Experts Count

Wood Rot Screen

Assess the risk of structural damage

The fungi responsible for wood rot are not 'moulds,' in the conventional sense of the word. These basidiomycetes are commonly recognized according to the type of degradation they cause; brown rots and white rots.

True 'dry' rot is only caused by the brown rot fungi *Serpula lacrymans.* It is capable of traveling several meters through nutrient-free material such as concrete and brick to search for new wood to consume. This can result in widespread damage far from the original source of moisture.



Key Benefits:

- Identify the most serious wood rot; Serpula lacrymans aka 'dry' rot
- Ascertain whether discoloration is a typical mould or wood rot
- Go deeper than a bulk sample
 - analysis of the interior of wood sample
 - group basidiomycetes into the categories of rot
- Results presented in easy to interpret format (presence / absence of rot)
- Provides valuable information for developing appropriate remediation recommendations

"Wood rot damages more wood than fire, an estimated 20 billion board feet annually"

Service options:

A minimum of a 1" x 1" sample of wood can be tested for brown rot, dry rot and white rot.

Submit Bulk samples with any turn around time listed below:



Brown Rot

Brown rot fungi decompose wood by breaking down cellulose and hemicellulose. This type of decay results in shrinking of the wood, brown discoloration due to the lignin remaining more or less intact, and cracking along lines of weakness forming cube-shape pieces. Hence the names brown rot or cubical brown rot.

White Rot

White rot fungi mostly degrade lignin. Typically wood decayed by white rot fungi take on a fibrous appearance due to the wood breaking down into course fibres, and often the wood feels moist to the touch. Frequently tufts of light-brown / brownish-orange mycelium can be seen in the cracks of the decaying wood. By breaking down the lignin in wood, and leaving the lighter-colored cellulose behind wood decayed by white rot fungi is sometimes slightly bleached in colour.

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