

# Plum pox virus

The plum pox virus is a pathogen of stone fruit trees. Federally regulated and recently detected in Michigan, plum pox virus poses a serious threat to stone fruit producers and tree fruit nurseries in the state.

[Michigan risk maps for exotic plant pests.](#)

## Other common name

sharka

## Systematic position

Potyviridae > *Potyvirus* > plum pox virus.

## Global distribution

Widely distributed across Europe.

Plum pox virus has been detected more recently in Chile (1992) and Argentina (2004) in South America, Nova Scotia and Ontario in Canada (2000), and Pennsylvania (1999), New York (2006), and Michigan (2006) Quarantine status

Plum pox virus is a federally regulated plant pathogen in the United States (NEPDN 2006) and is a quarantine target in southwest Michigan where this virus was detected in 2006 on a single plum tree (MDA 2009). The infected tree was removed and no further infection has been reported as of 2009.

## Plant hosts

Plum pox virus infects plants in the genus *Prunus* (Rosaceae). Plum pox virus is a serious pathogen of stone fruit trees (apricots, cherries, nectarines, peaches, and plums) in Europe. Other hosts include almond and ornamental *Prunus* species.



PPV symptoms on the plum fruit cv. Cacanska rana (Cacak's Early). (Photo: M. Danilovich, MSU.)

## Michigan's plum pox virus survey and restrictions

View MSU's Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert special issue on plum pox virus at <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/files/plum-pox-issue-low.pdf>

## History, biology, symptom images, and management of the plum pox virus

View MSU's Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert special issue on plum pox virus [E](#)

## Potential impacts on Michigan's peach and plum industries

View MSU's Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert special issue on plum pox virus [E](#)

## Likely pathways of entry in Michigan

Nursery stock and propagation material of *Prunus* spp. originated from Europe.

## Reference

Illinois CAPS program. 2009 Illinois most "unwanted" invasive pests. Illinois Cooperative Agriculture Survey program. (<http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/research/CAPS/docs/2009%20most%20unwanted%20invasives.pdf>)

MDA. 2009. Michigan: summary of plant protection regulations. Michigan Department of Agriculture. (<http://nationalplantboard.org/docs/summaries/michigan.doc>)

NEPDN. 2006. Northeast Plant Diagnostic Network. (<http://www.nepdn.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabindex=3&tabid=28>)



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