Inoculation Trails with Phytophthora ramorum on Moorland Species

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To determine the susceptibility of moorland plants to P. ramorum, several species were investigated in a first series of inoculation tests. Moorland plants like species of the genus Calluna and Erica are important in near-natural landscape in Europe as well as in nursery production. Investigations were part of the research project RAPRA (Risk analysis for P. ramorum, a recently recognised pathogen threat to Europe and cause of the Sudden Oak Death in the USA) founded by the EU and are important for estimation of the potential host range of P. ramorum in Europe.

Inoculation test were carries out with detached plant parts of the two plant species Calluna vulgaris and Erica gracilis. Zoospore suspensions and mycelial plugs of P. ramorum were used for inoculation of wounded and/or unwounded stems whereat isolates from Europe and the USA were included. Results of different tested cultivars are presented.