

Anthracnose is a disease that affects black and purple raspberry varieties, and some red varieties. It is caused by *Elsinoe veneta*, a fungus that overwinters on canes infected the previous season.

## Appearance & Damage:

- Reddish-purple spots on young canes that transition from tiny to large spots) with ash-gray centers and purple borders.
- Early lesions are called “pit lesions.” By late summer/early fall, “gray bark” symptom may form.
- Spores are produced by the lesions (spread by wet weather).
- Canes may become weakened, causing susceptibility to winter injury and possible death of canes.
- Cankered canes might produce abnormal fruiting branches with malformed fruit



(Charles Drake, VA Polytech, Bugwood.org)



(Ohio State Univ. Ext.)



(Ohio State Univ. Ext.)



(Patrick L. Byers)

## Management & Treatment:

- Utilize controls early in the season-infections early in the growing season cause the most significant damage
- Sanitation and spraying are critical and effective management practices
- Cut out all diseased canes and any visible infections
- Destroy old fruiting canes after harvest. Remove weeds and spindly canes to provide good air-flow
- Remove all wild brambles as they can serve as a reservoir for the disease

*Resources: PennState Extension, Ohio State University Extension, and Michael Phillips, "The Holistic Orchard"*