreading Chestnut blight, *Phytophthora* sp., or other diseases.

If there is a disease outbreak, make sure you are not spreading diseased plant material or sharing contaminated tools and machinery. Aim to get feral trees removed from your region as soon as possible.

3 Feral Animals & Disease Spread

To protect the health of your crops from damage, wounds and disease spread, it is important to minimize the risks associated with feral animals. Restrict movement in the orchard, and work with neighbours to develop a local feral animal control program.

4 People, Vehicles & Equipment

Understand who enters, restrict entry points to a carpark:

- Use signage and biosecurity signs (with contact details).



- Record coming and goings, people and deliveries. (Where are people from, overseas or other orchards?)
- Use a biosecurity kit for people entering and exiting the chestnut orchard.
- Use dedicated wash-down areas for cleaning vehicles and machinery, away from the orchard.
- Use a carwash for vehicles moving between orchards
- Workers not to park under shady trees in the orchard.

5 Farm Production Practices

Get into the habit of regularly surveying for signs of disease. Look for changes i.e., dead branches, orange lesions. Remove dead and dying trees, as these can be hosts for disease. Sample regularly, know your disease.

If you have an infected tree:

- Limit human & livestock movement through the orchard. Isolate trees from livestock.
- Use an alcohol solution to sterilize pruning tools from tree to tree as you work. Apply hygienic practices (see hygiene kit flyer).
- Burn infected prunings & trees early (Refer to blight guide).

5 Train, Plan & Record

Training: Come to volunteer & field days
Learn online at: www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/supportandresources/elearning/biosecurity-courses

Report surveillance results via data entry form to confirm the presence/absence of disease in your area.
Available at: www.chestnutsaustralia.com.au