



The University of Texas at Tyler
Environmental Health and Safety
BIOLOGICAL AGENT REFERENCE SHEET

Characteristics	
Risk Group	1 - Agents that are not associated with disease in healthy adult humans. This group includes a list of animal, viral, and etiologic agents in common use.
Agent Type	Biohazard
Description	<p><i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> is a Gram-negative, motile, rod-shaped bacterium. The species is a pathogen to a myriad of agriculturally important crops including citrus, nuts and olives. The vector is <i>Homalodisca coagulata</i>. The pathogen is not involved with human pathogenesis.</p> <p>ref: <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>. Genome. NCBI; <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>. Pubmed. NCBI</p>
Host Range	Biohazard
Exposure route	none
Incubation period	none

Laboratory Hazards	
High Energy	Centrifugation, sonication, vortexing
Sharps	Needles, broken glass

Aerosols	Shaking, liquid culturing, pipetting, coughing, sneezing
Equipment	
Exposed body	skin
Notes	

Laboratory Handling Guidelines

Biosafety Level	1 - refer to Biosafety Manual; contact EH&S for a copy
Training	EH&S Biosafety Training; Lab specific training
Engineering controls	recommended use of BSL II ventilation
PPE	Eye protection, gloves and lab coat
Waste	Biohazard - put in red biohazard bins

Agent Viability

Disinfection	1% bleach, 70% ethanol
Survival outside host	This bacterium should be handled with care in order to avoid plant exposure.
Engineering controls	BSC if working with liquids; lids while working with high energy equipment
PPE	Eye protection, gloves, long sleeve or lab coat
Waste	Biohazard - put in red biohazard bins

Exposure and Spill procedures

Mucous membranes	flush eyes, nose, mouth/throat for 15 minutes
Skin contact	Wash with soap and water for a minimum of 30 second for bare skin contact; for broken skin wash with soap and water for 15 minutes
Minor (small) spills	Notify all persons present in the area. Allow aerosols to settle. While wearing protective clothing, gently cover the spill with absorbent paper towel and apply appropriate disinfectant, starting at perimeter and working towards the centre. Allow sufficient contact time before clean up.
Major (large) spills	Contact EH&S immediately; after-hours contact University Police
Waste	Decontaminate all wastes before disposal by incineration, chemical disinfection or steam sterilization

References

ref: Xylella fastidiosa. Genome. NCBI; Xylella fastidiosa. Pubmed. NCBI

