Mushroom Root Rot

Today on Gardening in a Minute: mushroom root rot.

Mushroom root rot is a serious plant disease that affects many different trees and shrubs.

Symptoms include branch dieback and thin foliage that turns yellow or brown. Mushroom root rot can also cause reduced growth, wood decay, and death.

But the most tell-tale sign of this fungus is the clusters of tan-colored mushrooms that typically develop at the base of the infected plants. They usually appear from June through October, when there have been heavy rains and soils are moist.

Mushroom root rot can attack healthy plants, but is more common on stressed and neglected plants. Proper watering and fertilization can help trees and shrubs be less vulnerable.

Once a plant is infected, it should be removed from the landscape to prevent spreading the disease.

For more information about plant diseases, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.