

# Peach rosette phytoplasma

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### Synonyms

- peach rosette virus

### Plant hosts

Peaches (*Prunus persica*) are the principal host of peach rosette phytoplasma, but the disease is also significant on plums (*P. salicina*). Other *Prunus* spp. can be infected such as almonds (*P. dulcis*), apricots (*P. armeniaca*), cherries (*P. avium* and *P. cerasus*), and ornamental and wild *Prunus* spp.

### Symptoms

Symptoms of peach rosette phytoplasma are very similar to those caused by peach rosette mosaic nepovirus. On peaches, new shoots have very short internodes causing the leaves to be in very tight clusters or brooms. The leaves of the older shoots prematurely fall in early summer leaving only bunches of young leaves on the tips of naked shoots. Flowers rarely set fruit. The most severely affected trees die during their first year of disease. Other fruits (Almonds and plums), show similar symptoms. Infected plum trees are seriously stunted.



Symptomatic tree with peach rosette phytoplasma

Image courtesy of W.R. Allen

### Transmission

No specific insect vector is known and spread by presumed vectors is only local. The pathogen is most likely to be spread internationally in infected planting material.

### Geographic distribution

Italy - a disease resembling peach rosette phytoplasma has recently been reported although true identity needs to be confirmed by molecular identification

USA - Georgia and southeastern states as far west as Texas

### Applicable regulations

[603-052-0118](https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/industry/603-052-0118), Quarantine; Peach rosette phytoplasma