

Problem: Yew, Wet Feet



Plants Affected: Yew (*Taxus spp.*)

Description: Yews have relatively few problems but are especially sensitive to “wet feet.” Heavy rains or over-irrigation can saturate soils and force oxygen out. Because every living cell in a plant must have oxygen (including the roots), waterlogged soil may kill plants. Check the soil under yews that suddenly lose branches or turn brown. Low oxygen levels in saturated soil are likely to blame.

Recommendations: Do not over water, and be sure to plant on well-drained soil. If it is necessary to plant on heavy soil, shape the planting area into a mound or crown the planting bed so excess water drains away.

References:

[Common Problems on Yews](#), Iowa State University, Horticulture & Home Pest News, 5/17/2006

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