

**Joint Meeting of the IUFRO working parties
"Vascular Wilt Diseases" and "Pine Wilt Disease"
(7.02.03 and 7.02.10)**

May 18-22, 2026

Athens, Greece

Will it wilt? From bark to xylem an invasion away

First announcement

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to announce the joint meeting of the 'IUFRO Working Group 7.02.03 and 7.02.10'. This event will be held in Athens, Greece, one of the oldest cities in the world, famous for being the cradle of arts, philosophy and science.

The conference, **"Will it wilt? From bark to xylem an invasion away"** will include joint sessions touching on the main topics of both Working groups including: Identification and taxonomy; Host-pathogen interactions; Epidemiology; Bark beetle symbiosis / vector biology; Breeding; Disease management and control; Chemical ecology; Genomes and bioinformatics; Population biology; Pathways of invasion; Risk assessment and surveillance; New methods of bio surveillance; Influence of Climate change on vascular pathogens and vectors.

This is the first time these two groups will meet and specialists from both will have the opportunity to exchange experiences, results and perspectives for future research topics.

Call for Abstract

Abstract Submissions open: 1 October 2025

Abstract Submissions close: 16 January 2026

Notification to authors: 13 February 2026

Registration

Early Bird Registration: 1 October 2025 – 28 February 2026

Regular Registration: 1 March – 18 May 2026

Pre and Post Conference tours

- Monday, May 18th: An optional pre-conference field trip visiting two sites (in Euboea, Greece) spotting fig trees and plane trees affected by *Ceratocystis ficicola*, a recently introduced pathogen, and *Ceratocystis platani*, the agent of canker stain disease.
- Friday, May 22nd: An optional Post-conference field trip to visit maritime pine stands affected by the pinewood nematode (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*), at Companhia das Lezírias, Samora Correia, Portugal.

Best Regards, and hope to meet you in Athens!!

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Hyerim Han, Luís Bonifacio, Christelle Robinet, Ryoji Shinya, Jianghua Sun

Local organizers

Nikoleta Soulioti, Alikí Tzima



